

4/13/04 - IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HEAD TO SPEAK AT IOWA CITY DIVERSITY EVENT

Mike Blouin, director of the Iowa Department of Economic Development, will speak Tuesday, April 13, at an event hosted by the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City chapter of the Professional Technical Diversity Network (PTDN).

Evening Highlights:

- Featured Speaker: Mike Blouin - "Diversity and Economic Development in Iowa"
- Roundtable discussion on diversity and its impacts on Economic Development
- Election of PTDN 2004-2005 Board of Directors
- Free Admission & Complimentary refreshments provided by Pearson LLC

When: Tuesday, April 13, 2004

- 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Where: Pearson LLC Cafeteria

- 2510 Dodge Street, Iowa City, Iowa

- Enter cafeteria from Parking Lot #2 (see attached map)

Sponsored by: Pearson LLC (formerly NCS Pearson)

In January 2003, Gov. Tom Vilsack and Lt. Gov. Sally Pederson appointed Blouin to lead the state's economic development efforts. With more than 30 years of public service and community development experience, Blouin brings a strong understanding of Iowa's economic needs and opportunities, and his appointment demonstrates the Vilsack administration's commitment to economic development in the state of Iowa.

Most recently, Blouin served as president & CEO of the Greater Des Moines Partnership. Under his leadership, the Greater Des Moines Partnership became the premier economic and community development organization serving Greater Des Moines area.

Mike Blouin served as a member of Congress in the U. S. House of Representatives for Iowa's 2nd District from 1975 to 1979. He was also a member of the Iowa State Senate and the Iowa House of Representatives for Dubuque, Iowa, from 1969 to 1975. Blouin also served as the head of Priority One, the economic development division of the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce.

PTDN is a partnership between employers, the community and professional organizations with a shared commitment to attract develop and retain diverse professional and technical specialists. Membership is free, and open to anyone who wishes to belong to PTDN.

Businesses and organizations supporting the community through PTDN include:

AEGON USA, Alliant Energy, Bradley & Riley, PC, Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce and Priority One, Cedar Rapids Community Schools, College Community Schools, Gazette Communications, Fastek International, Iowa City Area Development Group, Iowa City Veterans Administration Medical Center, Kirkwood Community College, Metropolitan Catholic Schools, Panera Bread Bakery-Cafes, Procter & Gamble, Rockwell Collins, Skogman Realty and The University of Iowa.