Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners
New Jersey’s WICHE-facilitated Meeting

New Jersey Commission on Higher Education
Trenton, New Jersey
June 25, 2009

AGENDA

8.30 – 9.00 am
Registration
Room 219-220

9.00 – 9.15 am
Welcome
Room 219-220
Michelle Johnson, director, New Jersey State GEAR UP Project, New Jersey Commission on Higher Education

9.15 – 9.30 am
Overview of Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners
Room 219-220
The NTNM project seeks to improve access and success for adult learners in postsecondary education by specifically targeting ready adults. This session will review the project, discuss lessons learned in other states, and lay out project goals and objectives for the next two years.

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

9.30 – 10.00 am
A Vision for the Future: New Jersey DARC Projects
Room 219-220
NJCHE has selected four pilot projects for the Disengaged Adults Returning to College effort. Project leaders from each pilot will provide a brief overview of their work so far, expected challenges, and plans to use lessons learned to improve the environment for adult learners throughout the state.

Facilitator:
Marguerite Beardsley, acting executive director, New Jersey Commission on Higher Education

10.00 – 10.15 am
Break

Supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation for Education
10.15 am – 12.00 noon | Concurrent Working Group: Data  
Room 727

Facilitator:  
**James Purcell**, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

10.15 am – 12.00 noon | Concurrent Working Group: Financing/Financial Aid  
Room 735

Facilitator:  
**Dennis Jones**, president, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

10.15 am – 12.00 noon | Concurrent Working Group: Academic Affairs  
Room 218

Facilitators:  
**Demarée Michelau**, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  
**Russell Poulin**, associate director, WCET

10.15 am – 12.00 noon | Concurrent Working Group: Student Services  
Room 725A

Facilitator:  
**LeRoy Walser**, consultant, Choosing Excellence, LLC

10.15 am – 12.00 noon | Concurrent Working Group: Communications  
Various

The members of the communications working group will attend the sessions of the other working groups for the morning breakout sessions. This will allow them to develop a better understanding of the content to be communicated to the target population. Working group members should meet briefly in Room 219-220 at the beginning of this session in order to divide themselves among the other working groups.

12.00 – 1.00 pm | Lunch and Networking  
Room 219-220

1.00 – 1.45 pm | Concurrent Working Group: Data  
Room 727

Facilitator:  
**James Purcell**, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

1.00 – 1.45 pm | Concurrent Working Group: Financing/Financial Aid  
Room 735

Facilitator:  
**Dennis Jones**, president, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

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1.00 – 1.45 pm  
**Concurrent Working Group: Student Services**  
*Room 725A*

Facilitator:  
**LeRoy Walser**, consultant, Choosing Excellence, LLC

1.00 – 1.45 pm  
**Concurrent Working Group: Communications**  
*Room 219-220*

Facilitator:  
**Terry Abramson**, consultant

1.45 – 2.00 pm  
**Break**

2.00 – 2.45 pm  
**Bringing It All Back Together: A Discussion Among the Working Groups**  
*Room 219-220*

While the project is designed to address the five primary areas – academic affairs, communications, data, financing/financial aid, and student services – that affect ready adults and their return to college, it is also important to ensure that the working groups do not inadvertently settle into silos. This session is an opportunity for working group members to come together to discuss state and institutional barriers that limit opportunities for adult learners as well as possible solutions.

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

2:45 – 3:15 pm  
**Forging Ahead**  
*Room 219-220*

This facilitated session is designed to help participants plan a coordinated course of action for the remainder of the project, including establishing processes to use the adult learner-oriented pilot projects to shape state and institutional policies and practices.

Facilitators:  
**Demarée K. Michelau**, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  
**Betsy Garlatti**, director, finance and research, New Jersey Commission on Higher Education

3:15 – 3:30 pm  
**Closing Remarks**  
*Room 219-220*

**Michelle Johnson**, director, New Jersey State GEAR UP Project, New Jersey Commission on Higher Education

3:30 pm  
**Adjournment**