AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

Plus 50 In the News

- “7 Career Mistakes You Don’t Even Know You’re Making,” The Huffington Post, April 30, 2014
- “College Joins Project to Train Older Workers for New Jobs,” The Hartford Courant, April 29, 2014

C-PAD Offers Resources & Tools, Not Just Reporting, Says College Staff Member

AACC’s C-PAD is a useful guide to resources and tools for growing a plus 50 program at a community college, according to Kim Larson-Cooney, plus 50 coordinator at Arapahoe Community College. “I have used so many of the resources—the links you can click on within C-PAD—for presentations I have made,” said Larson-Cooney. She noted that the resources provided by AACC help her avoid having to “reinvent the wheel” while guiding her college’s plus 50 program as it develops. The resources also provide credibility for the plus 50 program and encourage other staff to support it. “If you have a passion for working with an older population, you’ve got some ammunition to help you,” she said. The resources offered through C-PAD also provide a way to restructure community conversations about baby boomers and aging, said Larson-Cooney. “I have been involved, too, in many community organizations and I am able to bring information that I glean from the resources on the site to those meetings and really help communities think about other things besides transportation, housing, and meals. Instead we talk about lifelong learning, civic engagement, and training people to work with older adults.”

As the Number of High School Students Decline, Where Will Your College Find Students?

As this AACC DataPoints article points out, the number of high school graduates is declining. Community colleges need programs that effectively reach out to and serve plus 50 learners.
Upcoming Scholarship Opportunities for Students

- **American Assembly for Men in Nursing**—Offers a number of scholarships for men pursuing degrees in nursing. Applications are due by July 1.
- **Barbara Rhomberg Excellence in Nursing Scholarship**—Awards five, $1,000 scholarships each year to nontraditional, full-time students pursuing undergraduate degrees in nursing. Applications are accepted between July 2 and August 31.
- **Congressional Black Caucus Foundation**—Provides a scholarship for full-time students. Applications are due by June 5.
- **Exceptional Nurse.com**—Awards a $250 scholarship to a nursing student with a disability. Applications are due by June 1.
- **National Health Service Corps**—Offers loan repayment and scholarship programs for students pursuing careers in primary care who are willing to work in communities with limited access to healthcare. Applications are due by May 15.
- **NURSE Corps Scholarship Program**—This program enables nursing students to receive funding for tuition, fees, and other educational costs in exchange for working at a critical shortage facility upon graduation. A phone conference will be held May 17 to answer questions about applying.
- **Tylenol Future Cares Nursing Scholarships**—Offers 40 students a total of $250,000 in scholarship funds for pursuing education in healthcare. Applications are due by June 30.

Upcoming Webinar: Partnerships for Progress: Workforce and Higher Education Institutions

Improving collaboration between workforce boards and institutions of higher education could help better serve those adults who enter the workforce system with a significant number of college credits but no degree. This webinar on May 21, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. (ET), will explore specific strategies that both 2- and 4-year institutions, as well as policymakers, can pursue to foster better communication and collaboration. Organizers believe these collaborations will ultimately result in increased credential completion by adults who enter the workforce training system. The webinar is sponsored by the Adult College Completion Network and is free of charge, but advance registration is required.

Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program

COMPLETION

A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education

This annual report by the Lumina Foundation, shows that America achieved its largest year-over-year increase in degree attainment since 2008. According to the report, 39.4% of working-age Americans (ages 25–64) held a 2- or 4-year college degree in 2012—the most recent year for which data are available. That figure is up from 2011, when the rate was 38.7%, and from 2008, when the rate was 37.9%. A blog post by the Adult College Completion Network discusses the aspects of the report.
with implications for those working with adult degree completion programs.

LEARNING

Best Practices: Credit for Prior Learning
This website from the American Council on Education offers practical tips and resources for institutions seeking to start or improve their program offering credit for prior learning. Plus 50 Encore Completion Colleges Anne Arundel Community College and Ivy Tech Community College are both listed as examples that demonstrate how colleges can make prior learning more accessible.

TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

Find Your Path
The U.S. Department of Labor recently announced the launch of a new Find Your Path initiative. The initiative raises awareness of how federally-funded job training programs connect workers seeking jobs with companies looking to hire. The Find a Job section links to the American Job Center portal of online tools for job seekers. Job seekers can assess their current skill sets and obtain career suggestions and training opportunities.

PLUS 50 TRENDS

“Over 50 and Need a Roommate? A New Site Has You Covered”
Older Americans are into sharing space—for community, health and budget reasons—and now there’s a new website to help women age 50 and over find roommates. Baby boomers seek out roommates for the same reasons as their younger counterparts, says this article, but they have some unique needs when seeking roommates.