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## Strong board leads college

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### HIGHLAND HEIGHTS

-- Northern Kentucky University's College of Informatics has announced a new Dean's Advisor Board. The board is made up of 23 of the region's business leaders.

"They bring the business acumen to test the direction of the college," said James Cordas, chairman of the new board. "They understand the economic needs and business challenges. Together they can visualize the goal and then what the college must do to succeed."

Member William T. "Bill" Robinson III, a business litigation specialist with the law firm of Frost Brown Todd LLC, said his work with the chambers of commerce on both sides of the river as well as the Tri-County Economic Development Corp. led to a special interest in the school.

"When I first heard about the College of Informatics and came to understand that there were only six such colleges in the United States, I recognized the uniqueness of the program, the potential of the program as an economic development engine for the community," said Robinson.

"I see in the College of Informatics as a giant step forward for our community as we compete in the global marketplace."

TANK's deputy general manager Andrew Aiello was also named to the board.

TANK has been working with the college to equip its buses with free Wi-Fi. About 20 percent of the authority's fleet now has Internet access. He sees the partnership as fiscal responsibility.

"It's smart government - a government agency and a public education institution working together," said Aiello. "There's this synergy that comes there. You spend a dollar on education that also helps the public transportation system. It's a win-win-win for the taxpayer, transit customer and the student."

Cordas said the board will also help the college look to the future.

"With the large number of jobs to be created in the next 10 years, NKU wants to be a major supplier of the new talented workforce," said Cordas. "It is expected that many of these positions will require graduates that have a technical skill applied to a specific vocation whether in health, distribution, professional services, advertising, etc."

"The board will provide the business insight to create the new environment to make the graduates valuable to the community."

Robinson believes the college will be key to the region's future growth.

"Twenty years from now I am confident that the College of Informatics will be recognized as one of the leading such programs in the country," he said. "Twenty years from now our community will be enhanced because of the leadership and innovation that the College of Informatics will bring to our marketplace."

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