

Statewide Collaboration to Serve Place-Bound Adult Learners

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Research Study:
Partnerships with Community
Colleges for Baccalaureate Degree
Completion in Illinois
August, 2008

- Illinois Board of Higher Education
- Illinois Community College Board

Current Landscape of Illinois

Types and Models of Programs

- Students - tend to be for adult learners age 25 and over
- Adult Learning principles provide the framework
- Variety of Deliveries – FTF, Online, Blended, Evening Weekend, Accelerated

Current Landscape of Illinois

Types and Models of Programs

- Majors - business, organizational leadership, criminal justice, social work, fire science management, industrial technology, education, RN/BSN, general studies. Online adds many more choices
- Expanded Transfer Credit – 80/40. Also, accept credit through prior learning through CLEP, proficiency testing, ACE, DAN TES, and portfolio assessment.

Current Landscape of Illinois

What makes up a Partnership?

- Community College
 - Facilities and resources
 - Promotion and publicity
 - Academic advising
 - Faculty adjunct pool
- Senior Institution
 - Curriculum and Instruction of program
 - Faculty
 - Train advisors
 - Paid local advertising
 - One case - provided computers for computer lab used by both institutions

Current Landscape of Illinois

What makes up a Partnership?

- Signed Institutional Agreement (with press release) – spells out expectations

Current Landscape of Illinois

What makes up a Partnership?

- Benefits

Increased enrollments for both institutions

Students complete their A.A./A.S. as identifiable progress toward their degree

Anything good for students is beneficial

Positive interchange and respect for each other

Shared resources of faculty, classrooms and others

Current Landscape of Illinois

What makes up a Partnership?

- Obstacles and Barriers

Lack of faculty support

Institutional arrogance

Shortage of space

Four Publics aren't hungry

Time commitment in developing program

Trust in partner's follow-through – image at stake for both

Current Landscape of Illinois

Recommendations from studies

- More programs that are accessible throughout the state
- Expand affordable program options in Applied Sciences, as well as Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Financial Incentives
- Policy to support funding

3 Models of Best Practice in Illinois

Program:

Online Bachelor of Arts in General Studies

Policy:

Preferred Provider Program - P-Cubed (proposed)

Collaboration:

Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education

One Possible Model: Western Illinois University's Board of Trustees Bachelor of Arts Degree



An online general studies degree serves the largest population



Continuing
Higher
Education

- Masters Degrees
- Ph.D.
- Medical & Legal

Community
Service

- Fire Fighters
- Law Enforcement
- Social Work

Business
and
Industry

- Manufacturing
- Management
- Supervision

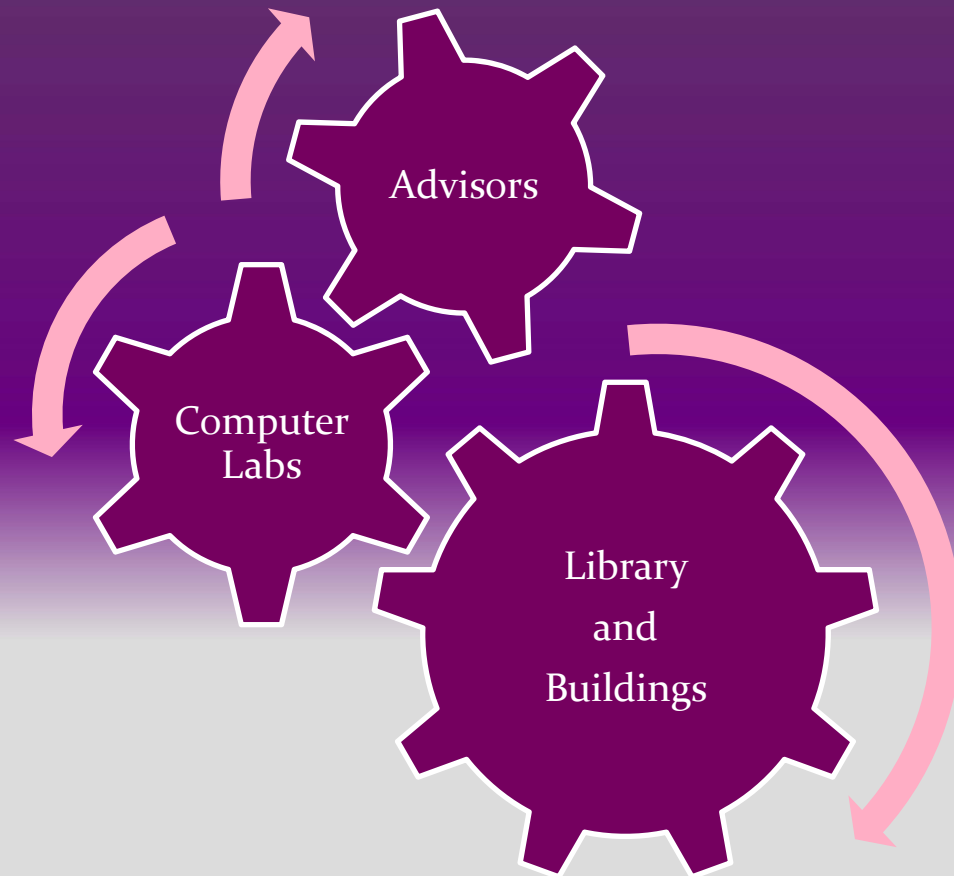
Working together to better serve Illinois citizens

Illinois
Community
Colleges



Western Illinois
University

Shared Resources and Facilities: Avoiding Duplication



Providing Incentives to Complete Community College Degrees

Associate's
Degree

Reduced
Tuition

Bachelor's
Degree

Possible Model for Policy Preferred Provider Program (P³)

A policy proposed by

Rick Pearce, Associate Director of Academic Affairs
Illinois Board of Higher Education
John Haller, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Southern Illinois University System

The Preferred Provider Program (P³)

Would provide infrastructure for Illinois public colleges and universities to bring baccalaureate completion programs to community college campuses.

The Preferred Provider Program (P³)

How would it work?

- Public universities = “Preferred Provider” of baccalaureate completion programs in the CC districts that comprise each university home region
- State funding made available for delivery of such programs by the university on the community college campus and in cooperation with the community college.
- Upon signed agreement between both institutions, the public university would qualify for program expansion grant.
- Community college would be able to count the credits offered in the program as baccalaureate transfer credits under ICCB funding structures.

The Preferred Provider Program (P³)

Steps toward implementation

- Drafting of policy. The current state budget situation may not allow for the immediate implementation of such programs. However, the drafting of policy relative to the P³ initiative should not provide a drain on the state's resources.
- Joint ICCB/IBHE Working Group. The first step would be to bring together a working group to identify specific needs and a clear funding mechanism. The working group could then draft a policy paper for review and adoption by the two boards.

The Preferred Provider Program (P³)

Cost/Benefit Analysis

- A working group would need to more specifically identify the relative costs of such a program.
- Research conducted in preparing the Public Agenda has made clear the imperative need to increase the number of quality baccalaureate degrees produced in this state.
- Changing demographics will make it impossible to meet Illinois workforce needs without reaching out to adult learners and other underserved groups.

Model of
Statewide
Collaboration

**Illinois Council on
Continuing
Higher Education**



“ Provides leadership for statewide planning and support for continuing higher education”

- 45 member institutions
- Two year and four year colleges and universities
- Public and private
- Statewide collaborative meetings and projects



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