

National College Transition Network

Conference on Effective Transitions in Adult Education

November 8-9, 2007

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Bridges, Ladders, and Webs: From Basic Skills to Careers

Presenter: Donna Miller Parker
Dean of General Studies
South Seattle Community College
Seattle, WA

Bridges: Classes to bridge the gap between basic skills and technical training

Ladders: Courses which are 'steps' on a career ladder that includes training as well as employment

Webs: Similar to ladders, but less linear pathway; move from job to job or industry to industry

We looked at Instructional Models: Sequential, Concurrent, Coordinated, and Integrated and then discussed the Advantages and Challenges with each of the models. This took the bulk of the session time.

I have handouts on the models, as well as, a guide sheet on "Planning for Career-Focused Basic Skills: Questions to Consider" (*adapted from Bridge Program Planning Guide, Davis Jenkins, Workforce Strategy Center, 2004*), and a Bibliography/Selected Reference Sheet.

Panel Discussion: Career Pathways

Friday, November 9, 2007

Poster Sessions

These were 20 minute quick information sessions on 'Best Practices' for student transitions. I was able to attend three 20 minute session.

The Admissions and Orientation Process in Rural College Transition Project
Hancock County College Transition Program (I have 4 packets of this information which includes an Abstract, College Awareness Assessment, Orientation Day Schedule, Suggestions for student panel, Course descriptions).

College for a Day: Opening the Door to College for ABE Students
Holyoke Community College and SABES sponsor a "College for a Day" program that brings ABE students to the community college where they provide a day for

these students. The agenda includes: Coffee and Registration; Welcoming and Orientation; Keynote Speaker; Session I (Class); Session II (Class); Lunch and Remarks by HCC President (I have two packets that include: brochure, registration form and college day packet).

In-house Mentoring for Transitions Students

These presenters talked about their mentoring program for transitioning students from community based ABE programs into college. The mentoring program is funded through Project RIRAL (Rhode Island Regional Adult Learning), Nellie Mae Education Foundation and donations. The best thing about this session is that they shared their brochures and their newsletter with us (I have one copy of each). What they do for students is fantastic, but not realistic without funding to back it. They are full-time mentors that help the students at this center through the entire transition process to college.

Raising Adults' Career Awareness: Collaborating with One-Stop Career Centers

Presenter: Mary Lou Friedline
Adult Education Instructor
PIC of Westmoreland/Fayette, Inc.
Year One Career Gateway Pilot, Local Coordinator
SWPDC Trainer

In this session they spent a lot of time giving an overview of their One-Stop Centers and the services that are provided through their partnership. They shared their Career Gateway referral form that is used by all One-Stop partner agencies and their *Transitioning Skills Checklists*. Some good handouts identify how they worked to build their network and how they advise others to build networks. Networks that are defined include: In-house, local, pilot, and statewide. One of the handouts highlights the four networks along with the challenges and opportunities of each. Additional handouts include: WIA Services (Core, Intensive, Training), TABE Overview (Purpose, How used, What Results Tell and Don't Tell Us). (I have one set of these handouts)