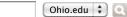
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Positioning Appalachia: Economic Growth Strategies for Success

August 12, 2011

On August 10, 2011, the Voinovich School of Leadership & Public Affairs convened the "Positioning Appalachia: Economic Growth Strategies for Success" conference in Athens. The Voinovich School brought together over 130 local officials, economic developers, and business leaders to discuss the economic future of Appalachian Ohio. Attendees learned about national industry trends, advanced energy and manufacturing opportunities, business incubation, and strategies to retain existing businesses and attract new firms. Among the speakers were United States Senator Sherrod Brown and Jeff Finkle, President of the International Economic Development Council and Appalachian New Economy Partnership Fellow at the Voinovich School. The event was made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration.

<u>Application for the Regional Economic Advancement Program Technical Assistance</u> <u>Opportunity</u>

Presentations:

- Keynote: National Industry Trends and Opportunities for Appalachia. Jeff Finkle, International Economic Development Council
- Ohio Polymer Industry Dennis Barber, Ohio Polymer Strategic Council
- Retention and Expansion Misty Casto, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District
- Business Incubation Sherry Stewart, Muskingum County Business Incubator
- Business Incubation Jennifer Simon, Ohio University Innovation Center
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- Site Selection- C.R. Canup, Canup & Associates, Inc.

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