



**Mission:** The CCCU Center for Research in Adult Learning will serve Christian institutions by facilitating and encouraging research, which will enhance the quality of Christ-centered adult programs.

## Future Trends in Adult Ed: Spring Conference May 23-25

The Center for Research in Adult Learning Spring Conference is an ideal way to stretch professional development funds and get up-to-date on the latest research regarding new trends in adult learning programs. This year we will feature Dr. Peter Stokes, Executive Vice President and Chief Research Officer for Eduventures. He, along with Senior Analyst, Maggie Zweiben, will discuss some of the decisions schools need to make to respond to emerging trends in adult and online learning. Break out sessions include topics such as

spiritual formation, diverse learning, and student learning outcomes. A preconference on **Developing Quality Adjuncts** (May 23) will be led by Rick Upchurch (Huntington) and Dennis Mixer (IWU). The Conference is held at IWU's Indianapolis West Education Center just 15 minutes from the airport. Institutions can send an entire team for the price of a typical hotel-based conference. Cost is just \$120 per attendee from CCCU member schools and \$50 for the preconference. Hotel rooms are \$99. [Click here](#) for details and registration.



Peter Stokes, Executive Vice President and Chief Research Officer for Eduventures.



Maggie Zweiben, Senior Analyst for Eduventures

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Cynthia Tweedell, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
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### Research Agenda

- Learning outcomes assessment for adults
- Benchmarking
- Retention of adult students
- Spiritual transformation of adults
- Best practices in online learning
- Teaching diverse learners
- Alumni surveys

### Strategic Goals

- Sponsor at least one conference per year.
- Publish at least one monograph per year.
- Provide benchmarking data on adult education.
- Assist in student learning outcomes assessment
- Serve as a resource for research in adult programs.
- Coordinate projects at the request of institutions

## Teleconference on Grading Student Work: Jan. 5

The Center will sponsor its next teleconference on Jan. 5. Dr. Cheryl Fleming, Assistant Dean for Teaching and Learning for the College of Adult and Professional Studies at Indiana Wesleyan University, will present strategies for **Grading Student Essays: Promoting Learning through Valuable Feedback**. The teleconference will be at **noon Eastern time** (11 AM Central, 10 AM Mountain, 9 AM Pacific). This teleconference aims to support faculty members in providing valuable feedback on student written work, regardless of the subject area or discipline. Participants can expect to leave the session armed with new knowledge, ideas, and techniques for offering valuable and useful feedback on student written assignments. **Cost per connection:** \$79 for CCCU Members; \$99 for CCCU Affiliate Members; \$109 for Non Members. Invite a group to listen in on one line for one price! PowerPoint slides and materials will be emailed to you. [Click here](#) to register.

## New Benchmarking Projects : Associate Degrees, Business, MPA

The Center for Research in Adult Learning is entering its fourth year of benchmarking student learning outcomes for critical thinking, written communication and Christian world view. The success of this benchmarking project has led the steering committee to suggest additional benchmarking projects. We are investigating the possibility of beginning projects in three additional areas:

- **Associate degrees**—Many colleges have associate degree programs, and desire to benchmark with other faith-based 4-year colleges rather than with local community colleges.
- **Business programs**—Most adult programs have large business programs and would benefit from benchmarking with other similar programs.
- **Masters of Public Administration**—Mid-America Christian University has developed a benchmarking test for MPA and is interested in partnering with other like institutions to benchmark learning outcomes.

If your institution is interested in benchmarking associate degrees, business degrees (bachelor or masters) or MPA degrees, please contact us to get in on the planning for these new projects. Email [Cynthia.tweedell@indwes.edu](mailto:Cynthia.tweedell@indwes.edu). Find out more about the Center's benchmarking activities by visiting <http://www.indwes.edu/CRAI/Current-Research/>



### Steering Committee

- Richard Ellis— John Brown University, AR
- Don Finn— Regent University, VA
- Steve Holtrop— Huntington University, IN
- George Howell— Indiana Wesleyan Univ., IN
- Lori Jass— Bethel University, MN
- Audrey Kelleher— Belhaven University, MS
- Toni Pauls— Warner Pacific University, OR
- Shirley Roddy— Mid-America Christian Univ., OK
- Anita Underwood— Nyack College, NY
- Mimi Barnard— CCCU
- Cynthia Tweedell— Center for Research

## Best Practices in the Integration of Faith and Learning for Adult and Online Students

Edited by Cheryl Torok Fleming and Cynthia Benn Tweedell  
Practical teaching tips from over 20 institutions On site, Online and Hybrid Techniques  
\$15 single copy; \$12 for 10 or more  
To order, contact [jennifer.vermilion@indwes.edu](mailto:jennifer.vermilion@indwes.edu)

### Center Activities

- Annual Conference (May 23-25, 2011 in Indianapolis)
  - Publications
  - Regular Teleconferences
- Student Learning Outcomes Benchmarking Project
  - Administrative Structures Project
  - Spiritual Formation Project
  - Moral Reasoning Project
  - Retention Project
- Gathering useful Information about CCCU Adult Programs
  - Bibliography on Adult Education

Consult our website for more information: [www.indwes.edu/crai](http://www.indwes.edu/crai)