

COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING™

Quad Cities College Changes Everything Conference

November 6, 2012

Black Hawk College, Moline, IL

Building 4, Conference Rooms 1 and 2



Conference Program

8:30 am – Registration Opens & Continental Breakfast (Conference Room)

9:30-9:45 am – Welcome and Opening Remarks (Conference Room)

- Dr. Thomas Baynum, President, Black Hawk College
- Eric Zarnikow, Executive Director, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Master and Mistress of Ceremonies

- Sam Nelson, Director of Outreach Development, Illinois Student Assistance Commission
- Dr. Kim Armstrong, Assistant Dean of Student Support Services, Black Hawk College

9:45-10:45 am – Innovative Partnerships, Best Practices and Resources
(Conference Room)

- ***Achieve Quad Cities: Networks and Regional Vision***

The Achieve Quad Cities (AQC) initiative began with the intention to align and strengthen existing community-based efforts to raise high school graduation rates. The partnership, led by the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend and the United Way of the Quad Cities Area, now includes support from the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce, multiple school districts, institutions of higher education, community agencies, city governments, and corporations. Starting in 2008, ongoing conversations, evolving conceptual frameworks, and emerging networks have fostered new understanding about what works well... and not so well in our community to increase collaboration around educational objectives. One key lesson has been to differentiate between tasks best approached from a regional perspective and tasks better suited for distinct sectors within the region (e.g., community school districts). Tasks we see as regionally situated include data sharing, message alignment, and collaborative grant writing. Such tasks are thought to provide an infrastructure that supports the student level support strategies (e.g., mentoring & parent engagement). The presentation will describe this framework and benefits we hope to see by building a regional infrastructure to support regional tasks.

Presenter:

Matt Mendenhall, Ph.D., MSW., Vice President of Programs, Community Foundation of the Great River Bend

- **Quad Cities Promise Neighborhoods** – *Rock Island Milan School District #41, Davenport Community Schools, City of Rock Island, City of Davenport, and United Way of the Quad Cities*

Quad Cities Promise Neighborhood is an initiative to coordinate services in two Quad Cities neighborhoods (central Davenport, downtown Rock Island) where children struggle with poverty and academic performance. This summer, they applied for a \$27 million dollar grant from the Department of Education to fund this project with the goal of getting a larger percentage of Promise Neighborhood residents to high school graduation and into college. The funding would pay for (among other things): \$1 million in improvements to both Rock Island and Davenport school districts, expanded hours for service sites (Martin Luther King Center, United Neighbors, Community Health Care) throughout the neighborhood, and removing as many barriers as possible that are preventing Promise Neighborhood residents from receiving the services they need.

Presenters:

Alex Kolker, Community Impact Manager – Education, United Way of the Quad Cities Area

George Carizey, Community Impact Manager – Income, United Way of the Quad Cities Area

10:45-11:15 am – Roundtable Discussions

- *Two 15-minute segments to allow attendees to talk with presenters from morning presentations for more in-depth questions*
 - **Achieve Quad Cities: Networks and Regional Vision** (Conference Room)
 - **Quad Cities Promise Neighborhoods** (Overlook Room)

11:15-11:30 am – Break

11:30 am-12:45 pm – Lunch Program (Restaurant)

- **Affirming the Goal: Is College and Career Readiness an Internationally Competitive Standard?** (Conference Room)

For years, both education and industry in the United States have wondered whether our standards can hold up to international standards. To answer that question, ACT research did a first of its kind study to see if our college and career readiness standards compare and compete.

Presenter:

April Hansen, Director of Program Solutions, ACT Midwest Region Educational Services

12:45-1:00pm – Break

1:00-2:30 pm – Innovative Partnerships, Best Practices, and Resources
(Conference Room)

- ***Davenport AmeriCorps/Youth Corps Program: A New Approach to City-School Partnerships***

Municipalities and school districts across the country, including the City of Davenport and Davenport Community Schools, have a long history of partnership. The Davenport AmeriCorps/Youth Corps program builds on this partnership but takes a new approach. More than providing recreational or library programs to students or field trips to City facilities, this program aims to improve educational outcomes for at-risk students and increasing college readiness and participation through community-based learning initiatives sponsored by the City.

Presenters:

Tanisha Briley, Assistant City Manager, Davenport, Iowa

Devonta Crumpton, Student who graduated from the program

Dana Haugen, Student who graduated from the program

- ***Quad City Minority Partnership Math and Science Program: Focus on STEM Fields*** – Black Hawk College, Western Illinois University, Scott Community College, Augustana University, St. Ambrose University, Palmer College, and University of Iowa

The mission of the QCMP Math and Science Program is to provide an opportunity for 11th grade students to discover, explore and experience the realm of science and mathematics in a nurturing environment with the goal of preparing students to enter Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) careers. Through participation in the Q.C.M.P. Math and Science Program students will enhance skills in Computer Science, Engineering, Health Sciences, and Mathematics while developing teamwork, resource management and leadership with the assistance of instructors, and support staff who will also serve as mentors for future endeavors. To learn more, visit the website at: <http://www.qcmp.org/Pages/MathandScience.aspx>.

Presenters:

Valerie Garr, M.A., College of Nursing and Supplemental Instruction, University of Iowa

Curtis Williams, M.P.A., Director of Academic Advising/Student Services, Western Illinois University

- ***Math and Science Regional Partnerships*** – Black Hawk College, Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA), and Rock Island Math and Science Academy

This presentation will reflect on the relationship that has been developing with the local Illinois Math and Science Academy affiliate. It is an ever changing and evolving experience. The design is to motivate our students to be better prepared when teaching Math and Science in their elementary classrooms. The experience should also benefit the students when applying for teaching positions in the state of Illinois.

Presenter:

Connie L. McLean, Professor, Mathematics Department, Black Hawk College

2:30-3:15pm -Roundtable Discussions

- *Three 15-minute segments to allow attendees to talk with presenters from afternoon presentations for more in-depth questions*
- **Davenport AmeriCorps/Youth Corps Program: A New Approach to City-School Partnerships** (Conference Room)
- **Quad City Minority Partnership Math and Science Program: Focus on STEM Fields** (Restaurant)
- **Math and Science Regional Partnerships** (Overlook Room)

3:15-3:30pm – Break

3:30-4:00 pm – Open Forum for Network Weaving (Conference Room)

- *An opportunity to connect with other stakeholders and to gather resource information regarding programs and services available to help support students/families in being successful in reaching their education goals*
- **Futures in Focus with Career Cruising Quad Cities**
Kirk Marske, Director, Career Cruising Quad Cities

Career Cruising Quad Cities brings together education and professionals across all employment industries to help students achieve their goals and address our communities' workforce and development needs. This fully integrated program provides unique, powerful tools for students, educators and businesses throughout the Quad City Area. Partner Organizations: Junior Achievement of the Heartland, the Moline Foundation, and the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce.
- **Quad Cities Community Engagement Consortium**
Jenny Garner, Community Development Education, University of Illinois Extension

The Quad Cities Community Engagement Consortium is a group of institutions of higher learning providing leadership in service-learning and volunteerism with community partners. The Consortium seeks to improve the quality and number of service-learning and volunteer opportunities, increase diverse resources for service-learning and volunteer programs, and provide education for campus and community stakeholders. Partner Organizations: Augustana College, Black Hawk College, Carl Sandburg College, Eastern Iowa Community College District, Iowa State University Extension, Knox College, Monmouth College, St. Ambrose University, University of Illinois Extension, and Western Illinois University.
- **Opportunities for Quad Citians**
Jenny Garner, Community Development Education, University of Illinois Extension

Opportunities for Quad Citians is a group of area housing authorities and community foundations that aim to interrupt the long-term generational cycle of poverty through strategic alignment of community resources and stakeholders. Building on the stable foundations provided by the local public housing authorities, other resources, services, and advocates, Opportunities for Quad Citians will innovate sustainable community systems – systems that encourage and support families to reach their self-sufficiency goals. Partner Organizations: Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, Day Foundation, Davenport

Housing Authority, Greater Metropolitan Housing Authority, Moline Housing Authority, Rock Island Housing Authority, Scott County Housing Council, University of Illinois Extension. Service agencies to comprise a second tier of involved partner organizations will meet on October 31, 2012.

➤ **Community Matters**

Jenny Garner, Community Development Education, University of Illinois Extension

Today, many communities are experiencing planning issues related to growth or decline in population, transportation issues, green space preservation, pollution control, need for housing assessment, and infusion of new industry – to name just a few. Using a collaborative team process, participants from both the community and University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana learn from each other in order to develop and use best planning practices to enhance community livability and sustainability.

Partner Organizations for Hennepin Canals Trail Project Design Studio: Bi-State Regional Commission, Big Island Soil and Water Conservation Association, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, University of Illinois Extension, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Department of Landscape Architecture, Village of Milan.

Partner Organizations for Upper Mississippi River Basin Charettes: River Action, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Department of Regional and Urban Planning, University of Illinois Extension, Western Illinois University Instructional Design and Technology Department, as well as the cities of Buffalo, Davenport, Dubuque, and Keokuk in Iowa, Keithsburg in Illinois, and LaCrosse in Wisconsin.

4:00 pm – Closing Remarks/Evaluations/Next Steps (Conference Room)