



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Workforce Development Stakeholders Gather in Washington D.C.**

**WASHINGTON, DC (August 5, 2014)** The [International Economic Development Council \(IEDC\)](#) and the ACT Foundation hosted *Workforce Development through the Lens of Economic Development* at the World Headquarters of Gallup on Wednesday, August 6, 2014. The day-long summit featured keynote panels and breakout discussion sessions among thought leaders in research, workforce development, education, and the private sector. The event provided 40 economic development leaders from across the country with an opportunity to collaborate on shared goals, values, and solutions for workforce development. Dr. Peter McPherson, President of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities provided keynote remarks.

This event was sponsored by IEDC's in-house think-tank, the Economic Development Research Partners (EDRP), as well as the ACT Foundation. Discussion from this event will directly influence a forthcoming EDRP report on workforce development policy. William C. Sproull, current Chairman of IEDC, and President and CEO of Richardson Chamber of Commerce in Texas, stressed the importance collaborative discussion with workforce development stakeholders, saying: "Congress has just passed a comprehensive workforce development reform bill. A well functioning workforce development system is essential to keep our communities competitive. In joining with other stakeholder groups we aim to develop innovative, multi-platform solutions for workforce development success."

The following agencies participated in the Forum and related events:

- ACT Foundation
- Gallup
- US Department of Labor/Employment and Training
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- Virginia Workforce Council
- National Skills Coalition
- Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce
- Business-Higher Education Forum
- Innovate + Educate
- ACT Inc.

#### **About the International Economic Development Council**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,400 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other

institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org)

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