



For Immediate Release

**HEARRR announces community lecture series; first to be held March 16 at Rockford College**

(March 3, 2010) -- The Higher Education Alliance for the Rock River Region (HEARRR) is launching a lecture series to bring the community together for thought-provoking discussions of issues important to our region and our world. HEARRR is comprised of Northern Illinois University, Rock Valley College, Rockford College and the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Featured presenters</b>	<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
Setting the Context: A Candid View of Our City's Challenges and Opportunities	Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey, Peter Provenzano, President/CEO of SupplyCore and Chairman, Rock River Development Partnership	March 16, 6:30 p.m.	Regents Hall at Rockford College, 5050 East State Street	Hosted by Dr. Robert Head, President, Rockford College and Dr. John Peters, President, Northern Illinois University
Learning from Others: Best Practices from Other Communities	Graham Richard, former mayor of Fort Wayne, Indiana and Principal, Graham Richard Associates, Inc. and Max Reim, Principal, Live, Work, Learn, Play	April 15, 6:30 p.m.	Auditorium, University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, 1601 Parkview Avenue	Hosted by Dr. Martin Lipsky, Regional Dean, University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford
A Strategy for Rockford	Max Reim, Principal, Live, Work, Learn, Play	May 6, 6:30 p.m.	Regents Hall at Rockford College, 5050 East State Street	Hosted by Dr. Robert Head, President, Rockford College

The first three sessions will focus on “Building a Better Rockford.” Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey and Peter Provenzano, President and CEO of SupplyCore and Chairman of the Board of the Rock River Development Partnership, will guide a series of discussions of the city’s plan for urban revitalization. The first session, to be held **March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Regents Hall Rockford College**, will set the context for the discussions, with a look at the current state of the city. The second session, to be held **April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford**, will present the revitalization success story of Fort Wayne, Indiana, with special guest Graham Richard, former mayor of Fort Wayne and author of “Performance is the Best Politics.” The final session, to be held **May 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Regents Hall at Rockford College**, will present a strategy for Rockford, with remarks by Max Reim, principal of Live, Work, Learn, Play, the consulting company working with the City of Rockford on a master plan for the urban core.

There is no charge to attend any lecture. Registration is requested at [www.hearr.org](http://www.hearr.org).

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