

Commission on Adult Learners
General CAL Meeting

December 16th, 2020 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Zoom:

Attendance list:

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1. Dr. Pangborn Recognition

Dr. Pangborn was invited as he was an important part of the CAL for years. Brian: He will be retiring soon, and a thank you was given on behalf of the Commission. Marcus Whitehouse shared a few words of thanks. Dr. Hanes also added her appreciation for his 41 years. He has stepped up during challenging times. Dr. Pangborn address CAL.

2. Student Panel and Dr. Barron Conversation

Welcome to Dr. Barron and students for an open conversation of the students' personal stories.

Some student suggestions:

- Communicate our resources more such as advising and career services to all students especially adult learners
- For international students, there needs to be more relevant to their countries (i.e. employment law being relevant outside of US)
- Keep up the interactive experience within the classes.
- Meeting other students in person and keep the leadership conference going. Continue to provide ways to connect, it is very important.
- Accessibility of faculty and advisors makes learners feel they are part of PSU and everyone has been very available.
- Visibility of services such as mental health, tutoring and library services. These are important for WC students, that it is the same as in person students.

- Staff members welcoming adult learners and helping them get involved can change student's experience. Important to help them engage.
- Ways to engage outside the classroom is important.

Dr. Barron agreed that connectivity and personal connections are extremely important.

Comments of finishing their degree w/barriers. Student comments:

- Funding, costs, aid. Aid based on being full-time was an issue for adults learning part-time.
- Grade and scholarship connection is an issue, there are other reasons sometimes the grades are not as high, it may not be related to ability, but time and other life roles.
- Job Market right now due to Covid. Stress factor in this environment.
- Internships getting cancelled. Alumni network helped get another.
- Juggling life roles and finances. Some working 2 jobs carrying 18 credits. Very stressful.
- Having faculty and staff be involved and knowing when to reach out and give resources to students. Have had good experience with this.
- Expand Alumni connections to identify more REMOTE Internship opportunities during covid would be helpful.
- Feelings of connection to faculty, staff, other students very important for retention.
- Career resources and outreach and communications has been above and beyond other university experiences.
- Talking to advisors and professors helped for time management and life role balance and connecting to stud aid and other services.
- In India they are looking at HS students and adults wanting to join WC for their degree program. The finishing line may be more difficult for some of these HS learners.
- Access to Information leading to further engagement. Needs packaged better to put correct resources to the right students.
- PSU GO App is very helpful to get information out to students and to help w/engagement to enhance PS experience.
- More opportunities to share our adult story with elected officials.

3.Hendrick Award update: Patricia Staskiel

Call for nominations, PS Today 12/10 version for advertisement. One nomination so far, please send the word out and think about those we know who are worthy of the award. Extended deadline to Dec. 18, but will accept after.

4.Minutes: November

Approved: Eugene McFeely Approve, Patricia S. Second.

5.Mid-year Reports due in February (no meeting in January)

The meeting will focus on these reports. We need to be conscious of what we are all doing especially now during this virtual time.