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UB creates advisory panel for jobs

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The University at Buffalo will rely on a new advisory council to help make sure Western New York has a qualified and diverse pool of workers needed for jobs created by any future expansion of the university.

UB President John B. Simpson on Thursday announced the creation of the “UB 2020 Opportunities Advisory Council” and appointed as its head June Hoeflich, a former bank executive and retired CEO of Sheehan Memorial Hospital.

Simpson said UB’s long-term plans to grow will create job opportunities, particularly in the region’s health care and biotech industries. Jobs will range from entry-level positions to technicians to research assistants to administrators.

In fact, UB anticipates 275 jobs alone will be created with the 2011 opening of the building UB is constructing with Kaleida Health.

The nine-member panel, led by Hoeflich — former senior vice president at HSBC Bank, who serves on the UB Council — will work with UB and the community to ensure local residents have access to training and education programs needed to obtain these future jobs.

“This council will take a broad look at what job opportunities are on the horizon, what skills and training are needed and how local residents can access job-development programs in preparation for current and anticipated opportunities,” Hoeflich said. “We must plan now to ensure that these job opportunities are available to all segments of our community.”

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