TAACCCT Grant News

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As the TAACCCT Grant Project Manager for Round IV at Jefferson College, I have the privilege of being part of an amazing team of individuals who have brought into reality innovative ideas for student success. From the research in writing the grant, pulling Open Educational Resources (OER) into play, creating, modifying academic and support content, negotiating agreements, aligning curriculum to the needs of our economy via great Business & Industry Partners – one goal is to maintain great communication and updates to you. This quarterly newsletter will serve to be one of our vehicles of communication.

The MOSTEMWINs (MSW) TAACCCT Grant at Jefferson College is taking off with the Fall 2015 semester. MSW will target those seeking new industry recognized skill sets, especially those who have lost jobs due to closure of employer via foreign trade, or other economic reasons.

Over the past many months, the grant team has made great strides in getting program components created and in place. The core programs by which the grant staff will make an impact include the Electronics Technology Certificate (ETC), the Health Professions Tutoring and Resource Lab (HPTRL), and Personal Resource and Education Plan (PREP), our innovative online vehicle which pulls student data from the college's current repositories into one location. PREP is highly effective in that it works with grant Navigators (Advisors) assigned to provide holistic, intentional advising to students to ensure that challenges do not become barriers to their success. The Intentional Advising Model that was used in Round I of the TAACCCT Grants is a proven success intended to give students the one-on-one support and guidance that many of them need.

As this round of the grant unfolds, expect to hear more about the strategies the team will utilize to bring about success in our Mission:

> "To strengthen the Jefferson County workforce and community by creating accelerated pathways into high demand careers and implementing transformative student support services to increase student persistence and completion."

Thanks, Laura Klaus

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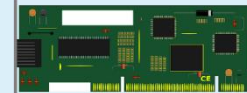TAACCCT Grant Project Assistant
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ETC Program Set to Start in January

Hello from the Electronics Technology Portion of the TAACCCT Grant. My name is Melissa Schall Willmore and I am the Navigator for students enrolled in the Electronics Technology Certificate Program. The program is a two-semester program that prepares students for jobs like Industrial Technicians and Electricians, Service and Maintenance Technicians and Industrial Robotic Technicians. The program is 30 credits and aligns with the first year of the Associates Degree in Applied Science, Electronics Technology.

Students in this program will work with the Navigator for advising and any help they may need to be successful in school whether that means tutoring, personal or career assistance. The TAACCCT Grant staff at Jefferson College recognize that any barriers that students face may interfere with their success in college and that is why there is a strong focus on holistic advising in our program.

Our Program is scheduled to start in January 2016 and we are happy to say that we already have students signed up!

Open Education Resources (OER)

"OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge."

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

The last few years have seen a shift in thinking when it comes to curriculum created using federal funds. In the past, a school received money for a project and anything that the school created with those funds became the property of the school. The federal government has recently mandated that any materials or curriculum created with federal funds should be made freely available so that others may benefit from the grant funded material. This is a win-win situation. Not only can schools peruse repositories of information to supplement their own teaching but if a school or individual is creating amazing material with grant funds, the institution and individual profiles will be raised. So, next time you see that Creative Commons License on a document, you will know it was created with federal funds.

HPTRL
Health Professions Tutoring & Resource Lab

My name is Brenna Young and I am the Health Professions (HP) Navigator here at Jefferson College. I advise students seeking admission into our Physical Therapist Assistant and Occupational Therapy Assistant Programs. Through the grant I have access to PREP, which stands for Personal Resource and Education Plan. This software system helps students create a customized degree plan that assists with mapping out progress towards graduation. In addition, it provides students with campus and community resources. My role as the HP Navigator is also to connect students with our Health Professions Tutoring and Resource Lab (HPTRL).

The Health Professions Tutoring and Resource Lab (HPTRL) has been designed to help students succeed academically in PTA100 and PTA105-Anatomy and Physiology. Richard Stephenson, our HPTRL Coordinator has done a fantastic job getting students engaged in the lab. He creates fun and exciting hands on activities that enhance student learning. His activities even align with current lecture materials. Feedback from the students is very positive.

Not only does the lab provide hands on activities, it also provides practice quizzes and test preparation, along with gamification and frequent assessment of learning. There is an Anatomage Table in the lab that gives a virtual look into the human anatomy. Richard meets with students one and one, as well as holds at least two group tutoring sessions a week. He also assists students with gaining industry recognized credentials such as BLS, Blood-borne Pathogen and HIPAA. This lab is an amazing resource that will help individuals participating become more prepared not only for their next A&P test, but also by giving support needed to continue to a successful educational career at Jefferson College.

Resources for identifying the right career path:

◎ Jeffco.edu/myjeffco — Choices Planner is provided free to all Jefferson College students. Choices Planner is a valuable tool for making informed decisions about career and educational planning. Login to your MyJeffco account, go to the student tab, go to Choices Planner, and follow instructions to create an individual student portfolio.

◎ Mynextmove.org — explore careers, search for careers by industry, & take a career interest assessment.

◎ Keirsey.com/temperament sorts — answer questions to determine your personality & what occupation/industries are a good match for your personality.

◎ Career.missouri.edu/career-interest-game — this is a game designed to help you match your interests and skills with similar careers. It can help you begin thinking about how your personality will fit in with specific work environments and careers.

◎ Careeronestop.org — learn about different careers, find career information, locate career resources and educational opportunities.

◎ mocis.intocareers.org — determine your skills and interests, explore careers, create an education plan, search for colleges and training options, and find a job.

◎ Onetcenter.org — career exploration tools, skills search, testing and assessments, resume building, and career ladders.

◎ Jobs.mo.gov — plan your career, training and education, prepare for a job, and find a job center.