AGELESS LEARNING

In the News

Plus 50 in The News

- “Plus 50 Program Getting Students Back to School,” KWQC, January 9, 2015
- “Community College Program Aims to Attract Older Students,” Quad City Times, January 7, 2015
- “Plus 50 Students Embark on New Careers in Healthcare,” Community College Daily, January 7, 2015
- “Workforce Trainees at Jefferson Community and Technical College,” Adult College Completion Network (blog), December 18, 2014

Milwaukee Area Technical College Featured in Magazine Cover Story
The staff at the Milwaukee Area Technical College developed an ad for its programs that was published in a major state-distributed magazine called Black Women 50+. The project manager for the grant, Dr. Dessie Levy, was in the cover story for the magazine. The interview covered the importance of student success regardless of the age of the person, but it focused on helping plus 50 students. According to the owner of the publication, the magazine received more positive reviews than any prior issue in the history of the magazine.

For Your College’s Plus 50 Newsletter
Here are some great resources for your newsletter or website assisting plus 50 students.

- **“Education Pays Off,” American Association of Community Colleges**
  Thinking about completing a degree? Research shows that education results in higher family earnings.

- **“Practical Tips: Going to College at 50,” American Association of Community Colleges**
  Ready to go to community college? These helpful tips can help you get off to a great start!

- **Video Stories of Plus 50 Students at Community Colleges**
  Need a little inspiration? Hear from dozens of plus 50 students who are going to community colleges and building brighter futures.

- **“What You Think About Aging May be Wrong,” Morning Joe**
  Wall Street Journal reporter Anne Tergesen joins MSNBC’s “Morning Joe” to discuss how our stereotypes about aging are not true. Rather, many view growing older as a vibrant time of life with opportunities for re-invention.

**Resources to Support Your Plus 50 Program**

**COMPLETION**

**DataPoints: Rural Versus Urban Degree Completion**
This chart explains rural and urban degree completion, noting that rural communities have higher attainment in associate degrees but lag behind on bachelor’s degree completion. The chart summarizes data from a study in Choices Magazine.

**LEARNING**

**Technology-Enhanced Education at Public Flagship Universities: Opportunities and Challenges**
This Lumina Foundation-funded study examined how 10 member institutions of the Public Flagships Network used technology to improve the educational experience for students. The researchers conclude that streamlined communication and better plans will help institutions make the most of technology. Some of the steps outlined in the report include setting up a line of communication between students and faculty about the benefits of technology-enhanced education, while being open about the costs and benefits. Incentives for faculty must also be created in order to initiate learning through technology.
TRAINING & RE-TRAINING

“Community College Programs Can Lead to Big Payoffs – In the Right Fields”
National Public Radio reports on research showing that earning community college credentials in healthcare, technology, and skilled labor can help students get jobs and immediately start with salaries above $50,000. The study drew from 7 years of post-graduation data from more than 20,000 students who attended Washington State’s 34 community and technical colleges.

PLUS 50 TRENDS

“Just Don’t Call Me Old: Baby Boomers Waging a War on Words”
As baby boomers steamroll into old age, a new war on words is unfolding, and if you want to talk with plus 50 adults about higher education or anything else, you need to recalibrate your vocabulary. There’s more afoot than political correctness. The over-50 crowd generates some $4.6 trillion in economic activity in products and services. Any company or organization that wants to woo this senior set can’t risk alienating them with words that carry negative connotations, says this article in the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

Forward to a friend

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.