Thursday, October 16, 2008

8:00 – 8:45 am  
Networking Breakfast  
Participants are encouraged to gather for a full breakfast to take advantage of the opportunity to network within and across states.

8:45 – 9:15 am  
Welcome and Introductions  
Speaker:  
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

9:15 – 10:30 am  
How Are We Doing? The Status of the States  
Through an interactive, moderated discussion among the project leaders from Arkansas, Colorado, and Nevada, this opening session will provide background and context for the meeting by outlining the states’ goals and workplans, highlighting progress to date, discussing challenges, and presenting potential strategies for success.

Moderator:  
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:  
Julie Carnahan, chief academic officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education  
Jane Nichols, vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, Nevada System of Higher Education  
Steve Floyd, deputy director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

10:30 – 10:45 am  
Break

10:45 – 12:00 noon  
State and Institutional Strategies for Success with Ready Adults: Efforts from Around the Country  
Targeting ready adults is an effort that is gaining steam all around the nation. Hear from experts representing two perspectives – the state and institutional - who have had success with this population and learn about how they help ready adults earn college degrees.

Moderator:  
Holly Zanville, senior program director, Lumina Foundation for Education

Speakers:  
Melissa Bell, senior associate, academic affairs, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
David Stuart, professor of anthropology and associate provost emeritus, University of New Mexico
**Thursday, October 16, 2008 (continued)**

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| 12:00 – 1:30 pm | **Lunch: The Workforce Needs of the Future**  
**Augusta**  
This presentation will highlight the workforce needs of the future, with particular emphasis on the project states. It will include an analysis of the workforce needs without the importation of talent and how these needs relate to adult learners and specifically ready adults.  
**Moderator:**  
Julie Carnahan, chief academic officer, *Colorado Department of Higher Education*  
**Speaker:**  
Brian T. Prescott, director of policy research, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education* |
| 1:30 – 1:45 pm | **Break**                                                               |
| 1:45 – 3:45 pm | **Concurrent Working Groups**  
The leaders of the five working groups – academic affairs, communications, data, financing/financial aid, and student services – will have the opportunity to share experiences between the states. Specifically, the goals of the concurrent sessions are for participants to learn from one another by sharing challenges and potential solutions about their work and to create a timeline for action for Year Two, including the development of their state policy/practice maps, the beginning stages of which are driven by the state workplans.  
**Working Group Facilitators:**  
**Foyer A**  
**Academic Affairs**  
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
Russell Poulin, associate director, *WCET*  
**Blake**  
**Student Services**  
LeRoy Walser, consultant, *Choosing Excellence, LLC*  
**Welton**  
**Data**  
Brian T. Prescott, director of policy research, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
**Teller**  
**Financing/Financial Aid**  
David A. Longanecker, president, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
**Larimer**  
**Communications**  
Terry Abramson, consultant  
**Resource Expert:**  
Donna Spain-Bryant, consultant |
| 3:45 – 4:00 pm | **Break**                                                               |
|                |                                                                       |
|                |                                                                       |
Thursday, October 16, 2008 (continued)

4:00 – 4:45 pm
Horace Tabor

Open Discussion about Challenges and Solutions
Throughout the first year of the project, a great deal of focus and has been placed on the content and effort of the specific working groups. This session is an opportunity for participants to expand their discussions to one that crosses working group and state lines in an effort to further develop the work and timelines for the second year.

Moderator:
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Dinner on Your Own
Please refer to your meeting packets for nearby restaurant recommendations.

Friday, October 17, 2008

7:45 – 8:30 am
Blake

Networking Breakfast
Participants will once again gather for a full breakfast and an opportunity to network within and across states.

8:30 – 9:45 am
Horace Tabor

Prior Learning Assessment: Purposes, Methods, and Sound Practices
Ready adults often have a wealth of knowledge from which they can draw upon when returning to college, yet states and institutions sometimes struggle with how to award credit for prior learning. This session will highlight a broad spectrum of prior learning credit methods and policies and incorporate discussion about how to ensure sound academic practices.

Moderator:
Jane Nichols, vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, Nevada System of Higher Education

Speakers:
Janet Colvin, author, Earn College Credit for What You Know
James Selbe, assistant vice president, lifelong learning, American Council on Education

9:45 – 10:45 am
Horace Tabor

New Approaches to Old Problems: Finding the Hard-to-Find Ready Adults
One of the biggest data challenges facing states and institutions is how to find ready adults. While many can use existing databases to locate individuals who went to their state’s institutions, the true challenge lies with the need to find those who cannot be identified through the usual databases. For instance, ready adults may include those who have served in the military or moved into a state after attending college somewhere else. Join in this moderated discussion of how states and institutions can begin to overcome this significant obstacle.

Moderator:
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

10:45 – 11:00 am
Horace Tabor

Break
11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Using Distance Education to Serve Ready Adults

Horace Tabor

Distance or online education is an increasingly important way to reach ready adults and provide them with the mechanisms for going back to college to earn their degrees. This interactive discussion will highlight two very distinct distance learning programs that have demonstrated success with adult learners.

Moderator:
Russell Poulin, associate director, WCET

Speakers:
Carol Scarafiotti, executive consultant for eLearning and Vice President Emeritus, Río Salado College
Muriel Oaks, dean, Washington State University, Center for Distance and Professional Education

12:15 – 1:45 pm

Lunch: Creating and Launching Your Statewide Marketing Campaign

Horace Tabor

When targeting ready adults, a critical aspect of any comprehensive effort must be a marketing or communications campaign directed at this unique population so that they can learn about the options available to them. Yet, most states have not embarked on a statewide campaign targeted to adult learners. Learn about a new web-based tool (www.collegeaccessmarketing.org) that can help you plan your strategy for communication with your state’s ready adults.

Introductions:
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speaker:
Alice Anne Bailey, Southern Regional Education Board GO Alliance

Resource Experts:
Terry Abramson, consultant
Donna Spain-Bryant, consultant

1:45 – 2:00 pm

Closing Remarks: Go Forth and Conquer

Horace Tabor

In this final session, participants will share any last thoughts before they continue their important work in the states.

Speakers:
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

2:00 pm

Adjournment