Thanks and Good-bye to Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson

The Forum for Excellence began as it has each year since its origin 16 years ago, with a welcome from Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson. The Forum began under the direction of Dr. Anderson and has grown into a partnership of Career and Technical Education and Adult Education. The Forum leadership and participants said a grateful good-bye. Dr. Anderson will retire at the end of November. Dr. Brian Durham will replace Dr. Anderson as the Executive Director of the Illinois Community College Board effective December 1st.

Maria Flynn, President and CEO of Jobs for the Future, gave the keynote address exploring the future of work. The conference featured 60 breakout sessions and a dozen vendors. Michele S. Jones, retired command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Reserve, gave a closing keynote moving forward through partner engagement.
The FY 19 Transitions Academy was held on August 7–8, 2018 at the Thelma Keller Convention Center in Effingham, Illinois. For your convenience we have archived presentation material from the Transitions Academy for your continued access: https://icps.illinoisstate.edu/2018/08/transitions-academy-fy-19/

The Transitions Academy is designed to assist colleges and partnerships working on developing Bridge and ICAPS (Integrated Career and Academic Preparation System) programs by increasing awareness of the expanding partnership between Adult Education and Career and Technical Education as it relates to the ICAPS models, Illinois Bridge programs, and Illinois Programs of Study. Thanks to the many experienced programs who shared lessons learned.
The Illinois workNet Career Plan is an online planning and communication tool used by Illinois workNet partners (educators/case workers/career navigators) and customers to:

- Review and summarize assessment results,
- Identify goals based on assessment results,
- Identify steps/services needed to achieve goals,
- Communicate and document progress, and
- Flag when intervention is needed.

**Partner Access**

Partners have access to the Illinois workNet Career Plan builder view through the Illinois workNet Customer Support Center. The builder view provides a step-by-step approach of building a plan with your customer. Steps include:

1. Complete assessments
   a. Complete a comprehensive assessment to identify the customers current skills, interests, goals, and supports needed to help them reach their goals. Consider the following assessment areas when selecting assessment to be used with the customer:
      - Readiness Training
      - Employment
      - Independent Living Skills
      - Physical and Emotional Health
      - Leadership Skills
   b. Enter assessment data into the system as appropriate.
   c. Enter one or more assessment summaries / results in the Illinois workNet Career Plan.

2. Write goals.
   a. Use completed assessment information to develop goals and enter those goals in the customer’s Illinois workNet Career Plan.
   b. Goals should be written to address barriers, employment goals, education/training and related stackable credentials that can be earned to advance the customer through their career pathway. They should be realistic, measurable and attainable.

3. Add steps towards reaching their goals by selecting from a list of recommended steps/services.
   a. Each step/service includes a brief description that may include links to Illinois workNet related resources.
   b. Each step is linked to a goal and can be associated with a barrier that it addresses, provider of that service, and credential(s) earned. (continued on page 4)
Career Plan Available in the Illinois workNet Customer Support Center

4. Agree to the plan that was co-developed. The partner/system can document if the customer signed the career plan electronically or manually. This information is saved in the update history.

5. Use the plan for ongoing communication.
   a. Make sure they know how to access their view of the plan.
   b. Use the case note tool to send messages/emails to the customer and save it as a case note at the same time.
   c. Reassess as you go along and update the plan as steps are completed, goals are accomplished, and new goals are set.

Customer Access

Customers access their career plan through their Illinois workNet My Dashboard. Their plan includes the following sections:

- Skills, Interests & Experiences where they can:
  ◊ View assessment results that were used to identify their goals and steps.
  ◊ View assessment results to show their progress.

- Plan Goals and Steps where they can view:
  ◊ A summary of their goals and planned steps to reach those goals.
  ◊ Related Illinois workNet resource when available.
  ◊ Progress and planned completion dates.

- Accomplishments where they can:
  ◊ View a summary of earned credentials, completed goals, and completed steps/services.
  ◊ View a checklist of Resume Builder items that are saved in their account.
  ◊ Easily get to the Resume Guide.
  ◊ Easily get to the Resume Builder and reminded to update their resume with new skills, work history, and earned credentials.

- Job Leads where they can easily access:
  ◊ Job search tools.
  ◊ Job search related articles
  ◊ Your bookmarked Job Finder job postings.

- Update log to view a history of changes made to their career plan.

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/
The spring edition of the Transitions Newsletter focused on some of the adult education innovation occurring in Illinois. We thank all those who shared their innovations and applaud their efforts. Our students are achieving, in part, because of the powerful THINKERS in our state. If you haven’t seen the spring edition, you may view it by visiting: http://www.siue.edu/SIPDC/Transitioning/Newsletters.htm

We’re keeping the ideas flowing with additional innovations submitted for this edition! Anyone wanting to share additional innovations, please contact Sarah Goldammer at sgoldam@siue.edu to be featured in upcoming newsletters.

Kelsey Briggs-Dineen, Senior Workforce Services Specialist at National Able Network, shares the following:

National Able Network integrates IT material into adult education classes through its IT Bridge program, exposing learners to a potential career pathway from day one. This integration allows for deeper understanding of training material and motivates students to persist to a career they love. While studying to earn their high school equivalency or raising their TABE scores, students enroll in industry recognized IT training programs and volunteer in an IT capacity. Students enrolled in the IT Bridge program are then offered the opportunity to complete an internship or paid work experience in an IT help desk role after receiving an industry recognized IT certification. This ensures the students enjoy the work they will do in the future while building relevant work experience and discussion topics for future employment interviews. As part of their curriculum, students are encouraged to consider questions like “what will I take from this first job to my next job,” “what’s important for me in a career,” and “what does a good job look like for me.”

Ms. Briggs-Dineen also wants to make sure everyone is aware of the low cost internet programs offered for SNAP recipients and other in-need groups:

AT&T https://www.att.com/shop/internet/access/#/

Maggie Wolf, Director of Adult Education, Kankakee Community College, shares the following:

I have given the KCC Director of Institutional Research access to DAISI. This allows for seamless and clear reporting with respect to student movement through the college’s, credit side of the house. I thought this was just a good practice, but several people said this was innovative!
Innovations in Illinois (cont.)

Michael Rose, Morton College’s Transition Coach, under the direction of Tom Pierce, Dean of Adult and Career Technical Education shares the following:

Morton College Credit Connect Program

The Adult & Community Education department at Morton College in Cicero, IL is piloting a Credit Connect program this fall. Following a secondary and postsecondary dual enrollment model, this program allows concurrently enrolled Adult Education students in either the HSEC program or the ESL program to take a college course for free. Interested students need to complete an application and submit it to one of the Transition Coaches in the Adult & Community Education department. Students must meet several criteria to enroll in the program, including a successful application essay, an interview with a Transition Coach, and a qualifying test score. HSEC students need a score of 8.9+ on the language arts TABE test. ESL students need to be in level 5 or 6 with a CASAS score of 211+. In collaboration with the Career Technical Education department and Academic Advising, a select list of courses has been offered to students who qualify. Opportunities for one-on-one tutoring have been provided, and students are required to have monthly meetings with their Transition Coaches. Thus far, the program has been successful. In fact, some Credit Connect students have even used the new skills they are learning in their college credit classes in their place of work.

Using the ICAPS/IET Process for All Levels of Students = Retention, Relevance... Real Life

Presented by Bevan Gibson & Sarah Goldammer

at the Northern Region Adult Education Conference on Friday, November 30, 2018

Westin Chicago Northwest Hotel, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca, IL

Learn how integrating the ICAPS/IET component of workforce preparation activities is important and helpful for ALL levels of students in adult education. You don’t have to be an ICAPS/IET teacher to begin the process. Gather resources to use in your classroom right away to teach the following workforce prep skills: utilizing resources, using information, working with others, understanding systems, transitioning skills, and other employability skills.

For more conference information, go to http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/event-conference.html
For hotel information/directions go to http://www.westinchicagonorthwest.com/directions
Illinois’ Career Pathways Definition and Plans

Learn about Illinois’ new Unified Career Pathways Definition from Brian Durham, newly appointed Executive Director of ICCB, Lisa Jones of the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Women Employed, and the Chicago Jobs Council. The definition was approved this spring by state education, employment, and workforce boards and provides guidance for agencies and providers alike as they seek to develop and expand career pathways.

Links to webinar recordings and their accompanying slides can be found here.

Hear from community providers about how they are implementing aspects of Illinois’ workforce and adult education plans. Our August Pathways to Careers Network webinar shared how organizations are tackling three trends in the plans—digital literacy, partnerships, and work-based learning.

The Pathways to Careers Network series continues in December with a webinar centered on bridge programs and integrated education and training (IET) models. To make sure you’re on the webinar list, sign up at Pathways to Careers Network.

ICCB Adult Education Professional Development Network has New Logo and New Professional Development Guide

Breaking news! Visit the PD Portal: Excellence in Adult Ed site to learn about the Professional Development Guide. It provides guidance to adult education administrators and instructors as they plan for and design PD each year. The guide provides targeted selection of PD, categorized by instructional area and by required, recommended and elective. Sections include PD for Bridge and ICAPS/IET instructors. More information will be available soon.
Stakeholder Engagement Regional Professional Development

These regional professional development opportunities aim to provide participants with useful tools for involving key stakeholders in regards to Perkins and WIOA. The important benefits of stakeholder engagement will also be addressed. Multiple events will be held at different locations across the state.

Event Details
Northern Region:
December 4, 2018
Moraine Valley Community College
9000 College Pkwy,
Palos Hills, IL 60465

Central/Southern Regions:
December 6, 2018
Crowne Plaza
3000 S Dirksen Pkwy,
Springfield, IL 62703

Registration can be found at the following link:
Stakeholder Engagement Regional Professional Development Registration

Leading for Equity in Illinois’ Perkins V Planning and Implementation

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), in partnership with the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support (ICSPS), invite Secondary and Postsecondary Perkins Coordinators, Administrators, and leaders to attend a day long interactive session on Equity in CTE & Perkins V Planning.

Understanding the equity provisions in the new Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), which was signed into law July 31, 2018. Explores equity gaps in CTE in order to identify opportunities for program improvement, and place equity at the center of your leadership in your spheres of control and influence. Join Dr. Ben Williams, NAPE CEO, for this interactive and informative professional learning program as Illinois begins the planning process for Perkins V implementation.

November 19, 2018
Radisson Hotel Normal
8 Traders Circle
Normal, IL 61761

9 AM to 3 PM (lunch will be provided)

Registration: Registration can be accessed at the following link: Registration Page
New Format for the Transitioning Continuum

The Transitioning Continuum has outgrown its current format. Therefore, the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center has completed a redesign of the Transitioning Continuum. The new format is more user-friendly and categorizes all units by the following topics:

- Technology
- Special Learning Needs
- Career Development
- Pre-IET
- IET

Effective July 1, 2018, only the new format Transitioning Continuum will be available. Please check out the redesign and let SIPDC know if you have any questions, suggestions, or problems.

Also new, the Transitioning Continuum is categorized into Instructional/Professional Pathways for Special Learning Needs and Transitions, making it easier for individuals to track their progress on a Specialist or Master Pathway. Career Navigator Pathway section coming soon!

To learn more about the Transitions Pathways, visit the PD Portal:
http://www.excellenceinadulted.com/professional-development-offerings/professional-pathways/transitions-pathway/

New Career Navigator Orientation Ready for Use!

The New Career Navigator Orientation is now available on the iLEARN. Login information is available on the PD Portal (excellenceinadulted.com) under Career Navigator Professional Pathway or send an email to sipdctrainer@gmail.com to request access.

Contact the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center for more information
sipdctrainer@gmail.com
As part of the sustained professional development for ICAPS, Menus of Resources were created by ICSPS and SIPDC and are housed on the ICAPS website. To continue to grow the available resources, we are soliciting additional examples/templates/processes from experienced programs. If you have resources in any of the categories below, please send them to Sarah Goldammer at sgoldam@siue.edu. If you have suggestions for additional items not listed below, please share that as well as we hope this will be an evolving and responsive collection of resources. Thanks for any assistance you can provide.

Integrated/Bridge class offerings
Integrated/Bridge scheduling
Contextualized curriculum
Distance learning
College success courses
Staff integration roles for best student results
Articulation agreements
Sustaining ICAPS/Bridge programs
Working within APC
Braided funding
How to fund a career navigator

Integrating career development at all levels
Career/transitions plan
College success courses
Partnerships materials (introductory materials, agreements, meeting agendas, sustaining materials, etc.)
Checklists
Screening and selection process materials

Be sure to visit the ICAPS website at:
http://www.icapsillinois.com/

New to the ICAPS Website
ICAPS/IET Toolkit!

New items recently added!
Advancing College and Career Readiness: Preparing Adult Learners for the Future of Work

The NCTN’s annual national conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, MA on November 12 – 14, 2018. The conference’s theme is Advancing College and Career Readiness: Preparing Adult Learners for the Future of Work.

Dr. Paul Osterman, the NTU Professor of Human Resources and Management at M.I.T. Sloan School of Management, is the featured keynote speaker. Dr. Osterman will speak on the future of work.

The 2018 conference continues our tradition of providing a forum for adult education, workforce development, and postsecondary educators, advisors, and administrators to learn from experts and each other, and to affirm a shared commitment to educational and economic opportunity for adult learners.

Register Now

Illinois Digital Learning Lab

We are excited to announce that the Illinois Digital Learning Lab will be releasing a written field report later this year. The lab is a community of educators working together to experiment with technology in ABE, ESL, and GED classrooms. We have tested a variety of software, hardware, and free/open resources in an effort to explore what resonates with students. Currently we have 25 educators participating in the community and hope to grow the lab in the future. The report includes a deep dive on three cohorts and their findings over the year's experiments. You can visit our website at http://bit.ly/resources-diglab to download the field report. Please stay tuned!

Preparing English Learners for Work and Career Pathways: a Suite of Resources

Contextualizing instruction provides English learners with the specific English and technical skills they need to be successful. This suite of resources offers tools, practical ideas, and hands-on strategies for educators who help adult ELLs in preparing for work or training in career pathways. The Suite includes an issue brief, a PD module, and a companion learning resource.

Southern Illinois Professional Development Center (SIPDC)

Southern Illinois University
Box 1128, Room 1137
Alumni Hall
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1128
Phone: 618-650-2254
Fax: 618-650-3455

For more information please contact
SIPDC at www.siue.edu/SIPDC

Bevan Gibson
bgibson@siue.edu

Sarah Goldammer
sgoldam@siue.edu

Colleen Potter
colleenpotter@yahoo.com

OR

ICSPS at www.icsps.illinoisstate.edu

Aimee LaFollette Julian
alafoll@ilstu.edu

Casey Anderson
chandel@ilstu.edu