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- Improved career readiness of Indiana college students is the focus of second annual E2E Convergence

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS -- Experts charged with improving the career readiness of college graduates throughout Indiana will share their perspectives on Thursday, May 19, at the second annual Education to Employment Convergence, taking place at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

Leaders from industry, higher education, government and workforce development will address enhancing job-related experiences for students. [Innovate Indiana](#) will convene the event, with support from Lilly Endowment Inc.

WHAT: Education to Employment Convergence

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: IUPUI Campus Center, Room 450, 420 University Blvd., Indianapolis

"E2E Convergence seeks to identify new opportunities for skills development, and enhancements of existing opportunities, by bringing higher education and industry efforts into closer alignment," said [Joe Carley](#), associate director for economic development with IU's Office of the Vice President for Engagement. "Our goal is to ensure that college students throughout Indiana have every available opportunity to gain the proper skills for career success."

The 2015 conference brought together about 150 representatives from 22 colleges and universities across the state to collaborate with leaders in industry, government and other sectors engaged in workforce development.

Such conversations have led to increased statewide dialogue on education-to-employment efforts, more campus-based events that bring employers and educators together, and greater participation by employers in education-to-employment programs.

According to projections from the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, 55 million new jobs will be created by 2020. Of those, more than 70 percent will require a college education. About 20 percent of the anticipated increase comes from a shift toward education-intensive jobs in industries like finance, information technology, health

care, business services, education and government.

"Information technology, more-sophisticated networks, data analysis, customization and communication advances ... all of these areas increasingly drive economic growth," said [Bill Stephan](#), IU's vice president for engagement. "By gaining early exposure to such skills, Indiana's college graduates will be better prepared when they transition to the workforce."

The keynote speaker will be former Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann, who is vice chair of the Indiana Career Council. Featured speakers include Steve Fry, senior vice president of human resources and diversity for Eli Lilly & Co., and Mark Osowick, vice president of human resource operations for Cummins Inc.

A roundtable discussion is also scheduled. WTHR-TV news anchor Naomi Pescovitz will serve as moderator. Participants include:

- David Johnson, president and CEO, Central Indiana Corporate Partnership and BioCrossroads;
- Janet Boston, executive director, Indiana INTERNnet Inc.;
- Alan Hill, dean for professional development, Wabash College;
- Erin Morris, talent acquisition leader, Zimmer Biomet;
- Susan Sciame-Giesecke, chancellor, Indiana University Kokomo.

Stephan and IUPUI Chancellor [Nasser H. Paydar](#) will offer the conference's opening remarks. [John Applegate](#), IU's executive vice president for university academic affairs, will offer closing remarks.

For more information, visit the E2E Convergence [website](#) and follow the conversation on [Twitter](#).

About Innovate Indiana: Innovate Indiana engages strategic partners to advance Indiana University's intellectual resources and expertise, enhance Indiana's economy, and improve Hoosiers' quality of life. For more information, follow Innovate Indiana on [Twitter](#).

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