



February 17, 2009

Terre Haute, Indiana 47809
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The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

As Congress begins the Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations process, Indiana State University (ISU) respectfully submits for your consideration the Center for Business Support and Economic Innovation (CBSEI) at Indiana State University.

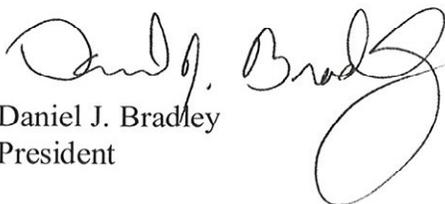
The Center for Business Support and Economic Innovation is a catalyst for innovation and entrepreneurship, leveraging university engagement and technology transfer, to create an environment of business support which results in job creation, profitability and economic diversity. As Indiana State's official liaison for business support services and economic development, CBSEI works with faculty and staff from all areas of the university to identify and meet business needs and coordinate University solutions. The Center also provides relevant opportunities for students and graduate students to secure paid internships with innovative companies, providing students with the hands-on experiences they need to be successful. By working with local businesses, CBSEI and ISU play a role in diversifying the local economy, creating jobs, fostering innovation, and retaining the best talent in the state.

Building upon the success of the CBSEI, ISU, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, the City of Terre Haute, and the Terre Haute Economic Development Corporation recently formed the Terre Haute Innovation Alliance (Alliance) to help foster technology-driven economic development opportunities in West Central Indiana. This partnership provides low-cost technical and business assistance services for emerging technology companies located in the region, accelerating the initial development phase of start-up and expanding businesses thereby shortening time-to-profitability.

The Alliance is already a proven job creator, successfully attracting and growing businesses, including: DesAcc, a leading medical software engineering company; InfraWare, a software company that has developed a next-generation medical software platform; Handshake LLC, a company developing a state-of-the-art Internet business networking technology; VEXTEC, a company that provides manufacturing, aerospace, automotive, and electronics companies with accurate, valuable information about the behavior and life expectancy of their components, systems, and products; and Midwest Compliance Laboratories, a start-up company that will provide regulatory compliant laboratory testing services to pharmaceutical and food companies. To ensure the continued job growth and economic development of Vigo County and the City of Terre Haute, we are respectfully requesting funding to support CBSEI's technical assistance outreach and program operations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Bradley
President