

## **Council on Lifelong Learning Annual Report 2005-06**

The 2005-06 Council on Lifelong Learning identified several important threads in its founding year. The work of the Council was conducted through three general meetings, two focused meetings and other small discussions throughout the year. These threads include:

- Continue the development of the General Studies degree and support for adult learners as recommended in the 2004-05 Program Review;
- Develop the concept and pilot for an accelerated 12-week format program for degree completion in collaboration with academic programs in schools;
- Collaborate with the Council on Retention and Graduation to formalize Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) and promote its use for adult learners where appropriate;
- Identify initiatives for continuing education units (including institutes or centers with outreach components) at IUPUI to collaborate on increased program opportunities for lifelong learners and efficiency and effectiveness of delivery.

### **Summary of Council's Charge from Chancellor Bantz and Dean Plater**

The Council will advocate and champion policy issues and good practices that impact adult learners at IUPUI focusing on four primary areas of responsibility:

- (1) Provide academic oversight of the General Studies undergraduate degree program;
- (2) Advise on the development of accelerated programs, weekend college, online learning, prior learning assessment and related support services to retain and graduate adult learners;
- (3) Promote continuing education and professional development (non-credit) opportunities available through the Community Learning Network and enhancing collaboration between all IUPUI continuing education units; and
- (4) Coordinate with the Councils on Enrollment Management, Retention & Graduation, and Civic Engagement in the recruitment and retention of adult students.

### **Accomplishments in 2005-06**

- General Studies Faculty Advisory Committee met within this revised format as part of the Council for Lifelong Learning to address Program Review recommendations and program policy issues.
- Initiated discussions educating Council members about Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) in preparation for collaborating with the Council on Retention and Graduation in 2006-07.
- Supported the proposed accelerated degree program managed by CLN for a 2007 launch. Three business courses in the 12-week format were piloted in spring 2006 and produced positive support from faculty and students. Information has been gathered and discussed with deans, chairs and academic units about impacts on scheduling, enrollment services, and operations. In spring 2007 with the support of Kelley School of Business, the first certificate option in the accelerated format will be launched.

- Promotion of lifelong learning with a two page color spread featuring Chancellor Bantz with a statement on lifelong learning and listing of 20 selected continuing education programs with URLs in the March “SignUp” catalog published by the Continuing Studies Department in the Community Learning Network (CLN).

### **Summary of Primary Meetings**

Four primary meetings were held during the 2005-06 fiscal year:

- 1) October 14, 2005 - The inaugural meeting of the Council was attended by 21 members (14 unable to attend). This meeting included a brief inquiry to define the many dimensions of lifelong learning, a review of the Charge from Chancellor Bantz and Dean Plater, and a discussion of resources available to further the Council’s work.

Members were asked to indicate preference of work assignments for work group meetings in the areas of General Studies Advisory, Accelerated Weekend & Evening College, and Continuing Education & Professional Development opportunities. The final 40 minutes were devoted to discussions within these three work groups.

- 2) December 8, 2005 – This focused meeting of the Council included invited representatives of continuing education units and programs. The agenda broadly addressed the topic of continuing education collaboration at IUPUI. This meeting, attended by 14 people (14 unable to attend), included a review of the programs represented and identified ways to collaborate in promoting continuing education as part of the overall marketing and promotion of the campus in the traditional media and on the web. Other program ideas and possible collaborations were also discussed.
- 3) January 18, 2006 – The first item of business at this Council meeting was discussion of the Council’s charge with specials guests Dean Plater and Prof. Bart Ng, President of IFC. This meeting was attended by 22 members (13 unable to attend). The discussion at this meeting also included articulations with Ivy Tech where appropriate, update on the plans for the accelerated program pilot, and a concept paper on PLA. The final 30 minutes were devoted to discussions within the three work groups.
- 4) April 6, 2006 – The agenda for this meeting included discussion of P-16 Education and interactions with lifelong learning at IUPUI and the Ivy Tech plans. The final 40 minutes were devoted to discussions within these three work groups. This meeting was attended by 18 members (17 unable to attend).

Full minutes of these meetings available from Linda Stein, CLN.

Respectfully submitted by Henry S. Merrill  
Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Lifelong Learning