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March 2013 WIB Quarterly Meeting Highlights

Ed Goldberg, WIB Member and Senior Vice President of External Affairs for Macy's, shares reflections on field trip to Henkels & McCoy. Mr. Goldberg accompanied OHCD Executive Director Michelle Light on February 11, 2012 for a visit to Henkels & McCoy's (H&M) program site in Queens. H&M has been providing youth workforce training as a long standing partner with the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development. For Mr. Goldberg, "the future is strong at Macy's, but it is only as good as the talent that we can attract." He underscored the value of collaborating with programs like H&M to develop training curricula that aligns with employer expectations. "People like us need to partner with the providers; it requires us to take the first step. Employers must be open and show our cards, so they know what we need." He was so impressed with the maturity of the students and professionalism of the staff that he has introduced Macy's Human Resources to H&M who are now partnering on a new initiative.

Jack Powers, Director of International Informatics Institute and Chairman of the CTE Advisory Council joins Dennis Walcott, Chancellor of the NYC Department of Education, to discuss Career & Technical Education programs. Mr. Powers and Chancellor Walcott provided an overview of CTE programs administered by the NYC Department of Education and closely connected to private businesses. Between 2003 and 2012, 20 new CTE schools have opened which are aligned to the DOE new school strategy of smaller and more focused instruction enabling NYC students to access key industries. Seven new CTE schools are slated to open in September 2013. In Mr. Powers' words, "I like a kid with a diploma, but I prefer a kid with a good resume." Two students, Emony Robertson and Damiano Mastrandrea, spoke about their personal experiences. Emony reflected "CTE changed my life," while Damiano said "CTE will always be present in the everyday."

John Mogulescu, WIB Member and Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs at CUNY, offers insight into CUNY's major areas of focus. Mr. Mogulescu and colleague Suri Duitch, University Dean for Continuing Education, talked about two priorities for CUNY – (1) improving students' college success and (2) improving support for students' labor market outcomes and career success. In Mr. Mogulescu's words, "We flood the NYC economy and drive the NYC economy. You cannot see government, unions, dentists, teachers--you name it—without seeing CUNY. So we need to get students to the graduation finish line. We also need to prepare our students for the world of work." They shared updates about several CUNY programs and initiatives that support these two priorities, such as ASAP, CUNY Start, Early College High Schools, CUNY CareerPath, CUNY Service Corps and a new Office of Workforce Partnerships intended to help facilitate connections between CUNY colleges and industry partners.

June 2013 WIB Quarterly Meeting Reminder

The next WIB Quarterly Meeting will be held June 20, 2013 at the NYC Economic Development Corporation at 110 William Street, 4th Floor from 8:30am-10:30am. Breakfast and networking will be from 8:00-8:30am. Please RSVP to Sherazade Langlade (slanglade@ohcd.nyc.gov or 212-442-9189). Please join us!

Written May 31, 2013