



March 18, 2009  
324 Outreach Building, University Park  
10:30 a.m.  
Minutes-Draft

**Attended:** Sharon Christ, Martha Jordan, Linda Higginson, Roger Egolf, Keith Hillkirk, Leslie Laing, Sandy Gleason, Joann Olson, Amy Pancoast, Anna Griswold, Bob Farrell, Gale Siegel, Theodora Jankowski, Galen Grimes, Bill Curley, Karen Schultz, Judy Wills (recorder)

**Attended by phone:** Joel Rodney, Michael Mahalik, Bidy Brooks

**Guests:** Jane Owens, Betsy Esposito

**Unable to Attend:** Vicki Carter

- 1) Sharon Christ called the meeting to order and following announcements were made:
  - a) There will be a meeting with Ron Rash in late April regarding the e-Petition status on the AIS work plan.
  - b) Joel Rodney reported that Penn State York has signed an agreement with three other institutions that will allow students to complete a bachelor's degree from Penn State York, Immaculata University, or Elizabethtown College at the Lancaster Campus of HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College. The marketing will be done jointly, courses will be taught by full-time faculty, and an information session will be held in April. Success of the program will be tracked and assessed after a three-year 'gestation period'. (Newswire article attached.)
  - c) Joann Olson authored a report "Non-Traditional No More" on barriers to adult learners that was presented to the Faculty Senate Outreach and Student Life committees. R. Egolf reported that the while the report contained good content and suggestions, Barbara Sims, chair of the Outreach committee, is reformatting the report to match Faculty Senate formatting guidelines. To be included on the April agenda for the joint committee meeting, the revision is due by March 27.
- 2) The meeting minutes from the February 18 meeting were approved by voice vote.
- 3) 2009-10 Chair-Elect-Sandy Gleason announced that Michael Mahalik and Theodora Jankowski have both agreed to be on the ballot 2009-10 Chair-Elect. The floor was opened to other nominations. **Action item:** Judy Wills will send ballots electronically to Commission members for voting before the April 15 meeting and the Chair-Elect will be announced at the April 15 meeting.

- 4) Dr. Jane Owens, Senior Director, Continuing Education, Penn State Abington, and Betsy Esposito, Advising Services Coordinator, Penn State University Park gave a report on Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). They discussed the various means available to assess prior learning and shared a tool, a wheel-shaped diagram, that they developed to help guide advisers in working with students to determine which type of assessment matches with each particular students' specific prior college-level learning, including credits earned at colleges or universities, non-credit training programs, professional licensing, military experience, language proficiency, advanced high school course work, life achievements, community and volunteer/recreation/cultural experience. Betsy and Jane summarized by noting a university-wide response is needed, the university is not realizing the full capability of the faculty/courses in prior learning assessment, and PLA's availability is not marketed as a recruitment feature for adult learners. Jane and Besty also shared statistics from CAEL on Prior Learning Assessment facts.

Members discussed the presentation and pointed out that information is also available to advisors on the Admissions web site and in the Advising Handbook. The Commission had helped to develop a brochure entitled "College Credit for Prior Learning Experience" which is being revised to eliminate wording that distinguishes between Credit by Exam and Credit by Proficiency Exam. The new version will be made available electronically in pdf format. Members suggested including PLA to an agenda for next year's Commission, possibly presenting in the context of adult learners as an addition to the faculty and student handbook appendices currently in progress.

- 5) Amy Pancoast gave an update on the Transfer Credit study report originally presented by Anne Rohrbach in spring 2008. The report contained a survey on how other twenty-five colleges in the service areas of several Penn State campuses handle transfer credit and how Penn State compares. She also provided an example of the Admissions web page which can be used to determine how particular credits may transfer, what documents the student receives, and the cover letter which explains the report. The transfer tool is updated periodically as needed for renumbered courses of to reflect an incident in which a department may grant a particular substitution of a particular course toward a requirement. Transferred credits are documented on a student's record and will hold if a student transfers campuses. Some courses cannot be rearranged until a student is admitted to a major and this is at the discretion of the academic unit. The possibility of two students making the same request to transfer the same credits but receiving different outcomes was discussed. Also discussed were how credits would transfer from International Baccalaureate (IB) high schools near some campuses. Suggestion was made to revisit the topic at a Commission meeting next year. **Action item:** A.Pancoast will send a version of the report, deconstructed by which colleges were surveyed by service area, to J. Wills who will forward to Commission members electronically.

6) Committee reports

Adult Enrollment Coordinator committee-Included with Incentive Grants and Awards committee.

Faculty Engagement committee- Attached

Hendrick Conference Planning committee-Attached

Incentive Grants and Awards Committee – Attached

7) The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 15, 2009 in 324 Outreach Building, located in Innovation Park.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Wills

# PENNSSTATE

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Partnership offers opportunities for students to complete degrees

Friday, March 6, 2009

York, Pa. — Beginning this fall, Lancaster students can complete a bachelor's degree from Penn State York, Immaculata University or Elizabethtown College at the Lancaster Campus of HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College.

College officials from the four institutions signed the agreement Friday (March 6) that will help students save in travel costs and provide a local and familiar environment to finish their four-year degree.

College students with the sufficient number of college credits and who meet admission requirements, in addition to HACC graduates, are also eligible to enroll in the program.

"We are delighted as the land-grant institution to be bringing a Penn State degree to the premier community college of the Commonwealth," said Joel M. Rodney, chancellor of Penn State York. "The convenience this partnership provides to students will definitely benefit them and the Lancaster community as a whole."

Penn State York, through its Lancaster Center, will offer a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies, a degree that will be of benefit to those in education, psychology, and human services. Elizabethtown College will offer an accelerated bachelor's degree in business administration and Immaculata University will offer an accelerated degree in health care management. Students in an accelerated program complete their course work in less time. All the classes are taught by faculty from the respective institutions.

The partnership also includes access to services at the HACC Lancaster Campus such as admission, financial aid and registration by the respective college or University; advising and tutoring; and library resources as well as electronically or in person at the main campus of the respective institution.

Students are invited to an Information Night from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, in the East Building, room 203, at the HACC Lancaster Campus, 1641 Old Philadelphia Pike.

For more information about the courses being offered through Penn State, The Lancaster Center, contact the center (717) 299-7667 or [Lancaster@yk.psu.edu](mailto:Lancaster@yk.psu.edu). Contact Barbara Dennis [bhd5@psu.edu](mailto:bhd5@psu.edu) 717-771-4126

### **Faculty Engagement Committee**

1. Our committee's proposal to present a panel discussion at the Hendrick Conference has been accepted. The next step will be to official invite five Penn State faculty members who themselves were undergraduate adult learners to sit on the panel.
2. We are awaiting approval from the Provost to distribute the survey on faculty attitudes toward adult learners that was developed last year.
3. We are awaiting approval from the Provost to take the steps necessary to append the faculty handbook with the section on adult learners that the committee membership penned last year.
4. Some committee members have already completed writing their contribution to the student handbook (section for adult learners).
5. The next committee meeting will be by PolyCom on Monday, March 23, 2009

**The Hendrick Committee met on February 20.  
Commission update for March 18, 2009**

Adult Learner Panel-The planning committee received eight recommendations for the student panelists and we have collected the bio information. Sharon Christ has agreed to moderate the opening panel. We will showcase four panelists in the opening session and the remaining four in a breakout session. Martha Jordan has agreed to serve as moderator for the breakout session.

Bob Farrell has submitted a proposal and is gathering the panelists for the Commission's Faculty Engagement Panel of adult learners who followed a higher education career path.

Three of the 2008 recipients of Commission Incentive Grants have agreed to present their projects as a poster session for the conference and John Faris, conference planner will provide display tables in the lobby.

Leslie met with Brett Bixler, Educational Gaming Commons and Shannon Ritter, and we have a rough draft of the script and hope to begin shooting the Second Life video next week. Avatars in Second Life will be hosting and discussing the changing landscape of technology and its influence on education.

Bill Curley has been in touch with Dr. Gwen Dungy's PR staff and she will be video-conferencing with a few committee members immediately after Friday's meeting.

Conferences & Institutes registration clerks will stuff the conference materials into the pad folios in lieu of a separate folder or bag. Online registration should be up and running by the end of the month.

John Farris shared that future conference dates will be Monday, May 10, 2010 and Monday, May 16, 2011.

Our next meeting scheduled for Friday, March 20.  
Respectfully submitted,

Leslie A. Laing, Chair

### **Incentive Grants and Awards Committee**

The links for nominations for the annual Superior Service to Adult Learners Award and the Outstanding Adult Learner Recruitment or Retention Program Awards are live on the Commission's web site. An announcement will appear in this week's Faculty/Staff Newswire. Martha Jordan will ask John Faris, the Conferences and Institutes planner for the Hendrick Best Practices for Adult Learners Conference, to also email a copy of the newswire announcement to the conference list serv. Deadline for nominations is April 13, 2009.

The AEC committee assisted with evaluating proposals and awarding the Incentive Grants for this year. Eight proposals were received, and seven were selected to receive grants. A total of \$8,000.00 was awarded. Summary of the abstracts and award amounts were distributed to attendees at the March 18 meeting and electronically to members unable to attend or attending by phone.