



October 9, 2013

Lawrence B. Schook, Ph.D.  
Chair, UI LABS Scientific and Technology Advisory Board  
71 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2760  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dear Dr. Schook:

In the spring of 2012, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) released its Territorial Review of the Chicago Tri-State Metropolitan Area. This was the first effort to examine the functioning economy existing among northeastern Illinois, southwestern Wisconsin, and northwest Indiana. The Alliance for Regional Development, created in response to the OECD Review, brings together leaders from the private sector, government, and academia to articulate common region-wide goals, identify actionable projects that will enhance and grow the economy, and implement the strategic plans necessary to achieve them.

The Alliance for Regional Development is pleased to support the UI LABS through the Digital Lab for Manufacturing on the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation (DMDI) Institute. This project plays an important role in transforming the marketplace by leveraging and focusing digital manufacturing technologies to create an approach that aligns the incentives of manufacturing companies, software companies, and manufacturing service providers.

We believe that digital manufacturing, specifically as the Digital Lab has envisioned, has the potential to bring about the next industrial revolution, unlocking billions of dollars of value for the DOD and American companies, creating thousands of jobs, and growing the American economy. The Alliance for Regional Development aims to create a new vision that focuses on connecting the region's assets in a new and strategic way, in a broader geographic arena, and in a more collaborative way to bring about collective success and prosperity- and we believe that the Digital Lab exemplifies these goals.

We support the Digital Lab's vision to create a sustainable digital manufacturing ecosystem that reduces the time and cost of the product development cycle, resulting in \$100 billion in cost savings to DOD and the creation of \$100 billion of business value opportunities for thousands of private corporations, including prospects for small and mid-sized suppliers and new company formation. Working collaboratively with its many partners, including the Alliance for Regional Development, the Digital Lab will change the way that America does manufacturing by focusing on democratization and data integration across the supply chain.

We look forward to extending our successful working relationship with the UI LABS' Digital Lab for Manufacturing and working together towards increased regional economic development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Mullen".

Michael Mullen  
Illinois Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Stanley".

Jim Stanley  
Indiana Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Jones".

Paul Jones  
Wisconsin Chairman