



## Commission for **Adult Learners**

**CAL- Kickoff Meeting**  
**September 18, 2019 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
**Penn Stater Hotel Conference Center**  
**Minutes**

Attendees: Patty Staskiel, Chair; Andrea Adolph, Chaustin Anderson (recorder), Sherry Corman, Julie Cross, William Fritz, Charles Greggs, Ruth Ann Herstek, Doug Hochstetler, Avis Kunz, Leslie Laing, Eugene McFeely, Helen McGarry, Brian Redmond, Michele Rice, Debra Rodgers, Haley Sankey, Liz Seidle, Erin Shumac, Tammy Spevak, Chris Stubbs, Annie Taylor, Renee Thornton-Roop, Jeff Warner, Kelly Wolgast

Sponsors in Attendance: Renata Engel, Rob Pangborn

Unable to attend: Antone Aboud, Audrey Bonchack, Charles Patrick, Judy Wills, Elizabeth Wright, Madlyn Hanes, Damon Sims, Marcus Whitehurst

1. Welcome and introductions – P. Staskiel

Reviewing Fact Sheet - Copy attached under Members in CAL Box folder

2. Data report and dashboard demonstration –J. Cross

Shared Data and PowerPoint will be provided in the Box folder.

- 20% of 18-19 Undergraduate are Adult Learners
- Consistent data 2016-2019 is around 20%
- Outcome measures of non-traditional students captures more of the patterns of full time, part time, first year, non-first time
- It was noted the eight-year outcome does not remove students if they dropped out and then return and complete
- Annie commented people attending for degree
- Avis noted it would be helpful to know National Averages, but they would need to investigate
- Renata asked if Big 10 looks at Adult learners

- Rob noted that we see students who start at Penn State but complete elsewhere
- Eugene noted we are atypical and seem to be more focused
- Renata suggested possibly inviting a member from the Big 10 to the Hendrick Conference; even though we typically don't invite outside people it may be nice to make a connection
- Renata commented on retention rates for first year – and the use of Smart Track. We invite first time students to the program and have seen retention increases. Support for the students, but so many variables
- Avis would like to see more of the variables
- Annie asked if there is an issue that we are missing with people with children and in military? Julie responded that we could consider sending out a survey
- Rob - Concern of the application being too long; maybe collect more information when students register
- Kelly mentioned that the College of Ag may do something similar

3. Commission objectives for 2019-20 – P. Staskiel

Reviewed the mission of the Commission and goals for this year as noted on the Fact Sheet

4. Committee overview and introductions:

5. Working lunch/Committee goal-setting breakout discussions

6. Discussion summary report out-Committee chairs

The goals will be uploaded into each Committee Folder in Box.

## **ALEC**

Re-designation of AEC role:

Acronym change proposed: make “E” Experience or Engagement to replace Enrollment

Scope and expectations

How to glean and share best practices

Canvas “Pride” was established in 2018-19 to improve communication and engagement, but was not widely adopted by AEC’s

Consider collaboration with SPEC Committee –add one or two questions to their proposed survey to AECs to find out what medium they want to use/how to best engage this group

Promote partnerships at campus level

Show best practices/success outcomes: reaching and serving adult learner populations

### **One Penn State Moving Forward**

Finding out who will house and maintain the adult learner central repository (Library?)

Avoiding duplicating efforts of other organization (ex. Penn State Go App)

Finding out where all of the information is located

Make the repository student focused

Finding out all of the involved constituents

### **SPEC**

Data we have vs. data we want

Internal and external benchmarking (what support does PSU and other universities have in place for adult and traditional students

Inventory of Student input (World Campus persistence survey, other surveys, focus groups, etc.)

Data analyzed: ask sponsors for assistance to utilize a data analyst at Penn State to interpret data with more specifics; example: how many students who did not finish were due to financial reasons?

Starfish: Identify adult learners who are experiencing challenges early on rather than when they leave the university

Report from the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning

Adult learner 360

**Hendrick**

Begin work on conference planning

Identify presenters

Review the nomination process for Hendrick Award

7. Adjourn meeting

Submitted by Chaustin Anderson