

Themes from visioning exercises at the first Illinois Career Development Task Force meeting...

Theme	Member Comments	Related Study Guide “Strongly Agrees”
Global View Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transcend the sectors ▪ Comprehensive viewpoint ▪ Broader focus ▪ Common ground ▪ Resonates at all levels ▪ Rise above specific language ▪ Recognizing that what is done at one level (e.g., K-12) helps all levels (e.g., postsecondary) ▪ Finding a core set of principles that all can support ▪ Blending boundaries ▪ Career development is for all people 	<p>Career development is for all persons – the young and old; the mentally disabled and the intellectually gifted; the poor and the wealthy; males and females; students in elementary schools and in the graduate colleges.</p> <p>The expertise required for implementing career development is to be found in many parts of society and is not limited to those employed in formal education.</p>
Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Integrate into current systems ▪ Blending academic and career ▪ Codify into learning standards ▪ Integrate into classroom curriculum in a way that makes it easy to pick up a tool and run with it 	<p>If students can see clear relationships between what they are being asked to learn in school and the world of work, they will be motivated to learn more in school.</p> <p>Relationships between education and work can be made more meaningful to students through infusion into subject matter than if taught as a separate body of knowledge.</p> <p>Education and work can increasingly be expected to be interwoven at various times in the lives of most individuals rather than occurring in a single sequential pattern.</p>
Models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IL version of the National Career Development Guidelines from the mid-1990s ▪ Blue and orange binder mentioned by Mitch ▪ “Don’t have to start from scratch” ▪ Big picture problem-solving – “Who and I am and where am I going?” 	<p>The process of occupational decision-making and occupational preparation can be expected to be repeated more than once for most adults in today’s society.</p>

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Prepared for Mark Williams, Chair, Illinois Career Development Task Force, Illinois State Board of Education, by Julia Panke Makela and Debra D. Bragg at the Office of Community College Research and Leadership.

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Challenges & Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parental component is essential – perhaps called “families” instead of “parents.” Kids and families don’t know there are good jobs out there in IL industries (e.g., manufacturing). Parents losing jobs impacts children – lost confidence, premature foreclosure on options. Parents perceptions of hierarchy – 4 year degree is best for everyone, don’t understand that community colleges have college standards. ▪ Different groups of people may need different approaches (e.g., traditional K-12 students and adult students) ▪ Build a consistent message while tailoring to different audiences – will we need some different strategies for reaching different levels? ▪ High levels of remediation in community colleges ▪ Effect of federal legislation on employment initiatives ▪ High school counselors do so much scheduling that they don’t have time to counsel ▪ Multiple learning styles not understood – hands-on learning takes a back seat. ▪ Teaching to the high-stakes test ▪ Have to get “buy-in” from upper levels ▪ Strategy must filter down to the teachers 	<p>There exists no single learning strategy that can be said to be best for all students. Some students will learn best by reading out of books for example, and others will learn best by combining reading with other kinds of learning activities.</p> <p>The societal objectives of career development are to help all individuals a) who want to work; (b) acquire the skills necessary for work in these times; and c) engage in work that is satisfying to the individuals and beneficial to society.</p> <p>The individualistic goals of career development are to make work, a) possible, b) meaningful, and c) satisfying for each individual throughout his or her lifetime.</p>
How this Effort is Unique - Build Off Past Success & Avoid Past Pitfalls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education to Careers lost momentum at the state level. How is this different? How do we create renewed energy and excitement? ▪ Make sure we take into account local programs / areas – promising practices ▪ Talk about the good things that are happening 	