



National Council for Adult Learning

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Asst. Sec. Johan Uvin Introduces COABE's 2016 Professional Development Conference Session By Video

Professional Development is a long-standing need in the field of Adult Education and Workforce Skills. Some recent activities sparked a renewed public discussion of the topic. First, 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. (Go to <http://ncalamerica.org/blog/moving-pd-closer-to-the-top>). A month later, in September 2015, Asst. Sec. of Career, Technical, & Adult Education Johan Uvin and NCAL President Gail Spangenberg co-authored a follow-up OCTAE blog called *Throwing Down the Gauntlet for Professional Development* (at sites.ed.gov/octae/2015/09/24/throwing-down-the-gauntlet-for-pd/).

Inspired by these two postings, Mary Ann Corley, professional development specialist recently retired from the American Institutes of Research (see Adult Learning Partners at www.alpamerica.com) picked up the gauntlet by organizing a professional development panel for COABE's April 2016 conference in Dallas. With the sponsorship of AALPD (Association of Adult Literacy Professional Developers), she moderated and participated in a PD panel also including Jeff Carter, Sandy Crist, Kim Harris, Rebecca Wagner, and Randy Whitfield. The conference was introduced by a 15-minute YouTube speech by Asst. Sec. Uvin. (Note: The results of the conference session itself will be summarized in an upcoming NCAL blog.)

To view the YouTube speech, go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_DEJhJLkQc.