Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Pilot Project Update – Fall 2014

The first round of Implementation Plan Updates were due on September 22, 2014. Of the eleven institutions who indicated they would participate in the CPL Pilot Project, nine completed the Fall 2014 Implementation Report. The remaining institutions have been contacted by phone and email to follow-up regarding their participation.

Types of CPL Offered at Pilot Institutions:

The following is a summary of the number of institutions offering various types of CPL:
Credit by Exam (CLEP, DANTES, etc.) - 7 institutions
Industry Certifications – 6 institutions
Institutional Challenge Exams and Other Exams – 8 institutions
Military Credit (ACE Credit Recommendation Service) – 8 institutions
Portfolios – 3 institutions
Professional Licensure – 5 institutions
Other forms – none

Cross Functional Teams:

While four of the institutions indicated that there cross-functional teams have not yet started meeting, all of the institutions indicated that they had identified those who would be participating. A review of the membership of the teams was conducted by staff and some of the institutions have been contacted to encourage participation from areas such as financial aid, advising, institutional research and student services. Two of the institutions identified veteran services in their team; inclusion of veteran services will also be recommended to all participating schools. Over half of the reporting institutions also included Career and Technical Education in their teams. Most institutions report that their teams will be meeting on a monthly basis, with one institution reporting that their team will be meeting weekly.

Adoption of Standards:

Public institutions reported that they are on various timelines in relation to the adoption of the Standards. Three of the institutions reported that they are looking at adoption by spring 2015, while others are looking towards later in 2015. Although Marylhurst University is unsure as to whether they will adopt the state Standards, they are an active participant in the Pilot Project.

Training Plans:

In addition to participation in the two training events identified in the CPL Proposal approved earlier this year, institutions are working to identify their individual training needs. Most institutions are in the preliminary processes of developing training plans, however a few are refining existing training plans to include CPL-related activities.

Data Tracking:

The first data tracking report is due on December 29, 2014. The report is still being refined as issues are identified by pilot institutions. Areas that will be reported include the number of students who were evaluated and the number of credits awarded by various types of CPL. Work continues on the demographic reporting area. And although the majority of the institutions are in the beginning stages of conversations in relation to data tracking, three report that they are on track to provide preliminary data in December.

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Institutional Self-Assessment

Institutions were asked to identify what stage they were in the CPL implementation process. The following is a recap of the information received:

Exploring (just getting started): 4
Launching (Establishing your team, strategic planning, etc.): 2
Beginning implementation (Trying out the plan, working out bugs, etc): 2
Full implementation & Sustaining (integration into institutional practices, monitoring & systems improvement): 1

Identified Promising Practices in Institutional "Buy-In":

In addition to the above information, institutions were encouraged to share information regarding promising practices at their institutions. The following is an overview of activities and events received:

- Holding "Town hall" meetings, participating in webinars and has even brought in an expert to facilitate a retreat with faculty and staff. In addition, the institution has opened these events up to CPL Pilot Project institutions.
- Exploring the development of a CPL pathway for its music program. In addition, the institution is working on developing articulation agreements with industry regarding CPL.
- Developing CPL "marketing materials"
- Presentation/Briefing for institutional Executive Team regarding CPL Pilot Project Deliverables.
- Developing an EPortfolio

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