AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

Plus 50 In the News

- “Del Tech Joins Project to Train Older Workers,” Cape Gazette, December 17, 2013
- “Graduate Tampa Bay: Tampa Bay Community Colleges Target Baby Boomers,” 83 Degrees Media, December 17, 2013
- “Pima Part of National Push to Train Baby Boomers in Health Care, Education and Social Services,” Career Focus (Pima Community College), December 13, 2013
- “Green River Joins Project to Train 10,000 Older Workers for New Jobs,” Green River Community College (press release), December 12, 2013
- “DCCC Joins National Effort to Train 10,000 Older Workers,” The Business Journal, December 11, 2013
- “Audio: DTCC Gets Grant to Train and Educate Older Workers,” Delaware 105.9 FM News Talk, December 11, 2013
- “DCCC Joining National Effort to Train 10,000 Older Workers,” Time Warner Cable News, December 11, 2013
- “MCC Selected for Plus 50 Encore Completion Program,” Madisonville Community College (press release), December 10, 2013
- “Grays Harbor College Assisting Baby Boomers,” KXRO News Radio, December 6, 2013
- “Plus 50 Program Helps Older Adults Update Employment Skills,”
Reminder: January 10 Webinar Explores Best Practices for Career Pathways and Credentials

Many are developing career pathways models to better align education and training programs with the needs of employers. The goal is to help individuals attain relevant certifications, connect successfully to work, and advance to higher levels of education and wages over time. This webinar on January 10, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. (ET), will highlight two career pathways models and provide specific “how-to” information for other states and local areas interested in developing career pathways initiatives. This webinar will include an interactive question and answer period. Registration is required.

Newsletter Article Reprints & Your College’s Plus 50 Newsletter: Help Yourself

If your college is involved with AACC’s Plus 50 Encore Completion Program, the resources we summarize in our newsletter and post on our website are for you. They can help you develop professionally, and make your work life a little easier. If you publish an electronic newsletter for plus 50 students at your college, our plus 50 resource articles are often helpful newsy tidbits that can add interest to your publication. Or, you might be like Heather Ellison at St. Louis Community College (STLCC), who reprints items from our newsletter on a regular basis in the newsletter she creates to update everyone involved with the STLCC plus 50 program. If you are trying to write a one-paragraph article to educate faculty on instructional strategies for adult learners, our resources can often get you started (check out the great resource we have listed below under Learning). Please, help yourself to our copy and reprint it if you need help with your plus 50 communication needs—we are here to make your work life easier!

Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program
COMPLETION

State Policy Approaches to Support Prior Learning Assessment
Prior learning assessment is a way for plus 50 adults to receive college credit for their knowledge and competencies. This 38-page resource from the Council for Adult & Experiential Learning is a guide for state leaders who want to promote prior learning assessment policy, whether through new higher education regulatory language or through legislation. It offers factors to consider when developing a statewide strategy to promote prior learning, examples of state support for prior learning assessment, case studies, a sample state policy, and additional resources.

LEARNING

“Engaging Adult Learners with Technology”
These handouts explore best practices in incorporating technology into teaching, assessing, and communicating with nontraditional student learners. Users will be able to name the characteristics of an adult learner, describe methods used to engage the adult learner in a library setting, understand relevant instructional techniques, and incorporate adult learning theory and relevant technologies into current instructional plans. Session content is applicable for face-to-face instruction, as well as blended and online delivery. A toolkit and resources are provided. Created by instructional librarians from the Twin Cities Campus Library at Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, these resources are very helpful for plus 50 programs creating professional development programs for college faculty and staff.

TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

“Using Regional Economic Development Strategies to Diagnose and Treat Skill Gaps”
This article by Forbes discusses a new book called The Talent Equation, that examines the skills gap issue. The author rightly notes that people seem perplexed by the notion that there are jobs going unfilled, while people remain unemployed. The problem is that regions have different strengths and workforces specialize in different things. Fixing the skills gap problem is a regional issue, says the writer. Leadership is needed to fill these gaps and get people working. Employers, academic institutions, and others have to identify the nature of the problem (using data) in their regions and assemble collaborative responses to prepare workers for open positions. Programs at Monroe Community College and Walla Walla Community College are profiled for their work at filling skills gaps regionally.
PLUS 50 TRENDS

**EconomicCheckUp**
Paying attention to money matters is important for everyone, but especially for plus 50 adults who are making decisions about work and retirement. This **EconomicCheckup** uses simple questions to assess how an individual is managing his or her money and provides information tailored to their needs so they can improve their economic security. Information is offered to help plus 50 adults find work, better utilize existing assets, reduce debt, and cut spending. Created by the National Council on Aging, this resource is free and confidential.