Item 01: Report on a Statewide Portfolio Initiative (Brian)

- A collaborative group has worked over the last year to develop a prior learning assessment (PLA) portfolio system.
- The main goal is to build a single statewide portfolio system for PLA based on a single, unified portfolio system that will be available to all Illinois community colleges.
- Students will take a portfolio development course facilitated by Harper College, which will serve in two ways:
  - It prepares students to prepare a portfolio that articulates and demonstrates learning based on course outcomes;
  - Students in the course will prepare an initial portfolio that will be submitted for assessment by a network of assessors (see below for levels of assessors and assessment);
  - The portfolio content included will be an individual course's outcomes (course challenge) offered by the student's community college aligned to course outcomes;
  - Credit awarded for PLA is placed on a CAEL transcript.
- Three levels of Assessors/Assessment:
  - The institution where the student is taking the course will have first right of refusal to assess the portfolio. If no assessor is available at the institution, someone from an Illinois network of assessors will assess the portfolio. CAEL’s national network of assessors can be drawn on in the event that assessors are not available for a given topic/portfolio;
  - All assessors will be CAEL certified.
- Efforts will be made to assure that the PLA Assessment is a vigorous and valid process.
- This requires a collaborative agreement between all participating institutions.
- More details are attached.

Item 02: Prior Learning Assessment Policy Paper (Meryl)

- Meryl presented the reworked draft of the PLA policy paper and received the following feedback:
  - Change the format to make it faster to read through;
  - Move statements of retention and minority success up front (executive summary);
  - Summarize what has been done (such as ACE, demonstrated competence, challenge exams);
  - Site challenges to get the word out, transfer to other institutions;
  - Recognize faculty: acknowledging, affirming, advocating assessing: centrality of faculty.
  - Acknowledge statewide portfolio assessment system.
  - Look for HLC for policies on prior learning assessment.
  - Identify the significant stakeholder presence on the working group.
  - Consider whether we are a network or an alliance.
- Meryl will edit the document based on the feedback and send out for review.
- The group will meet again in mid-August to do a final review for the September meeting.

Next Meeting will be held mid-August. Date and location TBD.