TAACCCT ON!
building tomorrow's workforce today

2014 TAACCCT Grantee Conference
September 30 through October 2, 2014

Co-hosted by:

Kansas Round 1 TRAC-7 Consortium

TRAC7.ORG

and the
OPEN Professionals Education Network

OPEN http://open4us.org
Open Professionals Education Network

creative commons   Open Learning Initiative   Stanford University   CAST   SBCTC

Exciting opportunities for TAACCCT grantees!

Washburn and TRAC-7 have extended capitol city hospitality and a warm welcome to Creative Commons and its OPEN partners. We're merging our respective TAACCCT grantee conferences into one big collaborative party!

TRAC-7's focused, peer-to-peer TAACCCT conference October 1-2, 2014 in Topeka, Kansas at Washburn University is being expanded with OPEN round 1 TAACCCT grantee final conference activities. The inclusion of OPEN brings a special focus on supporting round 1 TAACCCT grantee participation, showcasing round 1 grantee work, and planning completion and close-out of round 1 projects.

Dates:
Pre-Conference September 30, 2014
Conference October 1 & 2, 2014

Location:
Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas

TRAC-7 and OPEN are pumped about doing this together and pleased to provide this updated program plan and renewed invitation. This event is not to be missed!

The Pre-Conference will have two strands:
1. Strand 1 will focus on Round 1 closeout procedures.
2. Strand 2 will focus on Round 2 & 3 grantees project management and implementation.

Pre-Conference Strand 1: 9:00 am -4 pm
Pre-Conference Strand 1 will focus on helping Round 1 grantees prepare for the end of their grant including DOL requirements for Financials (Grant Closeout), Final Performance and Deliverables. The agenda will be guided by grantees: questions, requests, and suggestions for information on financials, evaluation, data reports, deliverables, final reports and other topics are welcome. Agenda and breakouts will be structured based on input.

Special closeout sessions will include webinars with DOL staff on Financials and Final Performance expectations as well as an overview of the DOL TAACCCT repository strategy and demonstrating the first phase of the DOL TAACCCT repository services designed to support the preservation/back-up of the grantees' work. The demonstration will include how grantees can upload the materials they produced to the repository. Results from the round 1 pilot group will be shared and go forward strategies and processes will be mapped out including hands-on opportunities to practice. The interactive session will welcome grantees' feedback and recommendations on the repository services. The California State University-MERLOT team developing the repository services will lead this session.

Pre-Conference Strand 2: 10:00 -3 pm
Pre-Conference Strand 2 provides grantees with facilitated opportunities to meet with their respective round cohort groups. Discussion topics for Strand 2 will be based on Pre-Conference registrant feedback and requests. Each pre-conference registrant will receive a survey link to provide feedback for developing the facilitated discussion topics.

Both strands of the Pre-Conference will be held at Washburn Institute of Technology. Lunch will be provided. **Pre-registration is required** for the pre-conference.

Note: In order to help as many round 1 grantees attend as possible, OPEN is pleased to announce that it will fund participation costs for one designated grantee from each Round 1 TAACCCT project. Funding for registration, airfare, and hotel will be provided. This includes attendance and participation in pre-conference and conference. Round 1 project leads should specify who the designated attendee is using the form at http://bit.ly/TAACCCT-ON. Designated Round 1 attendees will be connected to a travel agent for flight bookings. Other members of the same grant are welcome to attend the pre-conference and/or conference but must make their own flight and hotel bookings and cover their own expenses.

Morning

The morning of conference day one will feature a Round 1 TAACCCT grantee showcase fair. All round 1 grantee's are invited to showcase, share, and describe some of the best work coming out of their projects. We know many Round 1 grantees have asked for extensions, but this conference is a great opportunity to showcase work to date and future plans.

Each round 1 grantee will have its own table at which it can display collateral, demo TAACCCT development work it is proud of, and promote its efforts. Rounds 1, 2 and 3 attendees will have the opportunity to get ideas and talk about hard-learned lessons in grant management from peers.

Using a fun, interactive, and participatory process the OPEN group will invite attendees to identify their favorite grantee work in TAACCCT grant priority areas including:
1. Accelerate Progress for Low-Skilled and Other Worker
2. Improve Retention and Achievement Rates to Reduce Time to Completion
3. Build Programs That Meet Industry Needs, Including Developing Career Pathways
4. Strengthen Online and Technology-Enabled Learning

Lunch provided.

Afternoon

The first part of the afternoon has two parallel strands:
1. A presentation on the DOL TAACCCT Repository Services including status, goals, timeline and a demonstration of the first phase of services grantees will use to upload TAACCCT deliverables to it.
2. Round Table sessions will be available for participants to meet with Open, DOL, and peer mentors about various topics of interest, as well.

The afternoon will conclude with a celebration of conference attendee top picks from the morning round 1 TAACCCT grantee showcase fair. Each top pick will be invited to provide a lightning round description of their work.

Hosted Reception - October 1st - 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Day 2 of the conference will feature a variety of grantee-led workshops and opportunities to collaborate. Roundtables will be formed for direct peer-to-peer sharing and learning from each other with illuminated best practices, shining success stories, "experience-is-the-best-teacher" examples, lessons learned, and strategies that really work.

Four respective TAACCCT strands will be spotlighted:
1. Grant Management
2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
3. Connections and Collaboration
4. Evaluation and Data Management

Morning
During the morning, there will be two break-out sessions and a networking break.

OPEN partners will hold sessions on the Creative Commons CC-BY requirement, Open Educational Resources (OER), Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and educational technology.

Washburn Institute of Technology will host a tour of the TAACCCT-funded Advanced Systems Technology center.

Lunch provided.

After lunch, there will be a Conference Celebration and final breakout sessions. The conference will conclude at 3 pm CST.

Registration

Note: In order to help as many round 1 grantees attend as possible, OPEN is pleased to announce that it will fund participation costs for one designated grantee from each Round 1 TAACCCT project. Funding for registration, airfare, and hotel will be provided. This includes attendance and participation in pre-conference and conference. Round 1 project leads should specify who the designated attendee is using the form at http://bit.ly/TAACCCT-ON. Designated Round 1 attendees will be connected to a travel agent for flight bookings. Other members of the same grant are welcome to attend the pre-conference and/or conference but must make their own flight and hotel bookings and cover their own expenses.

For all other attendees **Registration for the conference is $200 per person on or before September 12th. On-site and late registrations ($275) will be accepted <u>if</u> space is available.**

The pre-conference registration fee <u>is an additional $25.</u>

Advance registration for both the Pre-Conference and the Conference is $225 per person.

For all but round 1 grantee designated participants funded through OPEN, invoices will be mailed to your institution or organization after registration is confirmed. On-site/late registrations should be paid by check.

Click here to register for TAACCCT ON! 2014.

The TRAC-7 programs include Advanced Systems Technology (Advanced Manufacturing), Agri-Biotechnology, Electrical Power Technician, Environmental Technology/ Water Quality, Food Science, Power Plant Technology and Risk Management.

Conference Logistics

Topeka is conveniently located along I-70 in northeast Kansas. Washburn University is located at 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka, Kansas 66621.

Airline options include:
   • Kansas City International Airport (60 minutes away along I-70)
   • Manhattan Regional Airport (40 minutes away along I-70)

Train options include:
   • Amtrak (Topeka station)

Lodging:

A block of rooms for conference attendees has been reserved under a group name TAACCCT from September 29th through October 3rd (reserve by Sept 3rd) at the following hotels:

- **Capitol Plaza Hotel**, Topeka, about a mile from Washburn University
    - o - Direct links to reservations (no group code required):
- https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=1252907&hotelID=13576
-
- http://booking.ihotelier.com/istay/istay.jsp?groupID=1252907&hotelID=13576

or:

- Reservations can be made online at www.capitolplazahoteltopeka.com Click on "Reservations" and you will be redirected to reservations page. Select "Groups" to continue booking. The attendee code for the discounted rate is **ON2014**, once the code is entered, you will be able to select the dates and book your reservation.
- OR, call the hotel directly at (800) 579-7937 (please mention you are part of **TAACCCT On! Conference** or group code **TACT**).

- **Hyatt Place Topeka**, approximately 3 miles from Washburn University
    - o 6021 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas, 66615
    - o The group rate is $89/night
    - o Call 888-492-8847 (reservations) and request a room under the TAACCCT group block
    - o Breakfast is included

Please visit http://www.trac7.org/taaccct-on-2014 and http://open4us.org/events for more information. If you have questions or comments, please call Debra Mikulka at 785-670-1403 or email: trac7@washburn.edu. Questions related to OPEN funding for designated Round 1 grantees should be directed to Paul Stacey at pstacey@creativecommons.org.

We look forward to meeting with you at TAACCCT On!