

I. **Source**

PARTNERING INDUSTRY AND EDUCATION FOR CURRICULAR ENHANCEMENT: A RESPONSE FOR GREATER EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT, Deborah R. Barnett, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, *Online Journal of Workforce Education and Development* Volume V, Issue 2 - Summer 2011

II. **Credibility of Source**

This online journal is a peer-reviewed publication produced by the Department of Workforce Education and Development at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. It publishes scholarly works and this article is one with about seventeen references. Source is credible.

III. **Summary of Content and Conclusions**

This article looks at a historical view of how education has met workforce needs in the past, employment projections, employer needs, and how educational institutions might respond to the call to develop a highly skilled workforce. A model designed to partner industry and education in the development of educational curriculum is offered to promote conversation as to how to better prepare workers with the competencies and employability skills needed to succeed in the workforce.

This article is too voluminous to summarize in a page or two; however, some key points are made. First it is demonstrated that universities in general have not kept pace with a transformed workplace. Second it is implied that universities do not know how to adapt their curricula to the new workforce ethos.

There is a table on p.6 that compares and contrasts the Traditional Curriculum with the Emerging Curriculum on thirteen characteristics. There are several themes but a prominent one outlines the need for more applied knowledge versus theory whereas another outlines the need to go beyond written skills to emphasize better day-to-day communication.

IV. **Relevance to the Department of ECE**

The entire article is informative and is worth a read, but the recommendations are generic and not particularly innovative. The model it discusses for industry-university collaboration does not really break new ground but it has the benefit of outlining the collaboration in

a structured way, which might be useful for execution. The underlying principles can apply to both technical and non-technical disciplines.

V. Recommendations for the Department or the IAB

This is another report that should be read by faculty, board and students. Because of its generality, there is nothing that is specifically actionable, but the quantity of information provided could inspire something that is executable and worthwhile.

VI. Contact Information

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The full article can be found here:

<http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1111&context=ojwed>