New Opportunities for Adult Learners in Lancaster: Penn State Degree Completion at a Community College

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Introductions

• Karen Sheehe – Director, Penn State, The Lancaster Center
• Jennifer Alleman – Assistant Professor, Counseling, HACC Lancaster Campus
• Bea Landis – Assistant Director, Penn State, The Lancaster Center
Agenda

• Penn State, The Lancaster Center and the partnership with HACC Lancaster Campus - Karen

• HACC Lancaster Degree Completer Initiative - Jennifer

• Transitioning HACC students to Penn State - Bea
Penn State, The Lancaster Center

• **We Are...** An Outreach unit of Penn State Continuing Education

• **We Are...** A partner with Penn State York, Harrisburg, Berks, and The World Campus

• **We Are...** Located in the Farm & Home Center

• **We Are...** Focused on adults and workforce education and training

• **We Are...** A provider of summer youth camps and dual enrollment courses
WE ARE... PENN STATE, in Lancaster!
Why Partner with HACC?

• A delivery model designed to meet the needs of Adult Learners
• Proven, successful partnerships across the US
Ohio University CC Partnerships
Why Partner with HACC?

But really, Why?
Did you know that …

…once first in the world, America now ranks 10th in the percentage of young adults with a college degree?

*Education at a Glance 2009: OECD Indicators*
Did you know that...

...in the current recession, unemployment rates are twice as high for those with just a high school diploma (10.8%) compared to those with a bachelor's degree or higher (4.9%)?

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment
In Lancaster

The percent of the persons age 25+ who have a Bachelor's degree or higher is 20.5%

US Census Bureau for Lancaster County, PA, 2000 Census
In Pennsylvania

The percent of the persons age 25+ who have a Bachelor's degree or higher is 22.4%

US Census Bureau for Lancaster County, PA, 2000 Census
Complete College America – Alliance of States is an initiative involving 17 states, including Pennsylvania, with the goal to partner with their colleges and universities to make college completion a top priority over the next ten years.
Included among the end goals –

By 2020, to see that 60 percent of Americans aged 25 to 34 have college degrees!

www.completecollege.org
Why Partner with HACC?

It’s All About Completing!
Why Partner with HACC?

Allows HACC associate degree-completed and qualifying students (and other community adult learners who meet requirements) to continue to study at their home location in Lancaster.

Students can complete a Penn State program with Penn State faculty, earning a bachelor’s degree in Human Development and Family Studies.
The Details

• Started in Fall 2009
• Three partner schools –
  — Penn State York
  — Elizabethtown College
  — Immaculata University
Memorandum of Understanding defines responsibilities of all partners and HACC. Such things as use of library, computer labs, copy machines, parking, and student IDs are covered in memo. Includes joint marketing, scheduling and emergency notification.
Harrisburg Area Community College

- Founded in 1964
- First Community College in PA
- Over 180 Academic Programs
- Total college enrollment nearly 22,000 students
Campus Locations

- Harrisburg
- York
- Lancaster
- Lebanon
- Gettysburg
HACC-Lancaster Campus

- Opened in 1989
- 80 Academic Programs
- Moved to current location in 2001
  - East Building opened in 2004
- Over 5,200 students
Academic Programs

- Diplomas
- Certificates
- Associate Degrees
  - Career
  - Transfer
Flexible Scheduling

- Choose from day, evening, and weekend classes
- Some evening classes are offered at several area high schools and locations throughout Lancaster County
- Online classes offered through the Virtual Campus
- Blended courses (a combination of online coursework and classroom meetings)
Tuition:

- $199.50 per credit
  (This includes basic fees activity fee & capital fee)

- Additional costs may be incurred for books and lab fees

- Lowest tuition in the area!
Career Associate Degrees

- Prepare students to enter the job market immediately upon graduation
- A student with an Associates Degree will earn 40% more than a student with a high school diploma.
Transfer Associate Degrees

- Provides the first two years of a Bachelor’s degree
- At least 61 credits including general education credits
- Transfer opportunities
Transferring to a 4-year college or university is the goal of many HACC students.

- HACC is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
- HACC’s credits transfer just about anywhere!
Enrollment Trends – Fall 2009

- Total headcount: 5,406
- 2,006 FT and 3,400 PT
- Majors - 28.2% transfer
- Gender - 33.1% male and 66.9% female
- Average age - 25.8 years (vs. 26.1 in 2008)
Top Lancaster Transfer Programs

- Business Administration (282)
- Elementary Education (170)
- Criminal Justice (159)
- Social Science (136)
- Psychology (130)

Spring 2010 Registrations - [www.hacc.edu](http://www.hacc.edu) > quick links – institutional research
The Degree Completer Initiative

- A “University Center” model
- Partnership w/colleges and universities for students to complete bachelor’s degrees on site
- Criteria for selection of partners and programs
The Degree Completer Initiative

• Increased opportunities and flexibility
• For HACC students, familiar and convenient location
• Small class sizes
• Evening classes, one or two nights per week, several accelerated, online
The Degree Completer Initiative

• Access to admission, financial aid, registration and advising by the respective college or university at the Lancaster Campus.

• Library resources at HACC Lancaster and at the respective institutions

• Advisement at HACC on course selection to transfer – “Advising Check Sheets”
Degree Completer Programs

Elizabethtown College –
• accelerated BS in Business Administration

Immaculata University –
• accelerated BA in Health Care Management
• RN to BSN degree completion

Penn State York – (through the Lancaster Center)
• BS in Human Development & Family Studies
A New Penn State Student...

One at a Time!
Recruiting & Transitioning Students

- Marketing cost split four ways
  - Information Sessions at HACC
  - Joint newspaper ad
  - Radio spots
  - Postcards
  - Press release in newspaper
  - Letters to HACC graduates
Recruiting Activities

• Meetings with HACC Advisors
• HACC Transfer Days
• Recruiting at HACC Lancaster
• Follow up to students
• Working with 36 interested HACC students
Transitioning Activities

• Adults who need financial aid
• Formally apply to Penn State on our Lancaster Center office computer
• Work closely with Penn State York admissions
More Transitioning Activities...

- When student is accepted, register, get Access Accounts and PSU IDs
- Student Orientation at Lancaster Center – (use of ANGEL, E-Lion, E-Lias, Study Skills)
- Orientation at HACC before each semester
- CE welcomes students, sell books, answer questions first night of class
Classes at HACC

• HACC and PSU semester calendars
• Two classes/semester, PS York faculty teach
• SMART classroom
• CE visits each PSU class 2-3 times per semester
Challenges

- Agreement timing-signed March 2009
- Recruiting students
- “Sticker Shock”
- Coordinating with another college and learning each other’s programs
- Surprisingly few challenges at this time
Enrollment Goals

Goal is 10-15 enrolled Penn State students by spring 2011!