Progress on the I-93 Tech Corridor

Plymouth State University continues to work toward our vision of an I-93 technology corridor that joins together state and local governments, businesses, and educational institutions all along the interstate. The beauty of the region and its highly desirable way of life, its proximity to technology-rich regions in the southern part of the state, and a high-speed transportation corridor (I-93) make the region north of Concord a prime location for new enterprises. What was needed was workforce development, community partnerships, and educational programs to make that a reality. We have made progress on those fronts.

PSU has a new partnership with Cybint, a cybersecurity education company. After reviewing over 200 applications, Plymouth was chosen as one of 15 sites around the US to offer an intensive nonmatriculation program for professionals working in businesses tied directly to cybersecurity, one of the nation's fastest growing industries. Governor Sununu noted that "Workforce development in cybersecurity is a must in today's world. I encourage Granite Staters to take advantage of this opportunity for cybersecurity careers." Plymouth State University President Donald Birx said, "Our collaboration with Cybint is a great example of the public/private partnerships that thrive in New Hampshire. It will help employers fill critical, open positions, while providing pathways to promising careers."

As part of the much-needed improvements in NH's broadband infrastructure, Cares Act broadband funding and a partnership with PSU helped enable the town of Bristol to deploy 24 miles of fiber to pass 400 Bristol residences and connect to Plymouth State University. PSU President Donald Birx noted, "The installation of this new fiber optic infrastructure in Bristol is an example of the substantial investment in New Hampshire's economic future.... The Lakes Region has long been an active area for both residential and commercial sectors, and this development signals a continuing interest in building a footprint that allows the state to compete with the most connected locales."

We look forward to working with you in the next legislative session. If you have any questions or comments on the newsletter or for Plymouth State, please contact Marcia Schmidt Blaine, mblaine@plymouth.edu.