



Credit for Prior Learning

The second Portfolio workshop was held on June 30th. Discussion included strengths and opportunities for improvement for each school and as a consortium.

After multiple exercises and discussions, each school determined and areas of focus. Participants will be developing Actions Plans as follow-up assignments and are asked to share those with Kim Carter by Friday, July 25th.

Donna Younger, CAEL facilitator will conduct follow-up phone calls with each school to assist with moving forward before September 1st.

There will be 2 consecutive workshops, tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 8th and Monday, September 29th from 10:00 am- 3:00pm. (Location TBD.) Consortium schools will be asked to share their best practices with other consortium schools during the first session.

Suggested topics to be discussed:

- o Crosswalks
- o Military
- o Challenge exams
- o Portfolio policies
- o Third Party Certifications
- o Fee structures
- o Transcribing PLA
- o Financial Aid

Questions? Contact Kim Carter - kcarter@iwcc.edu

I-AM Consortium Staff Members

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Industry Partnerships

A successful history of collaboration between Bodine Electric Company and **Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC)** that is developing new workforce training opportunities for local employees received national honors and recognition by the American College Test (ACT) College and Career Readiness Awards program.

Bodine was selected for the 2014 National Workplace Success Award for the company's commitment to building the workforce of northeast Iowa and by partnering with NICC to create curriculum and training programs.

AWS Facilities & Certifications

Kirkwood Community College is the first community college in Iowa to become an American Welding Society Accredited Test Facility for certifying welders. Kirkwood became an Accredited Test Facility (ATF) in March of 2014 after a yearlong process of procuring equipment, writing a Quality Plan and developing associated documentation that concluded with a two-day audit.

Indian Hills Community College and **Iowa Valley Community College** submitted the AWS Quality Assurance Manual, Safety Audit checklist and completed ATF site audits in May 2014. Both colleges are currently awaiting results.



Iowa Lakes Community College welding instructor, Emily Gottsche, has earned the American Welding Society (AWS) status of Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) and Certified Welding Educator (CWE), making her part of an elite group of welders.

Changes to Grant Staff

Congratulations to Renee Anderson-Bartz who has assumed the position of Project Coordinator for **North Iowa Area Community College!**

Thank you to **Jeff Wheeler** who served as I-AM Project Assistant since early 2013. We are in the process of finding a new candidate for this position.

A Message from the Director

It has been a very busy and exciting summer around the consortium! This quarter we celebrated many graduations and program completions across the state with the end of the spring term. We are excited to see great things to come from our participants! As this newsletter showcases, hard work by college teams is paying off! As we celebrate these milestones, we continue to look towards the future and the continued impact of I-AM across the state. One of the most visible and exciting of these efforts is a collaborative effort of all 15 colleges to align welding curriculum to industry standards, convening instructors and staff from across the state to develop an AWS SENSE aligned Welding Core Curriculum for Iowa. This is truly innovative and groundbreaking work being done among the colleges!

As we close out the books on Year 2 of the I-AM initiative in September, we will have many more stories of success to celebrate. Please stay tuned for more to come!

Best,



Elevate Iowa Website Stats:

- 11,994 Visits
- 8,882 Unique Visitors
- 30,441 Page Views



Most Popular Pages:

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

Social Media

- 335 Facebook Likes
- 106 Twitter Followers

Facebook Fan: Age

- 32% - Ages 25-34
- 31% - Ages 35-44
- 17% - Ages 45-54
- 11% - Ages 18-25
- 7% - Ages 55+

Behavior:

- New Visitors: 74%
- Returning Visitors: 26%

Most Engaged Insights:

- City: Cedar Rapids
- Age: 25-44 years

Traffic:

- Direct (45%)
- Referrals (35%)
- Organic Search (20%)

Student Spotlight: Derek Ahlers from Remsen, IA

Following a short career with the Army National Guard and working with the railroad, Derek enrolled in the WIT Welding Program to learn a new skill set that would benefit him for the remainder of his life. With the long-term intention of taking over the family farm, he thought that welding would allow him to repair many of the machinery issues and provide an opportunity to have a role other than farming the land.



Like many students, Derek faced some challenges when enrolled in classes. He drove 90 miles every day to/from class in Sioux City and had to learn to balance his time with the Fall/Spring Harvest seasons.

When he completes his schooling, he would like to continue his work on the farm, a career in welding, and, later, enroll in an Associate's Degree program. After paying off his student loans, he hopes to spend time restoring muscle cars.

Quick Guide to DOL Requirements

Are you still wondering what you need to include on your deliverables and marketing materials produced using grant funds?

Use this quick guide to get you started, refer to the Guidelines for Marketing Teams, and feel free to check with Stephanie and Susan for more details.

- Elevate Logo
- Elevate Website
- DOL Statements
- Creative Commons Logos (CC, BY)
 - [Specific Marketing Content Details](#)
- Notations/Credit for Copyrighted content
- Creative Commons License Statement (including exception where copyrighted materials are included)

Save the Dates!

August 7: Statewide Welding Curriculum Meeting (Des Moines)

August 8: DOL/Creative Commons Webinar for Marketing

August 14: QNPR Due for 3rd Quarter

August 19: I-AM Leads & Chairs Meeting (Des Moines)

August 25: Scheduled Visit from DOL (Locations: TBD)

Sept. 8: Consortium Colleges PLA Best Practices (TBD)

Sept. 25/26: Statewide Welding Curriculum (Des Moines)

Sept. 29: Consortium Colleges PLA Best Practices (TBD)