Princeton, KY—The West KY Regional Chamber Alliance, MSU’s Office of Regional Stewardship and Outreach Advisory Council, and C-LINK met with KY Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Dave Adkisson on Tuesday, December 1 at the beautiful George Coon Public Library in Princeton, KY.

President Adkisson’s presentation titled “Education as the Future of Economic Growth,” discussed the importance of regionalism in improving students’ education in the Commonwealth. He recommended that funds be established to enhance and promote regional development in Kentucky.

Adkisson also presented findings from a recent study conducted by the Kentucky Chamber, including the progress barriers faced by students and educators in today’s environment, which are depreciating the rate of graduation among Kentucky students. These barriers were: 1) Weak links between universities and the economic development; 2) A lack of alignment, where credits do not transfer correctly from one college to another; 3) Policy Leadership out of Frankfort; 4) Threats to affordability; and 5) Low productivity.
December 1., discussed the efforts of Regional Stewardship in using the resources of our region to improve the quality of life for its people. “Regional Stewardship is bringing the strategic imperatives of excellence, partnerships, and community to fruition in amazing ways,” Dunn said. “Together,” he continued, “we have made numerous changes and improvements that will benefit the campus and regional community for years to come.

Adkisson recommended that attendees view “2 Million Minutes,” documentary comparing high school students from the United States, India, and China. In this film, two students from each country are observed in their daily educational routines to show the differences in culture.

The very issue Adkisson discussed, “regionalism,” was certainly present at the meeting. Sponsored by MSU’s Office of Regional Stewardship and Outreach, community leaders from all over west KY came together to address the need for unity in advancing the education and other economic development projects such as I69 and the Kentucky Lock and Dam project in our region.

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