A Word from the Director | April 2019

After our February Emerging Issues Forum on Rural-Urban Connections I heard from several people questioning the motto of the team from Carolina Core, a coalition of counties working together to recruit companies to a region running across central North Carolina.

The motto is pretty simple: “A win for one is a win for all.” And that’s what people were pushing back against. “That may sound good,” they said, “But how can it be a ‘win for all’ if the company moves to just one county?”

New research by our Rural-Urban Forum Faculty Chair, Mitch Renkow, professor of agriculture and resource economics at NC State, gives some numbers to show that job creation impacts go well beyond the county that has the jobsite.

Renkow looked at job growth in all 100 counties of the state between 2010 and 2015, then calculated who got those jobs. He found fresh data that reminds us of just how interdependent our counties are when it comes to employment.

You can review the research by visiting go.ncsu.edu/employment-growth-report.

Read More »
Employment Growth and The Allocation of New Jobs in North Carolina, 2010-2015

A county-level labor market is estimated for North Carolina for the period 2010-2015. The model accounts for inter-county commuting, migration, and within-county adjustments to labor demand changes. Econometric results indicate that, over the period considered, most of the new jobs in a particular county (about 84%) were taken either by people commuting in from other counties or by county residents who stopped commuting out to other counties.

In both metro and rural counties, the largest share of new jobs were taken by in-commuters. In metro counties, job growth resulted in a variety of adjustments (increased immigration, reduced out-commuting, new residents moving in and reduced unemployment). By contrast, the main impacts of job growth in rural counties were reduced unemployment and (especially) increased numbers of people commuting in to the county for work.

Review the research by visiting [go.ncsu.edu/employment-growth-report](http://go.ncsu.edu/employment-growth-report).

ReCONNECT Rural and Urban Impact Report

The ReCONNECT Rural and Urban Impact Report provides a synopsis of the ReCONNECT Rural and Urban Forum and provides key statements, findings, readings and further steps for reconnection of civic engagement in NC. We invite you to read what we’ve heard and learned, and test out our “six recommendations” in your community. We also hope you will share what you’re discovering with ReCONNECT Rural and Urban program lead Sarah Langer Hall.

[View the report »](http://go.ncsu.edu/employment-growth-report)
IEI’s 2019 RFCAI Conference May 14-15, 2019


Register while there’s still time!

IEI is hosting our annual Rural Faith Communities as Anchor Institutions (RFCAI) Conference at Front Street UMC in Burlington, NC on May 14 and 15. Rural faith leaders and partners from across North Carolina will gather to learn from each other and experts on subjects our faith leaders tell us matter to them-topics like early childhood, the opioid crisis, civic conversations, and food partnerships. Registration is $40 (Duke Endowment-eligible leaders may attend for free), limited spots available.

2019 RFCAI Conference General Registration

2019 RFCAI Conference Duke Endowment-Eligible Leaders Registration

IEI plans to ReCONNECT NC one Civic Conversation at a time

In an effort to make progress on tough issues, residents, business, community leaders, and elected officials need to practice talking to each other, which is why the Institute for Emerging Issues is launching its Civic Conversations series.

As a recommendation from our ReCONNECT to Community Forum, IEI will encourage and engage with public officials, organizations and North Carolina residents from many different backgrounds and perspectives to have conversations with each other. These conversations will take place one-on-one or in small groups where the emphasis will be on carefully listening to each other.

The goal of the conversations will be to help people learn from each other, build relationships and identify specific things that can be done to reconnect the many divisions in our state. Together let’s ReCONNECT NC, one civic conversation at a time.

Stay tuned for more information. Want to get involved?

Contact Maggie Woods
mjwoods@ncsu.edu
From beta to full launch of TTF

IEI is excited to go from beta testing, to full launch of its text-based platform Text, Talk, Future. Members of IEI staff have been working with several Wake County schools to test and fine-tune the text-base platform to ensure it meets the needs of counselors/coordinators and students.

Text, Talk, Future (TTF) is a free and easy to use tool for career and technical educators and career development coordinators in North Carolina high schools. TTF is an activity designed to get students thinking about their career options and corresponding post-secondary education pathways, before meeting with counselors/coordinators to create their four-year plan.

TTF invites students to break into small groups and have a student-led, peer-to-peer conversation -- prompted through text messages -- about their interests and strengths, and how those relate to different career options.

Learn more »

First in Future

First in Future: Where Emerging Ideas Take Flight is a podcast that connects you with people thinking big thoughts about the future of North Carolina.

We invite you to listen to our latest episode with Senior Vice Provost and Director of Libraries at NCSU Greg Raschke and some of our earlier April episodes.

Episode 124 & 123: First in Future: Vice President for Resource Development and Partnerships at DHIC Yvette Holmes

Episode 122: First in Future: President of the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals Marco Zarate

Episode 121: First in Future: Chief Executive Officer and President of MCNC Jean Davis

Listen »
Partner Spotlights

Empathy Through Art
Art Of Mind: First Friday Opening Reception
May 3, 2019
5pm-9pm
Imurj - The Artists' Cafe
300 S McDowell St, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
Click here to learn more

Explore Elkin
NC Trail Days Festival
May 31-June 2
Friday: 8am - 10pm
Saturday: 8am - 10pm
Sunday: 8am - 5pm
Click here to learn more

SAVE THE DATE
October 15, 2019
ReCONNECT to Economic Opportunity
Charlotte, NC.
Registration Opens July 15!

The Institute for Emerging Issues
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