

CAPED

Coalition for Apprenticeship Partners
in Economic Development

Science | Technology | Engineering | Arts | Mathematics (STEAM)

CAPED is designed to establish best practices in regional labor industry demands which will result in economic development and sustainability through education and apprenticeship programs.

This is an effort to meet the human capital demands in South Texas and bordering communities which impact international markets.

www.caped.us



Key Industries

Laredo, Texas
Webb County, USA

- Banking
- Educational Services
- Energy
- Entertainment
- Entrepreneurship
- Healthcare
- Homeland Security
- International Trade

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INDUSTRY LEADERS

Transformational Strategic Plan

by Sylvia O. Praesel, M.A.

Laredo is naturally geographically positioned at the point of entry with the most potential for economic development and international industry advantage and growth. We must challenge the status-quo. A new era has arrived. *The availability of better educated talent with up-to-date career skills now largely determines where businesses will be located in the United States or anywhere in the world.* Therefore, CAPEP is collaborating with diverse groups, communities, elected officials and community leaders to attract new business by creating a solid talent pool of educated trained workforce.

Economic development through Strategic Global Sustainability (SGS) is critical for survival in a global market. CAPEP's vision is to promote greater collaboration among regional universities, community colleges, technical schools, government and the private sector in order to create, attract, and retain human capital necessary to fill workforce in the Texas bordering communities which impact international markets.

The Changing Face of Regional Partnerships

An article in Brookings said it best: "Ten years ago, most regional economic development partnerships focused primarily on marketing to attract business, however regions have realized that the returns on those efforts are minimal...the focus has been shifting toward growing new jobs by strengthening and leveraging existing assets already present in the region, industry clusters, and supply chains."

Additional underlying premises sounding the alarm that new solutions must be implemented are too extreme to ignore:

- With the Baby Boomer generation coming to a closer retirement, industry leaders are scrambling to plan for building future leaders to begin filling the pipeline of workers for the void of jobs that will need to be filled;
- Because 60% of students cannot find a job in their field of study, developing and retaining talent is critical to the sustainability and growth of our region in specific industries;
- With \$1.3 trillion in student loan debt, 25% in default, 29% in deferment and this spurring a record number suicides, the time is now to establish robust strategies for debt-free solutions to acquiring a strategic career.

Implement Best Practices Strategy for Solutions

1. Strengthen key industries and leverage existing assets by linking industries with apprenticeship degree programs.
2. Create public-private partnerships for apprenticeship programs (80% on the job training, 20% in-classroom training); the student is an apprentice and graduates as experienced worker.
3. Many apprenticeship programs are funded by industry and frequently pay for tuition, contingent upon student remaining with company for minimum of 3-5 years.

INTEGRATIONAL COLLABORATION IS KEY



Energy, Oil, Gas, Renewables

Texas is rich in energy industry components, from petroleum, to crude oil, wind and solar energy, the future is bright for energy discoveries and technological advances.



Industry-Specific Degrees

Implementing a pilot program in Laredo with a vision to expand into all bordering cities from El Paso to Brownsville, aligning industries with degree programs under an apprenticeship model of learning. Currently, identifying existing degree programs that can be converted into apprenticeship degree programs; eventually infiltrating the market with apprenticeships in all career paths with diverse private partners.

Apprenticeships can be implemented in services industry, airport management, information technology, international telecommunication conversion systems, and more, to mirror the European model of economic development through apprenticeships.

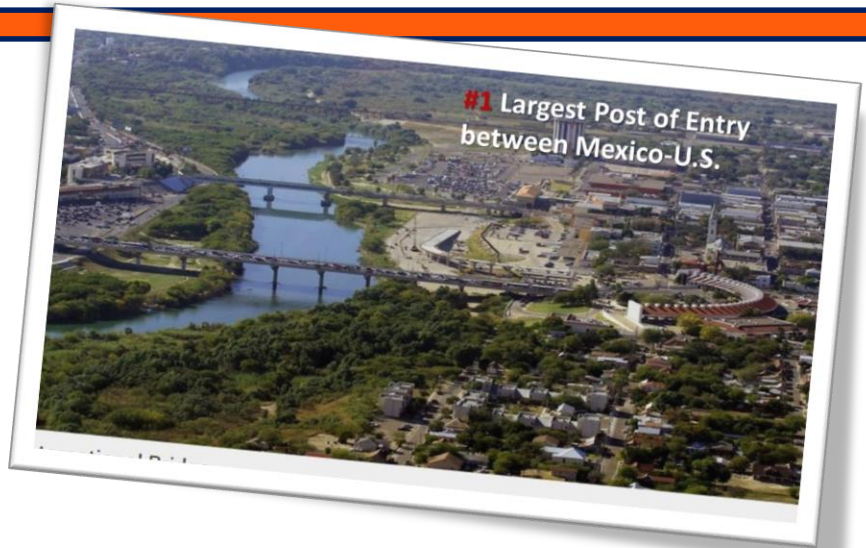
Advisory Board Members

"Those communities that break down the structural barrier between business, education, and community groups and collaborate to renew their talent creation and economic systems will attract new business and retain current ones." Collaboration is key to success.

Thank you to our preliminary Strategic Supporters and Advisory Board Members:

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SUPPORTERS

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- Dr. Guillermo Dominguez, Director, School of Engineering, TAMU
- State Representative Harold V. Dutton, Jr. Texas House Committee on Public Education
- William Eggers, Global Public Sector Research, Deloitte, Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Minita Ramirez, VP, Student Affairs, Texas A&M International University
- Mayor Pete Saenz, Jr. City of Laredo
- Jenifer Sarver, Sarver Strategies, Austin, Texas
- The Honorable Tano Tijerina, Webb County Judge
- Olivia Varela, Laredo Development Foundation (LDF)

TRANSFORMATIONAL COLLABORATION

Seeking to collaborate with brilliant minds – please contact us to join our advisory board list.



Working toward a better future

CAPED's strategic plan falls in line with the published reports by The Wilson Group in Washington, D.C., that address the binational agenda. One report particularly, "The U.S. Mexico Border Economy in Transition", addresses meeting the human capital demand for international regions. In this report stakeholders recommend:

1. Increase the educational exchange between United States and Mexico, establish a binational education taskforce that focuses on the border region and the development of stronger binational workforces.
2. University, community colleges, vocational college and business leaders should collaborate in the development of curriculums to insure that graduates have the skill set necessary to meet the workforce demands of the evolving industries at the border.

"The Interim Report to the 84th Legislature, House Committee on Economic and Small Business Development" of December 2014, identifies the same need for talent development with key

industries through direct internships and the use of economic development tools and the use of funds available for skills training. Strategically leveraging:

- Accelerators and Incubators
- Emerging Technology Fund (ETF)
- Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF)
- Skills Development Fund (SDF)
- 4A and 4B Sales Taxes
- Venture Capital Investments
- Internships for talent development

Let's leverage our resources, collaborate and transform bordering regions. Together we can make a difference in developing a world-class workforce.

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