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Economic development conference addresses future of Appalachian Ohio

George Mauzy
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Sen. Sherrod Brown and alumnus David Wilhelm among speakers

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown and Ohio University alumnus David Wilhelm were in Athens on Wednesday to talk about the economic future of Appalachian Ohio.

They were among the speakers at the "Positioning Appalachia: Economic Growth Strategies for Success," conference, which focused on the future of manufacturing, business incubation, rural economic development and new market opportunities in the region. The conference was hosted by the [Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs](#) and the Regional Economic Advancement Program.

Wilhelm introduced Brown as a politician who has always worked hard to create jobs in Ohio.

"The focus in Washington should be on jobs," Brown said. "There are things we need to do. We need an infrastructure bank, enforce trade rules better, work with small businesses, and buy American. When we come out of the recession, you will see that we are much better off than we were 30 years ago."

Brown has helped the Voinovich School secure nearly \$900,000 in [Economic Development Administration*](#) (EDA) funding to be used to leverage private investment, expand business assistance, create jobs, bring new products to market, and improve the economy in southeast Ohio.

For the complete story visit: <http://www.ohio.edu/compass/stories/10-11/8/Appalachia-Ohio-conference.cfm>

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