**Minutes**

**ADHE Master Plan - College Readiness Work Group**

**November 23, 2015**

Working Group Members: Barbara Jones, Chair, Steve Adkison, HSU, Gina Hogue, ASU, Mary Brentley, UAPB, Chris Smith, Philander, MaryAnn Shope, PTC (absent), Diana Arn, UACCM, Robert Gunnels, SAUT, Suma Toro, UALR, Susan Harriman, ADE and Ann Clemmer, ADHE.

Minutes taken by Angela Lasiter, ADHE

After introductions, the working group discussed the definition of college readiness and barriers/obstacles:

* Cognitive and non-cognitive factors; external resources;
* Schools are looking at the Grit Concept;
* Academic factors and emotional factors; students are different than 15 years ago; they bring baggage; expect immediate rewards and are not equipped to handle setbacks; “Is College Ready for the Students?”
* ACT needs to be part of the discussion but not the only piece; we can’t be too narrow; should look at different measures – such as high school GPA and non-cognitive measures;
* Students who are engaged are more likely to stay on and continue their education;
* Be mindful of the different student demographics and be aware of the “one size fits all” approach;
* Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) is of great help to the non-traditional student – for qualified students, CPI provides daycare vouchers, gas vouchers, textbooks, etc.;
* K16! Remove the barrier between K12 and college;
* There is a middle group in K12 that probably are not doing concurrent; the middle group needs our help; they are most likely 1st generation college students and while some start college, they often drop out when faced with obstacles;
* Gap between degree attainment and career readiness;
* Communication is so critical to make this a success;
* Michael Porter’s “Traded Clusters”; if we collectively focused on a few degree areas, we could have more success and impact. This drives higher graduation rates, higher wages, etc.
* “Minority Male” – mentoring, leadership skills, federally funded, starts freshman year, 4 tiered/prong effect;
* Donaldson School – funded by desegregation resources; involve students starting in 9th grade;
* Summer Bridge Program – helping students with remedial classes to test out of remedial; also involves counseling.
* Prep Academics – funded by ACT Aspire Program (weekend program, starts in the 9th grade)
* Upward Bound – provides a cohort of HS students with after school tutoring, mentoring, college visits, financial literacy, etc.
* Gear Up Kentucky – starts in middle school – 6 year cohort – class on student success skills, financial literacy, etc.
* Financial Literacy – Dave Ramsey has developed a program/book for students and parents to help plan, financially, for college;
* Eastern Promise – was done at a previous out of state college and incentivized the faculty;

Goals

* Cognitive/Academic; non cognitive or motivational;
* External factors (money, time, cultural, first time in the family)
* Counseling recruitment needs to be done in state

**Homework:** send College Readiness best practices information to Angela Lasiter.

Next Meeting: December 16th from 2pm to 5pm. Angela has reserved an ADHE conference room.

See handouts.