



Commission for **Adult Learners**

November 20, 2019
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
404 Old Main
Minutes

Attendees: Antone Aboud, Andrea Adolph, Audrey Bonchack, Sherry Corman, William Fritz, Ruth Ann Herstek, Avis Kunz, Leslie Laing, Eugene McFeely, Helen McGarry, Charles Patrick, Brian Redmond, Michele Rice, Debra Rodgers, Haley Sankey, Liz Seidle, Erin Shumac, Patty Staskiel, Chris Stubbs, Renee Thornton-Roop, Jeff Warner, Kelly Wolgast

Sponsors in Attendance: Marcus Whitehurst

Unable to attend: Julie Cross, Renata Engel, Charles Greggs, Madlyn Hanes, Doug Hochstetler, Damon Sims, Tammy Spevak, Annie Taylor, Judy Wills, Elizabeth Wright

1. Welcome & Introductions

A. Student Panel: Sean Gallagher, Shawn Jacobs, and Michelle Stroud

The panel commented on the communication they received from the university.

Shawn J. - “lots” and it is good but not streamlined (email, text, LionPath, Starfish, Canvas)
PSU email/personal email but it is hard to organize
Online bulletin board suggestion for adult learners
No training on communication

Michelle - forward all email to one; likes canvas; gets text alerts; feels she is not missing anything

Brian Redmond asked what the communication should highlight?

Shawn J. - starting out difficult/add more work for an adult student
does receive valuable information

Michelle - milestones, graduation, timeline

B. Redmond asked what is the most stressful part for students?

Shawn J. - Parking! Navigating resources; Participation grade - Policy-absence determined by individual professor. Veteran seminar helpful; organize schedule geographically; social structure (age fitting); finding the “right” extra curriculum activities

Michelle - Deadline/time management; Nursing “Buddy system” and LionPath

B. Redmond asked what is most “helpful” from department?

Shawn J. - Resource on first day

Michelle - Advisor relations, peer support (shared phone numbers)

B. Redmond - What does PSU not know about adult students?

Michelle - APA Format-difficult to understand; adults are not familiar with format; need to provide transition

Shawn J. -Received lots of help from many avenues at PSU
No comment on “what doesn’t know”

B. Redmond - Time management-how do you balance it all?

Michelle - Notes all deadlines on calendar; pick and choose via importance; emphasize deadline, not content

Shawn J. - Schedule adjustments; issue-professors making last minute changes/hard to adapt to; prioritize things; Group Projects are a hurdle

B. Redmond - Outside of classroom-what did you find beneficial?

Michelle - Peer groups, discounts

Shawn J. - Focus and resources of Career Development; great care and help; IT-free access; facilities-ample space

Sean G.- Advisors great resources

B. Redmond - What are challenges in engaging in activities?

Sean G.- Time; being a commuter; for some, a lack of spousal support

Michelle - Lack of interest; should offer family focused time; logistics

Shawn J. - Not looking to fit in

B. Redmond - What would help with post grad plans?

Michelle - Nursing does it well; it’s built into the program

Sean G. - Works with a mentor through Vet program

Shawn J. - Continue with masters & military; has his own 5 year plan

Last minute points:

Sean G. - PSU provides many resources

Shawn J. - Found many good resources at PSU

Michelle - Good experience, ambassador

B. Jeff Adams

American Talent

Two projects

A.T.I. (undergraduate)

Goal-increase # of students graduating from America's top universities

PSU 87 %

Focus on transfer students and veterans

Princeton recently started accepting transfer students

AA-PLGU-APLU

Power by Publics

Big Ten schools participate

Improve success of Underrepresented Minorities and 1st generation students

Identify commonalities

Identify why withdraw course rate is high

Accomplishes: Fee waiver for vets; 1 plus 3 for active service members

K. Wolgast noted there is little or no funding support for grad students

PLA-transfer governance council

2. Announcements and Updates

Approve September and October minutes-motioned/seconded

December meeting - President Barron will attend

Reviewed talking points

Mid-Year Committee reviews may be presented

3. Liaison and Committee reports

Alec

February 6th zoom with AEC's

Looking into gift for AEC

Improve relationship and resources with AEC's

Hendrick

Early Stages

Working on identifying the Keynote Speaker and breakout sessions

Invites

Call out for volunteers

Friday, November 22nd-close of nominations for Hendrick Award

One Penn State

Met with Penn State "GO"

IT web search

Asking AEC resources

Nothing for Adult Learners yet

SPEC

Complete PSU

Searching PSU wide resources

Looking to talk to DUS

AEC liaisons -no report

Faculty Senate-no report

Military

Successful military appreciation week

New veteran facility open

4. Adjourn Meeting

Submitted by Debra Rodgers