Articulation and Adult Learners Work Group

November 20, 2015, 1:00-3:00 pm
Northern Illinois University, Altgeld Hall, Room 315
Call in Number – 815.753.0010

Attendees: Terry Berringman (MCC); Anne Birberick (NIU); John Cowan (NIU); Judy Doyle (NIU); Melinda James (WCC); Sean Jensen (ECC – phone); Joanne Kantner (Kish); Brandon Lagana (NIU); Andrea Messing-Mathie (NIU – phone), Angela Nackovic (COD); Donna Stewart (COD); Meryl Sussman (NIU)

Notes
- IAI Policy Paper
  o The work group has a final opportunity to provide feedback through December 10.
  o After December 10, Anne Birberick and Melinda James will begin sharing the paper externally with IBHE, ICCB, ISBE, IAI, and others for additional feedback. Responses will be shared with the entire work group at the January meeting.
  o A draft of the paper will be shared at the February CEOs meeting.
  o Discussion around the new AS degree indicates that it will not have an impact on this paper.
- Pathways
  o Consider ways to identify opportunities for prior learning assessment credits to be awarded. These may include industry certifications, credit by examination (e.g. AP or CLEP), or other regularly identified documentation of demonstrated knowledge and skills.
  o Feedback on the existing drafts will be incorporated and shared with the group.
  o Additional pathways documents will be created for healthcare, finance, logistics, IT network administration, and engineering. The creation of these documents will be done in consultation with community college and NIU faculty.
  o The group discussed the possibility of an online, dynamic, interactive system that can have multiple internal and external facing components to be beneficial for the wide variety of stakeholders who are interested in understanding how students can most expediently complete a degree, whatever their entry point along the three levels.
- Illinois Prior Learning Assessment Alliance (IPLAA)
  o The IPLAA will support a commitment across institutions to accept prior learning credits awarded by other alliance institutions.
  o Next steps
    ▪ Invite presidents of P-20 Network institutions to endorse a regional alliance, asking them to commit support and resources (including faculty...
leaders and academic administrators) to operationalize prior learning assessments as a priority on their campuses.

- Invite someone from ICCB to participate in the IPLAA.
- Identify and convene institutional representatives. This should include academic representatives who will need to agree that they will pursue prior learning assessment, as well as systems folks who can determine what it will look like once it is transcripted.
- Document their commitment in a memo of understanding
- Goal: For February meeting, have people signed up at the presidential level to engage in a process of to bring prior learning assessment to their campuses and then bringing people together in a group to discuss how to align and recognize work done across the region.
  - IREP (eportfolio group) is meeting in January. Results of that meeting will be shared with this group in January.
  - Regional study of PARCC results is being put on hold until complete PARCC results are available.

Next steps
- Adult Learners sub-group focused on the launch of the Illinois Prior Learning Alliance will continue working and meeting.
- IAI sub-group focused on the policy paper will share the draft paper for external feedback with IBHE, ICCB, ISBE, IAI and others.
- NIU’s P-20 Center will work on the revised and new pathways documents. As new versions are available, they will be circulated to the larger group for feedback.
  - New pathways will be created around healthcare, finance, engineering, logistics, and IT network administration.
  - The possibility of an online, dynamic, interactive tool to display pathways and customize them based on prior learning credit (via examination or other) will be explored and reported on as a possible recommendation to the CEOs. AHIMA maps are being consulted as a possible model. [http://hicareers.com/CareerMap/](http://hicareers.com/CareerMap/)
- No meeting on December 10.
- Next full group meeting will be January

Meeting materials
Documents related to this topic are posted online at [www.niu.edu/p20network](http://www.niu.edu/p20network). Click on the Work Groups tab and then on the Articulation and Adult Learners Work Group. Feel free to send links to other documents that you recommend for this group to Debbie Pixton (dpixton@niu.edu).
2015-16 Expectations

Goal: Create seamless transitions across the education continuum from cradles to careers.

Joint Objectives and Deliverables

- Complete draft of IAI policy paper and discuss recommendations
  - Present draft of IAI white paper.
- Create five additional pathways documents and circulate widely.
  - February 2016 – Five pathways documents shared and next steps recommended.
  - September 2016 – Additional pathways model documents completed and disseminated.
- Collaborate with the regional ePortfolio consortium (IREP) to develop a consistent, regional process for eportfolios that works across levels and incorporates documentation of learning done outside of an academic setting.
- Launch the IPLAA to implement PLA at individual institutions but permit transfer of credits across the alliance.
  - February 2016 – Report on the first meeting of the IPLAA and plan for action.
- Organize regional study of PARCC results and make recommendations for use in placement.
  - February 2016 – Report recommendations on PARCC results, if available by this time.