

L2L: A View from the Top of the Tower

Recorder Notes *(submitted by Ethel Haughton)*

As session participants entered the room, the facilitators were playing videos created by students in the Learning to Learn Camp (Hinds Community College, Nursing and Allied Health Center), using the song "Happy." This helped to set an open and welcoming environment for the session.

Participants were seated in four groups of 5-6 people each. They were to have read materials about Teamwork provided in the PE Conference Binder. The facilitators asked participants to complete a five-question quiz focused on team building and team efficacy. After completing the quiz individually, the answers were discussed in teams and then by the whole group. The facilitators explained that a student in the L2L Camp who does not complete homework is not admitted to the camp.

This prepared the participants to engage in one of the activities assigned to students in the L2L Camp. The activity required the teams to plan and then build a prototype of a transportable radio tower for reporting wildfires. (page 107) Within a 30-minutes time frame, each team had to select a role for each team member, brainstorm ideas, design a plan, obtain materials, build the prototype, calculate its scores (based on a given formula), and complete both a Reflector's and Recorder's Report.

After having completed the above, each team gave a reflective report and then there was general discussion about what had been learned from the activity. The reflective reports and discussions of these reports included the following observations:

- ✓ the need to follow directions
- ✓ the importance of collaboration
- ✓ the recognition that each team member brings a skill set to the team
- ✓ being in a collaborative team fosters a safe environment (You do not have to fear making a mistake or expressing an opinion)
- ✓ the recognition that it is better to work smarter, not harder
- ✓ the value of taking risks
- ✓ the value of generalizing about the process
- ✓ the importance of time management (planning and building in a specified time frame)
- ✓ the value of compromise when working on a team

The facilitators closed out the session by saying that the activity forced students to recognize the value of teamwork. They also spoke about how most of the more reserved students in the L2L Camp gain confidence and begin to speak out. In the Camp, the teams stay the same, but the roles rotate.

The facilitators, whose enthusiasm energized the participants throughout this session, provided a statistical summary (June 19, 2015) of the success rate of students in the L2L Camps from 2009 through 2015. The categories were

- ✓ Number Completing the L2L Camp
- ✓ Number Re-enrolled upon completion of Camp
- ✓ Number graduated from HCC
- ✓ Number currently enrolled at HCC
- ✓ Percentage Success Rate

This summary showed a 68.4% success rate for 2014.