Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners

WICHE-facilitated Meeting
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
June 4, 2008
Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners

• Lumina Foundation for Education
• Two-year project
Project Goals

• To increase access and success for the adult learner population in postsecondary education

• To stimulate and guide policy and practice changes that will make it easier for “ready adults” – those who are just shy of having enough credits to obtain a degree but haven’t yet returned to college – to earn their diplomas.
Five Areas of Focus

• Data
• Academic Affairs
• Communications
• Financing and Financial Aid
• Student Services
Three States

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Nevada

$65,000 per state
Project Timeline

**YEAR ONE**
- WICHE-facilitated meeting by **June 30, 2008**
- Intrastate meeting by **September 15, 2008**
- Team leader meeting (**October 16-17, 2008**)

**YEAR TWO**
- WICHE-facilitated meeting by **April 30, 2009**
- Intrastate Meetings: first no later than **February 28, 2009**, and the second set by **July 31, 2009**
- Team leader meeting (**September 2009**)
Work Plan: State Goals

• Engineer a common vision and collaborative strategy for serving Nevada’s adult learners
• Identify areas of strength and take inventory of those areas still in need of development or improvement
• Address the state’s urgent need to increase the number of degree holders
• Better understand the needs of existing and prospective adult learners to build a foundation of excellence in adult education in Nevada
Goals of the Day

First Steps Toward Creating a State Vision

• Identify goals in each of the five working groups
• Prioritize those anticipated accomplishments
• Determine next steps for action
Then What?

• Think about how to blend the different goals from the working groups to form a state vision
• Apply lessons and discussions today when planning the intrastate meeting
Resources

• Facilitation Guide
  – Copy of the state work plan
  – Information about WICHE staff and consultants
  – Resources for each working group
  – Additional resources

• Complete Idiot’s Guide to Going Back to College

• The Status of Academic Advising: Findings from the ACT Sixth National Survey
Project Contacts

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www.wiche.edu/Policy/ReadyAdults/