Northern Illinois Regional P-20 Network
Adult Learners Work Group

June 16, 2015, 9 a.m. – 11:00 am
Elgin Community College, 1700 Spartan Dr., Elgin, 60123
Building B, Room 254

Attendees: Meryl Sussman (NIU), John Cowan (NIU), Peggy Heinrich (ECC), Joanne Kantner (Kish – co-chair – by phone), Angela Nackovic (COD), Tom Pierce (McHenry), Mark Mrozinsk (Harper)

Item 01: A Report on the National Institute on Prior Learning Assessment
Meryl reported on the National Institute on Prior Learning Assessment (attended by Meryl and John). Very well run conference. Leaders in the PLA field were presenters. Lots of time for conversation and Q & A. The conference experience yielded models we might consider for developing a regional P20 PLA program (see item 02).

Item 02: Developing a P20 Regional PLA Framework
Meryl shared Five Points for PLA Programs. This presentation shares five essential considerations for establishing a PLA program. The five considerations include:

- Philosophy, Mission, Policies
- Institutional Support
- Program Practices
- Professional Development
- Program Evaluation

These points are presented in the Powerpoint (Five Points for PLA Programs) and in an article by Institute keynote speaker Nan Travers (Evaluating Prior Learning Assessment Programs: A Suggested Framework). Both of these documents are available under the new “Resources” link on the Adult Learner page.

A policy paper draft was shared with the group and the group made suggestions for revisions. This paper will be distributed to members of the committee for further feedback prior to our next meeting.

Item 03: Adult Learner Paper Discussion (item was tabled for future meeting).

Next meeting will be held on:
July 8, 2015, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, NIU Hoffman Estates