**WorkforceGPS**

**Transcript of Webinar**

**New and Improved TAACCCT Learning Network Community on WorkforceGPS!**

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GARY GONZALEZ: All right. With that I'm going to turn things over now to Cheryl Martin. Cheryl, take it away.

CHERYL MARTIN: Thanks, Gary. Hi. This is Cheryl Martin. I'm the project manager for the TAACCCT grants program, and I'm happy to have you back again with us today. So today we're here to talk about a new way that the TAACCCT Learning Network can communicate with each other, and you're all a little bit familiar with it because you are on that platform right now.

You're on WorkforceGPS instead of the other one that was called Workforce3One. That's been a change that's a long time in coming. ETA as an organization has been planning and working on this for a long time to upgrade our capacity to offer all of the parts of ETA, including the TAACCCT learning community, better opportunities to be in touch with each other and to find resources that are useful to them and so on.

So today, while we're going to focus on just a little corner of it, you might call it, the TAACCCT Learning Network, know that it's part of a much bigger community that is everybody in ETA or everybody that relates to ETA's programs. So there's another corner that deals with WIOA, if you have questions about that, and with other grants, if you have other grants and so forth. So I hope that you will find it to be useful.

We are excited about this specifically for the TAACCCT Learning Network because it offers some new ways to talk amongst ourselves, for you to talk amongst yourselves but also for us to communicate between you and us and us being Department of Labor and our TA providers and all of that. So we're excited about that. We're at an experimental stage with how we use the site. So we're going to present to you some of the ways that we are starting to use it today, but if you have thoughts or ideas for how we could use it better, please let us know. And you can do that either during this webinar, or you can always of course send us an e-mail at TAACCCT@dol.gov.

I'm going to come back to the slide introducing our speakers today, but just wanted to say that, as you're probably well aware by now, there's a lot of different things going on within the TAACCCT Learning Network. You are the TAACCCT Learning Network, but there are a lot of different resources available to you. Some of that stemming from the fact that we weren't able to have our technical assistance team which we have now. We weren't able to have that at the very beginning, and so many things sprouted up.

So we have the other non-federal providers. We have the U.S. National Science Foundation and the ATE Centers providing TA, but a number of sources of technical assistance come out of the U.S. Department of Labor. And so where we are today on this map is that our TA contractor is Jobs for the Future, and they work together with Maher & Maher and the American Association of Community Colleges. And so we'll be hearing from folks on that TA team today.

Specifically, we'll be hearing from Erica Acevedo who is the senior program manager at Jobs for the Future who works on TAACCCT and has from the beginning of when we were able to bring JFF on board.

We will also be hearing from Scott Estrada who is a little bit newer to the team but is doing a great job of assisting Kristen on the performance side of things. So you've probably heard from Scott. Sometimes that's good. Sometimes that's bad. If you hear from Scott, sometimes it means you owe us something, and sometimes it means he's helping you get us what you need to give us. He does a lot of other things too, though.

Anyway, and then Jenny Freeman who is the leader of the TA team, and I'm sure that all of you know Jenny by now. You may have been in a coaching relationship with Jenny or Erica or one of the several other coaches that we have as well.

So we're delighted to have our TA team here. I'm going to turn it over to them, and specifically I'll turn it over to Jenny right now and let her tell you about the new ways we can use the TAACCCT Learning Network. Jenny?

JENNIFER FREEMAN: That's great. Thanks, Cheryl, and hi, everyone.

So Cheryl went through what the TAACCCT Learning Network is, and what I wanted to just underscore here on this slide is how closely we all work together, all of the technical assistance providers that are both ones that are funded through Department of Labor and also the ones that are non-federal providers like the ones you see over there on the right, Transformative Change Initiative and the other providers. Going back over to the left under the U.S. Department of Labor, CalState MERLOT, as you may know, is they are tasked to develop SkillsCommons where the curriculum is being housed.

And so I'm just wanting to make sure that you're all aware that we all work very, very closely together, and one thing that we're trying to do through the way that WorkforceGPS is set up is sort of further integrate all of those services so that it's less confusing kind of who you go to for what question and that sort of thing.

So moving on, we're going to start to – we're going to walk through GPS in a minute. What we're going to do today is Erica and Scott are going to walk us through each of the features of WorkforceGPS to help you see what's on there, to help you figure out – find what you need, to learn about events, and the like. And we're also, throughout the course of that, going to have a number of polls because we really want to get your feedback in terms of what you find most helpful as far as how it's set up now, additional things that you would envision discussing there. Just we really are eager to hear from you how you would envision using this so that it can be a tool for you to ask your questions and to converse with each other and with us.

So the first – before we get to – let's move on to the next slide, and before we get to the walkthrough, let's go back to the polling question for a second. Some of you were already answering. We are wondering if you've signed up for the TAACCCT Learning Network community of practice. It seems like some of you think that is a bit of a trick question. I see 23 percent of you are wondering what we mean.

So here's what we mean. You already have signed up for WorkforceGPS in general because you are on this webinar. So you have to have signed up, but there's another thing you have to do to be part of the TAACCCT Learning Network community of practice, which means that you can then participate in discussions and get e-mail blasts with events and that kind of thing. So that's where we're going to start with our walkthrough of the site.

So, Erica, I'm going to turn it over to you, and you can show people how to sign up for the community of practice.

ERICA ACEVEDO: Great. Thank you. And I'm just going to zoom in a little bit so that folks can see, but I do know that there is a zoom in function that you can access individually on your monitor. So, Gary, can you point out where that is?

MR. GONZALEZ: Sure. So if you'd like to expand the screen share window that you're looking at now, at the top right hand of the screen share window there's an icon where it's two – or sorry – four arrows pointing out from a center. It's at the top right hand of the screen share window. If you left click that button, the screen share window will expand so it takes up the entirety of your monitor. You'll want to deselect that button if you want the chat window to return if you want to type in any questions. But we do encourage you to type in any questions throughout today's event. Erica, Jenny, back over to you.

MS. ACEVEDO: Thank you. And so what you are seeing here as I'm sharing my screen is the general – the landing page for WorkforceGPS, and as Jenny mentioned, you all have already in some form or another created a username and password when you registered for this webinar. So you either signed up originally here on the – when you click on sign up now and it took you through these steps. And so what I want to bring to your attention is this here, what falls under the your community memberships.

And so this is where you would identify the TAACCCT Learning Network, which I've done here, and I click on it as the community of practice that you want to be a part of. And I also want to note that you can sign up for any one of these, and as Cheryl mentioned, these are all grant programs that fall under ETA, Department of Labor, ETA.

So you are able to sign up to any one of these of course, but we specifically want you to click on the TAACCCT Learning Network so that you're able to, one, receive all the information that's going to be distributed through it and I'll show you that little features in a second but – and also to receive the things that are happening now but once it gets started you'll be receiving a weekly digest that will be sent directly to your e-mail just providing you with the latest and greatest information that's been uploaded to the – our specific TAACCCT community of practice.

So with that I'm just going to simply log in my information here so that I can have access to the community of practice myself.

MS. FREEMAN: And while you're doing that, Erica, let me just say that those e-lerts that would – the weekly digest that would show everything new that's been posted, whether it's a blog or an announcement or even a new resource or something like that, we anticipate that those might be starting next week. If not, it will be shortly after that. So if you go ahead and check that box now, then starting we hope next week, you will start to get a weekly digest of the information from the TAACCCT Learning Network and anything else that you signed up for.

MS. ACEVEDO: Right. And thank you. And so once you're signed up you can actually tickle back and check in your profile which communities it is that you've signed up for and fully flesh out your profile and include your job title, organization, all that. So when you click on my communities, then you'll be able to see which ones it is that you're a part of. So these are all one of the – well, I am only I think in the TAACCCT Learning Network for now, but if you were to sign up for any – click the box for any of the other ones, then you would be able to access that information here.

And so now, moving on to our community of practice, the TAACCCT Learning Network, you would just need to go on this – the top feed bar over to communities, scroll down to the TAACCCT Learning Network, and it will take you to our homepage, which I'm sure many of you are familiar with our woman with the hard hat through the various announcements that we send out and the newsletter that you all should be receiving.

And with that, if you're not receiving the monthly newsletter that's sent out through the TAACCCT Learning Network, please let us know in the chat box. We want to make sure that you're getting that because you may have received the information for this webinar through the TAACCCT mailbox and not necessarily the TAACCCT Learning Network newsletter.

So here when you went on the homepage of our community of practice, you'll see it now has the language just welcome you all to the TAACCCT Learning Network CoP, but I'll walk through some of the things that you'll see here on the homepage. So one of the things I want to draw your attention to is this featured announcement section here in the blue.

This holds some key information, resources that we think that you all should have access to always and be able to access it easily. So, for example, we have here on the left-hand side the SkillsCommons, the latest webinar that we did which was on obtaining state wage record data is here on the right-hand side, and if you click on it, you can view the recordings and download the PowerPoint.

And we also have some details on the TAACCCT Learning Network offerings. This one is really, really important, and we want to make sure that you're aware of it. So if you click on this particular announcement, it will take you to the resource, which is the offering catalog. So it – essentially it is a catalog and so you're able to see by topic the different TA offerings that we've delivered over the past two years and I think it goes back.

And so if you click on download, it will take you to where the actual resource is, and you can download the catalog. We update this regularly as new webinars are being produced and we're able to archive them. So this is something good to have handy.

Why don't we go back over to our homepage here? And so that's here on our featured announcements, and this for the most part will not change. We might change the top right hand – the announcement as new ones are coming up, but here on the right-hand side you'll see the resources that are being uploaded, the most current ones that are being uploaded and you'll see here so we just recently updated the catalog. It's here.

We had a work-based learning consultancy call last week. So you could click there and listen to the recording, download the PowerPoint. We have the TAACCCT round four extension letter that was sent out by the Department of Labor. So as we're populating the resource library, you'll see these new ones pop up here, and if you click on the top tab, you'll see the ones that are being viewed the most by you all. So they're – that's where that is housed.

And here on the bottom of the screen is where we have – the quick snapshot of our blog list on the announcements list. The blog list, I'll walk through it a bit, what that consists of, but as new blogs are being posted, you're able to access them here. If you want to see more, you can obviously click on this tab here. You can access it this way or you can access it at the top where the actual tab is but those are kind of just the features here on the homepage.

Next, I want to point out what we have here in the about tab, and again, this is just general overview that both Jenny and Cheryl did about the TAACCCT Learning Network, which is you all and all the TA providers that are here to support you with your grant, some of the various ways in which the TA is being offered.

And we definitely have a section down here about the partners of the TAACCCT Learning Network, and as Jenny said and stressed, we work very closely and are in constant communication around what are the things that you all need to successfully implement your grant and meet other requirements. So you click on each one of these type of links, it will take you to their sites where they're able to – you'll find more additional resources. So there's that.

And so now, I want to walk over to the announcements page – tab – the announcements tab. So like I said, the one on the homepage, that blue box, kind of those standing resources that don't change. But if you click here, you'll be able to see all the announcements that we've ever posted, and if you scroll all the way down, you see we currently have two tabs or two pages full of announcements, all the various entries that we're getting in there.

But one thing that I want to note in this section is that all of these announcements, they're not new – – (inaudible) – the word but they're also announcements and information, webinars, resources, things that you may have already seen on the TAACCCT Learning Network monthly newsletter. And so we're pulling those out and making these individual announcements so that you can search for them and access them later rather than always going through your e-mail trying to find the newsletter and then clicking on those links there.

But I will note that we also have all of the individual newsletters in the resource library. So if you want to take a look at a full complete newsletter, you can do that, and we'll be showing you how to do that search later.

So before – no. Actually, now. Yeah. We're going to move into the – so something about these next two tabs that I'm going to highlight, which is the blogs and the discussion topics, these are two really neat features about this new TAACCCT Learning Network CoP because they allow you to interact, interact with us, interact with each other, pose questions, comment on blogs. And in order to be able to do that you need to have signed up for the TAACCCT Learning Network CoP. So again, that's what we walked you through in the very beginning how to check that box to make sure that you're able to fully access this function of the community of practice.

So once I click on the blogs tab, you'll see here we have three blogs so far with the latest was just uploaded today actually, and it's a tip sheet from SkillsCommons. They're working with round two. They wanted to make sure and highlight some tips that they're doing that – wrapping up their grant. But we've also had two others that have been – they were written by Cheryl Martin to – (inaudible) – from kind of one welcoming you to this new CoP and then just talking a little more broadly about TAACCCT. And – but one of the things we also – and so, again, let me – I'll just click on one now so you can see what this looks like.

So here's the one from SkillsCommons that Rick Lumadue submitted, and it's various tips from round two. They don't just apply to round two, but this one is specific targeted for round two as they're coming to an end of their grant. But here in this section is where you would comment on the blog, if you wanted to, and we could add your comment here. So that's kind of a neat function that we have for the blogging – for the blogs.

And so then as you'll notice here, it says become a content contributor or guest blogger. We would love to have guest bloggers submit a blog. It could be on anything TAACCCT related, something related to your specific grant program or what you're seeing out in the community college field. And all you would need to do in order to do that is click on this link here with hopefully – I don't know if it will pop up. Nope. Let's not do that. Let me go back up there. Can I move my screen, Gary?

MR. GONZALEZ: Certainly.

MS. ACEVEDO: I think I might have lost my screen. Oh, here we go. Oh, here we go. OK. So ideally, this isn't my computer. That's why it didn't work properly, but if you're working – if you're online and you're on the community of practice from your work computer, personal computer, you click on the link. The e-mail itself will pop up, and it will direct you to us or the TAACCCT mailbox so that you can submit and request to contribute a blog to this section. So this is our blog section of the TAACCCT Learning Network CoP. Did you want to add to anything here?

MS. FREEMAN: No. I think just one thing to – yeah. I just want to underscore how much we really would like to have guest bloggers. Rick's blog is very factual, but we would love to have stories here. It's a great place for you to share success stories, share observations about community college reform issues, whatever's on your mind. And so I just want to underscore encouragement to think about submitting a blog. Really just a paragraph or two is the kind of thing that we're looking for.

MS. ACEVEDO: Right. Right. And we're looking to do this on a weekly basis. So if we have a lot of folks that are submitting, we'll definitely get you on that schedule to post a blog. So if you – again, if you want to post something, thinking of writing something up, just send us what your general idea is, and we will move forward with that individually with you.

So the next tab is the discussion topics, and again, this is one of the other sections where it will really allow you to interact with us, the TAACCCT Learning network, the Department of Labor, and with each other. And you'll see here this is where you can – if you have a question, if you have a challenge, you have something to share, this is where you can do that. The discussion topics are ones that we've already started, and we thought that they would be a good place to start.

But in a minute we'll be asking you if there are any others that you might be interested in adding here, but like I said, it allows you to be interactive not just with Department of Labor or with the various TA providers but with each other. So here is one in the grants management section which is about the APR and calculations that was submitted. I believe it was a question that was sent in to us and we populated it here and then we got a response from the Department of Labor, in this case from Scott.

And you'll see here, here is where you can follow up with this discussion, if you wanted. But like I said, there are these other ones that have already been and we've come up with something – some topics that we thought might be a good place to start. So, for example, we have let us know, and again, this is where we – you tell us about what discussion or blog topics you would like to see, just some general feedback about what it is you want to see in this community of practice.

Research and resources topic is what are you seeing out there that you're coming across that would be a benefit to your TAACCCT peers and to this community? The TAACCCT promising practices, again, that's what are you doing in your grant that you're seeing as being successful and want to share.

And then TAACCCT TA best-ofs. Again, this one is trying to get some feedback from you all as far as what has been the most useful kind of TA? Webinars, resources, in-person type of settings where we've been able to deliver TA in that way have been most beneficial to you? So anything else that I may be missing here?

MS. FREEMAN: No. It looks great. Yeah. Yeah. So please respond to – if any of these are places where you have questions or want to make comments, please do that, and then, as Erica said, these discussion topics can be changed and added to. And that's where we very much want your feedback, and we'll doing that with some polling in just a minute.

MS. ACEVEDO: Yeah. And, well, actually, I think the next section is we're going to take a little break and we're going to do some of those polls and just get some feedback from you all on the very things that we just discussed.

MS. FREEMAN: OK. So, Gary, we're ready to go back to the – we're ready to go back to the poll and do some polls.

MR. GONZALEZ: All right. As you can see, the polling is up on your screen for folks that are logged into the webinar room. What would make you want to follow this blog is the first question? And the options are, if there was sharing information of high priority issues in TAACCCT, if there was useful information for my grant management, if there was discussion of relevant policy issues affecting community colleges, or if there was celebrity gossip. Jenny, Erica, Cheryl, I'll turn it over to you to review the selections people are making.

MS. FREEMAN: So – and just be aware that you can click as many options as are relevant to you. And I'd like to –

MR. GONZALEZ: Let me jump in. That is not how this poll is set up. You can only choose one, though I could – (inaudible).

MS. FREEMAN: OK. No worries. Well, thank you for that clarification. You can only choose one. So if one speaks to you and you're clicking on that but you have a second comment spot or comment, please put that in the chat box.

MS. ACEVEDO: Right.

MS. FREEMAN: So it sounds like for most of you sharing information of high priority issues for TAACCCT is what you mainly want to see, but you'd also do it if there was useful information for grants management. So OK. That is that – (inaudible). If there's anything that you want to elaborate on in terms of that information – high priority TAACCCT information, please let us know.

But why don't we go on now to the next poll related to blogging, and this has to do with just kind of reflecting on your blogging usage now, if you are a big blogger or a responder to blogs or would anticipate being responder. We're wondering if you can just give us a sense of that. Are you the kind of people who respond often, or you're not very likely? So so far – well, I'll give you a couple minutes to decide what kind of blog reader you are and –

MS. ACEVEDO: This is just responding. It's not about reading it or noticing it, I think; right?

MS. FREEMAN: That's right. This is not about are you going to read it or not. It's are you going to respond to it, kind of use it as a way to interact with the blogger and with each other around the topic that's being blogged about? So I'm seeing that for the most part you're not very likely to be sharing your thoughts there, which is fine.

The one thing that I'd like to ask you to put in the chat box – we don't have a yes, no blog about it – I mean, poll about it, but please put in the chat box if you would like to contribute a blog. And if you put that in the chat box, it doesn't – we're not – it doesn't commit you to it, but I'm just curious whether at some point in time you could envision yourself wanting to write up a paragraph or two and submitting a blog. So just if you could write yes, no to that. Oh, and did Gary actually just make up that?

MS. ACEVEDO: Yes.

MS. FREEMAN: Oh, thank you, Gary. So instant blogging – I mean, instant polling here. That's fantastic. So OK. There's some of you. So I'm seeing that a few of you would be interested in doing that, and that's great to know. We'll leave this up for a minute because 10 of you have responded. And if more of you could respond to this, that would just be very useful to know.

MS. ACEVEDO: And Janet said something. She said that – she says this little response to how likely to blog a question or to comment, maybe not regularly, not always.

MS. FREEMAN: And while we're – before we go on to the next poll which relates to the discussion topics, I want to go over and respond to this question from Christa Smith who wonders if there's a way to – (inaudible) – announcements so that we get an e-mail when there's new content or the most recent – with the most recent item on top. Erica, do you want to – Erica or Scott, do you want to explain how that's going to work?

MS. MARTIN: Actually, this is Cheryl. I thought you wanted me to respond to that one.

MS. FREEMAN: OK. Sure.

MS. ACEVEDO: Yeah.

MS. FREEMAN: Go ahead.

MS. MARTIN: OK. So first of all, Christa – and then others can add to that, but, Christa, it's nice to hear that you want to hear from us. I'm encouraged by that, and there are multiple ways that we communicate. Excuse me.

First of all, there are official e-mails that come out like when we send out the six-month extension letter to the round fours and say, yes, you guys get that too. That comes out from the TAACCCT mailbox, and that goes to two people, whoever we have on – for your point of contact for you or for the individual institution or for the consortium. And so it's just one point of contact is what I mean, and we expect that those folks would share those things more broadly with other people who need them.

And then secondly, the signatory, and so we send those kinds of official things out to all the points of contact and signatories that are relevant maybe just for round four or whatever is relevant for that particular communication. So if you think that you might have the wrong person down for point of contact, for the signatory it requires a mod to change the signatory but for the point of contact you just have to let your FPO know. So if you want to update that, let your FPO know and they will let us know and we'll get that straight.

Secondly, there's a lot of ways that we send out more general information. Now, we'll have this new WorkforceGPS site and the digests that we hope will start next week. If not, it will be very soon after that. I suspect that when those come out, the newest content will be on top, but I'm not 100 percent sure.

Secondly, there is of course the newsletter, and that gets sent out through both the official website – I mean, sorry – through the official mailbox from TAACCCT as well as through this other set of e-mails that we have that Jobs for the Future keeps. And that's for shorthand called Vertical Response. And so the newsletter – that – anybody that's related to TAACCCT can be on there. I think we have over 900 people on that list; right?

And so we send the newsletter out for that. We also send out individual e-mails on occasion from Vertical Response or from the TAACCCT mailbox, if it seems to merit that. And then the WorkforceGPS site is another way that we will start sending out that information.

So there's a lot of things going on there, but we're trying to strike a balance between communicating well with everybody and not bothering you too often. Jenny or Erica or Scott, do you want to add anything to that?

MS. ACEVEDO: No. I mean, like you said, it's just basically two vehicles. You're receiving more official compliance-related information through the TAACCCT mailbox, which is handled by the Department of Labor, and you'll receive more general information in addition to kind of just reminders of the information that the TAACCCT mailbox may have sent out through their – it's the TAACCCT Learning Network, but we just use this platform that's called Vertical Response.

But, I mean, there's – it's neither here nor there for you. You're receiving information from the TAACCCT Learning Network, and now, you'll just be receiving – you'll also – in addition you'll be receiving those digests from the WorkforceGPS once that gets going.

MS. FREEMAN: The one thing to know – and I'm saying this in part because of Justin's comment, which I completely understand Justin's comment, but sometimes more inform- – too much information makes it difficult to know what's most important. So when there are official things related to compliance issues or requirements of the Department of Labor, requirements of the U.S. grantees, those do come out just from the TAACCCT mailbox, and so those are the things that you definitely want to pay attention too.

All the TAACCCT Learning Network announcements around – about webinars and events and resources, that's all to assist you in your work. It's all technical assistance, but again, very – compliance and requirements come through the TAACCCT mailbox. So that's maybe one thing to just bear in mind and to try to keep it all straight, Justin.

And I also – so we can move on now to the discussion poll, but I did want to say I glanced through some of your comments and I appreciate your comments that the blogging questions needed kind of middle ground. Some of you might actually respond kind of depending what the issue is. I noticed that. Also, John Milan (ph), thank you so much for saying that you might be interested in doing a blog on competency-based education. That's fantastic. And we may follow up with you on that since you pointed out a particular issue. I know there's a lot of interest in competency-based education. So we'll set a conversation about that offline. So thanks for that.

So now, we want to turn your attention to the discussion topics tab that Erica walked through. So just to remind you, the discussion topics that were under that tab that currently exist are grants management questions, let us know, meaning anything you want us to know about the GPS and what you want to find there, research and resources, TAACCCT promising practices, things that you want to share there related to your successes, TAACCCT TA best ofs, things that you want to share that you think are worth kind of re-sharing webinar recordings and that sort of thing, and a tab about UI wage data. That's a specific content tab that we know there's a lot of questions about right now. So we inserted that there now.

So we can populate these discussion – we can add to this list of discussion topics so that you all can – as a way for you all to start having conversations with each other about that particular topic, be it employer engagement or competency-based education or faculty issues, what have you. So grants – or grants management issues related to kind of managing your consortium as opposed to grants management questions as opposed to Department of Labor-focused questions. So the poll – so with those in mind, Gary, if we could put up the poll, we wanted to ask you – let's see. Where is the poll here, Gary?

MR. GONZALEZ: Is it the question, other than the topics already listed here, what topics would you participate in discussions about?

MS. FREEMAN: Oh, yes. Yes. Yes. So I'm sorry. I missed that part. So yeah. So just let us know in the chat box – this is an open response – what kinds of – what other kind of topics you would like to see in that discussions list. And then you – if you suggest a topic, please – we will – we'll put it up there within the next day or so, and then we would love for you to actually post a question too.

So new grant opportunities is one thing that Frederick mentioned. We'll just wait a minute and have you all – – (inaudible) – TAACCCT lessons learned. That's a great idea. We'll just wait a minute. Program sustainability, yeah. That is a great one. It would be great, Christa – I don't know what you're thinking about there, but a question like what – just drawing it out to see what kinds of sustainability plans people have begun to make or what strategies have been – really helps them to sustain things.

That would be – that question would really generate a lot of conversation I would think and – or just – and as an aside, we're actually developing a sustainability toolkit right now that includes a number of examples but also helps you walk through the process that we'll be coming out with very shortly.

MS. ACEVEDO: I like that one. Oh, no. "What do I do now" problems.

MS. FREEMAN: Yeah. Exactly.

MS. ACEVEDO: Yeah.

MS. FREEMAN: Problems would be – something about the results scorecard, budget planning. So keep those ideas coming, and as you are typing in those, let's also now, Gary, move on to the next poll related to discussion topics.

So this poll is we are wondering specifically about whether you would use this to post a question to Department of Labor. And your options are, yes. Absolutely because you want everyone to see your question and DOL's response or that, no. You really would rather use the TAACCCT mailbox for a more private conversation with DOL. Or it depends on the question, and I see a number of you are right – typing that in, and that's understandable.

Sometimes you feel like you're asking a question about something you feel you should already know, although chances are, if you are wondering, then there are other people who are wondering too. And it isn't as dumb a question as you might think it is. We encourage you to approach this with a there's no such thing as a dumb question kind of an attitude, but in any case, we do understand. But so that's good to see.

So there's a large number of you who are saying, yes. You would definitely use it to pose questions to Department of Labor, and we love that answer because during this time when – prior to having this resource, the conversations were kind of insular, TAACCCT mailbox questions directly to Cheryl or another one of her staff and then back out to you. It just didn't allow everyone else to benefit by the responses that Department of Labor was giving. So that's fantastic that a lot of you think you would use it for that.

OK. So let's move on to the next poll. The question here is, would you use the discussion topics section to ask advice of your peers? And the answers are obvious, yes. Definitely. No. You'd – no, or only if they are offering dating advice. So I don't know how much dating advice can be found. I bet a lot. I bet a lot among TAACCCT grantees, but maybe that's something for the after hours after the conferences or something. So again, yes. Very, very large numbers will say, yes.

You definitely want to post things to peers there. That's fantastic. I encourage you to start doing that right away, and I know that right now there was – we had in some ways a soft launch of the GPS. Not everyone knew about it. We're really hoping that after – now that so many of you are on this webinar, that we can – it can actually become an active resource where you folks are actually posting questions.

We here at JFF – and I'm sure this is true of Department of Labor too – we will look at that as frequently if you post a question and it isn't – the Department of Labor will answer your question quickly, if you're posting a question to other grantees, and whoever has an answer to that particular challenge isn't responding right away, we can also try to play a role in finding people who are – who have something to say about that.

MS. ACEVEDO: There's a question from Justin on how this will complement Basecamp.

MS. FREEMAN: That is an excellent question, Justin. I guess I would say that that is sort of up to all of you. Basecamp is really nice – a great resource to have a more – to have that private conversation when that feels warranted, when you feel like there are questions you want to ask peers that aren't – that are for whatever reason just kind of among grantees. But we're hoping that in terms of questions that where everyone really would benefit by the answer, that this could be – questions could be posted here. But I think that how Basecamp continues to be used and how this is used will kind of emerge based on the comfort of the people who are doing the posting.

MS. ACEVEDO: And I'll just say one last thing on the Basecamp before we move on because I know we're coming up the time. But the Basecamp right now, as I understand it, is only project directors, program directors of grants, whereas GPS and the TAACCCT Learning Network is everybody that's involved in TAACCCT grants.

So it could be faculty. It can be program navigators, anybody that wants to sign up and receive information about what's going on in TAACCCT. And so that's where using the discussions tab would benefit a larger audience rather than the Basecamp, which is only for directors and managers.

MS. FREEMAN: That's a good point. So I think, yeah. In the interest of time we should probably move on to the last remaining tabs, which are events and the resource library. Scott Estrada is going to be walking through those, and while we switch over to that screen, I'm wondering, Cheryl, if you want to answer Christa's question, which is about how the FAQs get sent out –

MS. MARTIN: Sure.

MS. FREEMAN: – since you – (inaudible) – one.

MS. MARTIN: Yes. I would love to answer that question because, actually, as a reward for being on this webinar and for sticking with it to this point, you will be the first to hear about an upcoming new resource.

I mean, first of all, the answer to that question is that we sent that out from the TAACCCT mailbox. We did an announcement on it on the website, which of course since you didn't get a digest on it quite yet since those haven't quite started yet, you wouldn't have received that. I think I'm not sure it actually went out in the last newsletter. So that may have been something that we would have done, but anyway, the FAQs, we are working on right now a compiled FAQ document which would take all the FAQs that we know of that we've ever sent to you, and when you read it and you find one that's missing, let us know.

But we have really tried to get all of them. It's actually quite a long document. We've organized them. We've taken out duplicates and probably added a couple, which we will always note. Anyway, there's going to be this compiled FAQ document that you can always refer to going forward, and we will obviously post that prominently on the WorkforceGPS site. And then you can just keep referring to that, and then if we have a new version of it that comes out, we'll say, OK, this is – when that one comes out, it will be we hope the June version, the June 2016 version.

And if there's a new version in September of 2016 or whatever, it would be clearly noted what's been added to that one. So the answer to your question is we tried to send that out as many ways as we could, but the – in the future there should be an easier way to find the FAQs as well. Back to you.

MS. FREEMAN: And some of the way is searching in the research library, but I did want to say that we – that when that compilation comes out that Cheryl was talking about, that's the kind of thing that we would put in those – in that featured announcements blue box on the homepage and keep it there. That's the kind of thing we really want to make sure that you have immediate access to. And, Scott – (inaudible) – Scott. So, Scott, over to you.

SCOTT ESTRADA: Great. Thank you, Jenny. So I'll just go over it real quick, the last two tabs we have here, the first one being the events tab. So this is still a work in progress. We don't quite have access to this yet, but it will be happening soon. As you can see, this is a tab that will have all upcoming scheduled events that we plan on having, whether it be a webinar or a consultancy call.

A lot of times we will send out notifications for that through the TAACCCT mailbox and Vertical Response, but this would be a place to find that, if you couldn't remember where in your mailbox that came in. Also, I'll give an example of what's it's probably going to look like on the global page here.

So if you run that just GPS global and you go to the events tab there, you can see it's got a list of upcoming events and then archived past events. Click on one of these. This will be – this one here, as you can see, is that upcoming webinar, and reserve a seat just like you reserved a seat for this webinar today. So that will be coming shortly.

I will also – just to review real quick on the events tab for the TAACCCT page, down here we also have some in-person events that we just listed out. They're going to be some events that are not a TAACCCT event but they will have some side TAACCCT tracks to it that we just wanted to give that information out in case you were interested. So yeah. That will be forthcoming, and I think probably we will send out a notification once it's up. So that way you can easily navigate any events like a webinar or a call on this page rather than just trying to find it on GPS.

The resource library, so this is where – a way to navigate all the resources that we've uploaded on the TAACCCT community of practice. Comparing it to Workforce3One, you might be used to the folder system that they had, which was actually pretty navigable. This is a little bit – and these are not folders. These are like associations or tags or buckets. So this is just when we upload a resource, whatever it might be, we tag or we associate it with something, and it will show up in this taxonomy.

The taxonomy, what's good about this taxonomy is it is consistent across the entire GPS global site. So the thing that makes a difference is before, if you were trying to look for something in the search box on the TAACCCT CoP on Workforce3One, it might show up there, but it might not show up anywhere else on the Workforce3One page because the taxonomy was not consistent. This is consistent across every other CoP and GPS global. So it's going to make things much more searchable.

As you can see, I'm breaking down the taxonomy a little bit. Education training, employment retention, management operations, these are all the original sets here, and there's subsets. I don't personally and I don't think you will either necessarily use this to navigate a – to look for a specific resource necessarily. Maybe you will. That's good too. One way I would do that and actually do do that to some extent is I will – as you know, I work on performance, if you have performance questions for me.

So a lot of times I'm actually hanging around in the performance accountability page here with all the different resources that we've uploaded that relate to performance. So for those of you that might have attended the performance reporting webinar in May with Kristen that she answered a lot of questions that come to the TAACCCT mailbox, you can find that here.

So this is one webinar that exists in the resource library that will eventually be put up on the events tab as an archived past event. Another one right here is an FAQ number three for non-credit participants. So this might be if you're just trying to – you want to find something related to performance, it might behoove you to just go into the performance section and look broadly but really, realistically and the way I look for something is you're usually looking for something a little more specific for a specific resource or not.

So let's say you're looking for this in particular, non-credit participants or something that's related to the FAQ or participants in general. You can look here in the search box. This is the way I look for everything. It's usually – well, let's actually go back here so we're not actually on the page we're looking for.

So you're in the resource library, and say you want to look for – you know there's an FAQ out there regarding non-credit participants. You don't remember the title of it. You don't remember anything in detail but you know that it exists or you want to find something related to that. You can look up – there it is, non-credit. Shows up on resource. Now, or maybe you just know that it's an FAQ. You don't remember which one.

You could type in FAQ, and this will show up – bring up a bunch of FAQs, not just the one that you found but the one right here on credit participants or FAQ number one, general and this is a little bit of an – will become an antiquated page a little bit. As Cheryl said, all of these FAQs that exist will – are going to be consolidated. So we will actually – won't necessarily delete these, but we'll take them down.

Now, when you're doing a search too you can also sort by different ways, if you want. So right now I'm only searching – when I type in FAQ, I'm only finding resources where it has FAQ in the title. That's not always going to be the case. So if you want to find something that it's a specific word, you can look through the title and summary.

That's actually probably going to be a better way to search. You could also try to find not just by relevance but the title itself or how popular it is or the newest one, if you know that FAQ number six, for example, that should be the one that comes up pretty soon. Yeah. There it is right there, the grant extension. So that's a way to look for a specific resource you might want to find.

Now, another thing I'd like to do too is even though I'm not – I'm looking – I may not be looking for a specific resource like a specific FAQ, but I don't want to really scroll down through all of these different – all the different tags that are here. You can also Google it, or not Google. You can search it. I don't – it doesn't – now, when you search for something general, let's say you would search for business services here, so business services general. Let's say employer engagement; right?

So what I did was actually – that's a pretty important topic for your specific – for your program. So it shows up these six different resources. These are specific resources that have been tagged by – as an employer engagement. You see down here maybe see resources and employer engagement. It's also listed under partnerships general. You can download the re- – this is where the resource is, building long-term employer relationships and you'll download the PDF and there it is.

You could also do is, if you want to be even broader than that, you can also put in the search box something that you – is – you're looking for something very general. You don't really necessarily need something specific. You can just search something in there, and we'll use veterans for this case because this is what I practiced earlier. And a list of resources will come out. Not every program has to deal with veterans, but you'll see you get a different list of resources here that are relevant to veterans either in – specifically in the title or title summary.

Now, a key difference here or something I want to point out too is when I do a search in this box, it's relevant to the TAACCCT community of practice. So these are resources that we uploaded into TAACCCT or someone tagged to TAACCCT, likely us.

But you can also – if you don't necessarily find exactly what you're looking for, you just – you want to find it on a – have access to more resources, you can return back to the global page, to the GPS global site, type in the exact same thing, and what you'll get is a much larger amount of resources available that aren't necessarily relevant to TAACCCT but are relevant to everything. Yeah. So yes.

Oh, and actually, last thing I want to point out too before I hit it over is let's just say you find a resource that you really like. Let's say resources for women veterans. This is actually really – so if you look for something and you find something that you've been trying to find – well, they don't have a related content. Look for something you're trying to find, you can save that resource in your personal profile. That is a very helpful thing to have if you know you have a set of resources that you always fall to, that you always use. Let's see if I can find something that I want to save or have already saved.

So something I know all of you should actually have is this flow chart of exit points updated. So what you can do is you look up in this here. One, you can like it, which is also very important. You can share on social media, if you want to share with all your Facebook friends about how you love flow charts. You can also save the page, and that's going to be saved onto your specific profile.

So if I go to me here, to my profile, and you see you got here on you profile. You can look under my content, and I – so this is my created content because I'm the one who put it on there and I approved it. But you can go to the very bottom. You see my saved content, who counts as a participant flow chart, tracking participants flow chart. So I just saved it, and I can get to it easily.

So if you know there's a list of resources that you often frequent or that you want and you don't want to keep trying to find it through the taxonomy, save it to your page. It will be right there, and you can get to it pretty easily any time you want. So that's my general introduction to that, and I'll hand it back over to Jenny and Erica, if you'd like to open it up for some last discussion.

MS. FREEMAN: Sure. Great. So I think given that we're up at 5:00 o'clock now, we're going to skip the last poll and just ask you all to type in the chat box any questions you have. We understand that a lot of you are probably going to need to drop off now. So sorry that we've sort of run out of time. This was going to be the end except for our poll. Then put questions in the chat box now, if you'd like, and we can stay for a few minutes to answer them. But if you have to jump off, feel free to write your questions in the let us know section of the discussion blog, and we can help you out there.

So do any of you – does anyone have any questions based on what you've seen? And I think Gary just put up the poll anyway, if any of you are sticking around and want to just let us know what kind of material you will likely be looking for. That would be helpful. Looks like a lot of grant management information – (inaudible) – so far.

So grants management, some case studies, tools, so a little bit of everything. I guess this is what's on there now. It's a combination of all these things. So I'm glad that your interest in these things are sort of evenly spread, and that's good to know. Some people want a little bit of TAACCCT gossip. I'm not sure that we can help, but if you want to – maybe that's a good thing for Basecamp.

Anyway, so thank you all very, very much. I do invite you again to ask a question, if you'd like, and otherwise, we are – we'll stay on for a minute for any more questions, and then we will sign off. Cheryl or anyone, any last words?

MS. MARTIN: Just thank you for joining us and for paying attention to what we send you.

MS. FREEMAN: Great. Glad this is helpful, everyone. Take care.

MR. GONZALEZ: All right.

(END)