



Upcoming Events

Visit mccwdta.groupsites.com for additional details and to register for a Transformation Agenda event.

OER Repository Next Steps Webinar

April 1, 2014

3:00PM - 4:00PM

For more information and to register, please click [HERE](#).

Preview Webinar for "Using Real-Time LMI in Decision-Making across the College"

April 17, 2014

11:00AM - 12:00PM

For more information and to register, please click [HERE](#).

Using Real Time LMI in Decision-Making across the College: A Workshop for Administrators and Research & Career Staff

April 29, 2014

8:30AM - 3:30PM

Mount Wachusett Community College

444 Green Street
Gardner, MA

For more information and to register, please click [HERE](#).

In the News

[New Greenfield Community College training program targets unemployed, underemployed.](#)

Daily Hampshire Gazette. March 2014.

[State looking to 'scale up' manufacturing industry.](#)

iBerkshires.com. March 7, 2014.
Click [HERE](#) to read!

[Training a new generation of skilled workers key to future of state's manufacturing sector.](#) The Berkshire Eagle. March 7, 2014. Click [HERE](#) to read!

March eNewsletter

Campus Corner: Middlesex Community College's Health & STEM Career Pathways Center



Since its grand opening in March 2013, Middlesex Community College's Health & STEM Pathways Center has focused on generating academic achievement and successful career outcomes. Funded by the Transformation Agenda, the Pathways Center is located at MCC's Lowell campus, open daily to students for appointments and walk-ins.

The Pathways Center's support services include: tutoring, supplemental instruction, academic and career advising, study groups, peer mentoring, group coaching, test simulation software, career-related field trips, industry-specific workshops, networking events and job search skills. This coming summer, the Pathways Center will also house and manage "STEM Starter Academy" and "Summer Bridge" programs. These programs are designed to increase student awareness, access and readiness for STEM programs of study and careers.

According to student Bhavika Sachin Patel, the Bridge Program "confirmed what program I should be in. I only intended to study for one year and then go get a job, but the support that I got from the people at the center has made me want to study further and get my associate's [degree]."

Event Spotlight: Webinar on OER Repository Next Steps

For the complete list of Transformation Agenda certificate & degree programs, click [HERE](#).

Contact Us

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[Transformation Agenda
Groupsite](#)



April 1, 2014
3:00PM - 4:00PM

The Transformation Agenda and Education Development Center (EDC) are beginning to develop the OER repository for products developed through this initiative. We invite you to a webinar to share next steps, explain details and answer questions as you gather and organize your materials for the repository.

This webinar is for Transformation Agenda Project Managers, OER Leads at each campus, and all content developers and college representatives interested.

Click [HERE](#) to reserve your spot and register online today.

JFF Events Highlight Benefits of Real-Time Labor Market Information (RT LMI) for Community College Mission, Initiatives and Goals



JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

Preview Webinar for "Using Real-Time LMI in Decision-Making across the College"
Thursday, April 17, 2014
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

This webinar will preview Jobs for the Future's upcoming Help Wanted Online® training for Transformation Agenda colleges. In a 30-minute web event, JFF will provide an overview of five major areas where real-time labor market information (RT LMI) can be used at your institution, and help you identify appropriate staff from your campus to attend an all-day training scheduled later in the month. Please click [HERE](#) to register.

JFF's Using Real-Time LMI in Decision-Making across the College: A Workshop for Administrators and Research & Career Staff
Tuesday, April 29, 2014
8:30AM - 3:30PM
Mt. Wachusett Community College, Gardner Campus
444 Green Street, Gardner MA

Facilitated by Jobs for the Future staff, this all-day, in-depth training will focus on the value of real-time labor market information (RT LMI) and explore ways to leverage this data to impact college services.

For over two years, JFF has helped to launch and integrate this tool at community colleges. Their in-depth, hands-on training session will help make the most of this powerful data by:

- Helping define your college's priority areas for using LMI
- Demonstrating how to balance real time LMI with traditional LMI
- Training college teams in analyzing and managing data
- Exhibiting best practices (such as successful implementation, goal-setting and evaluation models) with a panel of community college officials

- Highlighting multiple uses of the tool, including: program evaluation, curriculum design and evaluation, employer engagement, career planning and job placement services for students, and institutional strategic planning and decision-making

Please join us for this valuable training. Space is limited and registration is required. Reserve your space online today by clicking [HERE](#).

Biotech and Life Sciences Team Hosts Two Successful Industry Forums



Two Industry Forums this February brought together representatives from Massachusetts life science companies, community colleges and staffing agencies to review data regarding entry level employment opportunities in local life science companies. These collegial conversations also helped build and enhance relationships between these different groups, strengthen awareness of the community college programs and address any gaps between student preparedness and job requirements, and covered steps community colleges and industry can take moving forward. To review the report prepared for the events by the Mass BioEd Foundation, click [HERE](#).

To review discussion highlights and next steps, view the minutes [HERE](#) on the Transformation Agenda groupsite.

New Contextualized Modules Released

Twelve new contextualized, digital curriculum modules have been added to those already produced as part of the Transformation Agenda. These modules, focused on health care and advanced manufacturing were written by EDC staff based on the generous input from campus faculty, industry representatives and other stakeholders who attended curriculum development workshops last fall. Six of the modules are aligned to key Common Core State Standards in math, with the remaining six aligned to CCSS in Literacy. Each module includes relevant standards, an industry overview, a workplace scenario, instructional context and tips for faculty, and contextualized learning activities, test items and projects. Many of the modules also feature extension activities, multimedia and additional related resources.

The twelve new modules have been added to the MCCWDTA Contextualized Curriculum website (<http://mccwdta.etlo.org/>) with the 24 modules that were produced earlier in the grant. They are available as open education resources for use in community college and adult basic education classrooms across the state.

MA Community College Teachers Benefit from EdTech Leaders Online Blended Learning Course

Twelve educators from several community colleges in Massachusetts recently completed an eight-week online course facilitated for the Transformation Agenda by EdTech Leaders Online to learn how to improve instruction and student engagement by implementing blended learning into their teaching. The participants completed online readings, participated in web-based and multimedia activities, and facilitated online discussions to learn effective strategies for teaching blended courses.

Several participants who completed the course said that it exceeded their expectations and described how they valued the collaboration among peers as well as the exposure to many new web-based tools and resources. Many wished for more time to be able to learn and share with their online colleagues. As one participant said,

"It was a great resource and wealth of knowledge and I am very grateful to have participated. I shared my experience with several of my colleagues and networks. This course helped me to resolve a staff and student connectivity problem. I now can reach, teach, share and update my students enrolled in my online class. It's great."

The Transformation Agenda Groupsite Hits 500 Members!



Thank you to everyone for making mccwdta.grouspite.com the go-to place for all things Transformation Agenda!

If you're still one of the few who have yet to join, please click [HERE](#) and select "Join This Group Now!"

See you online!

Your Story Here!

Great programs, innovations and transformations are rolling out all over the state. This newsletter will spotlight best practices being implemented by you, your college, or colleagues. Email dbathmann@qcc.mass.edu your Transformation Agenda stories for inclusion in future issues.

This workforce solution is 100% funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, TAACCCT grant agreement # TC-22505-11-60-A-25. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. Massachusetts Community Colleges are equal opportunity employers. Adaptive equipment available upon request for persons with disabilities.