Northern Illinois Regional P-20 Network

Articulation Work Group Summary

September 3, 2014

Goal and Objectives for 6 months and 12 months

Goal: Create seamless transitions from pre-school to elementary school to middle school to high school to community colleges to universities to workplaces

- Recommend use of competencies for making decisions on course articulation through the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI).
  January 2015 – Complete research and identify models
  September 2015 – Complete policy paper and action plan for consideration by state agencies
- Increase the number of 3+1 and 2+2 programs available to northern Illinois students by 25% and expand reverse transfer agreements by 50% more colleges.
  January 2015 – Increase 3+1 and 2+2 by 10% and reverse transfer agreements by 25%
  September 2015 – Increase 3+1 and 2+2 by 15% and reverse transfer agreements by 25%
- Engage at least 20 more NIU faculty members and 30 more college faculty in CCSS and PARCC meetings with middle school, high school, and community college faculty.
  January 2015 – Add 10 NIU faculty and 15 community college faculty to this work
  September 2015 – Add 10 NIU faculty and 15 community college faculty to this work
- Establish a formal relationship with the Illinois P-20 Council.
  Fall 2014 – Launch dialogue with the P-20 Council about a role for this regional network
  September 2015 – Participate in the P-20 Council’s work as a regional partner

30 Day Action Items – August 2014

- **Best practices in career exploration.** A survey was sent to work group members to identify what area institutions are doing to provide career exploration opportunities to students and what these organizations perceive as national models. Outcome – first round of surveying is complete and additional data has been requested.
- **Summer bridge programs.** Work group institutions were surveyed to identify regional summer bridge programs and their components, such as focus, length, eligibility, and content. Information was shared about the Bridging the Gap grant that requires community colleges to provide a summer bridge program in either English or math. Outcome – information about the Bridging the Gap grant is to be shared with the group when it becomes available.
- **Assessments of prior learning.** A survey was sent to work group members to identify regional practices regarding prior learning assessments. Outcome – research is needed to identify models for providing prior learning assessments to a wider range of students.
- **Reverse transfer programs.** Information about NIU’s reverse transfer program was shared with work group members. Outcome – additional community colleges are pursuing reverse transfer agreements with NIU.