

By Gary Chapin

From the Editor: Gary Chapin wrote a series of 20 short poems about micro-credentials and the experience of piloting those in the ALP Rhode Island Micro-credential Pilot. On April 26, at an event in Providence, RI, he and Laurie Gagnon presented those poems. What follows are excerpts.

6.

Micro-creds come in stacks – related and sequential
like pancakes and books and cordwood.

These are our stacks.

Basic PA Design, Advanced PA Design, and
Leading a PA Community.

[FOUR FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS]

8.

Number 1, Micro-credential design is an art as much as a science.

Creation, design, and risk.

Measurement, candor, and decision.

Evidence and vision

In other words, it is dangerous out there.

10.

Number 2: Micro-creds ARE performance assessments, only more so

All that holds true for PAs

Holds doubly for micro-creds

Learner? Autonomous.

Proficiency? Demonstrated.

Standards? High.

13.

Number 3 There are more ways to learn that you have not considered, than you have.

We had a hypothesis, an IF-THEN.

But there's so much more to learn when you count

What you did not account for

16.

Number 4: Incentives are mysterious and wonderful
they will make you or break you
People are funny.
They do things for reasons.

20.

In the end:

“We saw the best minds of Rhode Island, professionals and learners
joined in gladness, hysterical, striving
Thriving Angel headed teachers, glaring into the possibility
Of the most Radical and good Performance Assessment Task.”