Regional P-20 Network
Adult Learners Work Group

December 5, 2014, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Elgin Community College, Building A, Room 205
Call in Number – 815.753.0019

Attendees
Meryl Sussman (NIU – convener), John Cowan (NIU), Peggy Heinrich (ECC), Joanne Kanter (Kish – phone), Angela Nackovic (COD), Tom Pierce (MCC), Jane Smith (COD), Debbie Pixton (NIU)

Notes

1. Preliminary findings from the survey presentation – John Cowan
   • The initial survey yielded results which were interesting, but the responses were few in number (< 30%). It was a good first step, but more responses are needed to gain an accurate understanding. Follow up questions with respondents for clarification will align these answers with those from the people we reach out to next.
   • The survey will be re-opened on Monday, 12/15/2014 and will be improved by the addition of a few questions (the title of the person providing the information; asking for a list of people/titles who provided some of the survey data) will be added as well as more clarity around the definition of “adult learners.”
   • The phrase “reverse transfer” proved to be confusing, as community colleges have different, sometimes varied, definitions for that phrase that do not include the way NIU uses the phrase. This original question will become multiple questions in order to clearly understand what programs are available to adult learners.
   • If you would like a report of your college’s information for internal institutional use, email John (jcowan@niu.edu).

2. College of DuPage is working to become a certified Adult Learning Focused Institution (ALFI)
   • Administered the CAEL survey (ALFI Assessment Tool Report) - Institutional Self-Assessment Survey (feedback from students)
   • Administered the adult learner inventory through Noel-Levitz
   • Plans are to use the survey information to identify people to participate in four focus groups based on the critical areas that emerged from the survey
   • Will share a report once they have gone through the information
   • Moraine Valley and one other college are starting the same CAEL survey

3. Next steps and next meeting (locations to be determined by the group)
   • Next meeting reschedule for January 30 at 9 am at College of DuPage
• Watch for a revised survey to complete if your institution has not been able to do so to date.

Meeting materials
Documents related to this topic are posted online at www.niu.edu/p20network. Click on the Resources tab and then on the Adult Learners Work Group under Meetings and Materials. Feel free to send links to other documents that you recommend for this group to Debbie Pixton (dpixton@niu.edu).

Work Group Participants
Meryl Sussman, Assistant V-P for Outreach Adult and Non-Credit Programs, NIU – CONVENER
John Cowan, Senior Research Associate, NIU
Earl Dowling, Vice-President, Student Affairs, COD
Peggy Heinrich, Dean of Adult Basic Education, ECC
Joanne Kantner, Dean of Adult Basic Education, KC
Angela Nackovic, Adult Admissions Representative, COD
Tom Pierce, Executive Director of Adult Education, MCC
Jane Smith, Dean, Admission Services and Registrar, COD