

COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING™ CONFERENCE

July 11, 2013

Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, IL



Conference Agenda

8 am – Registration Opens & Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 am – Welcome and Opening Remarks (South Pavilion 1 & 2)

- Governor's Proclamation

8:45 – 9 am – P-20 Council Update (South Pavilion 1 & 2)

- *Miguel del Valle, Illinois P-20 Council Chairman*

9 – 9:45 am – P-20 Council Panel Discussion (South Pavilion 1 & 2)

- *Dan Cullen, Deputy Director for Academic Affairs, Illinois Board of Higher Education*
- *Karen Hunter Anderson, Executive Director, Illinois Community College Board*
- *Eric Zarnikow, Executive Director, Illinois Student Assistance Commission*
- *Peter Godard, Chief Performance Officer, Illinois State Board of Education*
- *Dave Tretter, President, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities – Panel Moderator*

9:45 – 10:30 am – Morning Keynote (South Pavilion 1 & 2)

- *Greg Darnieder, Senior Advisor on the College Access Initiative for the U.S. Secretary of Education*

10:30 – 10:45 am – Break

10:45 – 11:45 am – Interest Sessions

- **Session 1A: Accelerating Opportunity/Illinois Career Advancement Pathways System (I-CAPS)** (South Pavilion 3)

The Accelerating Opportunity (AO) Initiative is a model program based on the Washington State I-BEST Model. AO strives to change the way Adult Basic Education is structured and delivered at the state and institutional levels focusing on transitioning more adults into post-secondary education and family-supporting careers. Illinois was one of only four states to receive implementation funding for AO, with eight community colleges participating in the Initiative. Each college has designed its programs around the required AO elements, while meeting its individual students' and community's needs. Five AO colleges will discuss their partnerships, comprehensive student supports, team teaching, integrated pathways, policies, and funding.

Speakers: Lyn Buerkett, Director, Adult Education and Literacy and AO Project Lead, Lincoln Land Community College; Mary Charuhas, Dean of Adult Basic Education, GED, ESL and AO Project Lead, College of Lake County; Diana Glosser, Director of Perkins Programs and AO Project Coordinator, Lake Land College; Val Harris, Director of Adult Education and AO Project Coordinator, Lewis & Clark Community College; Peggy Heinrich, Dean of Adult Basic Education and AO Project Lead, Elgin Community College

Moderator: Kathleen Pampe, Accelerating Opportunity Project Manager, Illinois Community College Board

- **Session 1B: The Strong Link Between College and Career Readiness and Afterschool Programs – How to Build Strategic Partnerships with Afterschool Programs** (South Pavilion 4)

In Illinois afterschool programs, students are getting their hands dirty in labs, building robots, and having their interest in college and careers sparked. Quality afterschool programs foster college and career readiness in all students, including high school students. Innovative programs rooted in best practices support academic achievement while inspiring students to explore college and careers. Learn the data on afterschool programs' positive effects on mastering common core skills, addressing remediation and credit issues, improving performance in STEM, and developing leadership, persistence and other traits that foster college and career readiness. Learn next steps for engaging with afterschool programs.

Speakers: Samantha Hedges, Youth Development Associate, Voices for Illinois Children; Kelley Talbot, Director of Youth Development and Assistant Director of Policy, Voices for Illinois Children; Ashley Murray, ISACorps, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Moderator: Samantha Hedges, Youth Development Associate, Voices for Illinois Children

- **Session 1C: The American Dream 2.0: How Leveraging Federal Financial Aid Can Improve Student Completion** (South Pavilion 5)

While financial aid has had a strong and effective role in providing college access for students who qualify for assistance, this session will focus on the role of financial aid in advancing student success. Affordability remains a critical issue but so too does the number of students with debt and no degree. While the topic has been explored by many, the new national conversation is around leveraging federal financial aid to improve college access, affordability and completion. This panel presentation will advance the recent report, *The American Dream 2.0*, released by a national bi-partisan coalition recognizing the power of aid to serve as a completion tool and highlight the new Hart public opinion research about the latest concerns of the public, including Hispanic and African American parents, when it comes to issues of affordability, aid and transforming higher education.

Speakers: Abigail Davenport, Senior Vice President, Hart Research; Mike McPherson, President, Spencer Foundation; Aaron Smith, Executive Director, Young Invincibles

Moderator: Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Senior Consultant, HCM Strategists

- **Session 1D: Student Supports and Advising for Retention and Success** (South Pavilion 6)

Learn about specific strategies in place for supporting Illinois students. Prairie State College staff will describe both in-class and out-of-class advising implemented for the college's highest pre-college level of English. Leaders from Lincoln Land Community College will share how collaboration across departments created a successful mandatory orientation program for all new degree and certificate seeking students. Members of the Illinois College Advising Corps will describe how they address barriers to college success by providing e-mentoring and near-peer mentoring, while also building alliances with student support services.

Speakers: Loretta M. Kucharczyk, Ph.D., Coordinator of Intentional Advising, Prairie State College; Tyra Taylor, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services, Lincoln Land Community College; Chris Barry, Director of Retention and Student Success, Lincoln Land Community College; Mary Warren, Director of Advising and Counseling, Lincoln Land Community College; Catalina Hernandez, Med., Retention Coordinator, Illinois College Advising Corps; and Khadija Tejan, Retention Coach, Illinois College Advising Corps

Moderator: Tyra Taylor, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services, Lincoln Land Community College

- **Session 1E: Scalable Solutions for First-Generation & Undocumented College Students** (Samuel Tinley Room)

This session will provide guidance on how teachers, counselors, and school districts can assist first-generation and undocumented college students. The session will focus on providing first-generation and undocumented students an accessible bilingual college plan and financial resources for college. Educators will also gain a better understanding of how to train and develop teachers and counselors on an institutional level to assist these specific student populations.

Speakers: Lorena Villa Parkman, Content Copy Editor, New Futuro; Tanya Cabrera, Illinois Dream Fund, Chairperson; Adolfo Hernandez, Director for Office of New Americans, Office of the Mayor, City of Chicago

Moderator: Rosa Zamora, Director of Partnerships, New Futuro

11:45 am - 1:15 pm – Lunch Buffet & Program

1:15 - 1:30 pm – Break

1:30 - 2:30 pm – Interest Sessions

- **Session 2A: GED® or ESL Is Not Enough! CCC's Pathways from Adult Education to College and Career Programs** (South Pavilion 3)

This session will highlight two City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) transition programs that are being taken to scale. The Gateway to the City Colleges of Chicago program encourages students to take some college credit courses at no cost while still enrolled in upper level ESL or GED classes, and continues to offer supports as they move completely to credit. The CCE Adult Education bridge programs transition low-skilled adults to college and careers in healthcare, logistics, and manufacturing. Participants in this session will leave with increased knowledge about the program structures and services of these two transition models that effectively serve the Adult Education student.

Speakers: Ann Darnton, Project Team Leader, City Colleges of Chicago; Marcia Medema, Program Director – Adult Education, City Colleges of Chicago; Cheryl Bland-Winbush, Transition Specialist, Olive-Harvey College; Kevin Scavuzzo, Gateway Program Implementation, City Colleges of Chicago; Rafael Torres, Gateway to the City Colleges of Chicago Program, City Colleges of Chicago

Moderator: Kevin Scavuzzo, Gateway Program Implementation, City Colleges of Chicago

- **Session 2B: Early College Credit Partnerships** (South Pavilion 4)

Attend this session to learn about programs allowing high school students to earn college credit while in high school, thus providing them exposure to college level courses and encouraging high school graduation and college success. Presenters will provide practical take-aways on how the programs were implemented and how you can initiate a program for your own institution.

Speakers: Carolyn Eggert, Principal, DeVry University Advantage Academy; Chadra Lang, Project Manager, Early College Programs, Chicago Public Schools; Shawn Munos, Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning, West Aurora High School; Dora Phillips, High School Partnerships Program Developer, Waubensee Community College; Freda Richmond, Early College Manager, City Colleges of Chicago

Moderator: Sharon Thomas Parrott, Senior Vice President, External Relations, DeVry

- **Session 2C: Six Strategies of Communication to Increase Tuition Payment and Student Retention** (South Pavilion 5)

The University of Illinois' University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations (USFSCO) won the 2012 NACUBO Innovation Award for its submission of "Six Strategies of Communication to Increase Tuition Payment and Student Retention." The six strategies were: live webinars, parent information sessions, individual consultations, website redesign, payment plan enhancements, and creating the Student Money Management Center. The six strategies were to address the issue of loss of students due to students and parents being unprepared and consequently unable to fulfill their financial obligations. Emphasis will be placed on the techniques that USFSCO uses to facilitate financial education through the Student Money Management Center on all 3 University of Illinois campuses. An article was published in the NACUBO Business Officer which provides details on our six strategies. Please visit http://www.nacubo.org/Business_Officer_Magazine/Magazine_Archives/December_2012/A_Clear_Path_to_Payment.html to view the article.

Speakers: Judith Flink, Executive Director, University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations, University of Illinois; Joseph Shroyer, Associate Director, University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations, University of Illinois; Andrea Pellegrini, Visiting Assistant Director, Student Money Management Center, University of Illinois

Moderator: Judith Flink, Executive Director, University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations, University of Illinois

- **Session 2D: Maximizing Postsecondary Opportunities for Students with a Disability or Impairment** (South Pavilion 6)

All students must be included in our college access and success efforts if the state is going to reach Goal 2025 – including students with special needs. This session will highlight practical and sustainable ways to address the challenges and barriers facing these students as they make the transition from secondary education to postsecondary education and vocational environments. Tools, resources, strategies, and best practices will be shared so your organization can better support these students in achieving their education and career aspirations.

Speakers: Kathleen Kerness, Supported Employment/Education Coordinator, Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centers – Young Adult Programming (16-21 year olds); Barbara Kite, Assistant Director, The PACE Program, National Louis University; Marci Koblenz, President, Center for Companies That Care; Antoinette Taylor, P-20 Council Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness Steering Committee

Moderator: State Representative Linda Chapa LaVia

- **Session 2E: Engaging Municipal Leaders and Other Key Partners in Local Postsecondary Success Collaboratives** (Samuel Tinley Room)

Cities in Illinois and other states are forming local multi-sector collaboratives to pursue increased postsecondary success. Municipal leaders are uniquely well situated to convene and connect local partners including the education sector. Join an interactive discussion about lessons learned statewide and nationwide about engaging key stakeholders and setting and pursuing common goals, with representatives of Illinois cities, a national intermediary organization, and an evaluator. Leave with tools, materials, and ideas to apply at home.

Speakers: *Bill Collier, Mayor's Educational Liaison, City of Peoria; Tawa Jogunosimi, Director, Education Policy & Partnerships, City of Chicago – Office of the Mayor; Justin Piff, Project Manager, OMG Center for Collaborative Learning*

Moderator: *Andrew Moore, Senior Fellow, National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education, and Families*

2:30 - 2:40 pm – Break

2:40 - 3:40 pm – Interest Sessions

- **Session 3A: *Early Intervention and Success Strategies in Math*** (South Pavilion 3)

Introductory Mathematics courses at the college level are extremely challenging for many entering students. At Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, students' chances for success are being optimized by the Math Department's coordinated system across campus, which focuses on the first several weeks in a course and on a university campus. At Rock Valley College, Math Literacy for College Students, part of two national initiatives, AMATYC's New Life and Carnegie's Quantway, is providing an alternative, shorter pathway to college level math that is improving completion rates by using contextual lessons, problem solving and critical thinking.

Speakers: *Gregory Budzban, Professor and Chair of Department of Mathematics, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; Kathleen Almy, Associate Professor of Mathematics, Rock Valley College*

Moderator: *Gregory Budzban, Professor and Chair of Department of Mathematics, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*

- **Session 3B: *Dual Degrees and Transfer Pathways*** (South Pavilion 4)

The 3 + 1 transfer agreements are offering College of DuPage students pathways to complete Bachelor's degrees with universities at greatly reduced costs. Governors State University offers options for transfer students and freshmen to participate in high-impact teaching methods that have a positive effect on learning and student success.

Speakers: *Jose Alferez, Admissions Representative, Office of Admissions and Outreach, College of DuPage; Rashidah Muhammad, Ph.D., Professor of English, President of Faculty Senate, Governors State University; Roshaunda Ross, Coordinator, Dual Degree Program and Peer Mentoring, Governors State University; Courtney Kohn Sanders, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing, Governors State University; Cherise Stone, MA, MBA, Adjunct Professor of English; Ann Vendrely, Ed.D., Professor of Physical Therapy, Chair of General Education Task Force, Governors State University*

Moderator: *Ann Vendrely, Ed.D., Professor of Physical Therapy, Chair of General Education Task Force, Governors State University*

- **Session 3C: *College Readiness/Achievement Gaps Data & Trends*** (South Pavilion 5)

Entering college is no guarantee that a student will continue to degree completion, so how do we define the factors that contribute to successful college completion? Research by the Illinois Education Research Council and ACT, Inc. indicates that when students are academically ready for college, achievement gaps are greatly narrowed for *all* students in college persistence and degree completion, especially among racial/ethnic and low-income groups. Hear the latest research findings and the policy implications supported by the studies.

Speakers: *April Hansen, Account Executive-Client Relations, ACT, Inc.; Jan Holt, Executive Director, Illinois Education Research Council; Eric Lichtenberger, Associate Director for Research, Illinois Education Research Council*

- **Session 3D: *Are you ready for Work? Career Connects, and NCRC Plus*** (South Pavilion 6)

This session will provide an overview of the National Career Readiness Certificate Plus (NCRC Plus) and Career Connects programs, and how Joliet Junior College has incorporated them into most of the programs that the college has developed. Discussion will also focus on how the Career Connects business and education collaborative in Will and Grundy Counties connects students to career coaches and work-based learning activities provided by area employers.

Speakers: *Meg Barton, Education and Engagement Specialist, Joliet Junior College; Jennifer Govoni, Career Cruising Specialist, Joliet Junior College; Keri Peter, Workforce Development Coordinator, Joliet Junior College*

Moderator: *Jami Trybom, Manager, Workforce Development, Joliet Junior College*

- **Session 3E: *Increasing Awareness, Access, & Success for College Readiness & Retention*** (Samuel Tinley Room)

This session will provide an overview of how college and career readiness initiatives are developing and evolving across the country at the state and local levels. Highlighted will be the efforts of a large, public high school with an economically and racially diverse student population that is increasing access to opportunities while preparing students for success in college by expanding college readiness programs to all students across all grade levels. Participants will learn how to implement strategies to develop a school culture that is more encouraging and supportive of all students.

Speakers: *Greg Darnieder, Senior Advisor on the College Access Initiative for the U.S. Secretary of Education; Beth Arey, College & Career Coordinator, Evanston Township High School; Dale Leibforth, AP Recruitment & Retention Coordinator, Evanston Township High School*

Moderator: *Dr. Pete Bavis, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Evanston Township High School*

3:40 pm – Closing General Session

- Closing Remarks – *Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon*
- Adjourn