

The New Hampshire Forum on Higher Education

# PARTNERSHIPS

Investing in New Hampshire's  
Economic Future



**EDUCATION**



**BUSINESS**



**GOVERNMENT**

# PARTNERSHIPS



**The New Hampshire Forum on Higher Education — comprised of business, education and public policy leaders — is committed to ensuring a workforce of highly educated and well-trained citizens to sustain New Hampshire's economic prosperity.**

**Because the needs of business, higher education and government are increasingly interconnected, the continued vitality of our evolving economy depends on our ability to anticipate future needs. Whether it's building awareness, creating access to affordable higher education or specialized workforce training, addressing these needs requires new levels of collaboration in an economy driven by information.**

**The Forum acts as a catalyst to bring together the strengths and assets of educational, business and government entities to facilitate partnerships, share best practices and discover new ways to work together to ensure New Hampshire's success in the 21st century economy.**

**Together, we can play a positive and important role in sustaining New Hampshire educational advancement and economic growth.**

## Investing in New Hampshire's Economic Future

Staying competitive in a quickly changing, global economy requires New Hampshire's higher education institutions and businesses to collaborate in new and innovative ways. The fastest growing sectors in the new economy require highly trained workers with specialized educational and training needs throughout their changing careers — often outside of the traditional classroom. Working closely together, business and education can respond more effectively and efficiently to New Hampshire's shifting economic needs in ways that allow more people to access learning and the careers of tomorrow.

### The Challenge...

- ✓ 7 out of 10 of New Hampshire's fastest growing jobs over the next 10 years require a post-secondary degree
- ✓ Demand for college-educated workers is forecasted to outpace supply nationwide
- ✓ Mobile workforce creates competition for New Hampshire grads
- ✓ Fast changing economy requires lifelong learning and training creating older, non-traditional student population
- ✓ New economy jobs require highly specific training
- ✓ New Hampshire higher education costs outpace inflation
- ✓ Declining government resources decrease financial aid

# Leveraging the Power of Partnerships

Positioned at the intersection of business, educational and government interests, the New Hampshire Forum on Higher Education plays a key leadership role to support and grow strategic collaborative efforts that benefit New Hampshire.

## I. Information Gathering and Promotion

By collecting and cataloging existing higher education/business partnerships like the UNH and C-COM partnership (*at right*), the Forum will share information on business-education trends, identify best practices and make available information to organizations interested in pursuing partnerships. ▶

### A partnership that can be expanded: Project Lead the Way®



Engineers play an important role in the future development of technology and other important advances; however, students earning engineering degrees is dropping significantly around the country and more dramatically here in NH.

(31% decline in NH, vs. 6% decline nationally)

Recognizing this trend, New Hampshire business, education and legislative leaders embraced Project Lead the Way® to enhance and improve pre-engineering technology education in New Hampshire's high schools. The program creates a dynamic partnership between business and our schools to prepare and increase a more diverse group of students to be successful in engineering and engineering technology programs.

## 3. Identifying and Developing New Opportunities and New Partnerships

The Forum works to identify where collectively we can strengthen New Hampshire's future educated workforce today and through its activities increases communication among business, higher education and government to develop courses of action that will effect change. ▶

### A partnership that's working: UNH and C-COM



Starting with a \$2 million federal grant, the University of New Hampshire established the Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (C-COM). While C-COM has undertaken many important projects, its work mapping the ocean floor has been the basis of a

research partnership with the federal government and genesis for the development of new technologies for private industry. Their work has also led to a long-term financial grant from the country's leading provider of undersea fiber-optic cable for telecommunications to support their research.

## 2. Expanding Existing Partnerships

By harnessing the energy and resources available, the Forum aims to support and expand business-educational-government partnerships like Project Lead the Way® (*at left*) that contribute to economic performance, connect students with jobs, integrate educators' ideas and knowledge with business needs, shape public policy and connect businesses with similar needs. ◀

### A partnership in the making: Quality Educator Task Force



Data shows that New Hampshire, like the nation, faces a major teacher shortage in coming years. To identify information specific to New Hampshire's needs and solutions to this serious challenge, the Forum's Board of Governors commis-

sioned a task force representing business, education and government in March 2001 to study the issue. The Task Force is charged to provide background information and data related to supply and demand for quality educators in New Hampshire and a related set of strategy recommendations to the Board of Governors.

# Get Connected.

## Help Shape New Hampshire's Economic Future — Build A Partnership Today!

We invite you and your organization to join with other leaders in business, education and government to help shape the future of higher education in New Hampshire.

Learn how partnerships can strengthen the state's workforce, improve access to higher education and build stronger businesses, educational institutions and communities across New Hampshire.

To explore innovative partnership opportunities, or if you currently support a business-education partnership program, please contact:

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The New Hampshire Forum on Higher Education  
**603.227.5315** [kclark@gsmr.org](mailto:kclark@gsmr.org)

## Partnerships Wanted!

- Internships
- Apprenticeships
- Scholarships
- Customized Degree Programs
- Contract Training/Education
- Cooperative Education
- Distance Learning
- Curriculum Development
- Faculty Internships in Corporations
- Executive-On-Loan Appointments
- Research Initiatives
- Student/Employee Recruitment
- College Credit for Corporate Training
- Technology Transfer Programs



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