The Accelerating Opportunity (AO) Illinois Site Visit was held January 29th and 30th at Parkland College in Champaign. Representatives from each of the eight AO colleges, the four affiliates and Women Employed attended. Participants received targeted technical assistance to help support continued implementation, including guidance on “How to Build Administrative Support and Capacity” led by Louisa Erickson of the Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges. Breakout sessions were held for CTE Deans and AE Program Administrators; Student Support Services Staff; and AE instructors/CTE faculty. These sessions were facilitated by experts in the field: Darleen Miller, NCWE; Dr. Barbara Endel, JFF; and Louisa Erickson, Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges and team teachers from Washington State. Attendees were also given information on braided funding and key findings from the initiative to help them be successful. Nate Anderson and Lexie Waugh from Jobs for the Future introduced the Braided Funding Tool Kit and strategies colleges could use to help students cover tuition.
Accelerating Opportunity
Illinois Site Visit

Darlene Miller of NCWE discusses effective student support services.

Candy Benteu and Rachel Rogers share effective team teaching and integrated outcomes.
Launch of Illinois Transition Blog

The Illinois Transitions Blog is now up and running. Please visit and consider joining. This is a place to gather information, support, discuss & secure information, by sharing with other adult educators interested in providing transitioning services. Accelerating Opportunity programs and programs participating in the Transitions Academy will find this blog helpful. Visit the SIPDC website for a link: www.siue.edu/SIPDC.

Transitions Academy Update

The first Illinois Community College Board Adult Education and Career and Technical Education Transitions Academy is well underway with programs participating in online professional development and face-to-face Bridge Basics training. Some programs in the Academy attended the NCWE conference held in Long Beach, CA this past October and the Forum for Excellence conference. A pre-conference training on logic models was held. Two uniform sessions on transitioning were provided at both the ALRC Regional Conference and the joint Southern/Central Regional Conference this fall. Members of the Transitions Academy and Accelerating Opportunity programs provided sessions at the conferences as well as attended. Both AO and affiliate programs participated in the Illinois Site Visit conducted by Jobs for the Future and the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges in January. Plans are being made for online training for Bridge Programs within the Academy on February 21st. The final Academy meeting is being planned for May.
Transitioning Through Adult Education - New Modules!

The Transitioning Continuum of Professional Development is available through the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center (SIPDC). It provides free online professional development to improve transition knowledge from basic to complex.

Online modules include:

- Technology 101
- Career Development 101
- Career Pathways Core Training
- Integrating Career Awareness
- Bridge Program Development Basics
- College Readiness 101
- Team Teaching (through NCTN)

The sessions build on each other and are interrelated in their content in the same manner as phases of transitioning are spiraling and build upon earlier concepts and skills. Once registered in the system, you may attend any sessions as many times as you wish. To register contact the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center at sipdctrainer@gmail.com

Recently Added Modules!

- Intro to Special Learning Needs
- Advanced Integrated & Contextualized Instruction
- Interviewing Techniques

Innovative Program Leadership

The Illinois Community College Board CTE Regional Network is an ongoing professional development platform for community college CTE administrators. This project includes four (4) Regional Networks encompassing the entire community college system and is intended to ensure that career and technical programs continue to focus effectively on student outcomes, strengthen the connections between secondary and postsecondary education, and improve program accountability.

*See page 5 for schedule of events.

For more information and to register for any of the Regional Network events visit:

icsps.illinoisstate.edu/
**ICCB CTE**

**FY13 Regional Network**

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<tr>
<th>WORKSHOP TITLE</th>
<th>REGION</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>New Perkins Cohort Training</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Illinois State University</td>
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<td>Kishwaukee College</td>
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Accelerating Opportunity online professional development opportunities include self-paced tutorials and courses facilitated by experienced specialists that are aimed at strengthening the skills needed to build an integrated basic skills career pathways model. The National College Transition Network (NCTN) at World Education, Inc. created these courses in collaboration with Jobs for the Future, Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), and Minnesota FastTRAC. For additional tools and resources, please visit Accelerating Opportunity's Virtual Academy.

**Integrated Instruction:**
- Team Teaching—Models of Practice self-paced (free)
- Team Teaching an Integrated Curricula to Accelerate Learning—February 12 to March 19 $269.00 (facilitated)

**Comprehensive Student Services:**
- Finding True North—Role of the Navigator self-paced (free)
- Navigating Pathways to Opportunity—February 19 to March 26 $269.00 (facilitated)

**Innovative Program Leadership (coming soon):**
- Promoting Engagement - Role of the Program Administrator (free)
- Building Accelerating Opportunities Pathways $269 (facilitated)

For complete course descriptions including completion requirements, policies, registration, and fees, go to: http://professionalstudiesae.worlded.org/ao.html

For more information, please e-mail literacy@worlded.org/ao.html
ACP Online Community

http://www.acp-sl.org/community

ACP online community brings together Adult Education practitioners to enable them to find high-quality professional development and resources as well as to collaborate with experts in Career Pathways. The ACP community offers something for everyone in the field of Adult Education. Members can take an online course; participate in online forums and get the latest happenings in Career Pathways. To become a member of this free online community, go to http://www.acp-sc.org/register through blog posts, newsletters and events.

Social Networking Platform

A Google group has been established for the Accelerating Opportunity and Transitions Academy programs to facilitate discussion and encourage networking. Those programs should look for an email invitation.

Accelerating Opportunity Fall Technical Institute

The Accelerating Opportunity Fall Technical Institute was held October 20-21, 2012 in Long Beach, CA as a pre-conference for the NCWE conference. Program representatives from the Accelerating Opportunity colleges and ICCB attended this information-filled institute and remained to attend the entire NCWE conference.
Southern Illinois Professional Development Center (SIPDC)

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