Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners
Colorado’s WICHE-facilitated Meeting

Colorado Department of Higher Education
Denver, Colorado
Monday, May 4, 2009

AGENDA

8.00 am
Continental Breakfast
Conference Room 1250

8.30 – 8.45 am
Welcome
Conference Room 1250
David Skaggs, executive director, Colorado Department of Higher Education
Demarée Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

8.45 – 9.00 am
Project Update
Conference Room 1250
This opening session will provide participants with a project update and describe the structure of the meeting.

Speaker:
Patrick Lane, project coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

9.00 – 10.00 am
Non-traditional No More/Making Opportunity Affordable Pilot Projects
Conference Room 1250
Colorado’s NTNM work has evolved into a collaboration with the state’s Making Opportunity Affordable initiative to target ready adults and bring them back to finish their degrees. The state has selected three pilot projects to fund to work toward this goal. Presentations by leaders from Adams State College, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and the University of Colorado-Boulder will focus on how they target ready adults, how they use

Supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation for Education
data provided by the Colorado Department of Higher Education, what initial challenges they have faced, what higher-level barriers they anticipate, and what plans they have for sustainability and expansion.

Facilitator: 
**Julie Carnahan**, chief academic officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education

Speakers:
- **Anne Heinz**, dean, continuing education and professional studies, University of Colorado-Boulder
- **Michael Mumper**, provost, Adams State College
- **Elizabeth Parmelee**, director, center for individual learning, Metropolitan State College
- **Kathryn Tisdale**, director of student services, continuing education and professional studies, University of Colorado-Boulder

10.00 – 10.15 am 
**Break**
Conference Room 1250

10.15 – 11.00 am 
**Taking the Effort One Step Further: Finding the Hard-to-find Ready Adults**
Conference Room 1250
Colorado’s nTNM team has successfully identified the ready adults who left the state’s public institutions just shy of earning their degrees. The next step is to locate those who did not attend these institutions. Learn about creative ways to expand the known universe of ready adults by moving beyond the obvious data and incorporating communications strategies targeting these individuals.

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

Speakers:
- **Jami Hornbuckle**, assistant vice president for communications and marketing, Morehead State University
- **James Purcell**, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

Supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation for Education
11.00 – 11.45 am  Financing and Financial Aid for the Ready Adult
Conference Room 1250
While one of the major lessons of NTNM is that financial barriers are not the only thing standing between ready adults and their degrees, it does remain an issue to be addressed, particularly in these economically challenging times. With a focus on how the changing economic climate is affecting students, institutions, and states, this session will examine strategies for reducing financial barriers.

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

11.45 am – 12.30 pm  They’re Here…Now What? Strategies to Improve the Persistence and Success Among Non-traditional Students
Conference Room 1250
The NTNM project has emphasized how to identify ready adults to bring them back to college. While this is the logical first step, effective support services once they are back on campus are critical to their success. This session will examine supports that can help ready adults succeed in earning their degrees.

Facilitator:
LeRoy Walser, consultant, Choosing Excellence, LLC

12.30 – 1.15 pm  Lunch and Networking
Conference Room 1250

1.15 – 2.15 pm  Concurrent Working Group: Data
16th Floor – Conf. Room A
Facilitator:
James Purcell, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

1.15 – 2.15 pm  Concurrent Working Group: Financing/Financial Aid and Student Services
16th Floor – Conf. Room B
Facilitators:
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
LeRoy Walser, consultant, choosing Excellence, LLC

Supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation for Education
1.15 – 2.15 pm
Concurrent Working Group: Academic Affairs
16th Floor – Conf. Room C
Facilitators:
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
Russell Poulin, associate director, WCET

1.15 – 2.15 pm
Concurrent Working Group: Communications
Conference Room 1250
Facilitator:
Jami Hornbuckle, assistant vice president for communications and marketing, Morehead State University

2.15 – 2.30 pm
Break
Conference Room 1250

2.30 – 3.15 pm
From Pilot to Policy and Practice: Identifying the Next Steps
Conference Room 1250
As the nTnM project heads toward its final months, discussions about how to establish ways to ensure that the lessons learned from the initiative are translated into improved state and institutional policies and practices are central to the success of the project. This closing session will explore ways to move toward sustainable policy and practice changes.
Facilitator:
Patrick Lane, project coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

3.15 – 3.30 pm
Closing Remarks
Conference Room 1250
Julie Carnahan, chief academic officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education