



DONATE

College ‘connects’ remedial students with career paths

Low-level remedial students “have almost zero chance” to succeed in college without guidance and support, says Myrna Gonzalez, a developmental reading and writing instructor at Houston’s [San Jacinto College](#). But the odds are improving. Gonzalez helped start [Intentional Connections](#), which provides mentors to evaluate students’ career interests and academic issues, introduce them to faculty and let them “test drive” different programs.

“For example, if a student says he or she is sort of interested in culinary arts, then we introduce the student to the culinary arts department chair, and the student gets to attend two or three culinary arts classes (not for credit) to see if it will be a good fit. If that does not work out, then the student can test drive another program.”

Charles Powell is studying auto collision repair and improving his reading skills, thanks to Intentional Connections. He plans to earn a certificate and work in a body shop.

Some advocate placing low-level remedial students in Adult Basic Education (ABE), which is part of the K-12 system. Community colleges have expertise in educating adult learners, said Rebecca Goosen, associate vice chancellor for college preparatory programs. “At a college, low-performing developmental students can learn job skills in craft trades, they can get valuable on-the-job training through internships, they can earn occupational certificates, while at the same time they improve in core subjects like math and writing. They may not receive that type of education and training in ABE programs.”

To live up to their potential community colleges should [create career pathways for remedial students](#), writes Mandy Zatynski on The Quick and the Ed.

[Lake Area Technical Institute](#) in South Dakota, a two-time finalist for the prestigious Aspen Prize for

Community College Excellence, identifies different sets of readiness requirements for each of its programs, which has [“virtually eliminated the necessity for remedial education.”](#)

Lake Area Technical Institute touts a 76 percent completion rate, double the national average.



0

Tweet

1

Share

Like

0

POSTED BY **Joanne Jacobs** ON **October 30, 2012**

Tags: [Aspen Prize](#), [career pathways](#), [developmental](#), [Intentional Connections](#), [job skills](#), [Lake Area Technical Institute](#), [mentors](#), [readiness](#), [remedial](#), [San Jacinto College](#)

Comments & Trackbacks (1) | [Post a Comment](#)

[Career paths for remedial students — Joanne Jacobs](#)

October 30, 2012

at 7:48 am

[...] Houston community college is linking low-level remedial students to career paths, while a South Dakota technical college sets different requirements for each job training program, [...]

Your email is *never* published nor shared.

Name

Required

Email

Required

Website

Comment

POST

- Community College Spotlight is written by Joanne Jacobs. It provides a forum for discussion and debate about America’s community colleges, which are home to nearly half of all college students in the U.S. Views expressed on the blog are those of Joanne Jacobs and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of *The Hechinger Report* or the Hechinger Institute.

• Search for:

• Topics

- [Careers](#)
- [Community Colleges](#)
- [For-profit Institutions](#)
- [Higher Education](#)
- [Humor](#)
- [K-12 Education](#)
- [Online Learning](#)
- [Remediation](#)
- [Student Life](#)
- [Student Loans & Aid](#)
- [Technology](#)

• Archives

- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)

• Pages

- [About](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Twitter](#)

- **Hechinger blogs**

[Help wanted: welders](#)

Front Range Community College in Colorado enrolled 60 student a semester nine years ago. That's up to 350. Welding is a hot field, reports USA Today. The acrid smell of liquified metal hangs heavy in the air as superheated sparks shower behind the blue plastic curtains that shield passersby. Inside the welding booth, one hand inside a [...]

[College 'connects' remedial students with career paths](#)

Low-level remedial students "have almost zero chance" to succeed in college without guidance and support, says Myrna Gonzalez, a developmental reading and writing instructor at Houston's San Jacinto College. But the odds are improving. Gonzalez helped start Intentional Connections, which provides mentors to evaluate students' career interests and academic issues, introduce them to faculty and let [...]

[A new start for single mothers](#)

After 14 years as a homemaker, Catherine Clarke left her husband because of domestic violence. With four children to support, she enrolled at Harper College in Illinois, taking advantage of help for single parents and displaced homemakers, reports Community College Times. The college's Rita and John Canning Women's Program teaches test-taking and study skills, provides career counseling and [...]

[Where are the college men?](#)

Female high-school students are more likely to aspire to a college degree, enroll and graduate than their male classmates, according to a report by the National Center for Education Statistics. Men are "conspicuously absent" on the campus of Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, writes Hanna Rosin in The End of Men: And the Rise [...]

[College for \\$30 a month](#)

Via OnlineUniversities.com

[Community colleges rethink remedial placement](#)

Community colleges are rethinking placement tests and looking for ways to start more students at the college level, reports Education Week. About 60 percent of community college students are start in developmental education. Only 25 percent finish a credential in eight years, compared to 40 percent of students who start at the college level. Long Beach [...]

• **More news**

[The teachers we need \(and the ones we don't\)](#)

The Obama administration's Race to the Top Fund, which was designed to use federal grant money as an incentive for states to replicate programs shown to improve student performance, has been a mixed bag. For one thing, what began as incentives for states to adopt common standards in English and math has risen to the level [...]

[What does loving teachers have to do with foreign policy?](#)

In the final moments of the third presidential debate, a somewhat exasperated moderator, Bob Schieffer, tried to regain control of a conversation that had veered wildly off topic. The original question was about China's currency manipulation, but after some back-and-forth, Republican nominee Mitt Romney was once again explaining why, despite his love of teachers, he [...]

[Constant teacher training keeps poor Jewish school performing](#)

Tiferes Bnos is an all-girls school located on the first floor of an apartment building near the border of the Williamsburg and Bedford-Stuyvesant sections of Brooklyn. It would be unsurprising if the school had a poor academic track record. None of the teachers went to college. All the students speak Yiddish as their first language. [...]

[With time running out, teachers push pro-Obama message in swing states](#)

In the swing states of Ohio and Florida, it's crunch time for teachers unions, which in the final days of the campaign are getting out the vote for President Obama in droves — even though they disapprove of some of his policies. "The arguments have been made," American Federation of Teachers (AFT) President Randi Weingarten [...]

[Online education needs to hold itself to higher standards than traditional classrooms, report warns](#)

The International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNacol) issued a report Tuesday calling for online schools and providers of online courses to hold themselves to a higher standard than traditional brick-and-mortar schools. The association also said it would launch a pilot project with three to five states to collect data that measures online-education quality. “We [...]

[In search of high-quality teachers, charter network trains its own](#)

OAKLAND, Calif. — Amy Youngman’s seventh- and eighth-grade humanities students had left for the day. Other than some shouts from the after-school program in the courtyard, all was quiet in her second-floor classroom here. Youngman’s day of teaching at ERES Academy—part of the Aspire charter school network—wasn’t over, though. Nor was Danny Shapiro’s day of [...]

• Blogroll

- [Accelerating Achievement](#)
- [Brainstorm in Progress](#)
- [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
- [Classroom as Microcosm](#)
- [College Access & Success](#)
- [College Affordability](#)
- [College Bound](#)
- [College Puzzle](#)
- [College, Inc.](#)
- [Community College Dean](#)
- [Community College Times](#)
- [Community College Week](#)
- [Cost of College](#)
- [Dev Math Revival](#)
- [EduBubble](#)
- [Education Optimists](#)
- [HechingerEd](#)
- [Higher Ed Watch](#)
- [Inside Higher Ed](#)
- [Joanne Jacobs](#)
- [Minding the Campus](#)
- [The Quick and the Ed](#)
- [The Two-Year Track](#)
- [Washington Monthly College Guide](#)

[HOME](#) | [ABOUT US](#) | 

Copyright © 2010 by Teachers College at Columbia University. All rights reserved.