



~ ANNOUNCEMENT ~

**New Blog on Professional Development  
In Adult Education  
Invites Input from NCAL Readers**

Professional Development is a long-standing need in the field of Adult Education and Workforce Skills. Some recent activities sparked a renewed discussion of that reality. In August 2015, NCAL hosted [\*Moving PD Closer to the Top\*](#), a blog in which several invited national leaders spoke in specific terms about highest priority needs in PD.

A month later, in September 2015, Johan Uvin, Asst. Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, and Gail Spangenberg, NCAL's president, co-authored a follow-up OCTAE blog, [\*Throwing Down the Gauntlet for Professional Development\*](#).

Then, Mary Ann Corley picked up the challenge by organizing a professional development pre-conference panel on the topic at COABE's April 2016 conference. (Dr. Corley, recently retired as Professional Development Specialist from the American Institutes of Research, is a Principal Associate of [\*Adult Learning Partners\*](#), LLC.) The Association of Adult Literacy Professional Developers (AALPD) sponsored the panel. Dr. Corley moderated it and participated as a panelist along with Jeff Carter, Sandy Crist, Kim Harris, Rebecca Wagner, and Randy Whitfield. The conference was introduced by a 15-minute YouTube video speech by Mr. Uvin, with the discussion organized according to the six priority topics given below. (To view the video, link [HERE](#).)

After the COABE conference, Dr. Corley expressed interest in extending the COABE discussion to a wider audience. NCAL offered to host a third PD blog. That blog, [\*Picking Up the PD Challenge\*](#), has just been posted at the NCAL website. We hope it will stimulate a broader discussion in forums around the country and we invite NCAL's blog readers to contribute their own comments and suggestions about priority needs in professional development.

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(formerly Council for Advancement of Adult Literacy)

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