



## Commission for **Adult Learners**

November 15, 2017

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

324 Outreach Building and by Zoom videoconferencing  
Minutes

Attendance: L. Wright, Chair Elect/Meeting leader; M. Corby, D. Gruendler, C. Horner, N. James, A. Maxson, E. McFeely, H. McGarry, B. Redmond, D. Rodgers, H. Sankey, B. Seymour, E. Shumac, P. Staskiel, R. Thornton-Roop, J. Wills, recorder

Attended by Zoom: A. Adolph, R. Brown, J. Campbell, J. Cross, S. Feather, A. Lozano, D. Smith

Sponsors and guests: M. Hanes, sponsor; M. Whitehurst, sponsor; C. Brigger, presenter; P. Carlson, presenter, D. Coudriet-Guest, D. Murphy-Guest

Unable to attend: G. Chinn, P. Johnson, L. Laing, M. Rice

### 1. Announcements and updates

- a. Announcements-L. Wright called the meeting to order and asked attendees to introduce themselves.
- b. Members approved minutes from October 18, 2017, as submitted. Wills will upload approved minutes to the CAL web site and to the shared Box folder.
- c. Sharing adult learner initiatives at campuses

N. James-Still needs assistance identifying recipient list for getting message out around the recent Child Care Access Means Parents in School grant Penn State received from the U.S. Department of Education to provide financial assistance for child care to qualifying low-income undergraduate and graduate student parents at University Park and 20 additional campus locations. She has posters and print materials available for distribution. Postage for sending materials is available as part of the grant, and Multimedia and Print Services will prepare and send the mailings. James would like to gather list of contacts at each campus to develop mailing lists. Wright agreed to relay the request to campus Directors of Academic Affairs asking for help identifying the appropriate contact at each campus with to involve both faculty and staff. James will draft message and forward to Wright. R. Thornton-Roop has a ListServ of military contacts at each campus. James may also contact AECs. If World Campus students are not eligible for this benefit, it should be clearly stated in sent materials.

## 2. Presentations

a. Transfer Student Working Group—Penny Carlson, Executive Director for Academic Services and Assessment; and Clark Brigger, Executive Director for Undergraduate Admissions

Carlson and Brigger lead a group charged by Dr. Rob Pangborn to make recommendations to move Penn State to the forefront as a transfer-friendly institution. The group consists of staff from admissions, campuses, World Campus, colleges, the graduate school, Prior Learning Assessment office, and New Student Orientation.

Transfer students could be adults with one or more college transcripts and no degree, second degree students, students with community college transfer credits or completed associate degrees, articulation agreement students, high school students with dual enrollment credits, veterans, or Penn State students who complete and transfer summer courses.

Carlson reviewed changes in transfer credit evaluation between the legacy system environment and the LionPATH environment. She gave an overview of the transfer review process. Some pain points include culture change and technology challenges.

The undergraduate Admissions Office and the LDMO are working on five identified development items to enhance the LionPath processes.

Daren Coudriet attended as a guest and spoke about the potential for artificial intelligence (AI) to support faculty when a new syllabus comes in.

Current process has many advocates but no single owner. There is overlap with other working groups at World Campus and campuses and work by the Prior Learning Assessment office.

The group will be submitting recommendations report to Dr. Pangborn. The Commission will ask for an update, when available.

Carlson's slides are available for review in the CAL members' shared Box folder.

b. Articulation agreements and Course Substitution Request System (CSRS)—Penny Carlson

Carlson shared list of ten new articulation agreements and reviewed opportunities of the agreements and program-to-program guides. She also reviewed some challenges including managing multiple layers of conversations and relationships across institutions and navigating the Penn State approval process.

Enrollments are increasing from Community Colleges to campuses. World Campus will soon have its first articulation agreement. Many students cannot afford their full program at Penn State. When they complete here, their graduation rates are very high.

Carlson also gave an overview and history of the Course Substitution Request System (CSRS) and reviewed implementation phases, noting there were a few delays around moving data to LionPath.

CSRS was created to give advisors a workflow to request degree audit substitutions from wherever they sat. The group won an award last year for most collaborative process at Penn State.

Carlson shared data of course substitutions by month and cumulative as well as activity by college and campus, noting that the biggest users are University Park, World Campus, the College of Health and Human Development, and the College of Nursing. The group would welcome advocacy to get access for advisors in all colleges.

Carlson explained AAPP M A2 Evaluation of Transfer Credit and discussion from Transfer Credit Working group meeting. This may need the Commission's or our sponsors' advocacy in getting an explanation of intent and purpose for an ACUE change.

### 3. Prep for discussion with President Barron

Members discussed topics to address during upcoming conversation with Dr. Barron at our December 13 meeting. Suggested topics of focus are 1. Access and Affordability updates, 2. AECs and efforts to engage with them, and 3. Prior Learning Assessment/Transfer Credits including from the military. Some points from today's presentations may be included. The executive committee will refine the planned topics. Members may send others to Jamie Campbell.

### 4. Liaison and Committee reports

- a. Access and Affordability Task Force—Met recently with Andrea Gregg, World Campus Learning Design research, and received data on why students dropout. Transfer credits are one issue. Gregg will share her final report when available and the committee may piggyback off her research for expanding to commonwealth campuses.
- b. Adult Learner Engagement Committee (ALEC)-Met to discuss plan for working with AECs. Will have agenda topics for January AEC workshop: These may include an AEC Canvas pride, Focus Group initiative with training and templates, AEC session at Hendrick, and Marketing materials for adult learners.
- c. Hendrick Award and Conference Planning-Shirley Hendrick call for nominations is circulating with nomination deadline of December 8. Reminder message is planned for the week of November 27. The committee will extend the deadline if needed to strengthen the pool. The selection sub-committee will meet to make a decision after winter break. Lozano plans to invite sponsors to sit on the selection committee along with officers and last year's recipient. The committee has tentatively identified a keynoter speaker for the 2018 Hendrick Conference and is working to finalize arrangements.
- d. Military and Veteran Support Services-Faculty Senate will review the short-term absence policy on December 5. The group is still looking at tutoring and educational resources, including green zone training.

- e. Faculty Senate Liaison- See above.
- f. 20th Anniversary ad hoc committee—The committee is gathering names for sending a Date Saver to all past chairs and past SH award recipients receiving awards when CAL administered the selection process. The executive committee is exploring the possibility of including a fundraising component for Adult Learner scholarships at the year-end gala. Campbell plans to meet with Outreach development as starting point.

Wright adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Wills