

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

"A REGIONAL SUMMIT: Meeting Western North Carolina's Needs Through Higher Education"

***Western Carolina University
Ramsey Regional Activity Center
February 21, 2003
10:30 A.M.- 3:30 P.M.***

- 10:30 - 10:45 Introduction, Remarks (Chancellor Bardo and Mr. John Davis, Moderator)
- 10:45 - 11:40 Ms. Mary Jo Waits, Associate Director, The Morrison Institute for Public Policy, Arizona State University
- 11:45 - 12:15 Mr. Phil Kirk, President, North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry, and Chairman, State Board of Education
- 12:30 - 2:15 Lunch
- 12:55 - 1:20 The Honorable Marc Basnight, President Pro Tempore, N.C. Senate
- 1:25 - 1:55 Dr. Greg Bischak, Chief Economist, Appalachian Regional Commission
- 2:00 - 2:15 Chancellor Bardo Wrap-Up
- 2:30 - 3:30 Small Group Breakout Sessions

Purpose of the event: (1) To identify, with the help of leaders in business, government, education, and other sectors of the North Carolina community, the greatest needs of the state and region, and ways in which the university can assist. (2) To engage in collaboration with our key constituencies to assure that the university is moving in the right direction.

Breakout sessions will combine leaders from the Western campus with external representatives from the above mentioned groups. Tentative focus groups will revolve around the following categories of interest:

Arts, Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation
Business, Banking, Management, and Finance
Communications, Media, and Technology
Community Colleges
Criminal Justice System (Courts, Police, Fire Departments)
Diversity and Access
Engineering, Emerging Science, and Biotechnology
Environment, Development and Infrastructure
Health Care
Local and State Government
Public Schools (P-12)
Social Services, Retirement, and Aging

The focus groups will become more refined as we receive responses from invitations. At this point we are projecting an attendance of approximately 200.