

# AtD@NC State



Vol. 1, No. 2

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## Communication Update:

April 5, 2006  
AtD Forum

**And the results are in...**  
We asked for your response, and 65% of you answered!

### The Top Four Ways You Want To Receive

#### Communication:

- Email-
- Open Forums-
- Paper "NewsBriefs"-
- Electronic "NewsBriefs"-

*"Open forums are great for getting first hand information."*

*"Excellent Initiative!"*

*"It's very positive to have the evidence before we make decisions and procedural changes."*

*"This forum reinforced what I have already heard. It has many instructors thinking out loud about how they can 'fix' their courses."*

Send us your stories, questions, and/or comments!

Via Email:

[atdcomm@ncstatecollege.edu](mailto:atdcomm@ncstatecollege.edu)

Via the Web:

[www.ncstatecollege.edu/atd](http://www.ncstatecollege.edu/atd)



## Achiever & Dreamer:

Meet Mary Heller. As a single mother of a two year old boy named Jordan, Mary looked around her and decided she wanted a better life for herself and her young son.

Mary had been receiving state support and knew that she could do better than her current state. This is when she decided to take a big, deep breath and venture through the doors of North Central State College.

Because of the many great services we offer our students, Mary was able to succeed in achieving her dream! She funded her education through grants with help from our Financial Aid Office. Because of the great day care programs we have at the Child Development Center, she was able to enroll her son in an excellent daycare, right here on campus. Mary also worked as a work study in our Student Success Center, which she said "opened so many doors" for her.

Mary completed her degree in Office Administration within two years and hit the pavement running. She started with a few of the local temp agencies and then found a full-time job at the Mansfield Area Y. She was then drawn back to North Central State College to help others who started out a lot like herself in the Student Success Center.

After two years at North Central State College, Mary felt the need to be closer to her family in Sioux City, Iowa where she works today at a four-year private university.

Mary says, "I love NC State and loved my experience so much that I wouldn't be surprised if I end up back there someday."



## Data Update:

North Central State has already planned to institutionalize AtD by linking it to the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) of the Higher Learning Commission. In fact, it has made the data gathering and decision-making process of Achieving the Dream a specific action project under AQIP (Helping Students Learn category). Likewise, each AQIP category is linked to the Board of Trustee goals.

It should be noted that Dr. Abrams decided to self-fund the first year of AtD, and he has remained actively engaged by communicating it in community presentations and personally attending many internal meetings related to the initiative. He and representatives regularly update the Board of Trustees on AtD at its monthly meetings.

The College has already begun discussion of potential reallocation of resources to supplement AtD funding, both in the short and long term.

For example, the College intends to seek capital funding, such as through the College Foundation, by 2007-08 to install a computer laboratory specifically for developmental math, reading and writing. It also intends to apply for a federal Title III grant under the auspices of one of its AtD action strategies in 2007.

The College also intends to examine its current use of federal Perkins funds to determine long-term how they can be reallocated to support AtD action strategies. Finally, the College will consider charging the College Student Inventory advising session as a lab fee, most likely covered through financial aid. Instructional fees already pay for the actual CSI, since it is linked to FYE 161.

## Welcome to Achieving the Dream!

It's a big idea, with an even bigger goal – to achieve higher success rates for our students!