



August 28, 2015

Governor Michael R. Pence
Office of the Governor
200 West Washington Street Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Pence,

Under the terms of IC 22-4.5-10-6 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2014, the Indiana Network of Knowledge (INK) is required to submit an annual report to the Governor of the State of Indiana. The statute states that INK will:

- (9) Submit, not later than September 1, 2015, and not later than September 1 each year thereafter, to the governor, to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, and to the council, a report covering the following for the most recent fiscal year:
- (A) An update concerning the administration of the INK and the governance committee's activities.
 - (B) An overview of all studies performed.
 - (C) Any proposed or planned expansions of the data maintained by the INK.
 - (D) Any other recommendations made by the executive director and the governance committee.

On behalf of INK, I am pleased to be given the opportunity to provide you with this report, which is enclosed, and hope that you find it useful and informative.

I am happy to address any questions you may have and look forward to continuing the work to fully develop and use a longitudinal data system for improved education and workforce policy decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jeff Hudnall'.

Jeff Hudnall
INK Executive Director

INK Administration Updates

This is a high level overview of INK updates. For more detailed updates please visit our website for complete meeting minutes and documents at <http://www.in.gov/ink/2354.htm>

The INK Governance Committee held meetings monthly for the first few months in order to get some foundational documents in place. Once the core policies and procedures were established the committee moved to a quarterly meeting interval. The following are high level notes from those meetings.

August 2014

INK held its first Governance Committee meeting on August 7th. There was an Executive Session to nominate 3 candidates for the INK Executive Director. Those names were submitted to the Governor's office for a final decision. The committee also approved an electronic participation meeting policy.

September 2014

The Governance Committee made progress on data governance policies by creating a draft document for the committee to review. They also discussed creating an MOU for partner agencies to share data. The US Department of Education came for a site visit to get progress updates on INK development. They gave us a document with feedback that shared thoughts on how to improve INK development and advice on policies and procedures. Overall, they were pleased with INK's progress and direction.

October 2014

Jeff Hudnall was hired and started as the INK Executive Director. The Governance Committee met to discuss data governance issues and to develop a data request process. It was determined that the interagency MOU would need to be updated and agreed upon by all agencies involved.

December 2014

The INK Governance Committee members approved the Data Governance Resolution and the Research Agenda Development Resolution. Jeff Hudnall updated the committee on the changes in the procurement process from an RFP to an MSP vendor.

January 2015

The Data Governance Framework and Partner Agency Data Sharing Agreement and MOU were completed and approved. INK also entered into an MOU agreement with IBRC for the purposes of continuing the relationship with IBRC as an affiliate organization. An MSP vendor (Netlogx) was awarded the contract for consultation work. Netlogx created a timeline and committed to provide a set of seven deliverables to meet by the end of June 2015.

April 2015

INK funding and sustainability was discussed and it was determined that the SLDS grant would fund INK through June 2016, if INK were to get the grant extension. The Department of Workforce Development agreed to fund INK between June 2016 and June 2017.

July 2015

Phase 1 work to Pilot the system in order to answer the first two research questions with data from the INK system was completed and the USDOE granted a No Cost Extension of the SLDS grant through the end of June 2016. Phase 2 planning and work began to continue the work on the INK program and to

add additional data from the partner agencies. The INK Research Agenda was established and approved by the Governance Committee. INK added three (3) additional contracted staff members (Technical, Research, and a Business Analyst) to the team in order to complete the work scheduled in Phase 2.

INK Studies Performed

INK system development started in February 2015. INK contracted with Netlogx to provide consultation on creating the framework for the INK program and developing the Pilot system to produce the first two reports in order to satisfy requirements for the IDOE SLDS grant. INK needed to show significant progress and tangible evidence of the system capabilities on the new SAP HANA platform. With assistance from Netlogx and the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) and the Management and Performance Hub (MPH) staff, INK was able to demonstrate significant progress toward satisfying the grant requirements by producing reports to answer the first two (2) questions from the approved Research Agenda.

The two (2) questions were:

1. "What are the education and workforce churn patterns within the economic growth regions (EGRs)? In other words, starting with high school graduates and following them through education and workforce trajectory, what are the retention rates within EGR, industries of employment, and average wages?"
2. "What are the postsecondary enrollment and workforce patterns of students who participate in high school Career & Technical Education programs, and how do these differ from students who did not participate in CTE programs?"

INK Data

INK will continue to work with the current partner agencies (CHE, DOE, DWD, FSSA) to expand and improve on the data loaded for the Pilot. INK will also be looking to expand the group of partner agencies by reaching out to agencies such as BMV and DOR to obtain more demographic data to help make the data matching process more robust and have a more complete picture of the Hoosier education and workforce landscape and identify opportunities for improvement. INK has a Project Charter and a timeline in place for Phase 2 to continue the work on INK program development. The scope includes building the processes for gathering requirements and developing the system; expanding and improving the data loaded for DOE, CHE, and DWD; Loading Early Childhood Development data from FSSA; and exploring data from additional agencies as well as additional datasets from FSSA.

INK Recommendations

The INK Executive Director offers the following recommendations:

1. The INK program should be funded at the state level. There was some discussion of having INK become a self-funded program by setting up a fee structure for utilizing the data. While some additional funding from outside can and will be sought by the program, the INK Executive Director and Governance Committee recommend full state funding for the INK program. First, a continued investment of state funds is necessary so that the program has time to mature the system fully and grow its research and policy reputation in order to compete successfully for outside funding. Second, while outside funding can help offset the amount of required state

funds, becoming fully self-funded will result in the INK program's research agenda being dictated by the funders – not by the INK Governance Committee or state policy makers.

2. Additional datasets from FSSA would be included in the INK system. Datasets from additional partner agencies (like BMV, DOR) should also be included. Demographic and identifying information from these agencies would help to make the data matching process more robust and enhance the overall quality of the data.