Ongoing and Upcoming

See the attached pages for more details on academic initiatives

The Academic Professional Development Committee has attempted to collect all of the initiatives currently underway that seek to improve teaching and learning for our students. (Like the faculty, we feel overwhelmed at the directions we seem to be moving all at once.)

The attached sheets represent our first attempt at collecting and summarizing these efforts. You will notice that with the MWCC students are at the center of all that we do. If we have forgotten activities that are underway, please bring them to our attention.

Is Your Backboard Course Too Big!?!?!

We recently received a report card from Blackboard showing that we are using several times the disk storage space that we are allotted. According to the report card, we have almost 70 courses that are in excess of 1 GB in size. Gary Ackerman will be contacting faculty to clean up the courses while making sure you and your students have access to the resources you need.

Upcoming Conferences

9th Annual NEEAN DIALOGUES in Learning and Assessment
NEEAN DIALOGUES Friday March 22, 8:30AM-3:00PM at UMass Amherst

Community Colleges: Preparing Socially Responsible Learners & Leaders
Friday, April 5 Middlesex Community College Lowell, MA

3rd AMCOA State Assessment Conference
Wednesday, April 24

Civic Engagement Conference
Wednesday May 29 & Thu May 30 at MWCC

My College Freshman is Your High School Senior
Friday May 31 at MWCC
Initiatives in Academic Affairs

Curriculum & Instruction
- Aspire Project (Title III)
- ePortfolios
- Assessment of Prior Learning
  - TAACCCT
  - MindSpring
- Blackboard/Quality Matters

Student Services
- Service Learning
- Civic Engagement Conference
- Bridging Cultures
- Redesign of Program Advising

Enabling Systems*
- Quality Collaborative
- MA LEAP Project Pilot
- Blackboard

* systems that help faculty accomplish their mission

AA/EOE Institution
If you have a disability and may require accommodations to participate fully in the program, please contact the program director to discuss your specific needs. In some cases, a two week notice may be necessary.
## MWCC Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Focus</th>
<th>Project Activities/Ways to Participate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The ASPIRE Project (Title III)</td>
<td>curriculum redesign, program redesign</td>
<td>faculty trainings, team meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Visions Project (PIF Grant)</td>
<td>Civic Engagement Conference, Prior Learning Assessment, ePortfolios/Digication</td>
<td>summer conference trainings, implementation of ePortfolios</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAC&amp;U Quality Collaborative (with Fitchburg State University)</td>
<td>assess written communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy and civic engagement and transfer readiness from 2-4 year institutions</td>
<td>Assessment Institutes, Quality Collaborative Dyad Team Meetings, Assessment Scholar</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA LEAP Project Pilot</td>
<td>pilot test a statewide assessment system</td>
<td>provide student artifacts, act as a faculty scorer on the state assessment team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridging Cultures (National Endowment for the Humanities)</td>
<td>curriculum implementation of cultural diversity</td>
<td>Summer Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAACCCT Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training</td>
<td>provide accelerated pathways to credentials leading to employment and laddering to greater opportunity and provide additional supports to facilitate college success</td>
<td>contextualized curriculum development, industry engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>MindSpring</td>
<td>collaborate with consortium to convert course materials to Open Educational Resources (OER) to reduce student costs</td>
<td>faculty team meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality Matters</td>
<td>quality assurance for online and blended courses designed by faculty for faculty focused on improving student learning</td>
<td>a set of standards for the design of online and blended courses, a peer review process (faculty to faculty) tools and training for quality assurance of online courses</td>
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