

Adult Education XXXI Conference
Kearney Holiday Inn

Wednesday, October 10

- 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm **BEST Plus Recalibration Training Session.....Stateroom E**
 ♦ **Presenter: Sharon McClaren**
- 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm **Conference Registration.....Registration Area**

Thursday, October 11

- 7:00 am - 4:00 pm **Conference Registration.....Registration Area**
- 8:00 am - 9:00 am **Opening Session – Served Breakfast.....Ballroom**
 ♦ **Welcome – Master of Ceremony: Jim Lukesh**
 ♦ **Keynote Address: “It’s All About Attitude”**
 Michael Oster, Oster Consulting, Rapid City, SD
 Take a look inside yourself and see where you are in finding relevant
 purpose in what you do; add passion to that purpose. Enjoy Mike’s
 humorous and entertaining assistance to make excellence your average.
- 9:15 am - 10:15 am **Concurrent Sessions See page 13 for location**
- 10:30 am - 11:30 am **Concurrent Sessions See page 13 for location**
- 11:45 am - 12:45 pm **Lunch.....Ballroom**
 ♦ **Charting a New Course – Vicki Bauer**
- 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm **Concurrent Sessions See page 13 for location**
- 2:00 pm - 2:15 pm **Break**
- 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm **Concurrent Sessions See page 13 for location**
- 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm **Concurrent Sessions See page 13 for location**
- 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm **Dinner Buffet.....Ballroom**
 ♦ **Local programs share successes from the last program year**

Friday, October 12

- 7:00 am - 7:45 am **Conference Registration.....Registration Area**
- 7:00 am - 8:00 am **Continental BreakfastRegistration Area**
- 8:00 am - 10:30 am **Focus Sessions**
 ♦ **I Pathways..... Room A**
 ♦ **Healthy Living by Design Room B**
 ♦ **GED® Great Things in Motion Room C**
 ♦ **USA LearnsRoom D**
- 10:30 am - 11:00 am **Break, Check out of rooms**
- 11:00 am - 12:30 pm **Closing – Lunch and Door PrizesBallroom**

Concurrent Session Descriptions

Thursday, October 11 ■ 9:15 am – 4:30 pm

(See last page for location and times. Presenter information can be found on pages 8-14)

A Potpourri of What's Happening in Nebraska Adult Education

Vicki Bauer, State Adult Education Director

Adult Education seems to always be in a constant state of change – distance education, computer-based testing, new GED® tests in 2014, preparation of all students for employment and/or post-secondary education, technology in the classroom, NRS student goal changes, teacher resources....and the list goes on. We will discuss these and also have “Q & A” time for any questions you have about Nebraska’s Adult Education program; your input will be most welcome.

A Dialogical Approach to Adult Education—Let's Discuss

Kale Riley, Teacher

“You talk too much.”

“Of course I talk a lot, I’m a teacher.”

Does this conversation sound familiar? Perhaps it is time to think about things differently. The Neon Trees say it well, “Everybody talks.” A discussion-based approach to learning was first used by Socrates and is still viable today. This session is going to talk about how a dialogic—a discourse-based—approach is beneficial within an adult education system. We will talk about ways discussion enhances our educational experience. This session will be as much about your ideas and your input as it will be about sharing my ideas. Come ready to talk.

AIMS Introduction and News

Kathy Boshart, Senior Analyst

This presentation will cover the basics of the Adult Information Management System (AIMS), and also answer your hard questions. Come hear about the updates and changes in the Adult Information Management System (AIMS). Topics include: New reports, AutoGoals, Highest Degree or Level of Schooling, Distance Education, and changes to the post-test hours. Be sure to find out what’s new in reporting student placement and progress!

Career Readiness – The Why, The What and The How

Gregg Christensen, Entrepreneurship & Career Education Specialist

Career readiness has moved to the forefront of state and national conversations. Workforce development, economic development, and education are finding new ways to work together and to leverage their resources to enhance the career readiness of youth and adults. This session will focus on new resources available at no charge including the Standards for Career Ready Practices Guide, Career Readiness online modules, as well as other resources available on the new NElearns website. You’ll learn why they were developed, what they are, and how you can access and use them to help youth and adults gain the skills and knowledge crucial for career success. The Career Readiness modules were produced by NET Interactive and Educational Media through a collaborative effort between the Nebraska Department of Labor and Nebraska Department of Education's Career Education System and Adult Basic Education to implement distance learning capabilities to instructors and adult and youth participants.

Citizenship and Immigration

Charles Pratt, Community Relations Officer

This presentation will include information on eligibility for becoming a U.S. Citizen, including when a person may apply and the requirements to be met. How USCIS processes applicants and conducts interviews will be included. The discussion will also cover the testing requirements, waivers for some applicants, and training materials available to help applicants prepare for their interview. Follow up to the interview, the Oath ceremony, and the benefits for new Citizens will also be addressed.

EducationQuest Foundation

Andrew Hunzeker, Outreach Services Manager

EducationQuest Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska. This presentation will provide an overview of EducationQuest's free college planning services, need-based scholarship programs, college access grants, and outreach services for community agencies statewide.

Gang Awareness Training

Derek Rusher, Art Instructor and YRTC-Kearney Gang Unit Head

Attend this session and you will have a better understanding of what the "gang mentality" is, what to look for or what types of things are gang related, how to react to gang related materials, gestures, how and where to report gang related materials, gestures, and you'll learn some of the current gang issues and news that is going on right now that could affect you.

Give It Your BEST...Plus!

Carol Leonhardt, ESL Program Assistant

This session will help you develop your confidence administering *BEST Plus*. You will learn strategies to help you maintain your scoring accuracy and to understand how *BEST Plus* measures the development of oral proficiency in adult English language learners. Designed for *BEST Plus* testers and instructors who want to understand more about *BEST Plus*.

It's All About Attitude

Michael Oster, Speaker/Trainer

This presentation helps us take a look inside ourselves and see where we are in finding the relevant purpose in what we do and reminds us how to add passion to that purpose. It challenges the listener to honestly self evaluate themselves and walks them through a process to improve all areas of their life. It motivates people to act to improve themselves and those around them. It creates excitement in the outlook of their future both personally and professionally. This presentation covers areas from how to "smile yourself out of bed" and "make it a great day" to proper setting and tracking of goals and becoming what we want to be by acting as though you are already there! All of this is presented in a humorous and entertaining manner and effectively assists individuals in working to make excellence their average.

Lessons From A Three Hour Tour

April Heisel, Teacher

Amy Sturm, Teacher

Mark Wentz, Teacher

The world in which you work can be fraught with everything from a gentle drizzle to a ship-tossing hurricane. During our presentation, we will look at lessons from an overlooked master of the art of dealing. Cannibals nipping at your heels? Feeling isolated in a crowded room? Wondering why no one will listen to you? Come along on a 45 minute tour as we discuss and focus on what one great teacher has to offer. (Grass skirts optional)

Linking TABE Online Results to Instructional Planning

Mike Johnson, National Adult Education Manager

Assessment administration can be a labor intensive proposition. This session will demonstrate the efficiencies of *TABE Online*, offering adult educators flexible options for delivering, scoring and reporting assessments. By providing speedier administration of adult assessments, educators can spend more time using the assessment information to develop learning paths and increase learner gains. At the end of the session attendees will receive an update on the new version of *TABE* and also have the chance to ask any assessment related questions.

Multilevel ESL: From Madness to Magic

Teresa Cooley-Daniel, Adult Education Program Specialist

Susan Kash-Brown, ESL Assistant Director

“Congratulations! You’re hired! You’ll be teaching a multilevel ESL class.” These words can spread fear, anxiety, and downright dread in an ESL instructor. Questions that may be flashing in the instructor’s mind might include: “How many students?” “How many levels?” “Am I really the **only** instructor?” “Will I have volunteers to help me?” “What books will we use?” Perhaps the question that’s really screaming in the instructor’s head is “Whose hair-brained idea was it to have a multilevel ESL class?” Join us for a lively discussion to toss around ideas on how to move the multilevel ESL classroom from madness to magic. We will draw from the experiences of the presenters and the session attendees. We guarantee that you will leave the room with tried and tested solutions to the multilevel ESL instructor’s challenges and singing the praises of the multilevel ESL classroom, or at least not cursing it quite so vociferously! ☺.

Perfect Score 4.0! Is This Possible?

Jan Axdahl, Adult Education Director

Students are quaking in their shoes. They have just received their latest assignment – an essay of 200 words and the required passing score is 2.5! With voices trembling and an ashy complexion evident, they ask, “But how is this possible, teacher?” What is your response? Come and refine your skills on paragraph writing and scoring. There is a missing link from the writing to the score. Come and find out what this is and how to implement this with your students.

Report Cards – Helping Nebraska Make the Grade

Jim Lukesh, State Adult Education Consultant

Report cards, driver's license tests, and medical physicals are tests, of sort, that have been feared forever. However, if approached in the proper manner, these evaluations are meant to help us to achieve our highest potential rather than to castigate those who have not yet measured up. A statewide report card allows the state and local programs to identify areas of strengths and point out areas that need more work. Carried to the program level the report cards will allow for collaboration among programs to share the strengths and eliminate the weaknesses. Your chance to get in on the ground floor of this exciting project.

Solutions From Within: The Beginning!

Michael Pool, Life-Long Educator

When you have some negative pattern buried deeply within, you must become aware of it in order to find the solution to deal with this pattern; not continue with it! Now is the time to acknowledge your responsibility to having created the situation or condition by looking at three distinctive steps within you; your resistance to change, your ability to change, and your new you. Will you take the first step in developing your solutions within to live the life you deserve?

Strategies for ESL Beginners, Step Forward to Success

Melinda Allen, ESL Instructor

This session will examine the features and techniques used in the Oxford University Press ***Step Forward*** series. However, this session will be so much more than just a curriculum overview! Strategies for teaching vocabulary, life skills, grammar, conversation skills, and reading will be discussed. Come and be inspired! Breathe life into your beginning level ESL classes through incorporating new materials, activities, technology and more!

Summarize! Strategize! The TEAL Way!

Janet Kletke, Instructor

Maggie White-McLean, Instructor

HOW WOULD YOU SUMMARIZE THIS SESSION ON SUMMARIZATION? Can you CHoMP? Use the MIDAS touch? Use a Chapter Frame? Can you use an important word summary? Tweet? Bare Bones? Wordle? By the end of this session, participants will be able to identify ways to teach students how to summarize which is on Marzano's list of Essential Nine Skills. Let Maggie White-McLean and Janet Kletke show you more of what they have learned in their TEAL studies. This is an entirely new presentation being offered for the first time.

Teach to Reach All Students in a Multicultural Classroom

Rosemary Cervantes, Title III Coordinator

This interactive workshop will increase awareness of contrasting cultural values. Participants will examine their own macro- and micro-cultures as a starting point to gain insight into other cultures without stereotyping. We will share ideas that are effective in increasing successful interactions and enhance learning with students from different cultures.

Teaching Behind Bars

Melissa Buss, Teacher

Jenna Lichter, Teacher

Have you ever been curious about what it's like to teach in a prison classroom? Correctional educators Melissa Buss and Jenna Lichter will give insight into teaching inmates in Nebraska prisons. They will share the challenges of merging the culture of corrections with the culture of education in order to be effective teachers while maintaining facility safety and security. Attendees should feel free to bring topics that they are curious about regarding being a correctional educator.

Technology Tools for Students

Stefanie Emrich, EL Civics/ESL Coordinator

Interactive session exploring technology tools instructors can share with their students for their use in and out of the classroom.

Technology Tools for Teachers

Stefanie Emrich, EL Civics/ESL Coordinator

Interactive session exploring technology tools instructors can use in the classroom.

Volunteering in the 21st Century

Lynn Saffer, Adult Education Coordinator

Why do volunteers volunteer in our programs? What are their motivations? How do we as coordinators find them and keep them? What are expectations of volunteers—students—teachers? How can we use technology with volunteers? Share ideas and look at new ways to recruit, retain, and reward your volunteers who give their time and talents in Adult Education!

Focus Sessions

Friday, October 12 ■ 8:00 am – 10:30 am

(Presenter information can be found on pages 8-14)

i-Pathways.....Room A

Crystal Hack, i-Pathways Project Coordinator - CAIT/WIU, Macomb Illinois

Marilyn Dodge Adult Education Director, Western Nebraska Community College-Scottsbluff

Liz Eckhoff, GED/i-Pathways Instructor, Southeast Community College-Beatrice

Helen Ann Mesmer, AE Instructor/i-Pathways Facilitator, Mid-Plains Community College

Online learning, computer-based testing, Common Core Standards, social media, and everything in between will be addressed in this lively interactive session. Join the i-Pathways Project Director and a few of your esteemed colleagues to explore how online learning via i-Pathways has been working over the past 12 months in Nebraska. Find out information on how i-Pathways is preparing for the 2014 Assessment and more. Administrator and Teacher resources will be shared as well as best practices in online learning. This is a MUST-SEE session!

Healthy Living By Design.....Room B

Kate Heelen, Professor/Director - Human Performance Lab, UN-Kearney

We are designed to move. We are designed to eat healthy foods. What happens to our bodies and our minds when we do not live a healthy lifestyle as we were designed? Listen and learn about the environment that we are raising and teaching our children in, the environment that the youth of today call “normal.” How can we, as educators, make small changes that can lead to big results in our personal health and the health of our community.

GED® Testing Service and Nebraska Adult Learners:

Great Things in MotionRoom C

Debi Faucette, Program Management Senior Director, GED® Testing Service

Adult learners in Nebraska are well poised for the changes to the new GED® Test to be introduced in January 2014. The 2002 Series GED® Test is currently being delivered on computer in locations throughout the state and plans for expansion are underway. The focus session will provide an overview of the transitions that lie ahead in the final 14 months of the 2002 Series GED® Test and preparation for 100% computer-based delivery of the new 2014 GED® Test: the closeout of the 2002 series GED® Test, implementation of computer-based testing, and preparation for the new 2014 GED® Test.

USA Learns - What You Need To Know To Be Successful

Both In and Outside the Classroom.....Room D

Maryjan Fiala, AE Coordinator/Instructor, CCC Cargill Community Learning Center

Ryan Hinz, Instructor, Crete Public Schools

Interested in distance education for ESL students? Want a way for students to receive both English and computer instruction? Using *USA Learns* or thought about giving it a try, but still need help? Join two instructors who have been using *USA Learns* in new and innovative ways to reach ESL students of multiple levels and situations. Topics covered will include: using *USAL* both in and outside the classroom, setting up and administering classes, administering students, tracking progress, and pitfalls to avoid. You will learn best practices, tips, and tricks from two programs that have led the way in bringing this exciting technology to their students. Many handouts will be available to help you get started. In addition, if you bring your laptop or tablet, time will be provided at the end of the session for attendees to receive assistance creating accounts and for other website questions.

Speakers

Melinda Allen, ESL Instructor

Central Community College

mallen@plattevalleyliteracy.org

Melinda Allen has been teaching ESL for the past 5 years. She has had the opportunity to teach at a variety of levels. She is a certified BEST Plus Administrator and has received training for USA Learns. She worked as a Volunteer Coordinator in the past and is currently the Executive Director for a non-profit literacy organization that partners closely with Adult Education.

Jan Axdahl, Adult Education Director

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and York Public Schools

Janice.Axdahl@nebraska.gov

Jan Axdahl, a seasoned teacher and presenter, has taught writing to teachers, volunteers, and students alike since the inception of the GED® writing test. She has taught for 41 years, 37 of those for the NDCS during which time she has served as a teacher and director, been instrumental in many innovations in NDCS, and been the director of the York AE program for 18 years.

Vicki Bauer, State Adult Education Director

Nebraska Department of Education

vicki.l.bauer@nebraska.gov

Vicki has been working in Nebraska Adult Education for most of her career and is currently the State Director for Adult Education at the Nebraska Department of Education. Before coming to NDE, Vicki taught AE at Southeast Community College in Lincoln for ten years.

Kathy Boshart Senior Analyst

Nebraska Department of Education

kathy.boshart@nebraska.gov

Kathy Boshart is the Senior Analyst at the Nebraska Department of Education. She has been with NDE for 10 years. Prior to that she tromped through the forests of Colorado and Oregon working for the Forest Service. (Really, she did!) She provides technical support for the Adult Information Management System (AIMS).

Melissa Buss, Teacher

Omaha Correctional Center

melissa.buss@nebraska.gov

Melissa Buss has taught for the Nebraska Department of Corrections for four-and-a-half years at both the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility and Omaha Correctional Center. Previously she has taught in public and private schools. Melissa has also worked at the Department of Corrections as a corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, case manager and trainer.

Rosemary Cervantes, Title III Coordinator

Educational Service Unit 10

rcervant@esu10.org

Rosemary is the ESL / Multicultural Coordinator at Educational Service Unit 10 in Kearney, Nebraska. She works with school staff, students, and parents in about thirty districts in central Nebraska with Title III funding for English language learners and immigrant students. Prior to working at ESU 10, she taught for over 25 years in the United States and Mexico. She is bilingual and bicultural having lived in Mexico as an adult for sixteen years.

Gregg Christensen, Entrepreneurship & Career Education Specialist

Nebraska Department of Education

gregg.christensen@nebraska.gov

Gregg Christensen serves as Entrepreneurship and Career Education Specialist on the Career Education team of the Nebraska Department of Education. His experience includes serving as a high school business/marketing education teacher, community adult education coordinator, local and state advisor for Nebraska DECA-an association of marketing, management and entrepreneurship students, university senior lecturer and adjunct faculty member, and entrepreneurship education advocate. He has developed youth and adult programs in leadership development, community engagement, career development, organizational enhancement, and entrepreneurship. Gregg was one of the three content committee members responsible for identifying, developing, reviewing, and editing the content of the eleven modules in the Career Readiness online course.

Teresa Cooley-Daniel, Adult Education Program Specialist

Metro Community College

tcooley-daniel@mccneb.edu

Teresa Cooley-Daniel brings 12 years of expertise from Metropolitan Community College's Adult Education Program. She trains new ESL instructors and teaches ESL students in the college classroom. Additionally, she taught ESL in the business world, tutored ESL students and has been involved in numerous conferences, workshops and training sessions.

Marilyn Dodge Adult Education Director

Western Nebraska Community College - Scottsbluff

dodgem@wncc.net

Marilyn graduated from WNCC and Chadron State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education. She has been happily married to her husband, Ken, for 39 years (40 years in December). She is the mother of three amazing children and grandmother of eight beautiful grandchildren. She was Instructor/Volunteer Coordinator for almost six years and has been WNCC's Adult Education Director for the past six years.

Liz Eckhoff, GED/i-Pathways Instructor/i-Pathways Instructor

Southeast Community College - Beatrice

eckhoffmail@yahoo.com

Liz retired this spring after 25 years in the Beatrice Public School System, working with Beatrice Middle School's resource students. She has been teaching GED classes for over four years. This is her second year working with the i-Pathways online program. She and her husband have been married 40 years. They have two children, four little grandsons and love to travel.

Stefanie Emrich, ESL Civics/ESL Coordinator

Northeast Community College

stefaniee@northeast.edu

Stefanie have been teaching credit classes for over 7 years in addition to working in grant funded ESL programs and Adult Education. She also has been doing computer consulting and technology support for non-profit organizations for over 9 years as well as working as an independent writing contractor for Pearson Publications for over 3 years.

Debi Faucette, Program Management Senior Director

GED® Testing Service

Debi.Faucette@GEDTestingService.com

Debi K. Faucette joined GED® Testing Service in January 2011 and serves as the Senior Director of Program Management following an extensive and robust career in adult education at the local, state, and national level. Her charge is to bring strategic direction to interactions and relationships with key stakeholders in the field that comprise the GED® network for the implementation of GED® testing on computer. Her many years as State Director for Adult Education, GED® Testing, Career and Technical Education, and other state and federal programs for disadvantaged youth and adults provides a unique perspective in the GED® Testing Service's efforts to set things in motion for our adult learners.

Maryjan Fiala, AE Coordinator/Instructor

Central Community College Cargill Community Learning Center

mfiala@cccneb.edu

Maryjan Fiala has spent the last three years working with non-traditional adult learners at Cargill Community Learning Center in Schuyler. As part of the USA Learns pilot project, Maryjan has thoroughly explored USA Learns and what it has to offer to the state as a distance education tool. Prior to joining Central Community College's Adult Education team, Maryjan worked primarily in the financial sector. She completed both her undergraduate work in Business Administration and her graduate degree in Organizational Management at Peru State College.

Crystal Hack, Director

i-Pathways

chack@cait.org

Crystal Hack has served as the i-Pathways (formerly known as GED®-i) Director for many years. During the launch of the i-Pathways curriculum in 2002, she led adult education programs in Illinois through their distance learning curriculum implementation and deployment. As i-Pathways national exposure grew, Ms. Hack facilitated state-level pilot programs that resulted in partnerships with statewide i-Pathways use beyond Illinois in Maryland, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Kate Heelen, Professor/Director

Human Performance Laboratory, University of Nebraska Kearney

Heelanka@unk.edu

Dr. Kate Heelan, PhD is a Professor of Exercise Science and the Director of the Human Performance Laboratory at UNK. She has been working in the area of physical activity and obesity prevention and treatment since 1995. Dr. Heelan has garnered grants and developed research initiatives and community interventions within the public school system for many years. Most recently, Dr. Heelan has developed the Greater Nebraska Physical Activity Initiative to help small schools and communities make big differences in health and wellness promotions.

April Heisel, Teacher

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

april.heisel@nebraska.gov

April Heisel has taught Elementary and English Language Learners in a variety of environments within the public sector. She currently teaches GED®, ELL, and life skill classes with the Department of Corrections in Omaha. April has a BS in Elementary and English as a Second Language. She is currently working towards her Master's Degree in Language Teaching with the University of Nebraska in Omaha.

Ryan Hinz, Instructor

Crete Public Schools

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Ryan Hinz is an ESL/ABE instructor and “tech ninja” with Crete Public Schools in Crete, Nebraska. Ryan’s first introduction to adult education was as a GED® student and graduate back in 2008. Since 2009, Ryan has been actively involved in helping others accomplish that same goal, first as a volunteer instructor and now as a full-time instructor teaching ESL, family literacy, ABE, and computer classes each week. A graduate of Peru State College with a degree in human performance and (IT) systems management, Ryan aggressively advocates for the use of technology and best practices in ESL and ABE classrooms statewide.

Andrew Hunzeker, Outreach Services Manager

EducationQuest Foundation

andrewh@educationquest.org

Andrew Hunzeker has served as Outreach Services Manager for EducationQuest Foundation since July 2011. Based in Scottsbluff, Andrew provides college access services to community agencies and schools throughout central and western Nebraska. Andrew holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Western Nebraska Community College and a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from Chadron State College.

Mike Johnson, National Adult Education Manager

CTB/McGraw-Hill

michaeld_johnson@ctb.com

Mike Johnson is the National Manager of Adult Assessments for CTB/ McGraw-Hill. As the TABE Product Manager, Mike is responsible for guiding the development of all the *TABE* family of assessments to meet the needs of both Adult Learners in ESL and Basic Skills programs.

Susan Kash-Brown, ESL Assistant Director

Southeast Community College – Lincoln

SKash-brown@southeast.edu

Susan Kash-Brown has been working at Southeast Community College in the Adult Education program for almost 20 years as a Volunteer, ABE/GED® Instructor, ESL Instructor, ESL Coordinator and currently as the ESL Assistant Director. Susan has overseen many developments in the ESL course offerings at Southeast Community College. One of Susan’s most recent ventures in ESL programming has been a partnership with the Lincoln Public School’s Family Literacy Program. SCC provides Adult ESL instruction at five elementary schools in the LPS District.

Janet Kletke, Instructor

Metropolitan Community College – Fremont Campus

jkletke@q.com

Janet Kletke is a former 8th grade English teacher. She has been involved in adult education since 1984 after she received her UN-L Master’s Degree in adult education. Janet is proud to have represented Nebraska as part of the TEAL writing group.

Carol Leonhardt, SCC ESL Program Assistant

Southeast Community College
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Carol is the Program Assistant for Southeast Community College's Adult Education funded ESL program. She is a certified *BEST Plus* trainer and tester. She enjoys meeting students from many different cultures and creating instructional opportunities for them to be able to exercise free choice about their futures. Her favorite things to do are spending time with her 3 young grandsons and riding a tandem bike with her husband.

Jenna Lichter, Teacher

Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility
jenna.lichter@nebraska.gov

Jenna Lichter has taught for the Nebraska Department of Corrections for two-and-a-half years at both the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility and the Omaha Correctional Center. Previously she has taught in public and private schools and has been a school administrator. She has a particular interest in student behavior, discipline, and school safety, as well as in reaching students who have learning difficulties.

Jim Lukesh, State Adult Education Consultant

Nebraska Department of Education
jim.lukesh@nebraska.gov

Jim has been the Consultant in the Adult Education section of NDE since January, 2012. Prior to that he worked in Instructional Technology and Video at NDE since 1983. He has a background as a secondary social studies teacher and itinerant basketball coach. He's a big fan of grandkids, puppy dogs and the Kansas City Royals and Chiefs.

Helen Ann Mesmer, Adult Education Instructor/i-Pathways Facilitator/ Developmental English and Reading Instructor

Mid-Plains Community College
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Helen has taught Master's Level Critical Thinking Skills and English Composition for City University while also teaching GED English component at the Spokane Union Gospel Mission. She moved back to North Platte in 2006 to be near family, teach GED with Robin Rankin and to have her then infant daughter know her grandparents. She loves miniature schnauzers, CSI, long walks on the beach, late nights with the computer and Milk Duds. She is a Sagittarius.

Michael Oster, Speaker/Trainer

Oster Consulting
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Michael has been presenting to and training groups and organizations for over 15 years. His background includes working for a Fortune 500 company, serving as an elected official, owning and operating a private business, sitting on a number of volunteer boards, and wearing the uniform of the United States Army through over 26 years of service in the South Dakota Army National Guard where he still serves and currently holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Through service in these positions and continued education, Michael has acquired a tremendous background in leadership, teamwork and motivating people. He understands what it takes to build and maintain a positive attitude and how to motivate those around you to be better than they believe is possible. Michael is passionate about spreading a message of self-improvement and helping people realize their maximum potential.

Michael Pool, Life-Long Educator

19michaelpool49@gmail.com

Michael Pool has been a passionate educator and presenter for over forty years in the areas of English Language, communication, activities of theater and sports, financial services, developmental disabilities, life skills. ESL, GED®, and Pathways out of Poverty. In his retirement years, Michael has traveled to several places and read volumes of books in search of the solutions within!

Charles (Chuck) Pratt, Central Region Community Relations Officer

United States Citizenship and Immigration Service

Charles.pratt@dhs.gov

Chuck has worked for the former Immigration Naturalization Service (INS, which became USCIS) since 1995. He worked as an Adjudication Officer at multiple INS Offices and interviewed more than 1,500 applicants for citizenship. Chuck taught Immigration law courses at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for the USCIS Training Academy. In 2010 Chuck became a Community Relations Officer for the Kansas City District Office, which includes more than half a million square miles within the Midwest. His work includes providing presentations on various immigration topics, participating in question and answer sessions for various groups, organizations, or civic leaders, and helping the public to more clearly understand USCIS laws, programs, and processes.

Kale Riley, Teacher

Nebraska Department of Corrections

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Kale Riley has taught middle school and currently teaches Adult Education for the Nebraska Department of Corrections at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Kale has presented at the Corrections Educators' Symposium and authored a two part article on Dialogic Education which appeared in the *Nebraska ABE Newsletter*. Kale is currently working on a Doctorate of Education looking at a dialogical approach to education. He is interested in discussing the idea of building an educational system around discourse.

Derek Rusher, Art Instructor and Head of YRTC-Kearney Gang Unit

Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center and West Kearney High School

derek.rusher@nebraska.gov

Derek is originally from Colorado and went to Hastings College where he received his BA in Education. He has taught for 10 years, 4 in public schools and the last 6 for the State of Nebraska at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center in Kearney. At YRTC-K he is part of the Training Advisory Board, YRTC-K Program Committee Member, and the Head of the YRTC-K Gang Team. He is currently a member of the Leadership Kearney class of 2013, the YRTC-K Employee of the Year and is one of the 2012 Department of Health and Human Services Employees of the Year.

Lynn Saffer, Adult Education Coordinator

Southeast Community College - Lincoln

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A former developmental writing teacher at Platte Campus/Central Community College for nine years, Lynn taught GED® classes at CCC/Hastings Literacy Program for 4 years before moving to Lincoln and teaching writing at Southeast Community College for 2½ years. She became an Adult Education Coordinator at SCC in 2011, dividing her time between volunteer coordination and other exciting developments in Adult Education.

Amy Sturm, Teacher

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

amy.sturm@nebraska.gov

Amy Sturm has taught in public and private schools in Iowa and Nebraska. Currently, she works with the educational department within Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. Her experience ranges from teaching the deaf/hard of hearing population to various programs with special needs students. She has earned her BA in Deaf/Elementary Education and a MA in Educational Psychology and continues to focus on learning about best practices in the educational setting.

Mark Wentz, Lead Teacher

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

mark.wentz@nebraska.gov

Mark Wentz taught for 15 years in public and parochial middle and high schools in California, Florida, and Nebraska. He has been with the Nebraska Department of Corrections since 2004, and held positions as a caseworker, recreation specialist, and safety specialist. In 2008, Mark became a teacher for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and has been Lead Teacher at the Lincoln Correctional Center and the Community Corrections Center of Lincoln since September 2009.

Maggie White-McLean, AE Instructor

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Maggie White-Mclean has been a GED® instructor for SCC since 2002. She teaches at the Lancaster County Jail and at Cedar's Home for Children. She is a member of the Nebraska TEAL Team (Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy). Maggie has been married to Ian for 22 years and they have two children.

Thursday - October 11

Concurrent Sessions

9:15 – 10:15	10:30 – 11:30	1:00 – 2:00	2:15 – 3:15	3:30-4:30
Strategies for ESL Beginners, Step Forward to Success <i>Melinda Allen</i>	Strategies for ESL Beginners, Step Forward to Success <i>Melinda Allen</i>	Summarize! Strategize! The TEAL Way! <i>Janet Kletke Maggie White-McLean</i>	Summarize! Strategize! The TEAL Way! <i>Janet Kletke Maggie White-McLean</i>	Teaching Behind Bars <i>Melissa Buss Jenna Lichter</i>
Solutions From Within: The Beginning! <i>Michael Pool</i>	A Dialogical Approach to Adult Education—Let's Discuss <i>Kale Riley</i>	Multilevel ESL: From Madness to Magic <i>Teresa Cooley-Daniel Susan Kash-Brown</i>	Multilevel ESL: From Madness to Magic <i>Teresa Cooley-Daniel Susan Kash-Brown</i>	Report Cards Helping Nebraska Make the Grade <i>Jim Lukesh</i>
It's All About Attitude <i>Michael Oster</i>	Technology Tools for Students <i>Stefanie Emrich</i>	Technology Tools for Teachers <i>Stefanie Emrich</i>	Citizenship and Immigration <i>Charles Pratt</i>	Citizenship and Immigration <i>Charles Pratt</i>
Career Readiness – The Why, The What and The How <i>Gregg Christensen</i>	Career Readiness – The Why, The What and The How <i>Gregg Christensen</i>	AIMS Introduction And News <i>Kathy Boshart</i>	A Potpourri of What's Happening in Nebraska Adult Education <i>Vicki Bauer</i>	AIMS Introduction And News <i>Kathy Boshart</i>
Give It Your BEST...Plus! <i>Carol Leonhardt</i>	Perfect Score 4.0! Is This Possible? <i>Jan Axdahl</i>	EducationQuest Foundation <i>Andrew Hunzeker</i>	Perfect Score 4.0! Is This Possible? <i>Jan Axdahl</i>	Give It Your BEST...Plus! <i>Carol Leonhardt</i>
Lessons From A Three Hour Tour <i>April Heisel Amy Sturm Mark Wentz</i>	Lessons From A Three Hour Tour <i>April Heisel Amy Sturm Mark Wentz</i>	Volunteering in the 21 st Century <i>Lynn Saffer</i>	Teach to Reach All Students in a Multicultural Classroom <i>Rosemary Cervantes</i>	Teach to Reach All Students in a Multicultural Classroom <i>Rosemary Cervantes</i>
Gang Awareness Training <i>Derek Rusher</i>	Gang Awareness Training <i>Derek Rusher</i>	Linking TABE Online Results to Instructional Planning <i>Mike Johnson</i>		