

# Report on Adult Learner Task Force

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The initial meeting of the Adult Learner Taskforce occurred on **April 30, 2009**, at the HIP Commission, in the President's Conference Room. **Subcommittees are scheduled to meet something during May**, with a second Taskforce meeting occurring **June 12** at the WAVE Alumni Center. Taskforce members include **Dr. Sarah Denman, Dr. Bruce Flack, David Hendrickson, Dr. Tammy Johnson, Dr. Maria Rose, Dr. Sylvia Sherbet, David Wright, and Dr. Suzanne Shipley, Shepherd (Chair)**. Consultant Bruce Callous met with the Taskforce and HIP staff Rob Anderson, Ginny Painter, Bruce Flack, and Mark Staler.

The charge of the Taskforce was to explore ways to increase the number and percentage of West Virginia adults who will complete a bachelor's degree from a WV college or university. Bruce Callous, Southern Regional Education Board, presented models for adult degree completion. The group had to accomplish several preliminary tasks:

- 1) Link degree completion with BRA programs;
- 2) Establish parameters for the initiative (define adult learner as any individual who attended college and has been out for 3 years; find ways to make the program adult friendly, involve Peas, Provosts, and BRA directors, and establish that any WV college or university can participate);
- 3) Assign subcommittees and commission 2-page "whitepapers" for the June 12 meeting in Morgantown.

The following subcommittees were appointed:

- 1) Subcommittee to Establish the Case: Bruce Flack, Chair; David Hendrickson, Suzanne Shipley, Bruce Callous;
- 2) Structure and Format of Degree Subcommittee: Maria Rose, Chair, Bruce Flack, David Wright, Sylvia Sherbet, Mark Staler;
- 3) Marketing Subcommittee: Ginny Painter, Chair (selected members);
- 4) Ensuring Adult Friendly Services and Policies Subcommittee: Tammy Johnson, Chair, Russ Porter, Sarah Denman.