



2011

TRE ROUNDTABLE & ANNUAL MEETING



TRE (Transformative Regional Engagement) Networks presents

Accelerating Regional Solutions: Finding Unique Pathways to American Prosperity

DECEMBER 5-7, 2011

L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C.

“ *Higher education has a vital role to play in the advancement of regional economic development, which includes driving conversation and innovating constructive solutions. ASU is excited to contribute to this critical dialogue and to exchange bold ideas with other stakeholders seeking to evolve new economic ecosystems.* ”

— DR. MICHAEL CROW, PRESIDENT, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Collaborate with thought leaders of universities and higher education institutions, business and industry associations, state and federal government, and non-profits in the development of regional economic solutions

Register:

Participation is limited and early registration is advised. A special rate is available until the conference room block is sold out. To Register: <http://www.trenetworks.org/events/2011roundtable/index.php>

Participate:

Become a Sponsor or send a Delegation. Contact Liz Nilsen, Program Manager, TRE Networks at ean14@psu.edu. Be a Network Contributor and get the word out about this important event. Media information: contact Paula Schaper at paula@WestWordVision.com or phone 888.394.2575.

Highlights:

Dr. Josef W. Konvitz, educator, author and recently retired Head of Division, Regulatory Policy, of the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Konvitz— an expert in multi-level regulatory governance, reform implementation, infrastructure policy, public-private partnerships and integrative strategies for sustainable urban development—will address Regions on an international stage: governance, place and higher education.

A plenary scholars panel on the demographics of technology and talent will be moderated by Dr. Maryann Feldman, Distinguished Professor, UNC Chapel Hill. Collective impact will be explored through a case study of the North American Manufacturing Council. In addition, participants will influence the meeting outcomes through concurrent roundtable dialogues on topics related to “Making Regionalism Work.”

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Through keynote addresses, plenary panels and break-out roundtables, participants will explore ways regions can:

1. Unleash university assets to spur economic growth. Higher education supports American prosperity by making contributions critical to the competitiveness of U.S. regions, as well as business and industry. Higher education institutions' capabilities go beyond improving technology commercialization, anchoring regional innovation assets and convening regional and national stakeholders in support of research- and education-based strategies. With the right policies and programs in place, universities can encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, concentrate talent and brainpower, and foster quality connected places, thereby reducing barriers to technology commercialization and accelerating the rate at which ideas move from universities to the marketplace.

2. Draw lessons from regionalism across borders. Regionalism enjoys broad international adoption. Lessons from around the world reveal how regionalism surmounts jurisdictional borders. Regions can and do rise together, find their right lexicon and social capital (narratives and networks), agglomerate talent, build dynamic clusters and unleash advantage in the innovation economy.

3. Use collective impact as a force for change and broad-scale results. When important actors from different sectors alter their individual agendas in favor of a collective approach, they achieve collective impact—borne from commitment among all participants to a common agenda, shared performance metrics, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and a backbone support organization. A collective impact framework can produce transformative results.

4. Create a rural-urban continuum that supports economic growth and equity. Overly concentrated population centers bring hidden and real costs in the form of lower birth rates, aging populations, high fixed costs for start-ups, and political friction. Strategies that distribute assets across geographies within a broad region, rather than a constricted jurisdiction, develop a cost/access continuum and build economic capacity. This approach allows for entry of new firms, talent, technology, and support for economic growth, offering corrections in the equity gap.

5. Break through institutional and policy barriers to reshape regional ecosystems. In a time of change, policies must be updated to support the new economic context. Breaking down policy-created silos can help overcome institutional thickness and remove barriers to university participation in regionalism. Better integrating university assets with the private sector can accelerate innovation and job growth. Realigning roles, motives and flexibilities across the quadruple helix—education, government, non-profit and the private sector—can reshape the regional eco-system. This reshaping of economic landscapes reveals pathways and value propositions that were unseen before.

About TRE Networks

Transformative Regional Engagement Networks, TRE Networks, Inc., is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization, whose activities are funded by contributions from its members, foundations and project contributions. TRE Networks' board includes leadership from Arizona State University, Manufacturing Institute, Michigan State University, Purdue University, RUPRI, State University of New York, The Pennsylvania State University, The University of Akron, University of Georgia and University of Michigan.

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