AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

Plus 50 In the News


“Montgomery County Community College Program Focuses on Retraining Older Workers,” The Times Herald, February 11, 2013

“Back to College at 50,” The Huffington Post, February 7, 2013

“Ivy Tech-Northwest in Gary to Train Workers 50 and Older,” Associated Press, February 6, 2013


Take Your Plus 50 Program to the Next Level: Apply the Standards of Excellence
Are you trying to take your plus 50 program to a new level? Do you want to efficiently build your college’s program for adults over age 50 using tested advice that works? Then you will find a lot of help in AACC’s Standards of Excellence tips, which provide links to resources that can help improve your program in key areas. The tips are based on AACC’s The Plus 50 Initiative: Standards of Excellence.
“Colleges Realign Programs to Meet Employers’ Needs”
This *Community College Times* article examines how community colleges are aligning their educational programs with the local labor market, strengthening student advising services, and creating alternative, flexible programs to get students onto a productive career path. Owensboro Community & Technical College, Anne Arundel Community College, and Ivy Tech Community College programs are featured.

**Federal Funding Opportunity: Nursing Workforce Diversity Program**
Grant applications are now being accepted by the federal government for the *Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD) Program*. NWD grants are awarded to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented among registered nurses) by providing (1) student scholarships or stipends for diploma or associate degree nurses to enter a bridge or degree completion program, and (2) student scholarships or stipends for accelerated nursing degree programs, pre-entry preparation, advanced education preparation, and retention activities. The program will award 3-year grants that support innovative efforts by schools of nursing to recruit, retain, and graduate disadvantaged students. Applications are due March 8, 2013.

**Adult Literacy Grants, Applications Due February 28**
*Dollar General Literacy Foundation* awards funding to nonprofit organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance. Organizations must provide help in one of the following instructional areas: adult basic education, general education diploma preparation, and English language acquisition. Maximum grant amounts are up to $15,000. Application deadline: February 28, 2013.

**Webinar: Developing An Accelerated Program**
Many higher education institutions are thinking outside the box with today's competitive environment. There are many ways to schedule learning for adult learners. This *February 27 webinar* from the Council for Adult & Experiential Learning will give an overview of accelerated programs and will include topics such as defining accelerated learning, implementing an accelerated degree program, identifying best practices in strategy and program development, selecting and developing instructors of adult learners, student services for adult learners, and marketing a new accelerated program. This session is designed for those newer to accelerated learning, or for those more experienced accelerated learning professionals who wish to gain new ideas and strategies.
2013 Older Americans Month Materials Now Available

Older Americans Month is observed annually in May and this year’s celebration will be themed “Unleash the Power of Age.” Logos, a sample proclamation, a sample news article, and a history of Older Americans Month are available online for download from the Administration on Aging.

Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program

COMPLETION

Degree Attainment for Adult Learners

Increasing the number of credentialed workers will require broadened access to higher education for working adults, says this 2012 report from the American Council of Education. Educational institutions will need to put in place flexible, accelerated delivery models and new services tailored to adult learners that support their persistence to goal attainment. Postsecondary education leaders that have been most successful in meeting this need have redefined institutional relationships with adult learners, focusing on program delivery and support services to meet the needs of working adults with multiple and competing responsibilities. To meet these challenges, institutions must create and sustain a learner-centered culture, build a strategic enrollment framework, and implement strategies and programs that support progress to degree. Reaching outside their institutions to establish productive collaborative efforts with partners that share common goals, the higher education community can break through traditional barriers to create new approaches to achieving and validating learning outcomes.

LEARNING

“Effective Teaching Strategies for Baby Boomers”

This brief article discusses how the discovery-oriented classroom of today is often a successful learning environment for the baby boomer. It also suggests that baby boomers would benefit from understanding their personal learning styles.

TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

Developing Market- Relevant Curricula and Credentials: Employer Engagement for Community Colleges in Partnerships

Engaging employers as strategic partners in postsecondary education planning and action is key to success, notes this report from the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce. Effective engagement requires building deep, sustainable relationships that ensure curriculum design and credentials meet the needs of industry sectors/clusters important to the region, and that students exit institutions able to demonstrate that they have the skills and credentials needed by business. The report offers suggestions to deepen community college and employer relationships.
VOLUNTEERING & SERVICE

“How Nonprofits Can Attract Baby Boomer Workers”
This archived chat on the website for the Chronicle of Philanthropy discusses how nonprofits can attract and retain experienced baby boomer workers who are seeking to start a second or third career in giving back. Read questions from viewers and see responses from Marc Freedman of Encore.org.

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) is the primary advocacy organization for the nation’s community colleges. The association represents nearly 1,200 two-year, associate degree-granting institutions and more than 13 million students. AACC promotes community colleges through five strategic action areas: recognition and advocacy for community colleges; student access, learning, and success; community college leadership development; economic and workforce development; and global and intercultural education. Information about AACC and community colleges may be found at www.aacc.nche.edu.