

Saturday, April 17, 2010

CIBRE Conversations -- a look back and ahead Saturday, April 24

CIBRE Conversations provided the SBA's CIBRE outreach efforts with a clear purpose: Help support economic development of Michigan. Through work with the tool-and-die industry, connecting displaced professionals to networks, and further linking the career preparation of needs of SBA students and applied research interests of faculty with the economic development needs of the community, CIBRE Conversations integrates the SBA's philosophy of integrative thinking, global understanding and experiential learning.

Join the last CIBRE Conversation of this academic year at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 24, for a reflection of accomplishments, a look ahead to plans and activities, and a chance to determine the direction of future CIBRE Conversations.

A few highlights

What began in May 2009 as a focus on the tool-and-die industry's challenges in today's economic climate evolved into a vibrant, action-oriented conversation that is making a difference for professionals, manufacturing entrepreneurs, students and the economy.

CIBRE Conversations:

- work with tool and die industry professionals last year helped establish "tool and die futures initiative" (TDFI: www.toolanddiefutures.org) under CIBRE and organized three forums as of today to improve dialog between TDFI initiative members with multiple tiers and OEMs.
- led to bringing a new entrepreneurial firm from Arizona to explore the managerial as well as manufacturing talent of Michigan.
- started the formation of a "health care special interest group" to explore funding strategies to address unique research questions.
- generated interest in energy management/audit and assessment of carbon footprint of a part's value chain.
- created the potential exploration of new product ideas such as robotics for job shop environment, and developing business plans for some new tooling companies.

Join the conversation: Friday, April 24

Join the last CIBRE Conversation of this academic year at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 24, to:

- Reflect on the last year
- Discuss CIBRE summer programs
- Hear presentations by three SBA faculty members about innovative ideas that may have commercial potential
- Help determine next steps

RSVP to desmet@oakland.edu

SUMMARY

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Created by Claudette Zolkowski-Brown (zolkowsk@oakland.edu) on Saturday, April 17, 2010
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