

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. Amy S. Diaz

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key-Community Colleges Oral History project

Interview # EC-A-L-2014-007

Dr. Amy Diaz, Vice President of Student Development at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key-Community Colleges* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: February 12, 2014 Location: Rock Valley College, Rockford, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Phil Pogue ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Indexed by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:07 / 1.12 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 11, 2014.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Interview being
processed

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Abstract

Dr. Amy S. Diaz, Education is Key-Community Colleges, EC-A-L-2014-007

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. Amy Diaz was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1966. She graduated from Rockford Boylan Central Catholic High School in 1984, and received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Iowa in 1988. After working for a few years she earned a masters degree in counseling from Northern Illinois University in 1994 and an Ed.D. in educational psychology in 2013, also from Northern Illinois. Diaz began her teaching career at Beloit, Wisconsin, teaching math.

For twenty years she has worked at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois, serving first as a counselor, then as the Director of Counseling, and at the time of the interview, as the Vice President of Student Services. In the latter capacity, she was involved with student retention and academic performance. Dr. Diaz discusses how Rock Valley College works to improve student retention, academic performance, and school affordability. She also addresses Rock Valley's 'First Year Support Program' and 'Transformed First Year Experience Program.'

Subject Headings/Key Words: Rock Valley College; counseling services in community colleges; student retention and academic performance in community colleges; Transformed First-Year Program experiences; University of Iowa; Northern Illinois University

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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