Since 2005–2006, Purdue University Calumet—along with Indiana University Northwest and Ivy Tech Community College Northwest—has been involved in studying the impact of work on Northwest Indiana college students.

Here’s what we found regarding student needs:
- Flexible course scheduling
- Access to internships and other types of experiential learning
- Supportive academic advising

Research led to creation of student success initiatives in these areas:
- Strategic Planning
- Retention and Graduation Initiatives
- Grant-Writing

### WHAT WE FOUND

**STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**

Hours worked in an average week

- Almost 80% worked more than 20 hours a week, with most students logging more than 30 hours a week of work
- Most students were employed off campus (82%); fewer than 10% of the employed students worked on campus
- Over 80% of the employed students worked at one job, while 16% had two jobs

### INCREASED INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Experiential Learning**
- Development of Experiential Education opportunities throughout all programs
- Include internships, service learning, study abroad, cooperative education, practicum, design projects or undergraduate research
- Over 100 courses approved as of Spring 2010
- 2,113 students have taken at least one Experiential Learning course between 2008–2010

### MORE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING

- Multi-year plan to develop more online courses
- Development of virtual labs and web-based courses
- Implementation of DegreeWorks, a degree audit tool, for support of scheduling and academic planning
Employment: Hours worked in an average week

- 21 to 30 hours: 24%
- 31 to 40 hours: 33%
- 31+ hours: 55%
- 1 to 10 hours: 5%
- 11 to 20 hours: 16%

Northwest Indiana Research on Working Students