



Rural Guided Pathways Project February 8-10, 2023

Connection to College and Connection to Programs: The Role of the Institution and Community Stakeholders

AGENDA

Meeting Objectives

- **Examine ways to expand the college-going mindset in communities**
- **Explore innovative models for connecting students to programs of study through dual enrollment and other high school partnerships**
- **Consider different ways to attract and enroll adult students into programs of study, including those adults enrolled in individual courses at the college (skills builders), non-credit students, adult basic education students and students in short-term credential programs**
- **Discuss cross-sector approaches to better alignment from K-12, through community colleges and universities and into the regional workforce**

Wednesday, February 8th

- 10:00am – 12:30pm** **Orientation for Coaches, Subject Matter Experts,
Partners and NCII Team (breakfast at 9:30)
*HAMILTON II***
- 1:00pm – 2:00pm** **Institute Check-in
*HAMILTON FOYER***
- 12:15pm – 1:30pm** **College Team Leads/Coach Prep Meeting (Lunch
Provided)
HAMILTON II
*Only for the Identified College Leads and Project Coaches***

- 2:00pm – 2:15pm** **Welcome and Overview of the Institute**
HAMILTON I
Chris Baldwin, Senior Fellow, NCII
- 2:15pm – 3:15pm** **Building Resilient Rural Communities: Skills,
Entrepreneurship & Data-informed Strategies**
HAMILTON I
*Terri Billups, Acting Director Office of Rural Affairs, U.S. Small Business
Administration*
*Alexandria M. Wright, Senior Research Associate, Economic, Labor Market
& Education Data, WestEd Center for Economic Mobility*
- Presenters will provide an overview of the role of small businesses in rural
communities and how entrepreneurship can play an important role in post-
secondary programs. The session will highlight how colleges can integrate
entrepreneurship skills into skills-builder courses and also connect colleges
to data and resources that can support the connection between their
pathways work and important entrepreneurship skills and competencies.*
- 3:15pm – 4:00pm** **Introduction to Skills-Builder Data and an Overview
of the Team Time Session**
HAMILTON I
- 4:00pm – 4:15pm** **Break**
- 4:15pm – 5:30pm** **Team Session #1**
See page 9 of agenda for Team room assignments
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm** **Opening Reception**
HOSTED BAR AND HORS D'OEUVRES
- 7:00pm** **Dinner on your own**

Thursday, February 9th

7:15am – 8:00am

Breakfast
HAMILTON FOYER

8:00am – 9:00am

Keynote: Author Anthony Ray Hinton – “The Sun Does Shine”
HAMILTON I

Introduction by Carrie Besnette Hauser, President, Colorado Mountain College

*Anthony Ray Hinton survived for 30 years on Alabama's death row. His story is a decades-long journey to exoneration and freedom. In 1985, Mr. Hinton was convicted of the unsolved murders of two fast-food restaurant managers based on the testimony of ballistics experts for the State who claimed that the crime bullets came from a dusty revolver found in Mr. Hinton's mother's closet. Without the benefit of a competent expert to challenge the State's theory (Mr. Hinton's lawyer hired a ballistics expert who was blind in one eye), an all-white jury convicted Mr. Hinton and he was sentenced to death. After years of petitioning to have the revolver re-analyzed, three independent experts concluded that the bullets could not have been fired from his mother's revolver. With the assistance of the Equal Justice Initiative, led by attorney Bryan Stevenson, Mr. Hinton was freed in 2015. Since his release, Mr. Hinton has traveled the world sharing his story and discussing the changes that need to be made to prevent similar injustices from happening to other people. In 2018, Mr. Hinton published *The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row*, which was selected for Oprah's Book Club and is a *New York Times* bestseller. In 2019, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from St. Bonaventure University.*

9:00am – 9:15am

Table Debrief
HAMILTON I

9:15am – 9:30am

The Imperative for a Cross-Sector Approach to Implementing Pathways
HAMILTON I

Gretchen Schmidt, Senior Fellow, NCII

9:30am – 9:45am

Break

9:45am – 10:30am

**Building Successful K-12 to Community College
Pathways in a Rural Community**

HAMILTON I

David Drury, Retired Vice President of Instruction, Imperial Valley College (CA)

Victor Torres, Associate Dean of Workforce Development and Non-Traditional Instruction and Interim Vice-President of Student Services and Equity, Imperial Valley College (CA)

Moderator: Hana Lahr, CCRC

Aspen Prize finalist Imperial Valley College (CA) has taken a community-based approach to creating a college-going mindset. The college has developed robust partnerships with all of its local school districts that have successfully evolved over time so that they are now part of the fabric and culture of the community. The college president meets monthly with all of the local superintendents to discuss current partnerships and also to talk about collaboration in grant submissions and resource sharing. IVC counselors are assigned high schools and meet with students regularly, including helping them fill out college applications (not just IVC's application) and complete the FAFSA. IVC counselors and high school guidance counselors meet quarterly to talk about students in the pipeline and supports needed for their success in transitioning to higher education. Panelists will discuss the impact of their work.

10:30am – 10:45am

Panel Respondent

HAMILTON I

Abner Oakes, National Director of Outreach and Engagement at the Institute for Student Achievement and NCII Subject Matter Expert

10:45am – 11:00am

Table Debrief

HAMILTON I

11:00am – 11:15am

Facilitated Q&A with Panelists

HAMILTON I

11:15am – 11:30am

Break

11:30am – 12:15pm

Team Session #2

See page 9 of agenda for Team room assignments

12:15pm – 1:00pm

Lunch

HAMILTON FOYER

1:00pm – 1:15pm

Move to Concurrent Sessions

1:15pm – 2:15pm

Concurrent Sessions

1. Four C's: Creating a College-Going Culture in Central Texas

UNIVERSITY

DeDe Griffith, Vice President of Workforce Development, Temple College

Denise Monzingo, Superintendent of Rockdale High School

Billie Logiudice, External Relations/ HSI STEM Advisor, Temple College

MODERATOR: Dr. Evelyn Waiwaiole, Vice President of External Relations and Development, Temple College

Temple College (TX) serves 21 school districts of which 19 are small and rural. To create a more educated workforce in the Temple service area, Temple College has partnered with two school districts - Rockdale and Taylor – creating innovative ways to foster a college-going culture in the rural communities. Come join the conversation, hear about what's worked, challenges, and the vision for the future.

2. The Evolution of a Successful Cross-sector Partnership

HAMILTON II

Kate Mahar, Associate Vice President of Innovation and Strategic Initiatives at Shasta College and Executive Director of SCAILE (CA)

Dakota Pawlicki, Director, Talent Hub, CivicLab and NCII Subject Matter Expert

Successful cross-sector partnerships are bred from intentionality and a common set of strategic goals for all of the stakeholders involved. There is a process and commitment that comes with conceiving and launching a cross-sector partnership but there is also a shift to evolving and sustaining the partnerships so that the stakeholders remain engaged in the work. This session will highlight all of the stages of development for a successful cross-sector partnership in a rural setting.

3. What Does all of this Mean for Student Services? Shifting the Student Services Mindset

SKIPWITH I

Stephanie Sutton, Vice President for Enrollment Management, Stark State College (OH)

As community colleges implement components of the guided pathways framework, all areas of the organization have to shift their mindset to increased intentionality in connecting students to programs of study early in their academic journey. Moving away from having large numbers of undecided students to a significant number of students with a full program educational plan at the end of the first semester requires a large number of process changes, particularly by student services professionals. Along with these process changes, the more important shift is the philosophy of how best to serve students as they enter our institutions. Stephanie Sutton is a national leader in student services reform under the guided pathways framework and will discuss her experiences rethinking student services at two institutions in Ohio.

4. Setting the Table for Meaningful Equity Discussions at Rural Institutions

SKIPWITH II

Shelitha Williams, Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services and Chief Diversity Officer, Genessee Community College (NY)

Every community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system has a Chief Diversity Officer position. The context for equity discussions varies widely across the state's community colleges. The presenter will discuss how she frames conversations about equitable outcomes for students at her institution using trauma-informed practices and the foundation for equity discussions.

5. Maximizing Skills-Builder Pathways as an On-ramp to Program Completion

MONTGOMERY

*Kathy Booth, Project Director, Education Data and Policy, WestEd
Alexandria Wright, Senior Research Associate, Economic, Labor Market & Education Data, WestEd*

Presenters will use rural pathways college skills-builder data to lead a discussion on how to build on-ramps into programs for adult skills-builders.

6. CEO Session

COLLUM

*Bill Seymour, Retired President, Cleveland State Community College (TN)
and NCII Subject Matter Expert*

CEOs only, please

2:15pm – 2:30pm

Break

2:30pm – 3:15pm

The Partnership Imperative: Community Colleges, Employers, and America's Chronic Skills Gap

HAMILTON I

Joseph Fuller, Professor of Management Practice, Harvard Business School (MA)

Moderator, Jim Jacobs, President Emeritus, Macomb Community College (MI) and NCII Subject Matter Expert

In December 2022, Harvard Business School's Project on Managing the Future of Work and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) released "The Partnership Imperative: Community Colleges, Employers, and America's Chronic Skills Gap," a report that examines the state of collaboration between community colleges and business leaders and calls on employers to more actively partner with educators. The Project partnered with AACC to conduct the first-ever exhaustive survey on the state and trajectory of the partnership between educators and employers, based on a framework of more than 40 concrete actions designed to build a work-ready workforce. The author of the study will discuss the finding, focusing on the lessons learned for rural colleges and communities.

3:15pm – 3:30pm **Presentation Respondent**
HAMILTON I
*Jim Jacobs, President Emeritus, Macomb Community College (MI) and
NCII Subject Matter Expert*

3:30pm – 3:45pm **Table Debrief**
HAMILTON I

3:45pm – 4:00pm **Facilitated Q&A with Presenter**
HAMILTON I

4:00pm – 4:15pm **Move to Team Session**

4:15pm – 5:30pm **Team Session #3**
See page 9 of agenda for Team Room Assignments

5:30pm **Dinner on your own**

Friday, February 10th

7:15am – 8:00am **CEO Breakfast**
HAMILTON II

7:15am - 8:00am **Breakfast**
HAMILTON FOYER
PLEASE SIT AT ROLE TABLES AS ASSIGNED

8:00am – 8:30am **A Second Look at the Program Enrollment Data**
HAMILTON I
Hana Lahr, Senior Research Associate, CCRC

Hana will revisit the CCRC program analysis in the context of the content presented at this institute. How can community colleges rethink their program mix as institutions look more deeply at labor market data and cross-sector partnerships? Where are the gaps in program enrollment and where are programs not meeting the demand of local industry?

8:30am – 9:00am **Role-alike Session**
HAMILTON I

9:00am – 10:00am **Team Session #4**
See page 9 of agenda for Team room assignments

10:00am – 10:15am **Break**

10:15am – 11:00am Model Employer and Community Partnerships and the Impact on Post-graduation Success

HAMILTON I

John Hartog, President, NW Iowa

Moderator: Rob Johnstone, Founder and President, NCII

Northwest Iowa Community College was selected to be one of the 10 finalists for the Aspen Prize during this Prize cycle. NW Iowa not only has completion rates well above the national average, the college has developed noteworthy partnerships with local government and employers that contribute to the success of NW Iowa students while they are enrolled in addition to enabling their post-graduation success in the region. President Hartog will discuss how these cross-sector partnerships developed over time and the role that the college plays in establishing and sustaining those partnerships.

11:00am – 11:45am Revisiting the Why: Shifting the Enrollment Management Conversation to the Financial and Human Return on Guided Pathways Investments

HAMILTON I

Rob Johnstone, Founder and President, NCII

Like many colleges, rural institutions have struggled to regain lost enrollment from the pandemic. This session will explore three lenses into evolving our approach to enrollment management: (1) the power of student retention; (2) the return on investment of guided pathways related efforts; and (3) clarifying the value proposition of the path to living wage attainment for our students. The session will also set up colleges' ability to have customized office hours addressing these issues after the institute.

11:45am – 12:00pm Presentation Respondent

HAMILTON I

Kay McClenney, Senior Advisor to the President of AACC and NCII Senior Fellow

12:00pm – 12:10pm Closing Thoughts and Evaluation

HAMILTON I

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