Colleagues,

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities has been selected to participate in a training and professional development program sponsored by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), funded by Lumina Foundation. The purpose of Jumpstart: Competency-based Education is to develop opportunities for faculty and administrators to learn about competency-based education (CBE) and competency-based assessments (CBA). The lead institution for Jumpstart is Metropolitan State University and an additional 16 MnSCU colleges and universities have indicated interest in participating. The program will run 9-12 months.

For participating colleges and universities, CAEL will provide training, both in-person and through webinars, for faculty and administrators to help them gain an in-depth understanding of CBE. The goal is to help your team understand the impact that CBE may have on your institution’s faculty, student services, technology, etc. as you work toward implementation of a competency-based program.

The first event on August 8, 2014, is an introduction to the Jumpstart program. Attached is a workshop agenda. This training will be followed up by further support through webinars on selected topics that you and other institutions may be interested in, and there is the opportunity for more in-depth technical assistance with a CAEL subject matter expert in areas in which you are having particular challenges related to implementation.

Because of space restrictions, participating institutions are invited to have two individuals attend from your college or university.

Event: Jumpstart: Competency-based Education Workshop
Date: Friday, August 8, 2014
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Location: MnSCU System Office – Conference Rooms 3304/3306
Directions: http://www.mnscu.edu/system/directions.html
RSVP: By Wednesday, July 30 to gina.sobania@so.mnscu.edu
Two individuals – include name, title and email

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities applied, in part, to identify possible ways to implement the recommendation in Charting the Future. A key recommendation in Charting the Future focuses on serving diverse students and “expand[ing] pathways to accelerate degree completion through credit for prior learning, and foster[ing] the award of competency-based credit and degrees.” Through this program, Metropolitan State University and the participating institutions will collectively benefit from training and technical assistance for our early exploration of competency-based education and assessment. I encourage your participation.

[Signature]

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator.