

Advance Kansas ~ Visioneering Wichita College Mecca Project Fall 2008

Advance Kansas

An innovative leadership development program sponsored by the Urban League of Kansas to:

- Build diversity management competencies in leaders.
- Identify real opportunities to apply skills and collaborative efforts to address community issues.

Visioneering Wichita College Mecca Alliance

A formally approved Alliance of the 21 institutions of higher education within South Central Kansas developed to:

- Capitalize upon the collective resources to create an awareness of the Wichita MSA as a college “mecca” and learning community; increase the number of students in all area colleges and universities; and, provide curriculum, programs and research that support the Wichita MSA employers’ high paying targeted job sectors.
- Market our universities and colleges to attract out of state, women, minority and international students and encourage students to remain in the Wichita MSA for employment.

The Advance Kansas ~ College Mecca Connection

- *Encourage students to remain in the Wichita MSA for employment after graduation or certificate completion.*

The Project

- Develop and conduct a survey of regional college students to determine what attracted them to attend colleges in this region and to determine what would entice them to remain in this area after graduation/certificate completion.
- Conduct a gap analysis regarding expressed enticers and existing enticers.
- Share the information from the survey with key stakeholder groups to develop strategies to close the gaps between desired and existing enticers.

The Intended Outcomes

- An expanded workforce pool to address the high demand high wage occupational and professional needs within the Wichita MSA.