

Northern Illinois Regional Consultative Council

Friday, April 9, 2010

Hosted by Illinois Valley Community College

Location:

Starved Rock Lodge - LaSalle Room
Routes 178 & 71
Utica, Illinois 61373

Time:

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Agenda:

1) “Illinois Valley Rocks” – a short introduction to sites in the area for day trips/tours & brief presentation on the economic impact of tourism to local areas.

Kathy Casstevens presented information on the surrounding Illinois Valley area and specifically Starved Rock Park area. Day and overnight trips are available for your students to the area with Kathy and her staff assisting. Lots to do and see, depending on the focus of your trip and the demographics of your participants.

2) Hot Topics in CE – sharing, caring with our peers

Some areas discussed:

- CE for Healthcare
- CE for Nursing
- Computers – increasing especially classes for seniors, specialty areas such as Outlook & QuickBooks
- Bundling courses into certificates – ex: Office Technology
- Social Networking
- Bridge programs with Adult Education programs on campuses – ex: financial services specialist, activity director, etc.
- Transportation & logistics – college credit program

- Discussed 1.6
- Third Party Certificates of Insurance
- Evaluating third party vendor curriculum – get to know the instructors since they are local, ask them about validity, etc. Some vendors will made changes
- Steps for student to get into healthcare programs – i.e. health screenings, background checks, etc.
- Green – LEED training; Elgin passed out a large handout of various green related courses through their “Green” instructor. Heartland discussed their grants and to contact Julie Elzanati, their sustainable coordinator. Gatlin has green programs available for online options.
- Being asked to take on programs from credit areas that are not getting enough students

3) Pulse on FY2011 Budgets

- Several colleges present discussed losing key staff positions either through restructuring or cuts; some colleges have hiring freezes or hiring only P/T positions
- Generally enrollments were up or holding steady with a couple exceptions

4) Pricing

- Discussed whether CE has to follow credit pricing for 1.6 courses – most do not
- Some restructuring efforts have merged areas and pricing was different in each area – have to rethink
- Different colleges have different formulas, many were shared; some use parts of LERN but none really using that formal formula
- One suggestion was to lower rates while lowering the hours in class – students don't really notice and it is more attractive all the way around
- Boot camp – Friday nights and all day Saturdays are more & more popular form of programming

5) Trends in 50+ programming; lifelong learning programs

- Real Estate is popular here; downsizing courses; healthcare careers such as pharmacy tech, etc
- Programs offered right at retirement centers or communities; YMCA & park districts may be partners or may be competitors
- College policies regarding 55 or 60+ - some get it free, some get discounts on all programs including CE, - *some colleges have excluded 1.6 courses so they are not impacted.

6) Other Topics

- Phone registration policies & SS #;s
- General administrative system issues
- Nursing – Allegra?

7) Changes to real estate education programs

- Five schools stayed to discuss changes in real estate education programs required by the new law going into effect – May 1, 2011
- Discussed:
 - Real Estate Broker
 - Real Estate Managing Broker
 - Leasing Agent
- Courses:
 - 15 hour leasing agent license
 - 30 hour transition test or course for salesperson to broker
 - 45 hour transition course for broker to managing broker
 - 120 hour initial real estate broker course
 - 165 hour initial real estate managing broker course