

BDB Academic Leaders Council

October 22, 2025 at 10:00am – 11:30am

Location: Hilton West Palm Beach

Address: 600 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33401

Agenda:

I. Welcome and Introductions – Kelly Smallridge, BDB

- a. Industry and Academic Leader Introductions
 - i. Industry leaders to share local # of employees & any plans to add more

II. Industry Leaders:

- a. Do you have contacts at each local academic institute?
- b. Where do you get the majority of your graduates and why?
- c. What skillsets are you not seeing in the workforce?
- d. Name the largest job creation skill lacking in talent at your firm.

III. Academic Institutes:

- a. Timing for company involvement / best practices for engagement
- b. Dates of key job fairs
- c. What are programs you have that could help challenges heard today?
- d. What companies in the room do you not have relationships with?

IV. Innovation-based Economy:

- a. Industries:
 - i. Share any new technologies your company has embraced at your company
 - ii. What partnerships are you seeking?
- b. Academia:
 - i. Share new programs launched to embrace future industries
 - ii. What partnerships are you seeking?

V. New Resources:

- a. Getro Jobs Platform – BDB.org
- b. New Internship Portal (CareerSource PBC) – internpalmbeach.com