



# THE PATH TO ADULT COLLEGE COMPLETION: A NETWORK CONVENING

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March 21-22, 2011 • Lumina Foundation  
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 700 • Indianapolis, IN • 317.951.5300

## MEETING OBJECTIVES

**Adult College Completion Network members will:**

- ▶ Begin establishing relationships that will help them increase college completion among adults.
- ▶ Develop collaborative strategies for identifying and overcoming common challenges that hinder adult college completion.
- ▶ Understand resources available to members of the ACC Network.

## AGENDA

### MONDAY, MARCH 21

**6.00 – 6.45 pm**

#### **Welcome Reception**

Meeting participants are invited to join their colleagues for a welcome reception and an opportunity to meet other ACC Network Members.

#### **Speaker:**

Jamie Merisotis, president and chief executive officer, *Lumina Foundation for Education*

**6.45 – 8.15 pm**

#### **Networking Dinner: Welcome and Overview of the ACC Network**

Lumina and WICHE staff will provide a general overview of the ACC Network and discuss plans for creating a vibrant collaborative learning effort that will benefit not only the projects recently funded by Lumina Foundation, but also others working to improve adult college completion.

#### **Speakers:**

Susan Johnson, program officer, *Lumina Foundation for Education*

Patrick Lane, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

David Longanecker, president, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Holly Zanville, program director, *Lumina Foundation for Education*

### TUESDAY, MARCH 22

**7.45 – 8.15 am**

#### **Networking Breakfast**

Enjoy a full breakfast prior to the meeting and network with your ACC Network colleagues.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 22 (continued)

8.15 – 9.30 am

### **The Adult College Completion Network: Introductions and Highlights**

Network members will engage in a facilitated discussion about key aspects of their projects, how to better serve adult learners, and successful strategies that they have employed or hope to implement as part of Lumina Foundation's commitment to increase adult college completion. This discussion will include a brief update on new state authorization regulations for distance education as well as aspects of the ACC Network that are available to assist participants in their work.

#### **Facilitators:**

Demarée Michelau, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Russell Poulin, deputy director, research and analysis, *WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies*

9.30 – 10.30 am

### **Bringing them Back: Marketing to and Recruiting Adult Students**

Marketing messages aimed at adult learners can easily get muffled in the deluge of information targeting these potential students. Getting the message heard, however, is a crucial first step in a complex recruitment process. In this facilitated discussion, network members will share strategies for crafting and delivering an effective message and helping potential students survive barriers in the readmission process that can stop them before they take their initial steps toward college completion.

#### **Facilitator:**

Demarée Michelau, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

10.30 – 10.45 am

### **Break**

10.45 – 11.45 am

### **Increasing Adult College Completion and Maintaining Quality: An Open Discussion**

With momentum in the U.S. moving briskly toward finding ways to increase college completion, there is an inevitable and legitimate debate about how to accomplish the various national and state goals while still maintaining the quality that is expected of American higher education. This lively session will give participants the opportunity to discuss in an open forum ways to keep moving forward to ensure that all students are being served appropriately and effectively.

#### **Facilitator:**

David Longanecker, president, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

11.45 am – 12.45 pm

### **Networking Lunch**

Network members are encouraged to dine with colleagues from similar projects and continue discussions from the morning sessions.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 22 (continued)

12.45 – 2.00 pm

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS: Finding Common Ground**

Facilitated breakout sessions based on three major themes will give network members an opportunity to delve more deeply into successful strategies and common challenges that can hinder a project's success. If there is more than one representative from your project, please arrange for your project to be represented at more than one breakout session.

### **Web-based Technologies: Online Learning and Web Portals**

#### **Facilitator:**

Russell Poulin, deputy director, research and analysis, *WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies*

### **Workforce and Employer Engagement**

#### **Facilitator:**

David Longanecker, president, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

### **Student Advising and Mentoring**

#### **Facilitator:**

Patrick Lane, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

2.00 – 2.15 pm

### **Break**

2.15 – 3.00 pm

### **Final Thoughts: The Future of the Adult College Completion Network**

This final session will provide a forum for participants to offer further reflections on ways that the ACC Network can be most useful to them as they strive to increase adult college completion.

#### **Facilitators:**

David Longanecker, president, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
Holly Zanville, program director, *Lumina Foundation for Education*

3.00 pm

### **Adjournment**

# REPRESENTED ORGANIZATIONS

- ▶ American Association of Community Colleges
- ▶ Central Indiana Community Foundation
- ▶ CEOs for Cities
- ▶ Colorado Department of Higher Education
- ▶ Corporation for a Skilled Workforce
- ▶ The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
- ▶ Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support
- ▶ Goodwill Industries, Inc.
- ▶ Graduate! Connecticut
- ▶ Graduate! Philadelphia
- ▶ Greater Louisville, Inc. - The Metro Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Institute for Higher Education Policy
- ▶ Inver Hills Community College
- ▶ Ivy Tech Community College
- ▶ Jobs for the Future
- ▶ Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
- ▶ Making Connections Indianapolis
- ▶ Metropolitan State University
- ▶ National Association of Manufacturers
- ▶ National League of Cities
- ▶ North Dakota University System
- ▶ Rutgers University
- ▶ Saint Louis Community Foundation
- ▶ South Dakota University Center
- ▶ Southern Regional Education Board
- ▶ State University of New York
- ▶ Truckee Meadows Community College
- ▶ University of Maine System
- ▶ University of Wisconsin System Administration
- ▶ West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
- ▶ Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
- ▶ Wyoming Community College Commission