



Rural Guided Pathways Project Institute #1 -- Creating an Infrastructure of Opportunity

Minneapolis, MN: June 27-29, 2022

AGENDA

Meeting Objectives

- Formulate a cross-sector approach for implementing pathways to living-wage jobs and careers with the goal of increasing economic mobility in the college's service region.
- Mark the "official kick-off" of the NCII Rural Guided Pathways Project Institutes. The opening institute will serve as inspiration for the work about to be undertaken while modeling the practice of reflection and continuous improvement.
- Establish where we are trying to go and what we are trying to build – namely a movement to reimagine and redesign colleges to center students' experiences and success specifically for the context of rural colleges and their communities.
- Assist colleges in further developing a college-going mindset in their service areas that establishes and shares the value proposition of higher education.
- Attract and support historically underserved populations to ensure their equitable and improved outcomes.
- Reinforce change leadership strategies for implementing pathways at scale.
- Begin to build an engaged learning network among Rural Guided Pathways Project colleges and their community partners.

Monday, June 27th

9:00 – 11:30 **Orientation for Coaches, Subject Matter Experts, Partners and NCII Team**
Waterford

12:30 – 1:30 **College Team Leads/Coach Prep Meeting**
Only for the Identified College Leads and Project Coaches
Waterford

1:00 – 2:00 **Meeting Check-in**
Ballroom 3

2:00 – 2:30 **Welcome and Introductions**
Chris Baldwin, Senior Fellow, NCII
Gretchen Schmidt, Senior Fellow, NCII
Kirstin Yeado, Program Officer, Ascendium Education Group
Ballroom 3

2:30 – 3:15 **A Vision for our Three Years Together**
Chris Baldwin, Senior Fellow, NCII
Gretchen Schmidt, Senior Fellow, NCII
Ballroom 3

This opening session will outline the expectations for the colleges and their partners during the course of the pathways project. We will also discuss our hopes for the impact of this work and ideas for the potential scaling of the model to additional rural institutions upon completion.

3:15 – 4:15 **Using Guided Pathways to Build Cross-Sector Pathways Partnerships**
Davis Jenkins: Senior Research Scholar, Community College Research Center
Ed Massey: President Emeritus, Indian River State College (FL)
Moderator: Gretchen Schmidt, Senior Fellow, NCII
Ballroom 3

Dr. Jenkins co-authored the seminal book on Guided Pathways (Redesigning America's Community Colleges) in 2015. He will talk

about the evolution of the model based on research at hundreds of community colleges in the last seven years that have been implementing the pathways model. What are the priorities now? How should colleges be thinking about their redesign efforts? Dr. Ed Massey is the retired president of Aspen Prize-winning Indian River State College (FL). Dr. Massey was at the forefront of institutional innovation and created a culture, systems and structures at IRSC that continue to receive accolades today. He will discuss the IRSC journey implementing pathways and how it evolved into a community approach to student access and success.

4:15 – 4:30

BREAK

4:30 – 5:30

Team Session #1

See Page 9 of Agenda for Room Assignments

5:30

Dinner on You Own

Tuesday, June 28th

8:30 – 9:00

Breakfast

Ballroom 3 Foyer

9:00 – 12:00

Morning Workshop --- Community Collaboration to Create a Common Vision for Economic Mobility through Cross-sector Pathways

Led by Dakota Pawlicki: Director, Talent Hubs, CivicLab

Ballroom 3

Improving economic mobility and improving postsecondary attainment cannot be achieved by one organization or sector alone. It takes authentic and actionable partnerships among stakeholders in the private, public and social sectors. This session presents key principles, examples, and frameworks designed to strengthen the foundation of local and regional partnerships looking to redesign learning and talent systems in the places they call home.

12:00 – 1:00

LUNCH

Ballroom 3 Foyer

1:00 – 2:15

Concurrent Sessions

1. Ten Years of Research on the Impact of Guided Pathways on the Student Experience

Hana Lahr: Senior Research Associate, Community College Research Center

Ballroom 5

The Community College Research Center will soon release the final report on the impact of Guided Pathways implementation at the original 30 institutions in the AACC project. This report tracks their progress from the start of the project in 2015 until the final data collection last fall. What have we learned? What scaled practices had the greatest impact and what barriers still exist for students?

2. Developing Program Pathways from K-12 into Community College and Beyond

Abner Oakes: National Director of Outreach and Engagement, Institute for Student Achievement

Margie Nelson Rodriguez: Special Projects Assistant and English Professor, El Paso Community College (TX)

Ballroom 4

Project Subject Matter Expert Abner Oakes will discuss the importance of extending postsecondary pathways down into K-12 with intentionality, particularly for students who have historically been underrepresented in higher education. Why does that early exposure to programs and careers matter and how can the sectors partner in more innovative ways. Aspen Prize Finalist El Paso Community College is a national leader in the strength of its partnership with the K-12 schools in their service area, including schools in rural settings. Ms. Nelson Rodriguez will talk about their partnerships in detail and how they have evolved as the college has implemented Guided Pathways.

3. Rethinking and Leveraging Employer Relationships with Community Colleges and their Stakeholders

Jim Jacobs: President Emeritus, Macomb Community College (MI)

Diane Stiles: Vice President, Lake Area Technical College (SD)

Ballroom 2

Project Subject Matter Expert Jim Jacobs will talk about innovative models of college/employer partnerships. How can we rethink our engagement with local and regional employers to maximize the student experience? What role can employers play in providing experiences for students outside of the classroom which increases retention and better aligns their knowledge and skills with what employers need? Dr. Stiles is the Vice President at Aspen Prize-winning Lake Area Technical College in Watertown, SD. She will discuss how the employer community is closely linked to the college and the role those partnerships play in the completion rates of their students.

4. Partnering across Sectors to Identify and Address Student Basic Needs

Priya Chaplot: Vice President of Strategy, NCII

Octavia Lawrence: Associate Dean of Student Services, West Kentucky Community and Technical College (KY)

Ballroom 1

Priya Chaplot is a national expert on the integration of student financial stability resources into the student experience at postsecondary institutions. She will highlight the importance of making these resources (e.g. food, transportation, child care, mental health, entering programs leading to living-wage jobs and careers) an inescapable part of the student experience and how robust community partnerships can maximize resources for students. Pathways coach, Octavia Lawrence, Interim VP of Student Services at Aspen Prize finalist West Kentucky Community and Technical College, will talk about the college's student financial stability practices and how she thinks those practices can evolve in the future.

5. CEO Session (CEOs Only Please)

Moderator: Bill Seymour, President, Cleveland State Community College (TN)

Waterford

2:15 – 2:45

BREAK

2:45 – 3:00

College Team Debrief from Concurrent Sessions
Ballroom 3

3:00 – 3:30

Communicating Effectively from the Outset

*Andrea Sussman: Founding Partner, Next Chapter
Communications*

Ballroom 3

In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn about effective communications practices and work on two key aspects of communications: audience and messaging. Each college team will leave the session with a model for identifying audiences and crafting messages. They also will have specific plans for audience and messaging for at least one aspect of their guided pathways work.

3:30 – 3:35

Transition to Team Time Sessions

3:35 – 4:15

Team Session #2

See Page 9 of Agenda for Team Room Assignments

4:15 – 4:20

Transition to Ballroom 3

4:20 – 5:00

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5:00 – 5:05

Transition to Team Time

5:05 – 5:45

Team Session #3

See Page 9 of Agenda for Team Room Assignments

6:00 – 7:00 **Reception**
Hosted bar and hors d'oeuvres
Prefunction and West Lawn

7:15 **CEO Dinner**
Waterford

Wednesday, June 29th

7:30 – 8:00 **Breakfast**
Ballroom 3

8:00 – 9:00 **CEO Discussion: Creating a College-going Mindset in Rural Communities**
Introduction: Bill Seymour, President, Cleveland State Community College (TN)
Moderator: Chris Baldwin, Senior Fellow, NCII
Ballroom 3

Project Subject Matter Expert Bill Seymour co-authored a brief as part of the NCII Rural Leader Learning Community focused on a College-going Mindset in rural communities and the active role that college leadership (particularly the president) needs to play in expanding the college-going mindset beyond the population that the college currently serves. He will provide an overview of that brief and then NCII's Chris Baldwin will lead a conversation with the project presidents about their views of the college-going mindset in their communities, how the college can work to expand that mindset, and how this project can accelerate that process.

9:00 – 9:30 **Role-alike Session: Impacting the College-going Mindset from Where We Sit**
Table Assignments will be Shared at the Start of the Session
Ballroom 3

9:30 – 9:45 **BREAK**

9:45 – 10:45

Team Session #4

See Page 9 of Agenda for Team Room Assignments

10:50 – 11:50

Creating a Culture of Care on a Campus and in a Community

Brad Phillips, President and CEO, Institute for Evidence-Based Change

Ballroom 3

This closing keynote will focus on how creating a “Caring Campus” leads to increased student persistence and success, as well as increased faculty and staff satisfaction. Not a “new” initiative, Caring Campus leverages the good work colleges are already doing by adding the human component.

11:50 – 12:00

Evaluation and Next Steps

COLLEGE	BALLROOM TABLE ASSIGNMENT	TEAM TIME ROOM ASSIGNMENT	COACHES
BIG SANDY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE	1	Ballroom 4	Adrienne Forgette
COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE	2	Ballroom 5	Erica Orians
KILGORE COLLEGE	3	Ballroom 5	Erica Orians
LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	Ballroom 5	Kenny Lawson
MARION TECHNICAL COLLEGE	5	Ballroom 2	Ann Buchele
MISSOULA COLLEGE	6	Ballroom 5	Kenny Lawson
NORTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	7	Ballroom 1	Octavia Lawrence
PATRICK & HENRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	8	Ballroom 4	Ed Bowling
REEDLEY COLLEGE	9	Ballroom 1	Joyce Walsh-Portillo
SAN JUAN COLLEGE	10	Ballroom 1	Joyce Walsh-Portillo
SOUTHWESTERN OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	Ballroom 2	Laura Rittner
TEMPLE COLLEGE	12	Ballroom 1	Octavia Lawrence
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT BATESVILLE	13	Ballroom 2	Ann Buchele
WASHINGTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	14	Ballroom 4	Ed Bowling
WEST VIRGINIA NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	15	Ballroom 4	Adrienne Forgette
WHITE MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	16	Ballroom 2	Laura Rittner