The Professional Development Program recognizes the benefit of ensuring that faculty and staff share with one another information gained as a result of a conference or workshop; therefore, please provide a summary of your event that address the questions below. Please use this document and submit it via email to Angie Horton, Professional Development, within three calendar weeks of your event. Professional Development intends to share this information with the campus in an electronic and/or printed format.

Please feel free to print and use this blank document during your event to collect thoughts for your summary.

Name: Rose Ann Osmanian

Title of Conference/Workshop: National On Course Conference 2008

Date Attended: May 1 - 3, 2008

What are/were your expectations of this event?
I expected to learn about how to create student success by understanding characteristics of successful students and learning specific strategies that would engage students in the writing process more through new individual and group activities.

What were the results of key sessions you attended?
Most of the sessions reinforced learner-centered strategies by having me participate in the actual strategies. The presenters gave me handouts that described the strategies they were using in the session, and the handouts explained how to use the strategies in any setting. I also learned more about what is engaging to students and how students benefit from developing success strategies, such as personal responsibility, life-long learning, motivation, interdependence, and belief in themselves, to name a few. I came back inspired to implement the development of these characteristics in the Writing Center's services.

How do you intend to incorporate the information or experience into your instruction and service to students?
One thing I would like to do is create a “tool-kit” of small-group strategies, so tutors can engage students, who attend their workshops and study groups, in a variety of ways. I would also like to review our activities to see if they are engaging in the ways the brain finds material engaging (from session “What Weighs Three Pounds and Is Ready to Learn?”)

Would you recommend another person to attend this conference/workshop in the future? Why or why not?
I definitely recommend any person involved in Success Centers to attend this workshop. Not only does one network with educators excited about engaging students in new ways, one comes back with concrete and doable strategies that can be implemented immediately. One realizes that student success comes not from the type of material educators teach, but how they teach it.

Additional Comments