

CORPORATE CONCERN AND INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

1. “Mergers, downsizing, reorganizations, and e-business efforts all present large challenges to businesses with highly skilled employees. ...Corporations spend over \$1 trillion annually on their business knowledge workforces...The majority of U.S. companies experience extreme difficulty with optimal development and deployment of their workforce, as well as with recruitment and retention of key employees.” (www.hcms.com/swfm.htm)
2. “U.S. companies spend enormous amounts on employee career education and skills enhancement – almost \$65 billion dollars this year alone.” (*USDLA Journal*, Vol 15, No. 9, September 2001; www.usdla.org/html/journal/SEP01_Issue/techex04.html)
3. “By the late 1980s, 64 per cent of America’s largest companies listed education as their number one community-relations concern. David Kearns, chairman and CEO of Xerox, bluntly stated that the American workforce was running out of qualified people. ‘If current demographic and economic trends continue,’ Kearns said, ‘American business will have to hire a million new workers a year who can’t read, write, or count.’ ” (Joseph H. Boyett and Henry P. Conn, *Workplace 2000*, Penguin, 1991, p. 267)
4. “Americans who wish to acquire the skills necessary for them to play leadership roles in the workplace of the future face almost as great a problem as do those who simply aspire to decent employment. The reason for this is that the American institutions that should be preparing our future leaders - the American graduate school of business - is almost a total failure.” (*ibid.*, p. 294) “The failure of American business schools to prepare their students for leadership roles is so bad that a number of major companies such as Westinghouse, USX, and Marriot Corporation had abandoned or were no longer actively recruiting M.B.A.’s And 858 of *Business Week*’s 1000 did no significant recruiting at business schools at all.” (*ibid.*, p. 296)