The first Transitions Academy met for the final time on May 22 in the Alumni Center of Illinois State University. Eight colleges shared their experiences, knowledge, successes, and lessons learned during their “20 Minutes of Fame.” The following colleges are Affiliate members of the Accelerating Opportunity program creating and implementing ICAPS programs at their institutions: Black Hawk College, Illinois Central College, Kishwaukee College, and Parkland College. Also part of the TA creating and implementing new Bridge programs were: Decatur School District #61, Greater West Town Development Project, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, and Illinois Valley Community College.

Highlighting the day were many examples of cooperative collaboration between Adult Education and Career and Technical education. Programs were given the opportunity to ask questions and share materials. “This academy has been such a help to us in beginning our Bridge program and the opportunity to share and learn from each other has been great!” said Sara Escatel, Director of Adult Education for Illinois Valley Community College.

The original eight Accelerating Opportunity programs served as mentors and advisors to the new affiliate programs. The power point presentations from each of the participants will be available on the Transitions blog: http://www.illinoistransitions.blogspot.com/
Transitions Academy
Finishes First Successful Year

Illinois Central College: Kay Sutton, Michael Boyd, Lari LaBello, Wendee Guth

Parkland College: Tawanna Nickens, Beth Bachtold, Jan Thom, Cathie Stalter

Linda Thomas from Greater West Town Development Project

Black Hawk College: Catherine Dorathy and Diane Fall

Kishwaukee College: Kristine Adzovic and Tricia Wagner

Visit page 5 for more Transitions Academy pictures!
Parkland Visits Lake Land as Part of Accelerating Opportunity Mentoring Program

Sharing their experience and expertise, Lake Land Community College hosted Parkland Community College on February 15th as part of the mentoring program in the Accelerating Opportunity Transitions Academy. Four members of the Parkland team gained invaluable insight by viewing the overall look of the Accelerating Opportunity program at Lake Land and specifically how the classes are structured for their students.

The Parkland personnel, including their Director of Adult Education, Instructional Coordinator, College Navigator, and Adult Education Teacher toured facilities and met with the entire Lake Land AO team with each individual sharing information from his/her own perspective. According to Tawanna Nickens, Director of Adult Education at Parkland and the AO Affiliate Project Lead, hearing all of the varying outlooks from the Associate Vice President, the Adult Education and CTE teachers, Career Navigator, CTE Director, Adult Education Director, and Information Systems Specialist provided a thorough understanding of the intricacies of their program. It also sparked many questions and allowed the Parkland staff to see how AO impacts each part of the Lake Land team and their students. In true mentoring fashion, this visit also provided an opportunity for Parkland to ask specific questions about any difficulties they are experiencing and receive general guidance for solutions.

The Lake Land team provided information on history and overview of their program. Teachers were available to give their perspective on team teaching and administration gave logistical, budgeting, and reporting information. Additionally, data reporting, specifically guidance on what is available through the DAISI system was provided. Diana Glosser, Director of Perkins Programs at Lake Land stated, “It is exciting to work with a new AO team. We appreciate their trip down to visit our facilities. Discussing our process also provided us a different viewpoint. Parkland was very open to discussion that led us both to ‘what if’ planning.”

Ms. Nickens shared that the best part of the day was sitting down one-on-one to hear advice, get answers for any and all questions, and taking the time upfront to learn. She also stated that, “Taking the time to visit and learn now will save us time in the long run as we are now so much farther along in our planning process. We now can see what our Affiliate program is going to look like at Parkland and can see how the program should to be structured to fulfill the needs of our students.”

Lake Land has two AO programs already in place, one in Manufacturing and another in Healthcare. Parkland plans to implement an AO Affiliate program this fall. As part of the overall Parkland plan, they hope to replicate Lake Land’s strong team approach as they meet together every other week to make sure communication is thorough. Even well into their AO implementation, Lake Land team members know it is important to meet often and to continue to adjust their program as needs arise. Ms. Nickens was impressed by the Lake Land staff and commented, “You can see this is so much larger than an AO initiative. Each person knows their institution, their community, their employers’ needs and the entire institution supports the efforts of AO.”

The four from Parkland plan to meet with the rest of their team and further their AO Affiliate plans by building and strengthening connections throughout their institution. They now feel better prepared to drive the discussions needed to build an Affiliate program through Accelerating Opportunity. Parkland deeply thanks the gracious hospitality and supportive and valuable mentoring provided by all of the AO team at Lake Land!
College and Career Navigator Training

The Illinois Community College Board is excited to bring you College and Career Navigator Training on July 30, 2013 in Springfield, Illinois as part of the Illinois Transitions Academy. This two part series will be delivered online and in a face to face format.

When you register for the College and Career Navigator Training you will be given access to the Finding True North – Role of the Navigator online course. This course identifies the types of supports that adult learners need to be truly prepared for college and careers and introduces the core functions and responsibilities of a navigator, such as coordinating and providing services that supplement academic instruction, which have been found to aid student persistence and success. We also introduce the core competencies of effective navigators, advising approaches and styles, and Navigator program design elements to consider. This course is a prerequisite for the facilitated Navigating Pathways to Opportunity course. For more information and to register visit http://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/transitionsacademy

Then on July 30th you will attend part two of the College and Career Navigator Training - Navigating Pathways to Opportunity which aims to support coaches, advisors, and navigators to provide the comprehensive supports that enable adults to succeed in an integrated career pathway program. Topics include strategies for identifying and engaging adult learners’ aspirations, addressing barriers, and building a comprehensive network of support to promote persistence. Participants identify the key components of a navigator program and explore the skills needed to implement it effectively. They also evaluate and select tools to use in the development of their own Navigator Program Plan.

Illinois Adult Education Transitioning Continuum - 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 (Interviewing, Soft Skills, Resumes, Job Applications, Goal Setting)
- Career Pathways Core Training
- Integrating Career Awareness
- Bridge Program Development Basics
- College Readiness 101
- Team Teaching (through World Education)
- Intro to Special Learning Needs
- Advanced Integrated & Contextualized Instruction

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!

- College Readiness 201
- Multiple Intelligences (part of the Career Development unit)
- Finding True North - Role of the Navigator (through World Education)
Transitions Academy—May 22nd

Decatur School District #61: Debbie Wright and Rocki Wilkerson

Illinois Valley Community College: Cindy Lock and Sara Escatel

Illinois Eastern Colleges: Stacey Legg, Jessica Parrent, Cindy Foerster, Jervaise McDaniel

Visit page 2 for more Transitions Academy pictures!
New Transitions Academy Opportunity

If you would like the opportunity to participate in the FY14 Transitions Academy, applications are now due. Click on the link(s) below to view the applications and get started on the process. Dates for the next Transitions Academy are July 30 & July 31, 2013 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL

Bridge Sites [http://138.87.77.6/icsps/machform/view.php?id=100](http://138.87.77.6/icsps/machform/view.php?id=100)


**Transitions Blog**

To view the latest information and to share ideas with other Adult Educators in Illinois, visit the Transitions blog at:

[http://www.illinoistransitions.blogspot.com/](http://www.illinoistransitions.blogspot.com/)

ACP Online Community

[http://www.acp-sc.org/register](http://www.acp-sc.org/register)

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](http://www.acp-sc.org/register) through blog posts, newsletters and events.
Healthcare Lesson Plans Released

Over the last year, the Pathways to Careers Network, an initiative to increase college and career success for adult learners with low basic skills co-led by Women Employed and The Chicago Jobs Council, has brought hundreds of adult education and workforce development practitioners and advocates together to share ideas and best practices in running bridge programs. The Network recently released the first in a series of day-to-day lesson plans for teaching a healthcare bridge based on the ICCB Statewide Healthcare Bridge Curriculum. Visit womenemployed.org/pathways-careers-network to listen to the latest webinars, to download the lesson plans and other materials, and to get information on upcoming events.

http://www.womenemployed.org/

Transitions to College Professional Studies AE

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—New Class Beginning Soon—Check Site $269.00 (facilitated)

Comprehensive Student Services:
- Finding True North—Role of the Navigator self-paced (free)
- Navigating Pathways to Opportunity—New Class Beginning Soon—Check Site $269.00 $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 visit: www.elearningpd.worlded.org/ao/
Southern Illinois Professional Development Center (SIPDC)

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Box 1128, Route 157
Alumni Hall
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1128
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