

## **NACRAO** Newsletter

NACRAO Conference is approaching!

Start adding the dates to your calendars and making plans as the annual conference will be happening July 12 & 13 in Omaha, NE. We are exited and are looking forward to seeing all of you there!!!

## **Presidents' Corner**



Hello NACRAO family,

An opportunity to serve community has presented itself, and I have taken it. I have accepted the position as Executive Director for the Heartland Workers Center, this is a statewide non-profit that empowers communities that have been historically marginalized. For curious minds, more info here https://www.heartlandworkerscenter.org/about-us...

Read More

### **Diversity and Inclusion Committee April Challenge!**



**April Challenge**: Connect with three resources (articles, journals, webinars, etc.) to enhance your professional development and knowledge of the adult learner population and best practices.

Sample Resources:

Research & Literature Databases

- · AACRAO à Search: Adult Learner
- EAB Research and Insights à Topic: Adult Learner
- EAB à Adult Degree Completer Resource Center
- · Inside Higher Ed à Topic: Adult Education
- · Ruffalo Noel Levitz
- · Chronicle of Higher Education
- Encoura

#### Articles

- A 'Smooth Return to College'
- A New Playbook for Serving Adult Learners
- How Colleges are Thinking Differently to Serve Adult Students
- 3 ways to stop losing adult degree completers
- · Adult learner recruitment 101
- Colleges are Trying to Re-enroll Adult Learners Who Dropped Out. Here's How It's Going.
- To increase adult learner enrollments, be sure to solve the right problems

#### Webinars

- Top Tips for Meeting the Needs of Adult Learners
- · Balancing Life Work and School: New Data from the 2019 Adult Prospect Survey
- Top 5 Ways to Effectively Recruit Adult, Online, and Graduate Students

#### Reflection:

- 1) How can you implement best practices in serving adult learners in your work?
- 2) What opportunities might you have to advocate for adult learner needs on your campus?

## **EPPs Are Coming...**



Left to right: Bailey Michaels, Southeast CC; Ash Wimes, Bryan Health; and Joni Cassidy, Northeast CC, work on scheduling the fall 2022 Nebraska college fairs with the rest of NACRAO's EPP Committee at LeadBelly restaurant in Lincoln's Haymarket on Feb 7. Significant progress was made at the meeting despite a quick change in venue and a rather precarious stacking of technology (far right) so Zoom participants could join. Expect more information about EPPs coming soon with confirmed dates and locations. All of that information will be added on the NACRAO Website.

NACRAO Website

## NACRAO Annual Conference



# **Member Highlight**

### **Meet Erin Lesiak**



#### Hello!

I am Erin Lesiak, your NACRAO Board Treasurer, and I am here to tell you—YOU can do it. Whatever 'it' is! When I was a 2nd grader, I wanted to be Kristi Yamaguchi (she is an Olympic gold medalist in figure skating, for those of you that have never been introduced to her magnificence). Had I ever ice skated before? No! Did we live near a skating rink? No! Did I still pretend to do double toe loops in the living room? Yes! The point is, at some juncture along the way, a lot of us got it in our heads that "we couldn't." I don't have time. I won't be good at it. I don't know how to do it, so I'm not going to try...and on and on. What happened to the 8-yearold us that believed we could do anything, even fly through the air doing a triple salchow with never having been on the ice? I am encouraging you to summon your 2nd grade self, albeit hopefully a little more mature version, and do something that you've been thinking about. Apply for the job you think is too good to be true, present at the next conference, put yourself out there to make a new friend, or throw your name in to be a member of the NACRAO Board. Life is a lot more fun if you participate in it and embrace the positives.

I became active in NACRAO when someone encouraged me. I was a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the Columbus conference, then had a turn to chair the committee last year. My favorite memory from a NACRAO Conference was in Norfolk, when Curt Tomasevicz spoke to our group. He won an Olympic gold medal bobsledding in 2010 and let me hold it. What can I say? I love the Olympics! Maybe I will take some ice skating lessons yet...

