

My Reflection **Dr. Marian Spaid- Ross**

Why did I select this artifact to demonstrate my learning in this class?

I selected this artifact, Career Development Center Brochure because it provided me an opportunity to not only become more knowledgeable about the career needs of the older adult student but also, analyze some of the institutional issues regarding older adult students and the career services available within higher education. I also became more aware of the institutional issues and the various stakeholders that supported the appeal for career development reform of the traditional model.

Which specific program learning outcomes does this artifact demonstrate?

The artifact, Career Development Center Brochure, included these specific program learning outcomes:

- Enhance cultural and intergenerational competence regarding age, cohort, gender, race, and ethnicity, and/or diverse abilities.
- Develop professional identity as a gerontologist to effectively work with an interdisciplinary team.
- Develop advocacy skills to participate in policy formation, implementation, and analysis on the local, state, and federal level for aging related issues.

How does this artifact demonstrate my learning of the expected program learning outcomes?

The process for developing this brochure provided me an opportunity to recognize and understand more clearly the importance of reforming and applying the use of specific older adult career model and programs at various institutions. The process in creating this brochure required that I examine and evaluate the various issues regarding the use and accessibility by

older adult students of the Career Development Center and its impact on older adult students and their career center access and resources.

How does this artifact demonstrate my learning of my personal and professional goals for the program?

After creating this artifact, Career Development Center Brochure, I have begun to understand the importance of continuing a career development pathway that supports older adult learners and their career choices. My participation in the dialogue and decision-making process about older adults and changing or searching for a new career is necessary to advocate the career needs of our older adult students. As a leader I will advocate ideas and actions that are representative of the values and goals of education; to support the most appropriate programs and resources for the betterment and success of our older adult students.

I believe that my participation and engagement in this process has continued to transform not only my role as a gerontologist but also has transformed my ideas and research within the educational system. By utilizing this type of leadership approach relationships and dialogues continue to develop between administrators, faculty, staff, and older adult students working together as a community which then creates a shared awareness of the career development issues that older adult students encounter during their educational experience.