

## Follow-up Discussion

Professional Development Monthly Advisor and Planner (PDMAP)

### ***Teacher Behaviors***

March 2011

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Of all of the resources in the PD MAP on *Teacher Behaviors* which **one resource** was the most helpful or interesting to you?
2. There are many ways teachers can reflect on their teaching, such as journal writing, videotaping a lesson, receiving an observation, making notes on a lesson plan after the lesson. What methods do you use to reflect on your teaching? Why are those methods effective for you?
3. The ESL Teacher Language (Teacher Talk) independent study course describes five types of teacher talk: Warm-up chats, Direct Instruction, Giving Directions, Giving Feedback, Making Transitions, and Checking Understanding. A main theme of the course is that teachers should simplify their talk. Which of these areas is most problematic for you when attempting to simplify your teacher talk?
4. Which of the online videos did you watch? Which teacher behaviors stood out for you as ones you'd like to adopt? Why? Were there any teacher behaviors you observed that you would not use in your instruction? Why?
5. The Smith article describes teachers working together in study circles. How does your program provide opportunities for teachers to come together to share concerns, to reflect on their successes and challenges? What benefits have you gained from interacting with other adult education teachers?
6. Learner feedback could be an effective means of evaluating a teacher's instructional behaviors. However, such feedback often is ineffective either because learners are afraid to provide any critical comments or they aren't familiar with alternative teacher behaviors so they aren't able to suggest changes (i.e., they only know about teacher lectures, so can't suggest small group work). Have you found any effective means of eliciting learner feedback that is truly useful to you for confirming or changing your instructional behaviors?

7. What did you learn about error correction from the BBC resource? In which circumstances do you use on-the-spot error correction strategies versus delayed correction strategies?
8. What factors do you think have a negative impact on teacher motivation in the adult education field? What do you do to keep yourself motivated in your work with adult learners? How do you avoid burnout?