



Commission for **Adult Learners**

April 17, 2019

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

404 Old Main

Agenda with Zoom videoconferencing available*

Minutes

Attendees: L. Wright, A. Adams, A. Adolph, J. Campbell, G. Chinn, M. Corby, J. Edmondson, W. Fritz, D. Gruendler, D. Hochstetler, C. Horner, L. Laing, A. Maxson, H. McGarry, B. Redmond, M. Rice, H. Sankey, B. Seymour, E. Shumac, D. Smith, T. Spevak, P. Staskiel, Renee Thornton-Roop, K. Wolgast, J. Wills, C. Anderson

Guests/Sponsors: Provost Nick Jones, R. Engel, D. Sims, R. Pangborn, M. Whitehurst,

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Conversation with Provost Jones

Shared student story from recent interaction with adult learner during visit to DuBois campus as illustration of seeing CAL's work played out.

One Penn State 2025 efforts:

Initiative merged from Transforming Education theme of the strategic plan as exemplar of transformative efforts would like to see come out of this theme.

We are One Penn State already. Why is it not 2020 instead of 2025? Different version of which being One Penn State means. 2025 target because it's big and impactful and will take a while to do the work to get positioned to achieve.

Will be many discussions with constituencies across the University.

One Penn State 2025 builds on our strong traditions of working as one university to provide world-class education and drives us to be a more integrated, flexible, and responsive institution. By 2025, seamless online access to curricula and processes will be embedded in every part of Penn State across the Commonwealth, enabling us to become a 24/7/365, diverse and inclusive institution. **One Penn State 2025** represents a fluid, personalized, and collaborative environment that enables students, faculty, and staff to achieve their goals regardless of their location in the world.

- **Guiding Principle 1: Provide a Seamless Student Experience.** In 2025, Penn State will provide students with a seamless, mobile student experience in all student interactions with the institution, whether this be the admissions or enrollment processes, the process of taking

courses, co-curricular learning, or full access to the curricula and support services offered across the University.

- **Guiding Principle 2: Achieve Curricular Coherence.** In 2025, Penn State will have one curriculum across each degree, minor, and certificate program and will offer only one version of each program. Strong disciplinary and interdisciplinary communities and multiple and flexible models of course taking will form the basis of this transformation.
- **Guiding Principle 3: Design Relevant and Responsive Programs.** In 2025, Penn State will offer degrees and programs with learning outcomes defined by disciplinary communities and contemporary needs while also offering flexibility in achieving these outcomes via multiple pathways.
- **Guiding Principle 4: Engage Learners Throughout Their Lifetimes.** In 2025, Penn State will engage learners throughout their lifetimes with content that is timely, topical, and relevant to their personal and professional wellbeing.
- **Guiding Principle 5: Achieve the Highest Level of Efficiency of University Resources.** In 2025, Penn State will leverage digital resources and align faculty, academic, and administrative resources to strengthen learning, research, and student support opportunities, thereby achieving greater institutional efficiency to address equity of, access to, and affordability for a high-quality Penn State education.

GPs 1-4 intersect with CAL's work

Provides leverage to more effectively advocate for and engage with adult learners. CAL's input will be critically important.

Seamlessness and providing a seamless transition for traditional students and its even greater for the seamless transition for adult learners.

Some of the members of CAL are a part and involved with the One Penn State 2025. They have had a great impact on this already.

Questions:

Q1: Limitations tied to budget— Our programs are not quite ready for them. Unfortunately, can't intertwine with taking some of the WC Campus because of how the budget is setup.

Answer: It is part of the issue and we are working on addressing this sooner rather than later, in 2020 we will be releasing SIMBA (Updated Financial Program). What should we be doing?

This is one seamless demand where the budget drives the situation. The scope Permanent

and temporary funds both have each different goals/rules that are governed by different rules. The only institution that we have permanent funds and temporary funds. Need to work to eliminate process barriers.

Q2: What are timelines and milestones?

A: Executive groups forming around each. Will meet to discuss progress in each and ensure coordination. GP4 work already in progress. One example is exploring graduates keeping their email addresses.

Q3: Without prescriptive milestones in place, how will we know if we are reaching goal?

A: The Executive groups will be framing issues and these will emerge from the response timeline.

Important to stay intentional and reflective in milestones based on what we learn. Mentioned Article from Chronicle of Higher Ed about Univ. of Texas Austin's attempt to transform education.

(Link is <https://www.chronicle.com/interactives/Project2021>).

Their efforts failed and they will not continue plan. (Noted: Will not be easy, other areas have tried and failed, we are much better positioned than some others.) Engel noted that we are being intentional about implementation. This is a vision and strategy to where we want to be.

Provost asked what CAL thinks about intersection with CALs goals?

Seamlessness is critical

Curricular coherency is also critical across the commonwealth. Thinking about this will be helpful.

Our expenditures that are a year or two and some that are consistent. Dump it all in one bucket and design the budget, 5-year budget plan and types of issues. One key for 2025 is looking through the lenses of the learner instead of indirectly. Not going to do an instant 180 turn.

Mentioned emergence of WC student government. A. Adams shared that Pres Barron and BoT has established WC student gov't association to participate in shared governance with

peers. Will be 5 of these: Others are UPUA, Undegrad assn, GPSA, and CCSG are other. Elections this week, had over 80 self-nominations. Exploratory committee looked at feasibility and developed foundational documents. Will be able to participate on BoT committees beginning in September.

GP4: Look at model for when they initially apply as well as when they come back throughout their lives and careers. So all students are highly likely to become adult learners at some time during their lives.

Expressed appreciation for CAL's work, remarked that he has family member who was an adult learner and others who would have benefited had it been available to them.

Faculty Senate will have a discussion – opportunity to see reports and PowerPoint.

We are not sure what the end goal is yet and we continue to pushing forward

Not knowing engagement-As the subcommittees' form we will lay and frame the guiding principles and we will line up and organize this and will emerge. We have not framed all the issues yet. We will have glitches but we will work them out and move forward to connect everything together.

Strategic planning example enhancing health theme: emerging of substance abuse. We wrote the theme that we were strategic the needs and emerging that we can't even fathom.

Implementation of strategy: 2025 is a vision and strategy

It aligns with the CAL goals.

Range of majors that we offer really thinking around the curriculum. Opportunities for the students and engagement travels overseas.

Values of student-Emerging Student we are ahead of other university.

P Barron Student governance shared four UP graduation, CCSG, Elections are happening this week. Announcement: will come out next week.

Ideas and critical thinking if a WC governance and took that to the vice president and board of trustees. 80 student nominated or nominated from peers. They have recognized and 10 will be selected to join.

Engaging student's lifetime: the Myrtle way... the high school student comes forward and gets in they have built a career and continue to build a career here at PSU. When the students are done, we want to keep being engaged from 22-92 years old.

Engage even the traditional students and we want them to come back through all stages and be here for their future educational needs. Adult learners at some point in life. Greater numbers of returning when keeping that engagement. Focused on the traditional adult learners but the relevance of the broader work

3. Announcements and Updates

a. 2019 Shirley Hendrick Awardee Announcement

Dr. Aboud selected for the Shirley Hendrick Award

<http://cal.psu.edu/shirleyhendrickaward/>.

b. 2020-2021 Chair Election results

Thanks to all who voted and those who were willing to be nominated. Brian Redmond will be 2020-21 chair, succeeding Patty Staskiel.

c. Approve minutes from March 20, 2019

Wolgast, motioned and Hostechler, second. Approved.

d. Year-end events: May 7 year-end dinner with sponsors at Nittany Lion Inn, 5:30 arrival, 6:00 dinner. SH awardee will join to accept award. May 8 Hendrick conference.

4. Liaison and Committee reports

a. 21st Century Access

Planning Hendrick presentation, panel. Accepting information for panel to include.

Continued discussion of Ideas for the mid-year report, how to condense, and expand.

Opportunity around Starfish analytics for working with Adult Students.

b. Adult Learner Engagement Committee (ALEC)

Preparing for Hendrick conference presentation around best practices and trends for engaging adults at Penn State.

Gathering data, available to committee in Box folder. Highlights of Student Experience Survey. Using to look at how to improve AL engagement across the University. 78% ALs agree with that they feel like they belong at Penn State; 68% agree they feel like they fit in. 63% have participated in clubs or organizations, 17% have participated in some Penn State sponsored internship and 87% have received some kind of academic credit for their internship opportunities. Data is aggregated across all Penn State campuses, not WC.

- Data request from the SA Assessment Office had not been received at time of meeting, will follow-up with SA office

c. Charting the Course

Did not have a meeting. Continue to look at the advocacy with the students and what that need looks like. Adult is something very different from around Big 10. It looks dramatically different and we have more intertwine and built up a strong place with our University.

Do other Big 10 have anything like CAL? They have OLLI in most University's but nothing like the CAL. Other University's haven't woven in like we have here at Penn State. Still very focused on a traditional age student apposed to a widely ranged student. Part of work is Benchmarking. What adult is at Penn State differs with what it is across the Big 10, even among those getting into online environment. Where it exists, often an Adult College, not integrated into the fabric of the institution. This is our area of strength. How to leverage this to help adult learners succeed.

d. AEC Liaisons/Sharing of adult learner initiatives at campuses

No initiatives to report

Advocacy discuss- Military can test out instead of taking class.

Inquiry about how military credits are transferred. E. McFeely spoke with individual involved and resolved. This is area of advocacy CAL may want to look at from both a policy and experience perspective. Campus process and college process at times are at odds.

Who should take this on? Perhaps having CAL representation on CPLA. Michele Rice is looking at CPLA membership structure.

e. Hendrick Award and Conference Planning

Written report in Box. Report 166 registrants so far. Reminders going out at end of week. Presenters need to register using code provided. Slides should be available 1 week prior.

f. Faculty Senate Liaison

(Written report in Box) Working on Eugene drafting.

g. Military and Veterans Affairs Liaison- Nothing new to report

Update: Began construction on building and 2nd of May Honor Cords ceremony.

Sponsors' remarks:

R. Engel, thanks for work and to E. Wright for leadership. 2018-19 was focused to make progress and in good position for 2019-20.

R. Pangborn, encouraged attendees to drop by HUB for student exposition, if they can. May want to think about how encourage ALs to engage in the exposition and similar events. Weekend? Afternoon timing? Virtual participation?

M. Whitehurst, campus visits. Encouraged making AEC more visible at the campuses. AL during recent campus visit asked who they can work with.

Meeting adjourned 11:57 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:58 a.m.