



1,000 and Counting!

The I-AM Consortium celebrated a milestone this month of 1,000 unique participants! We look forward to celebrating the successes of these students as they continue on career pathways in our I-AM Signature Programs!



I-AM and the American Welding Society

Staff, Faculty and Administrators from across the state will meet with representatives from the American Welding Society alongside the Iowa Department of Education to discuss the importance of industry credentials, accreditation and best



Credit for Prior Learning



Iowa's colleges understand that many students coming into our programs bring valuable work experience with them. Advisors and staff will participate in trainings put on by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning this month to learn tools for assessing experience and awarding credit for program related skills and knowledge.

I-AM Consortium Staff Members

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Strengthening Industry Partnerships

Ellison Technologies, located in Council Bluffs, and **Iowa Western Community College (IWCC)** have teamed to create a program where IWCC students actively learn and work on site at Ellison. Not only does this provide a trained workforce for Ellison and other advanced manufacturers, the jobs that are created by these highly-technical needs offer an average starting salary around \$50,000 per year.

Working with Workforce – Emily Willett (NIACC)

“Through this partnership we developed new avenues to partner and promote NIACC offerings and collaborated on the development of a Skilled Iowa NCRC testing event and career fair, highlighting local manufacturers. This was done by bringing local chamber and economic development professionals to the table for support. This event brought in over 70 community members, 18 of which took the NCRC and a number learned about NIACC program offerings and manufacturing opportunities in our region.”

Grant Gratitude

- **Henry Lemke**, Industrial Maintenance Technology instructor (SWiCC) has developed the curriculum for the new program.
- **Cesar Ramirez** (Hawkeye) is able to identify key barriers for students, while working collaboratively with key college staff.
- **Terry Schumaker**, Dean of Continuing Education and Economic Development (NIACC) has played an active role with guidance, direction, vision and commitment to this initiative and the Credit for Prior Learning committee.
- **Dan Martin**, Director of the Blong Technology Center, (Eastern Iowa) provided guidance during curriculum revision efforts and equipment procurement phases of the program.
- **Nathan Miller**, Career Coach (Indian Hills), works very well with students and faculty, always willing and glad to go the extra mile when it comes to assisting a student.
- **Ben Foley** (Kirkwood) conceived the structure/content of the Automation and Instrumentation Technologies program and has been the driving contributor to this program.
- **Randy Schofield** (NICC) is bridging the gap between credit and non-credit training, developing new programs and modularization to make courses more accessible for our students to train and to meet local workforce needs.

Kris Armstrong (Kirkwood) made sure that all of the ‘behind scenes’ elements were accomplished that keep us in compliance with the grant and supports the Kirkwood team to ensure resources are being utilized and leveraged.

Kris’ tragically passed away early in January; she will be greatly missed by her Kirkwood colleagues, friends, and admirers.

I-AM Quarterly Newsletter

January 2014

Year 2, Issue 1

“Elevate” Campaign Analytics

Elevate Iowa Website Stats:

- 6,192 Visits
- 4,704 Unique Visitors
- 15,801 Page Views
- 126 Visits - October 2

Most Popular Pages:

- News & Events
- Iowa Manufacturing
- Self-Assessment Guide
- Training & Career Pathways
- Career Pathways
- Testimonials

Top Referrals:

- Facebook/Google Ads
- ABI
- NIACC
- Kirkwood
- Business Record

Most Visited Career Pathways:

- CNC
- Welding
- Industrial Maintenance



Social Media

- 209 Facebook Likes
- 52 Twitter Followers

Facebook Fan: Age

- 35% - Ages 25-24
- 29% - Ages 45-54
- 8% - Ages 18-25
- 4% - Ages 55-65
- 2.5% - Ages 65+

Facebook Fan: Gender

- 55% Male
- 44% Female



Request for Student Spotlight

In upcoming outreach efforts we would like to feature students who are currently enrolled in a signature program. We ask that you please seek written permission from the student and, where possible, provide the following information:

- Name
- Hometown
- Program of study
- Are they a minority? U.S. Veteran? TAA? Woman?
- Do they have an interesting story about why they sought training?
- What do they plan to do after program completion?

We would also appreciate an approved photo of them in class, in a lab, at work, or with something they created. Please send these to Susan Metheny (semetheny@dmacc.edu).

A Message from the Director

As we start 2014, I want to extend my sincere thanks to all of our I-AM partners for their dedication to and advocacy for this initiative. We started off with a bang in 2013, launching a successful outreach campaign with Elevate, learning from and sharing with one another through our committees, hiring talented, energetic and purposeful staff across the consortium and making plans for meeting our grant deliverables.

In 2014 we will see many more of those plans become a reality with the launch of ATFs around the state, new models for intensive advising, changes to credit for prior learning practices and policies, curriculum alignment and so much more. The experience, excitement and talent of our I-AM team and their dedication to collaboration is what makes this initiative so special and I can't wait to see your great accomplishments as we move forward!

Best,

Stephanie Ferraro



Save the Date!

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

I-AM Lead & Chairs Quarterly Meetings

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

I-AM Lead & Chairs Quarterly Meetings

Tuesday, August 19, 2014

I-AM Lead & Chairs Quarterly Meetings