GENERAL SESSION

NCWE BOARD PRESIDENT’S WELCOME
Teresita Wisell, Vice President Workforce Development and Community Education
Westchester Community College, NY

OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGES WELCOME
Donna Lewelling, Director
Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission

CONFERENCE SPONSOR RECOGNITION - PLATINUM SPONSORS
Erin Baird, Lightcast
Derrick Edwards, AGS Data Systems
Alan Rowland, CompTIA

KEYNOTE PANEL PRESENTATION

CENTERING STUDENT VOICES TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND CREATE EQUITABLE SYSTEMS
Moderator: Marc Goldberg
Owner/Principal, Skills Strategy Consulting

Student Participants
Bakr Alkarawi
Mount Hood Community College

Shalease Williams
Portland Community College

Lynne Hamblin
Rogue Community College

Description
As colleges have committed to advancing racial equity and closing opportunity gaps, it’s critical that they center students in their policy and program design work, particularly students whose voices have not historically been front and center. Hear from three Oregon community college students who have had unique college experiences as they describe their journeys, share the college supports that have been most helpful and their policy recommendations. Each of these students has been a featured guest on the All In: Student Pathways Forward podcast centering Oregon community college students to shape inclusive policies, practice and partnerships that lead to quality jobs and economic mobility.

BREAK
9:15 – 9:30 AM
SESSION A  
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12  
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Park  
PLATINUM SPONSOR

Student Success in the Tech Economy

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

College enrollments are down and the demand for IT workers continues to rise. What is your institution doing to help fill this need for employers now and in the future? In this session, join CompTIA’s Kirk Smallwood to learn about tech hiring trends, student views of tech careers and education, IT career pathways, and the importance of industry-recognized certifications in the hiring process. Also, learn about some fantastic FREE resources to help in student success.

Presenters: Alan Rowland, Senior Director US Academic Sales, CompTIA

Broadway I

Keeping with the Times! How WED is Answering Local Economic Needs

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-based Learning Solutions

Learn how the Workforce and Economic Division of MCCKC is the leader in innovative workforce solutions in a constantly changing business landscape and stays one step ahead of its competition. Learn how MCC is proactive with workforce demands through trainings, events, and other offerings supporting community need. Get insight into how we develop, design and implement innovative programs as well as identify them for government funding.

Presenters: Andrea Kolkmeier, Instructional and Jeanne Schmidt, Workforce Coordinator, Workforce and Economic Development Division, Metropolitan Community College

Broadway II

Stronger Together! A Regional Virtual Production Academy for Eight Digital Media Programs

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Under the Bay Area Community College Consortium leadership and industry guidance, eight Bay Area colleges are creating a regional virtual production academy for film, TV, and animation. The goal is to build virtual production model curriculum using existing courses and certificates and deliver a suite of collaborative credentials including stackable certificates, an associate degree, and possibly a baccalaureate degree. We envision a robust program where students conveniently take required classes at different colleges in our region. This collaborative approach increases the California Community College system’s ability to offer industry-driven curriculum and serve the needs of employers and students.

Presenters: Joann Denning, Chair of Art Digital Media and Film Television Electronic Arts Department, Diablo Valley College; Olivia Herriford, Regional Director, Employer Engagement ICT Digital Media Sector; Vina Cera, Co-chair Media Communications Department, Laney College; and Mary Clarke-Miller, Multimedia Arts Department Chair, Berkley City College

Broadway III

Banking on Success: A Triangulated Approach to Support Latinx Jobseekers

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

In 2019, Mi Casa Resource Center partnered with Community College of Aurora (CCA) and Metropolitan State University Denver (MSU Denver) to launch a novel stackable credential pathway for the financial services sector, building on Latinos in Finance, an industry-recognized curriculum managed by UnidosUS. Participants can earn up to nine postsecondary credits that apply toward a Banking Essentials certificate
at CCA, which stacks into MSU Denver’s B.S. in Banking. The program leverages close partnerships with financial institutions, creating a continuum of learning alongside meaningful employment and career development for participants.

Presenters: Luis Quinones, Senior Director Adult Education and Workforce Development; Leanne Ryder, Senior Program Manager; and Roger Figueroa, Senior Program Manager, UnidosUS; Kimberly Trauner, Grants Manager and Angeles Ortega, Chief Executive Officer, Mi Casa Resource Center

Broadway IV  GOLD SPONSOR

Labor Market Alignment and Continuous Quality Improvement for Non-credit Programs
Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success
How does your school ensure that its non-credit program offerings lead to quality employment for your graduates? One important strategy is ensuring that programs are aligned to local labor markets, offering students verifiable skillsets that employers want. We present a market alignment-focused quality taxonomy for non-credit program offerings in community colleges, developed from a study of program offerings in the NYC region. We applied lessons from this taxonomy to two schools, offering custom reports that offered areas of strength and for improvement, and share reflections from leadership in one school on how these data can support quality improvement.

Presenters: Sara Haviland, Research Scientist, and Steve Robbins, Principal Research Scientist, Educational Testing Service (ETS); and Teresita Wisell, Vice President Workforce Development and Community Education, Westchester Community College

Director’s Suite

Energy Technology Education: The Importance of Basic Skills for Career Success
Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future
New technologies are increasingly important to reduce reliance on carbon-based energy sources. Community colleges provide a wide variety of green energy education programs, ranging from advanced manufacturing to designing and maintaining wind turbine and solar photovoltaic systems. This presentation will discuss several green energy programs along with the importance of incorporating basic skills, including literacy, numeracy, problem solving, and communication, into the curriculum alongside the needed technical skills. In addition, we will discuss how employer-college collaborations ensure learners are prepared for successful careers in cutting edge industries.

Presenters: Claire Korschinowski, Dean of Instruction, Clover Park Technical College; Abigail Helsinger, Senior Research Associate, Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research and Professional Learning; and Phyllis Cummins, Senior Research Scholar, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University of Ohio

Forum Suite

Removing Barriers and Building Successful Pathways for Incarcerated and Reentry Students
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
This workshop will bring together several conference strands including Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, Pathways to Student Success, and Partnerships. Creating pathways for incarcerated and reentry students to obtain a degree or industry recognized credential is essential to the equity work of a community college. Hudson County Community College has embraced the opportunities and challenges of serving students who are justice involved and will share this life-changing experience with attendees. Specifically, the workshop will cover the essentials of building a program, including how to identify partners, recruit students, foster student success, track outcomes, and develop IT solutions.

Presenters: Lori Margolin, Associate Vice President Continuing Education and Workforce Development, and Heather DeVries, Dean Academic Affairs and Assessment, Hudson County Community College
**Studio Suite**

*A Holistic Approach: Providing Wraparound Support for Internationally Trained Immigrants*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Approximately 20% of college-educated immigrants and refugees are unemployed or underemployed in the U.S. Community colleges are ideally positioned to support the economic and linguistic integration of these individuals. Through academic offerings, adult education programming and workforce development programs, community colleges are helping immigrants and refugees navigate pathways aimed at improving professional and academic outcomes. This session will discuss how Chemeketa Community College is holistically servicing the needs of its immigrant and refugee students to ensure their success in accessing educational and career opportunities.

*Presenters:* Genevieve Halkett, VESOL, IET and Academic Transitions Instructor/EPIC Coordinator, Chemeketa Community College and Debra Means-West, Director, Network Development and Knowledge Management, WES Global Talent Bridge

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**Council Suite**

*Renewing Lives with Renewable Energy*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

In this workshop, Mott Community College will explain how it partnered with the State of Michigan’s largest energy provider to develop a pre-apprenticeship training program to meet the demands of the many careers available for electric lineworkers. We will discuss how the partnership was developed, program design, obstacles we overcame, program outcomes and how it has grown to now include a Summer Youth Energy Academy. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in polls, discussion and share best practices around partnership development.

*Presenters:* Kathleen LaVallier, Associate Administrator; Daphne Epps, Director of Youth Services; and Autumn Scherzer, Director of Workforce Services, Mott Community College

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**Skyline III**

*Digital Inclusion: A Foundation for Equity in CTE Courses*

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Offering online and hybrid classes is a proven strategy for providing flexibility that makes CTE programming more accessible. However, racial inequities and digital exclusion create barriers for Black students and other students of color, so colleges need to ensure that technology access and digital skill building needs are met. The presentation prompts attendees to consider the importance of digital inclusion and digital equity as a foundation for online CTE programming. Attendees learn about these concepts and promising strategies, then discuss examples unearthed through the work of the CTE CoLab initiative on racial equity in courses.

*Presenter:* Jen Vanek, Director of Digital Learning and Research, EdTech Center@World Education

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**Executive Suite**

*Cat Simulators: Helping Develop Careers, Not Jobs*

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

Cat Simulators has been leading the way in training the future workforce of heavy equipment operators since 2009. Through the use of simulation, we are able to effectively and safely train individuals for a career in the heavy equipment workforce. Training with simulation allows operators to train day or night, regardless of weather conditions, while experiencing zero fuel burn, zero wear and tear of the machines, and most importantly, training in a safe environment. The heavy equipment workforce is experiencing a huge shortage of operators necessary to complete the infrastructure needs of our country. According to the Build Your Future (byf.org) website, by December 2024, the United States will
have over 695,000 open positions. Cat Simulators is helping to address this void by training future and existing operators on the proper use of heavy equipment. By training with Cat Simulators, operators train on the exact machine controls found in the real machines, which ensures a natural and seamless transition to the iron. Cat Simulators is leading the way in providing individuals with career options, not merely jobs.

Presenter: Nate Hurn, Commercial/Government Account Manager, Cat Simulators

Senate Suite       SILVER SPONSOR

Helping Individuals Navigate the Journey into Healthcare Occupations
Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships
Learn from leaders at Futuro Health, Ivy Tech Community College, and Worksystems, Inc. who help individuals with their journey into healthcare occupations by: Convening professionals to identify/prioritize their specific workforce challenges and needs; Improving pathways into allied health careers by bridging the gaps between employers, unions, and education providers; Transforming career services to help students get upfront career coaching and work-and-learn experiences; Providing wrap-around support for a diverse community of learners including low-income, historically excluded, BIPOC, English-language learners, and first generation students.

Presenters: Ruth Bauer White, President InsideTrack; Joy Hermsen, Director of Innovative Partnerships, Futuro Health; Andrew McGough, Executive Director, Worksystems; and Matthew Connell, Vice President Healthcare, Ivy Tech Community College

SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR NETWORKING - ATRIUM
10:30 – 11:00 AM

SESSION B
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12
11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Park       PLATINUM SPONSOR

The Impact of AI and Automation on Curriculum Development
Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future
Featuring new and updated content for this year’s conference, this thought-provoking and interactive session presented by technologist and futurist Derrick Edwards discusses the waves of worker displacement and creation of new job opportunities caused by automation and artificial intelligence (AI), how various industries and jobs will be affected, the speed of displacement, and criteria for evaluating curriculum.

Presenter: Derrick Edwards, President, AGS Data Systems / AGS Prime

Broadway I
Cultivating Opportunities for East Bay Entrepreneurs
Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-based Learning Solutions
DVC and partners help Bay Area businesses blossom. DVC offers entrepreneurship certificates in Business and other CTE departments. DVC and partners prepare students, including justice-impacted individuals, for California’s burgeoning legal cannabis market. We have developed speaker series, video series, business competitions, internships, and project-based learning programs. DVC helped establish
the Diablo Valley Tech Initiative, an economic development organization, and is one of six colleges in a regional ecosystem to empower Black and Brown entrepreneurs. Learn what we’ve done so far, what’s next, and how you can do it too. Presenters are college practitioners, small business owners, and innovative collaborators.

Presenters: Beth Arman, Senior Dean Career and Community Partnership and Charlie Shi, Dean Business, Computer Science, Culinary, and Community Education, Diablo Valley College; Xavier Nazario, Managing Partner, Case4Cannabis

**Broadway II**

**PLATINUM SPONSOR**

**A Match Made in Equity: Expanding Student Opportunity via a Skills Marketplace**

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

Community and technical colleges play a crucial role in helping create social mobility and training different generations of our nation’s workforce. Yet, many companies struggle to find and engage with the talented learners attending these institutions. Learners, especially from low-income and minority communities, likewise struggle to find jobs. Learn how Dallas College utilizes Handshake to expand the pool of employers and job opportunities for their learners and how Handshake envisions the future of recruiting to be rooted in the skills that learners acquire throughout their educational journey, rather than their pedigree.

Presenter: Fernando Cuevas, Education Partnerships, Handshake and Clint McClain, Project Lead Technical Platforms, Employer Resource Center, Dallas College

**Broadway III**

**Phoenix Forge: Epicenter of Skills Training and More**

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

The largest makerspace in the Southwest and the epicenter of skills training, Phoenix Forge serves as a catalyst to academic program and enrollment growth as it is a lab to support new programs, a place to train faculty to think in new ways, a technology hub, and a place to foster workforce education by connecting students to the entrepreneurial ecosystem and 21st Century businesses. The outcomes are innovative career and life skills that separate those who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments from those who are not.

Presenters: Kristin Gubser, Vice President Institutional Effectiveness and Workforce Strategies; Bruce Balfour, Executive Director, Phoenix Forge; and Ben Bednarz, Program Manager, Phoenix Forge, GateWay Community College

**Broadway IV**

**GOLD SPONSOR**

**Data Security Essentials**

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

The FBI has identified the higher education industry as a target for hackers and unfortunately this threat is becoming an all too real reality for many colleges and universities. Hear from Kelly Sinacola best practice tips and tricks to keep your institution secure, even if you’re a non-techy. Now more than ever, it is essential to have an actionable strategy to avoid the devastating effects of a cyber-attack.

Presenter: Kelly Sinacola, Executive Vice President Professional Services, Ferrilli

**Director’s Suite**

**Charting the Uncharted: The Rise of Micro-Credentialing in Higher Education**

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

As a pioneer in micro-credentialing Madison College has drawn upon years of experience to create, define, and implement a digital badge strategy. This session will cover topics such as building pathways...
into programming from business and industry using micro-credentials, utilizing digital badges to verify employment skills that lead to certifications and eventually degrees, how faculty and staff are engaged with digital award ceremonies that recognize performance, using micro-credentials to acknowledge campus academic and athletic achievements, and strategies to increase and earn new revenue through micro-credentialing.

Presenters: Lesley Voigt, Director, Digital Credentials Institute; Bryan Woodhouse, Vice President Industry and Regional Affairs; and Schauna Rasmussen, Dean Early College and Workforce Strategy, Madison Area Technical College

Forum Suite

**A Triumphant Triumvirate: How Three Entities Collaborate to Produce Profound Workforce Successes**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

What started in 2018 as a pie-in-the-sky idea to help educate and train our immigrant community members has brown into the most successful training program on our campus. You will learn how we got started, all the barriers we encountered, how we broke through them, and how our program graduates are doing.

Presenters: Katheryn Horton, Director of Workforce Programs, College of Marin and Air Gallegos, Director of Education and Career, Canal Alliance

Studio Suite

**Expanding the Research Base on Using Digital Technologies to Support Student Success**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Come to this session to learn about recent research on using digital technology tools to teach and support adult learners, including those participating in workforce development programs. Highlighted will be new directions for research to understand how technology tools and solutions, such as text messaging, can be used effectively with adult learners. Session participants will have an opportunity to identify questions they would like to explore about technology use in supporting learners’ success and will discuss approaches for addressing those questions.

Presenters: Judith A. Alamprese, Principal Scientist, Abt Associates and Jen Vanek, Director Digital Learning and Research, EdTech Center @ World Education, Inc.

Council Suite

**EnRiching Lives in Our Community Through a Lens of Workplace Resiliency**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Richland turned its workforce training upside-down with a model focused on Workplace Resiliency and as a result increased number of minorities, low-income and previously incarcerated citizens that acquired employment at an unprecedented rate. Richland established a collaborative relationship with one of the largest healthcare providers and employers in the community and began to explore the development of innovative academic strategies that would expedite, expand, and diversify healthcare professionals. The collaboration has resulted in a $3.2 million gift to support the expansion of the healthcare program at Richland and to provide access, opportunity and support to minorities interested in healthcare.

Presenters: Cristobal Valdez, President; Courtney Carson, Associate Vice President External Affairs; and Rebekah Zuniga, EnRich Healthcare Program Director, Richland Community College; and Julie Melton, Director of Richland Community College Foundation

Skyline III

**CREDIT EXEMPLARY PROGRAM AWARD**

**Innovative Approaches to Behavioral Health Counselor Development**
Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success
Community College of Baltimore County’s Opioid Impacted Family Support Program draws from several best practices to create pathways into new areas of workforce development. As a non-traditional field for workforce education, we have in many ways forged our own pathway through technology integration, remote course delivery, innovative employment partnerships, and the development of a registered apprenticeship program, all while focusing on the equity issues inherent in clinical work within marginalized communities. Through contextualized clinical and non-clinical courses, participants—many of whom have had unsuccessful attempts in college—receive wraparound case management services from application through the completion of their on the job training.

**Presenters:** Ted McCadden Professor and Program Director; Elizabeth Smith, Assistant Professor Behavioral Sciences; and Tara Meyer, Case Manager and Adjunct Faculty Behavioral Sciences, English, and Academic Development, Community College of Baltimore County

Executive Suite
**Breaking the Barriers: How to Build an Inclusive Environment in any Community**
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
Follow Uintah Basin Technical College (UBTech) through a journey of building an inclusive environment on campus and throughout their institution. Discover methods of removing barriers on and off campus. Learn how UBTech has identified student challenges, such as food and housing insecurity, transportation, mental health, and academic support in a rural community. Learn strategies UBTech is using to build a culture where students, faculty, staff, and community members are intellectually safe, respected, engaged, motivated, and valued; leading to greater student academic success.

**Presenters:** Aaron Weight, President and Jenalee Moynier, Diversity Officer/Senior College Recruiter, Uintah Basin Technical College

Senate Suite
**Literacy, Numeracy and Problem-Solving Skills among Adult Learners in STEM-Related Programs**
Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future
Literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills are critical for adult learners’ academic success in community colleges as well as in the workplace. However, one out of five US adults have limited basic skills. This session identifies promising approaches to incorporating literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skill development into technical courses. The session also discusses support colleges could provide adult learners to ensure the development of such skills alongside the technical skills.

**Presenters:** Rita Karam, Senior Policy Researcher and Jenna Kramer, Associate Policy Researcher, RAND Corporation; and Brandon Rogers, Dean of Trades, Transportation and Apprenticeship, Clover Park Technical College

**AWARDS LUNCHEON AND SPONSOR RECOGNITION – GRAND BALLROOM**
**12:10 – 1:45 PM**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12**
**12:10 PM – GRAND BALLROOM**

**AWARDS CEREMONY**
2022 CREDIT EXEMPLARY PROGRAM AWARD
Opiate-Impacted Family Support Program
Community College of Baltimore County, MD

2022 NONCREDIT EXEMPLARY PROGRAM AWARD
Broward UP (Unlimited Potential)
Broward College, FL

2022 JAMES JACOBS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Apprenticeship Success: Examining Student Program Completion and Employer, Instructor, and Workforce Personnel Perspectives at a Large South Carolina Technical College
Dr. Candace B. Geiger
Thayer School of Education, Wingate University

2022 JOHN F GREDE BOARD LEADERSHIP AWARD
Mabel K. Edmonds, Retired Vice President of Instruction
Clover Park Technical College, WA

2022 NCWE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT’S AWARD
Dr. Beth Arman, Senior Dean Career and Community Partnership
Diablo Valley College, CA

CONFERENCE SPONSOR RECOGNITION - PLATINUM SPONSORS
Melissa Leavitt, Strada Education Network
Nick Suwyn, Promineo Tech
Nate Hurn, Cat Simulators
Fernando Cuevos, Handshake

INTRODUCTION OF NEW WORKFORCE PROFESSIONALS ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS
Dr. Darlene G. Miller, Executive Director
The National Council for Workforce Education

SESSION C
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

Park

Innovative Workforce Solutions: Build and Scale Affordable Tech Bootcamp Programs
Track: Exploring Uncharted Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future
Building and growing workforce education classes are expensive. This session examines a unique way to provide bootcamps in partnership with workforce programs. Despite the growth in demand for IT professionals, millions of positions are left unfilled around the world. In recent years, colleges have joined the effort to provide affordable, alternative, bootcamp programs in rapidly growing, high-
demand industries. In this session we will share with you how colleges across the US and Canada have worked with Promineo Tech to launch and scale successful bootcamps to grow their workforce. 

**Presenters:** Nick Barraclough, Director Partnerships and Career Services and Jennifer Lopez, Admissions Director, Promineo Tech

**Broadway I**

**Lowering Barriers to Postsecondary Education Success for Marginalized Adult Learners**

While the student population served by postsecondary institutions offering occupational training and credentials has always been diverse and disproportionately socioeconomically disadvantaged, such institutions now serve increasing numbers of students who have been marginalized in multiple ways. Through a multi-method study of Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs), we describe how OTCs meet the needs of marginalized adult students and discuss long-standing assumptions about strategies intended to meet the needs of disadvantaged adult learners. During this workshop, audience members will be challenged to think differently about flexibility and structure, and how each may raise or lower barriers to adult learner success. 

**Presenters:** Sarah Woodruff, Director Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research and Professional Learning; Abigail Helsinger, Senior Research Associate, Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research and Professional Learning; and Phyllis Cummins, Senior Research Scholar, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University of Ohio

**Broadway II**

**Connecting Community Colleges and Employers to Facilitate Student Employment**

Community college and employer partnerships are critical for facilitating student employment and meeting labor market needs. This session discusses promising practices for developing strong and sustainable partnerships and demonstrates the effects of successful partnerships on student employment outcomes and improved career services and work-based learning opportunities. The session also highlights barriers colleges and employers usually face and supports they need for better partnerships. The session provides concrete steps colleges and employers can take towards stronger partnerships. 

**Presenters:** Rita Karam, Senior Policy Researcher and Charles Goldman, Senior Economist, RAND Corporation; and Chad Bridgman, Director Office of Work-Based Learning, Sinclair Community College

**Broadway III**

**Taming the Noncredit Landscape: A Taxonomy to Define and Measure Noncredit Education**

The EERC State Noncredit Data Project is working closely with three states (Iowa, Louisiana, and Virginia) to understand how community college systems define noncredit education in their data collection efforts and develop a cross-state taxonomy of noncredit offerings to guide data collection efforts. The project seeks to share these findings broadly with states and colleges to build a common understanding of noncredit and support building the noncredit data infrastructure. Come and join the conversation! 

**Presenters:** Michelle Van Noy, Director, Education and Employment Research Center, Rutgers University and Paula Nissen, Administrative Consultant/Analysis and Reporting, Iowa Department of Education

**Broadway IV**

**Career Exploration: How to Get Technical Students Excited with AR/VR**

**GOLD SPONSOR**
Discover how over 3,000 school districts, technical centers, and community colleges are using augmented and virtual reality (AR/VR) to improve achievement in science, math and prepare for college and careers. Using AR/VR, the presenter rotated students through real-world activities in Health Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, Agri-Science, and Transportation to expose students to career pathways. This approach has led to improved achievement, engagement, motivation, and workforce preparedness.

*Presenter:* Nikki Lester, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education, zSpace

**Director's Suite**  
**Professional Development 2.0: Expanding Relevant Skills through Micro Credentials**  
Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future  
As higher education continues to transform in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, engaging and relevant professional development is key in supporting employees to identify and build new skills needed for the future. Based on the principles of competency-based learning, Montgomery College (MC) is leveraging microcredentials, which are recognized across the institution, to educate and empower employees. Participants will learn about MC’s growing microcredential program and how digital badges can be used to intrinsically motivate employees to address existing skill gaps, enhance knowledge, skills, and abilities, and demonstrate relevant competencies that address the needs of employers.

*Presenters:* Paul Miller, Professional Development Director and Christine Crefton, Project and Planning Analyst, Montgomery College

**Forum Suite**  
**Removing Barriers by Choice: A Partnership that Addresses Housing and Education**  
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
Participants will learn about the Choice Neighborhood Initiative of Flint, MI. A partnership funded by HUD to the City of Flint and subcontracted with Mott Community College Workforce and Economic Development Division, for residential education, health, and financial sustainability. This workshop will explain how Mott Community College has gone beyond expectations and expanded their presence in the community. Together with Flint Housing and the City of Flint, MCC has collaborated with community partners to develop strategies that remove barriers and promote success of the Choice Neighborhood residents. Participants will learn strategies to engage partners and the importance of removing barriers.

*Presenters:* Sharon Coenis, Project Director Choice Neighborhood Initiative; Gail Bowman, Administrator Workforce and Economic Development, and Autumn Scherzer, Director Workforce Development, Mott Community College

**Studio Suite**  
**Data into Action: How Postsecondary CTE Programs Use Data to Further Their Racial Equity Goals**  
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
Data and research insights are an important tool in designing and implementing equity strategies in CTE programs. We will highlight how community colleges can use data insights to inform strategies for supporting equity within CTE programs and discuss challenges and opportunities for planning data collection across an institution to support equity initiatives. We will feature a panelist from one participating college (Diablo Valley College) in the Career and Technical Education CoLab initiative, a college community of practice led by the Urban Institute. The session will provide examples of how surveys and student data can be leveraged to better understand programs, student needs, and next steps on research and action.

*Presenters:* Amanda Briggs, Senior Research Associate; Daniel López, Research Analyst; and Julia Payne, Research Analyst, Urban Institute; and Anne Kingsley, Diablo Valley College
**Council Suite**

*Evidence-Based Strategies for Effective Community College Partnerships*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Developing and sustaining productive partnerships with employers and other stakeholders can be challenging. Past and current studies of partnerships involving community colleges point to a set of key strategies that are associated with effective partnerships leading to student success. Come to this session to learn about these strategies and how they have been implemented in a range of community college partnerships involving employers, industry associations, basic skills programs, employment services, and supportive services. Featured will be Mount Hood Community College’s Early Childhood Education Career pathways for English Language Learners.

*Presenters:* Judith A. Alamprese, Principal Scientist, Abt Associates and Kristen Kulongoski, Manager of Adult Basic Skills and Career Pathways, Mt. Hood Community College

**Skyline III**

*NONCREDIT EXEMPLARY PROGRAM AWARD*

*Achieving Unlimited Potential – A New Community-Based Workforce Education Model*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Believing there is Unlimited Potential (UP) in its community, Broward College has operationalized the Broward UP movement aimed at changing the narrative on poverty and mobility by creating access to noncredit workforce education and good jobs in zip codes with disproportionately high unemployment and low education attainment. This community-centric approach is expanding the College’s service model to deliver workforce education and support services in areas most affected by economic immobility. Compelling evidence suggests that Broward UP creates an alternative route to postsecondary access and attainment through continuing education.

*Presenters:* Mildred G. Coyne, Senior Vice President, Workforce Education and Innovation; Kareen Torres, Vice President, Workforce Education and Innovation; and Jennifer Saint Louis, Associate Vice President Partnership Impact, Broward College

**Executive Suite**

*We Are Here to Catch You: Utilizing Peer Recovery Specialists as a Workforce Development Strategy*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Clark State is addressing the needs of their community and its employers through workforce strategies that combat the region’s opioid epidemic. Programs have been developed for paraprofessional and professional addiction and treatment services staff. Graduates of the Peer Recovery Specialist (PRS) program work directly with individuals in recovery in a variety of settings. The programs can be non-credit or credit-based certificates at all levels, or a state-approved pre-apprenticeship program linked to an apprenticeship program. Trained PRS program graduates can follow a pathway leading to a Bachelor of Applied Science in Addiction and Treatment Studies. Learn what you can do in your community.

*Presenters:* Robert J. Visdos, President, Workforce Institute, Inc.; Jo Alice Blondin, President; Crystal Jones, Vice President Marketing, Diversity, and Community Impact; Gerritt Smith, Director Workforce and Business Solutions; and Taylor Bugglin, Grants Development Manager, Clark State College

**Senate Suite**

*New Jersey’s Employer-Centered Ecosystem: Pathways to Career Opportunities Initiative*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

New Jersey’s 18 community colleges and the state’s largest business association have joined together, with support from the state budget, to build a vibrant workforce education ecosystem focused on the four industries that drive the state’s economy. With an appropriation of $8.5 million, this effort is
bringing together employers, labor unions, high schools, community colleges four-year colleges and universities, community-based organizations and state government in a broad, inclusive statewide effort to build sustainable stackable-credential pathways with a focus on equity and opportunity. 

*Presenters:* Aaron Fichtner, President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges and Chrissy Buteas, Chief Government Affairs Officer, New Jersey Business and Industry Association

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**Skyline IV**

**GOLD SPONSOR**

*Customized Learning Solutions Focused on the Integration of Pedagogy, Design, and Technology*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Since 2003, Ease Learning has provided fully managed, customized learning design solutions focused on the effective and successful integration of pedagogy, design, and technology. Ease Learning provides the following technology-based solutions and services to support student achievement, enrollment and retention: Learning design, ranging from internal bandwidth support to full build; Skillways software with data analytic reporting and continuous improvement recommendations; Program development, including a comprehensive framework and mapping specific skills/competencies to learning objectives; Interaction Learning Objects (ILOs) / media production; and 24/7 end user support.

*Presenters:* Mackenzie Cahill, Account Executive and Mark Brodsky, Business Development, Ease Learning

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**SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR NETWORKING - ATRIUM**

*2:45 – 3:30 PM*

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**SESSION D**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12**

*3:30 pm – 4:30 pm*

**Park**

*Leveraging Industry Partnerships to On-Ramp Immigrant Workers to Career Pathways*

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-Based Learning Solutions

The National Immigration Forum has developed and delivered English at Work, a hybrid training model to serve limited English proficient (LEPs) employees across 7 different industries throughout the U.S. In this session, we will provide an overview of a new partnership and project that is bringing together an industry association, employers, non-profits and community colleges to provide English language training as an on-ramp to pursuing other career-related education opportunities. We will discuss the significance of this collaboration, share best practices and learnings and discuss how to replicate aspects of these efforts in the audience’s own communities.

*Presenters:* Ana Negoeescu, Assistant Vice President, Business Engagement and Inclusion Programs and Briggitte Suastegui, Senior Associate, Business Engagement and Inclusion Programs, National Immigration Forum; and Teresita Wisell, Vice President Workforce Development and Community Education, Westchester Community College

**Broadway I**

*Creating a Sustainable Talent Pipeline through Flexible Apprenticeship Pathways*

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-Based Learning Solutions
Raritan Valley Community College along with Triad Tool, will share their blueprint on expanding the pipeline of students (young and “older”) who are interested in alternative education and career pathways. RVCC will share their summer immersion and pre-apprenticeship program curriculum, discuss its NIMS-based advanced manufacturing program, and highlight its successful partnership with Triad Tool. Triad Tool will discuss their role in the development and promotion of RVCC’s advanced manufacturing program and how they benefit from the program by hiring qualified entry-level apprentices. Additionally, learn how RVCC provides competency based related technical instruction for its DOL Machining I Apprenticeship.

Presenters: Conrad Mercurius, Director for the Center of Advanced Manufacturing and Jacki Belin, Vice President for Student Affairs and Outreach, Raritan Valley Community College; Fred Carden, Director of Engineering and George Romanella, Production Manager, TRIAD Tools

Broadway II

Scaling Mountains of Professional Licensure and Data to Better Understand Workforce

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

The Iowa Department of Education is building up mountains of professional licensure and credentialing data through new public and private partnerships with groups like the Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa Department of Transportation, and CompTIA. What secrets does this data hold to better understand and address our skilled workforce needs? Join for this session to learn more about this project that began with health care and is now expanding into transportation, IT and beyond. Visit iowastudentoutcomes.com to learn more ahead of time.

Presenters: Joe Collins, Workforce Education Consultant and Vladimir Bassis, Lead Data Consultant, Iowa Department of Education; and Kiyokazu Matsuyama, Labor Market Research Economist, Iowa Workforce Development

Broadway III

Partnerships that Work: Houston Community College @ Gallery Furniture Retail Center

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

What happens when the largest furniture retailer in the nation’s fourth largest metropolitan offers to open the store for workforce training? HCC steps into make it happen! Owned by local personality and philanthropist, Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale, Gallery Furniture has long been a fixture in Houston, Texas. When Mack offered to open 16,000 square feet of his largest retail center to train the community in high demand, high wage jobs in the region, HCC immediately jumped on board. As a local tv personality and a big heart, Mack has a huge voice and long arm to conduct outreach to those most in need. The session will provide how the partnership came together, how the community has supported it, and how HCC continues to leverage unique partnerships to innovate workforce training.

Presenter: Michael Webster, Associate Vice Chancellor Workforce Instruction, Houston Community College

Broadway IV

Leveling the Playing Field: Mitigating Financial Barriers to Workforce Training

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Virginia residents have benefitted tremendously from legislation passed in 2016 that provides financial support to individuals seeking nationally recognized, stackable, industry credentials. Branded "FastForward," the program has been a resounding success for the Commonwealth. In 2021, additional legislation further bolstered students’ ability to enroll in stackable training programs with a need-based program called "G3" (Virginia’s promise program: Get a Skill, Get a Job, Get Ahead). In this session, participants will learn how this legislation came about, the details of the programs that garnered almost
universal bipartisan support, new pathways and credit-for-prior learning created from workforce to academic programs, statewide student outcomes, and challenges that were faced by colleges implementing the programs.

**Presenters:** Kevin Ratliff, Dean of Workforce and Continuing Education, Blue Ridge Community College and Angela Lawhorne, Director, Career Education Programs and Workforce Partnerships, Virginia Community College System

**Director’s Suite**

**Building Capacity to Serve a Community**  
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
This session will provide participants with lessons learned from an urban, multi-campus in Missouri. Participants will also gain an understanding of the process used to move several career-technical programs into an urban area.  
**Presenters:** Tyjaun Lee, President Penn Valley Campus and Lisa Bray, Interim Dean Career and Technical Education and Site Administrator Advanced Technical Skills Institute, Metropolitan Community College

**Forum Suite**

**Expanding and Encouraging Early College Access by Strengthening K-12 Partnerships**  
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
Learn how Pima Community College new vision for developing the Dual Enrollment Team for improving the service to its partnering schools has paid off. Hiring a new director with a high school principal experience and a new connected vision is bringing new ideas and great results. See how expanding and hiring an all-star team and creating a new Dual Enrollment Vision for 20/20 to help high schools develop and deliver a different but complementary advanced experience in education for our students in their high schools.  
**Presenter:** James Palacios, Dean Dual Enrollment, High School Programs, and Recruitment and Transition, Pima Community College

**Studio Suite**

**Building Education and Industry Partnerships for Industry 4.0 Workforce**  
Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships  
Discover how to create strategies for your program’s future by investing in Industry 4.0 education to meet growing workforce development needs in your community. This session will explore strengthening existing relationships with K-12 partners and industry groups to improve service and involvement. You’ll learn about take home strategies, techniques, and experiences on how to develop Industry 4.0 programs, engage stakeholders, and create career opportunities for your targeted audiences.  
**Presenters:** Srdjan Golub, Director Community Education and Workforce Solutions, Hawkeye Community College and Jason Venneman, Regional Manager, Amatrol Inc.

**Council Suite**

**Data-Informed Action Planning to Support Single Mothers on Campus**  
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
College Success for Single Mothers is a cohort of eight community colleges participating in a three-year project to identify and address the needs of single mothers and all parenting students on their campuses. We will share progress that colleges have made to increase awareness and visibility of parenting students on campus and foster a culture of inclusivity and belonging. We will share insights we’ve gleaned about strategic and effective approaches to leveraging expertise and resources and aligning with institutional DEI and student success goals.
Skyline III  
**SILVER SPONSOR**

*Helping Immigrants and Refugees Access CTE and Career Training*

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-Based Learning Solutions

The pandemic has exacerbated historic disparities between immigrants and native-born Americans in access to education and career opportunities. With nearly 2 million college-educated immigrants and refugees reporting unemployment or underemployment, this oft-overlooked talent pool of New Americans can help employers address labor market challenges. 97% of net US workforce growth will be immigrants and their children by the year 2030. This session unites two academic and workforce experts and an Oregon community college leader to highlight examples of how higher education and employers are serving this fast-growing segment of the workforce and helping foster more inclusive and equitable career pathways.

*Presenters:* Katie Brown, Founder and Chief Education Officer, Engen; Adam Mennig, Director Academic Development, Chemeketa Community College; and Marc Goldberg, Principal/Owner, Skills Strategy Consulting

Executive Suite  
*Unique State Funded Programs for Student Success*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Iowa Community Colleges utilize a variety of funding and support services to ensure the educational and employment success of their students. The session will discuss the use of specific funds for tuition assistance and adult basic education needs, along with the use of extensive and robust advising and counseling approaches from Career Pathway Navigators to enable students to reach their educational and employment goals.

*Presenters:* Kim Oaks, Director of Continuing Education, Southwestern Community College; Erin Powers Daley, Executive Director of Community and Student Development, Northeast Iowa Community College; and Mike Williams, Education Program Consultant, Iowa Department of Education

Senate Suite  
**GOLD SPONSOR**

*Building the Bridge: Getting Students' Skills of the Future*

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

The growing need for technology professionals is apparent: tech-related jobs grew - and continue to grow - more than three times faster than those in other sectors, with wages following suit. But how do you ensure your programs meet the market's and students' needs without compromising quality? How do you ensure your students find employment? Join us as we workshop through the best practices in preparing adult students for tech jobs. We'll explore teaching strong technical skills, critical thinking, communication, and an openness to change - all mission-critical in future-proofing students in this field. Additionally, we'll explore the common errors in teaching tech and how to avoid them. With more than 10+ years of educational experience meeting the market's technical needs, we'll ensure you walk away knowing the key items necessary to help your students reach their full potential in the tech industry.

*Presenter:* Jessi Chartier, Chief Learning Officer, Coding Dojo

Skyline IV  
*Micro-Pathways: Supporting New Majority Learners with New Programs*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success
In August 2021 Pima Community College launched a new model to support new majority learners through micro-pathways. To better support these learners, the Corporate and Community Navigator (CCN) team was established. The CCN team is connected to a learner from their initial request for more information, through the enrollment process, the micro-pathway experience and assist with the Prior Learning Assessment process when the learner completes their program. The CCN team creates connections to the local workforce system and other community organizations that can provide wrap-around support to help learners stay connected to their training while overcoming barriers.

Presenters: Amanda Abens, Dean Workforce Development and Continuing Education, and Vanessa Arellano, Advanced Program Manager Workforce Initiatives, Pima Community College

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**LEARN MORE ABOUT NCWE - PARK**

4:45 – 5:30 PM

**NCWE BOARD PRESIDENT’S HOSTED RECEPTION – SKYLINE ROOMS 23rd FLOOR**

6:00 – 8:00 PM

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**THURSDAY OCTOBER 13**

8:00 AM – GRAND BALLROOM

**GENERAL SESSION**

**CONFERENCE SPONSOR RECOGNITION - GOLD SPONSORS**

Josh Davies, Bring Your ‘A’ Game
Marcia Daniel, Ferrilli
Steve Robbins, ETS
Cynthia Portugal, Geographic Solutions
Ryan Davis, Seattle Jobs Initiative
Mackenzie Cahill, Ease Learning
Lorenzo Martinelli, Coding Dojo

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

**INSPIRING INDUSTRY 4.0- IMPACTING THE FUTURE OF INDUSTRY**

James B. Hoelscher, CEcD
Senior Program Manager, Institute for Decision-Making
University of Northern Iowa

Proactive planning for training in the era of Industry 4.0 is not just a best practice. It is essential! Join James Hoelscher of Iowa's Manufacturing 4.0 Consortium and the University of Northern Iowa's Business and Community Services to unpack the lessons learned from helping to lead and push industry, administrators, faculty and partners into a future of automation, IOT, simulation, 3D printing and big data.
SESSION E
THURSDAY OCTOBER 13
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Park

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Removing Barriers: How to Assess DEI Effectiveness Through Workforce Data
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
Higher education is a necessity for social mobility and economic prosperity. Research supports that diversity, equity, and inclusion issues negatively impact students’ access to education and earnings potential. At Lightcast, our labor market data can help with these challenges. By assessing socioeconomic and demographic data in your region, you can identify opportunities to improve outcomes for underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students. While identifying high-wage, high-growth occupations strategies and expanding access to those pathways. We’ll also demonstrate how to do this and discuss your specific challenges.

Presenters: Nancy Finazzo, Director of Education Success and Erin Baird, Senior Account Manager, Lightcast

Broadway I

Pre-Apprenticeship to Apprenticeship Pathways: The PCC Model for Success
Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-based Learning Solutions
Work is changing and talent acquisition looks a bit different now in this current pandemic world. With employers finding it harder than ever to hire and community colleges looking for innovative ways to drive enrollment and student retention specifically for underserved populations, Pima Community College had to think outside the box to meet the needs of employers and industry partners, and our community.

Presenters: Denise Kingman, Director Employer Engagement and Career Services, and Adrienne Jones, Registered Apprenticeship Program Coordinator, Pima Community College

Broadway II

A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats – Partnerships on the Oregon Coast
Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships
“A superintendent, a community college president, a WIB director, a CEO, and a philanthropist walk onto a bar…” This session explores the creation of intentional, sustainable partnerships around a shared vision for workforce education in rural communities. The session examines the launch of three CTE/STEM programs in rural, coastal Oregon (Early Childhood Education, Welding, and Computer Systems) and the conditions in which a local community leveraged financial resources to create new programs and opportunities that supported immediate workforce needs.

Presenters: Majalise Tolan, Director of Secondary Education and Karen Gray, Superintendent, Lincoln County School District; Dan Lara, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Birgitte Ryslinge, President, Oregon Coast Community College

Broadway III
**P-TECH: Developing a Technical Workforce with Business and Education Partnerships**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

The Community College of Baltimore County has adopted Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (P-TECH) in Engineering Technology and Advanced Manufacturing, as part of its Early College Access Programs (ECAP). P-TECH provides students with a pathway from high school to college to a STEM-related career. This program helps students from diverse economic and educational backgrounds gain an associate degree while earning their high school diploma. Students benefit from access to industry leaders through mentoring programs and paid internships. Upon graduation, students are ready for challenging careers and guaranteed first-in-line consideration for jobs with industry partners.

**Presenters:** Jaime Alvarez, Chair Engineering Department and Emilie Cherry, Director High School Collaboration, Community College of Baltimore County

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**Broadway IV**

**Smashing Barriers: A New Model to End Poverty, One Job-Seeker at a Time!**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

A community thrives when its residents’ basic needs are met. Unfortunately, too many families do not earn enough money to pay for essentials, especially the costs associated with working, primarily childcare and transportation. Low-income individuals, especially those of color, are suffering disproportionately. These inequities will persist unless we are intentional in solving poverty. N2W addresses this challenge by bringing together the three key networks that are essential for creating pathways to jobs and careers that pay family-sustaining wages: employers, social and job-training organizations, and a creative system of job seeker recruitment.

**Presenters:** Frank Squillace, Director and Ridge Schuyler, Founder, Network2Work

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**Director’s Suite**

**Less Talk, More Walk – Creating a Culture of Trust and Accountability**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

One of the greatest challenges our institutions face in the post-pandemic era is dealing with issues of trust and accountability. How do you ensure your students, faculty, and community trust you and your programs? How can you build more accountability within your team? Are your actions building trust and accountability with others? Personal and organizational ethics are one of the easiest things to talk about, but hardest to walk. This highly interactive session will address trust and accountability directly through a practical, proven methodology you can employ to build accountability throughout your organization. Don’t miss this opportunity to transform yourself and your team from talkers to walkers.

**Presenter:** Josh Davies, CEO, The Center for Work Ethic Development

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**Forum Suite**

**Professional Development for Faculty and Staff: The Importance of DEIB Resources**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Community college student bodies are diverse, yet colleges often lack resources to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB). The Ohio College Teaching Consortium (OCTC) was established in 2020 to provide such training for faculty, staff, and graduate students at Ohio colleges and universities. Over 500 people from 36 institutions have expressed interest in participating in consortium sessions, with 120 participants earning “Inclusive Teaching” endorsements. This presentation covers the OCTC mission and structure, as well as the crucial resource it provides through its programming.

**Presenters:** Terry Filicko, Associate Professor, Clark State College and Phyllis Cummins, Senior Research Scholar, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University of Ohio
Can a Text Lead to a Degree? Reducing Stop-Outs by Meeting Near-Grads Where They Are

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

If done correctly, sometimes all a student needs is a text message to finish a degree. Hillsborough Community College (HCC) proved that was true when they took a new approach to connecting with students nearing graduation and former students who had dropped out. With the help of the AI-powered bot, Gwen, HCC restarted conversations, built connections, and directed students to the resources they needed to graduate. Join us to learn the best practices that HCC put in place to increase financial aid completion, re-enrollment, and a sense of belonging, and discover how behaviorally intelligent technology plays a role.

Presenters: Nicole Jaguszyn, Director of Information Management and Reporting, Hillsborough Community College and Corey Edwards, Vice President Strategic Partnerships, Mainstay

Building a Diverse Workforce Through a Lens of Equity

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

How do we make sure our educational communities can be successful in our workforce environments? Are we ready to hire and promote with our values and vision as motivation? Are we willing to remove the biased lens we previously looked through when considering educational partnerships? This workshop will cover these topics and more, focusing on how promoting DEAI-B (Diversity, Equity, Access, Inclusion, and Belonging) in education and workforce education can serve the community, increase access, and foster growth. Collaboration is pivotal when building a diverse workforce.

Presenters: Tamar Jackson, Senior Director of Community Engagement; Samuel Bradshaw, Business Solutions Manager; Christian Reed, Workforce Development Recruiting Specialist; and Chloe Wilhelm, Program Strategist, WorkForce Central

Decades of Data: Time-tested Principles for Serving Adult Learners

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) has partnered with hundreds of post-secondary institutions over the past four-plus decades to help link learning and work. During this time, the CAEL community has helped tens of thousands of students navigate lifelong learning and career pathways. Informed by a national benchmarking study and a deep qualitative analysis of exemplary adult-serving post-secondary institutions, CAEL designed a framework for best practices called the Principles for Effectively Serving Adult Learners. Each Principle is an area of focus that enhances adult learner retention and completion. Join us for this workshop to learn about the most recent Principles for Effectively Serving Adult Learners.

Presenters: John Hawkins, Senior Director Partnerships and Matt Waltz, Vice President Partnerships, CAEL

Ecosystem Approaches to an Inclusive Workforce: Designing Impactful Credentialing Programs

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

By 2030, the manufacturing sector will have 2 million unfilled jobs. This poses a massive opportunity to transform the racial landscape in manufacturing through equity-focused collaborations between industry, educational institutions, and workforce development organizations. With the support of Lumina Foundation, The Century Foundation and Urban Manufacturing Alliance founded the Industry and Inclusion learning cohort: twelve community college programs focused on improving outcomes for
communities of color, women, and students with disabilities in manufacturing credential programs. Half of the institutions identify as Hispanic Serving or Historically Black. Leaders from TCF, Lumina, UMA, and community colleges will discuss their impactful credentialing model that centers forming deep relationships to foster belongingness and equity for workers, through approaches such as trauma-informed care and racially conscious industry partnerships.

**Presenters:** Michelle Burris, Fellow, The Century Foundation; Ronald Williams, Associate Professor and Founding Director, Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship, Coppin State University; Kermit Kaleba, Strategy Director Employer Aligned Credential Programs, Lumina Foundation; and Ashley Etchinson, Associate Dean Career and Technical Education, Norco College

**Executive Suite**

**An Evidence-Based Model for Using Technology to Teach Non-Technical Skills**

**Track:** Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

Employers continually cite a lack of non-technical skills, or soft skills, as a major problem in the workforce. Yet developing a strategy to address this gap is tricky when non-technical skills are so nuanced, interconnected, and hard to assess. The presenters in this session will share a model for teaching non-technical skills using asynchronous online spaced lessons, synchronous virtual sessions, and asynchronous experiential learning. This interactive session will give attendees an opportunity to explore how the research into teaching non-technical skills can be adapted for use in their own context.

**Presenters:** Ana Greif, CEO, JobPath and Chris Mackey, Co-Founder, Skillslane Group

**SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR NETWORKING – ATRIUM**

10:30 – 11:00 AM

**SESSION F**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 13**

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Park**

**GOLD SPONSOR**

**Virtual Career Center: Creating Talent Pipelines for Targeted Industries**

**Track:** Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Learn how workforce agencies and educational institutions in South Florida partnered using Virtual Career Center (VCC) to expand their reach to build strong talent pipelines for target industries. CareerSource South Florida’s Executive Director recently shared that VCC allows us to guide students in selecting a career path, make use of the system’s many resources, and connect students to regional opportunities. VCC’s labor market data-driven planning tools guide self-discovery and informed decision-making and lend support to Career Services to facilitate student movement along pathways to opportunity and success.

**Presenters:** Megan Davis Aderle, Education Sales Support Specialist and Cynthia Portugal, Senior Product Marketing Specialist, Geographic Solutions Inc.

**Broadway I**

**Apprenticeship Opportunities from the Ground Up**

**Track:** Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-based Learning Solutions
Apprentices today make up only 2% of the US labor force, far less than Canada in 2.2%, Britain in 2.7%, and Germany in 3.7%. Significant barriers of low participation in the United State are two-folds: First, there is limited information about apprenticeships. Second, the willingness of employers to create an apprenticeship program is low. This presentation shares best practices and provides suggestions and viable solutions in overcoming hurdles when creating, developing, and implementing a new Apprenticeship program; specially, when there is no previous experience or an existing defined infrastructure for support.

*Presenters: Armando Rivera-Figueroa, Dean Academic Affairs Economic Development and Workforce Education and Karen Lyn Saysay, Apprenticeship Program Director, Los Angeles City College*

**Broadway II**

**Changing the Narrative: Simultaneous Attainment of Academic Credentials and Gainful Employment**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Collaborating with employers to bridge the time gap between credential attainment and gainful employment is key to student success. By ensuring that our communities have a resolute partner that will creatively bring solutions to new and old problems, community colleges are in the unique position to ‘change the narrative.’ This workshop will focus on innovative strategies used by two career education divisions and the workforce solutions division to identify alternative ways to collaborate with employers. This approach resulted in an increase in employer partnerships while ensuring gainful employment for students.

*Presenters: Joanne Ivory, Dean-Career and Technical Programs and Michelé E. Smith, Vice President of Workforce Solutions, William Rainey Harper College*

**Broadway III**

**Self-Placement and Co-Requisite Classes: Powerful Allies in the “Gatekeeper Courses”**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

As many students arrive to community and technical colleges struggling with basic skills in these two areas due to a myriad of reasons ranging from substandard high school education to simple lack of use, both testing into and succeeding at college level English and math can seem insurmountable. This has earned these courses the label of “gatekeepers”; something that stands between our students and their dreams. This presentation will discuss a strategy of using directed self-placement in combination with co-requisites to help students navigate their way through these important courses, and in doing so see their value to the students’ futures.

*Presenters: Dionna Faherty, Academic Lead for English and Communications, and Chris Mahoney, Dean of Instruction Academics and Design, Clover Park Technical College*

**Broadway IV**

**Using Employer-Vetted IT Job Skills to Give Students a Hiring Advantage**

Track: Exploring Unchartered Territory: Emerging Technologies and Skills of the Future

Move your graduates to the winners’ circle for high-paying Tech positions by applying future-facing Information Technology Skill Standards. With leadership from over 250 IT/Cybersecurity employers nationally, the “IT Skills Standards” National Science Foundation grant has produced future-facing, employer-led Skill Standards for the most critical, in-demand IT occupations. Each standards package has been recognized by a state Skill Standards Board and includes employer-prioritized knowledge, skills, abilities, and tasks; key performance indicators; student learning outcomes; and employability skills expected of future “workforce ready” entry-level workers.
**Director’s Suite  GOLD SPONSOR**

**Tools for Advancing Apprenticeship Equity**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

The Apprentice Centered Employment (ACE) framework is a toolkit for colleges and partners in apprenticeship to support DEI in registered apprenticeship. The workshop will give attendees actionable steps to advance equity in Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP). The workshop will address 1) barriers facing underinvested communities, 2) strategies to design a support system for RAPs 3) recommended partnerships for holistic supports 4) a matrix assessment tool for frontline staff and 5) a resource mapping tool model for colleges. Workshop attendees will have an opportunity to share their experiences supporting students/apprentices with overcoming barriers and a hands-on demo of the tableau resource mapping tool.

**Presenters:** Ryan Davis, Executive Director and Kathleen O’Leary, Strategy and Impact Director, Seattle Jobs Initiative; and Shana Peschek, Executive Director, Machinist Institute

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**Forum Suite**

**All In: A Podcast Elevates Student Voices and Drives Inclusive Policy Wins**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

The All In: Student Pathways Forward podcast was created to elevate Oregon community college student voices to shape inclusive policies, programs and partnerships focused on closing opportunity gaps and increasing college completion. Hear from the podcast creator and host, two college presidents, and one policy advocate to learn how the podcast has centered students, transformed program design and served as an effective advocacy tool to help pass landmark state legislation and inform federal policy.

**Presenters:** Marc Goldberg, Owner/Principal, Skills Strategy Consulting; Lisa Skari, President, Mt. Hood Community College; Dana Young, President, Treasure Valley Community College; and Kate Kinder, State Strategies Director – West, National Skills Coalition

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**Studio Suite**

**Career Planning with Weather, Sandbars and Other Unseen Navigation Challenges**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Smooth sailing in today's workforce is rare. Winding river tributaries emphasize the importance of aligning credit and non-credit programs. Iowa Lakes capitalized on a team effort. Landmarks were identified (intentional stops) and processes were “streamlined” to provide students with resources to navigate uncharted territory and utilize resources to travel their individual path for success. Participants will DRAFT map including LANDMARKS, support network, resources, landing ports, and Create a Visitor’s Bureau for students who travel with NO PLAN or supplies. Bonus: ‘Travel’ checklist for students’ arrival at the first destination.

**Presenters:** Jolene Rogers, Executive Director Community and Business Relations, and Julie Williams, Executive Dean of Students, Iowa Lakes Community College

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**Council Suite  PLATINUM SPONSOR**

**Bridges to Opportunity: Exploring Models of Community College and Employer Partnerships**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships
Partnerships between community colleges and employers can be powerful bridges connecting students to greater economic opportunity. But just as with the bridges crossing the mighty rivers in Portland, each must be designed to support the local environment and community. This workshop will provide an overview of possible partnership approaches — exploring differences in funding models, partnership activities, and governance — and spotlight characteristics and practices that contribute to strong outcomes. Participants will be invited to react to the approaches as well as share their own partnership experiences.

Presenter: Melissa Leavitt, Director of Research, Strada Education Network

**Skyline III**

**Expanding Access to Short-Term Training: Federal and State Affordability Strategies**
Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success
Many adults who are interested in short-term, workforce-oriented education and training opportunities face affordability barriers to meeting their postsecondary goals. These barriers relate to their ability to access financial assistance to offset costs related to tuition and fees, as well as basic needs. This session will discuss strategies for increasing access to federal, state, and institutional aid and supportive services for students pursuing short-term, non-degree credentials. Presenters will also share innovative state models providing financial and wraparound supports to students in non-degree education and training programs, as well as how workforce leaders can advocate for the expansion of existing programs to meet the needs of today's student.

Presenters: Lindsey Reichlin Cruse, Senior Fellow and Jennifer Stiddard, Senior Fellow, National Skills Coalition

**Skyline IV**

**Mobile Learning Lab: Bringing Education to the Community**
Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
In this workshop, attendees will learn how Mott Community College overcame student technology and transportation barriers by creating a state-of-the-art mobile advanced manufacturing lab designed to close equity and achievement gaps for underserved populations.

Presenters: Marcus Matthews, Assistant Vice President Workforce and Economic Development and Renee David, Interim Director of Corporate Services and Lifelong Learning, Mott Community College

**Executive Suite**

**Strength in Partnership: Oakton College and Village of Skokie Workforce Training Program**
Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships
Through a strong partnership between Oakton Community College and the Village of Skokie, which is adjacent to Chicago City limits, together, both entities have developed a workforce training initiative aimed at serving eligible Skokie residents who are either unemployed or under-employed. As a result of this partnership, and through various funding streams, both the Village and Oakton Community College have been able to provide funding to support short-term workforce training and wrap-around services to support these Skokie residents to re-enter the workforce with additional job skills and earning capabilities.

Presenter: Marc Battista, Associate Vice President of Workforce Education/Dean of Business and Career Technologies, Oakton Community College
KEYNOTE PANEL PRESENTATION

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT — CENTERING THE FOCUS ON EQUITY AND BELONGING**

**Moderator:** Dr. Floyd Hardin, III  
Executive Officer of Equity and College Relations  
Rio Salado College, AZ

**Panelists**

- Maurice Rahming, President/General Manager/Design Build  
  O’Neill Construction Group Inc., OR

- Teresita Wisell, Vice President Workforce Development and Community Education  
  Westchester Community College, NY

- Julie Parks, Dean and Executive Director Workforce Training  
  Grand Rapids Community College, MI

**Description**

Strong employer partnerships are an important element in the development and delivery of quality workforce training programs. As colleges work to close equity gaps, colleges and employers must work together integrating racial equity efforts and a sense of belonging in program planning, delivery, and job placement post training. However, colleges can transform onboarding/orientation, curriculum, and recruitment and retention strategies explicitly focused on equity and still have the same disparate outcomes in terms of employment, wages, and economic mobility for students of color due to systemic and institutional racism. This panel will provide practical strategies colleges can use to integrate equity and belonging into their work with their workforce education advisory committees and employer partners focusing on successful emerging practices.

**SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR NETWORKING — ATRIUM**

1:30 – 2:15 PM

SESSION G

THURSDAY OCTOBER 13

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm

**Park**  
GOLD SPONSOR

**Student-Centered Approaches for Removing Barriers to Equitable Support Services**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Basic needs insecurity is a critical issue affecting college students. While many colleges offer support services to address this issue, it can be challenging to connect diverse student populations to the right
services at the right time. As a result, many students are unaware of the services available to them, while others encounter structural, process, and/or policy barriers when they do try to connect. In this workshop, we will share tools and techniques that colleges can use to identify barriers to equitable resource distribution as well as strategies to provide resources to all students in a proactive and equitable way.

**Presenters:** Bri Nguyen, Senior Consultant, Seattle Jobs Initiative; Jaime Clarke, Dean Pathways to Opportunity and Jennifer Lucena, Community Resources Coordinator, Portland Community College

**Broadway I**

*Building the Supply Chain Automation Workforce Through Registered Apprenticeship Expansion*

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-Based Learning Solutions

This session will provide an overview of the growing demand for workers in supply chain automation; how Registered Apprenticeships can educate and train individuals to work in these critical occupations; and how a new intermediary organization can partner with workforce education programs on education and training. The presenters will engage the audience in an interactive discussion, asking questions of participants and encouraging them to share ideas and questions/concerns during the formal presentation as well as in a Q&A afterwards.

**Presenter:** Marjorie Cohen, Program Associate, Manhattan Strategy Group and Gary Robinson, Apprenticeship Project Manager, Workforce Solutions, Bluegrass Community and Technical College

**Broadway II**

*Building Tech Employer Partnerships Creates High Employment Rates*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

This session will detail how Cañada College at Menlo Park in partnership with external trainer Qwasar Silicon Valley brought on employer partners to a newly launched not-for-credit program in full stack software development to produce a high employment rate and put students into 5- and 6-figure jobs. We’ll look at the importance of an industry-aligned technical curriculum, how employer partnerships work, as well as how we sourced partners that assisted in navigating competency-based practices and industry demands. In an ever digital economy, this session is a must for anyone looking to offer technical training in high-demand fields while fueling strong employment rates and positive outcomes for students.

**Presenters:** Jennifer Robertson, Co-founder, Qwasar Silicon Valley and Julian Branch, Bay Area Community College Consortium, Cañada College

**Broadway III**

*Calm Achieved Through Joint Enrollment - Outcomes of Students in Iowa*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Pathways to student success can be achieved by paddling down many different streams. A new report has been released in Iowa that lays out the map to achieving calm through joint enrollment. The new research report findings and interactive dashboard will be presented during this session illustrating the positive outcomes of Iowa jointly enrolled students and who graduated high school in 2011, following them into further postsecondary education until completion.

**Presenters:** Vladimir Bassis, Administrative Consultant/MIS and Paula Nissen, Administrative Consultant/Analysis and Reporting, Iowa Department of Education

**Broadway IV**

*Partnerships That Move Mountains: Accelerating Inclusivity in Entrepreneurship and Career Pathways*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships
Accelerating access to education is a team sport requiring a shared strategic vision by employers, educators, non-profits, government organizations, and elected officials. This session will highlight unique partnership approaches designed to engage the most vulnerable populations in career pathways and entrepreneurship education. Together, these partners share a vision to move mountains in the pursuit of accelerating inclusivity within entrepreneurship and workforce development. Partner programming includes MD Department of Human Services, Boy’s & Girl Clubs of Harford and Cecil Counties, Small Business Development Center, Veteran Business Outreach Center, K-12 Public Schools, MD Technology Councils, and Small Business Administration.

Presenters: Amy W. Yingling, Regional Director Small Business Development Center and Bryan Laing, Training Director Small Business Development Center, Carroll Community College

**Director’s Suite**

**Quality and Decision Making in Community College Noncredit Education**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Noncredit education has an important role in creating opportunity and pathways to the workplace. But how do community colleges seek to ensure quality in their noncredit programming? And, how do students navigate the many options available in noncredit? Working with four college partners across the county, the Rutgers Education and Employment Research center is tackling these questions. We will share findings from this research and discuss implications for college noncredit programming.

Presenters: Michelle Van Noy, Director, Education and Employment Research Center, Rutgers University; Keila D. Louzada, Director Workforce, Jennifer Merrill, Student Services Manager, and Silvana Barretto, Technical and Operations Manager Workforce Education, Northern Virginia Community College

**Forum Suite**

**Rapid Response: How Technical Education Meets Workforce Demands**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Ohio’s Career and Technical Centers’ (OTCs) focused approach to developing and maintaining employer partnerships provides an example of how employers and institutions offering postsecondary workforce training collaborate effectively to develop a skilled workforce. Through a multi-method study of OTCs, we will present findings from interviews of OTC administrators and employer partners regarding OTC structures and strategies that facilitate swift and targeted responses to their communities’ evolving labor market needs. We will discuss how these structures create strong employment opportunities for students and ask our audience to reflect on if and how these structures may be transferable to other institutions.

Presenters: Sarah Woodruff, Director Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research and Professional Learning; Abigail Helsinger, Senior Research Associate Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research and Professional Learning; Phyllis Cummins, Senior Research Scholar, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University of Ohio; and Tara Shepherd, Director of Adult Education, Apollo Career Center

**Studio Suite**

**Building Better Human Skills**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Over 100 years of educational research has focused on the differences between human skills and technical skills, and the debate about which is more important to workplace success will continue until we become better at defining these skills and understanding how they overlap and encompass each other. When education becomes more intentional about the integration of human skills with technical skills, technical education can become more adept in reinforcing and developing both types of skills.
However, successful integration starts with identifying what skills to teach, which will require meaningful dialogue among stakeholders to clarify of training goals.

**Presenters:** Zak Konakis, Pathways and Apprenticeship Director; Kari Lamoreaux, Assistant Professor; and Michael Pate, Associate Professor, Utah State University

**Council Suite**

**Washington State’s Centers of Excellence: Employer Engagement Model**

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Centers focus on a targeted industry critical to the state’s economy. The Centers build and sustain competitive advantages. They exist to narrow the gap between employers’ demands for a highly skilled workforce and the colleges’ ability to supply work-ready graduates to ensure a competitive workforce in a global economy.

**Presenters:** Dan Ferguson, Director, WA Allied Health Center of Excellence; Kristi Grassman, Director, Construction Center of Excellence; Ann Avary, Director, Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing and Technology; and Brianna Rockenstire, Director, Center of Excellence for Information and Computing Technology; and Carolyn McKinnon, Policy Associate Workforce Education, Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

**Skyline III**

**Building Career Pathways and Holistic Supports that Advance Racial Equity and Economic Mobility**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Community colleges can advance racial equity and economic mobility by leveraging federal funding streams to create career pathways that center the needs of students. Hear how states and community colleges are leveraging SNAP E&T and TANF Block grant funding to transform partnerships between community colleges and human service agencies—increasing educational attainment, connection to quality jobs, and elevating student voice. Find out how this work can address the racial wealth gaps and basic needs insecurity facing too many students, while also shifting the narrative away from individual fixes to systemic solutions.

**Presenters:** Kate Kinder, State Strategies Director – West, National Skills Coalition; Kermit Kaleba, Strategy Director Employer Aligned Credential Programs, Lumina Foundation; Elizabeth Guzman Arroyo, Statewide Director STEP and Pathways to Opportunity, Portland Community College; and Marc Goldberg, Owner/Principal, Skills Strategy Consulting

**Skyline IV**

**New Regulations for Ability to Benefit - What Do They Mean for Your Career Pathways?**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

Ability to Benefit (ATB) is a critical equity strategy, ensuring that adult dual enrollment opens doors to postsecondary for adult education students. In 2022, the US Department of Education conducted a negotiated rulemaking process, reaching consensus on only one issue that impacts public postsecondary institutions - ATB. Come learn how partners are building pipelines in partnerships between adult education and CTE, and learn how to ensure that your career pathway efforts meet the new criteria and process that is expected to be established by 2024.

**Presenter:** Judy Mortrude, Senior Technical Advisor, World Education, Inc.

**Executive Suite**

**Leveraging Social Media to Improve Your Workforce Program**

Track: Cultivating Roses and Opportunities: Work-based Learning Solutions
A social media presence can enhance engagement with existing partners and participants, as well as help organizations reach new stakeholders, build awareness about effective work-based learning models and opportunities, and more. During this session, attendees will learn how to develop/refine their social media strategy to effectively support partnership development, organizational awareness, and participant recruitment. Attendees will see examples of how other workforce programs are using social media to promote engagement in their communities. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions throughout and will leave the session with actionable tips to leverage social media to promote their workforce programs.

**Presenter:** Melissa Canu, Manager, Communications and Training and Mike Lawrence, Senior Workforce Director, ICF

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**BREAK**

*3:15 – 3:30 PM*

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**SESSION H**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 13**

**3:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**Park**

*Employer Engagement for Community College Partnership*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

Community Colleges are recognizing the importance of more deeply engaging their business partners. Engagement is more than attending annual business advisory meetings or providing input regarding curriculum. In this workshop, we will be discussing best practices and lessons learned at Los Angeles City College as we worked with employers to develop and implement work base learning, internships, and employment opportunities. We will share our experiences highlighting what worked for us and what has not. We will also highlight the steps taken in creating, employer engagement and partnership in a competitive region such as Los Angeles.

**Presenters:** Juliana Medina, Career Center Faculty Coordinator and David Turcotte, Career Center Counselor Lead, Los Angeles City College

**Broadway I**

*Experience City in the City: A Targeted Outreach Strategy*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

A strategy to increase access and participation in Career and Creative Technologies using different high-school pathways: dual vs concurrent enrollment. The workshop will highlight the best practices, challenges and learned experiences on enhancing participation from both the college and the high school perspective. In addition, unique and innovative strategies targeting student engagement, retention, and work-based learning pathways are presented.

**Presenters:** Armando Rivera-Figueroa, Dean Academic Affairs Economic Development and Workforce Education and Karen Lyn Saysay, Title V Project Director, Los Angeles City College

**Broadway II**

*Accessing Economic Mobility Through Education for Under-Resourced Adults*

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
For some adults, getting an education to increase their earning potential is laden with barriers that can keep them from achieving their goals. Something as simple as paying for a car repair can be the reason they have to drop out of their program of study. JobPath has been helping adult students succeed in high demand career education with financial assistance and coaching for over twenty years. This year, JobPath has received funding to expand and partner with new community colleges in neighboring counties. This session will describe the model that has led to a 90% completion rate and an average salary increase of $40,000 and how it is being replicated to help more students.

Presenters: Ana Greif, CEO and Jessica K. Normoyle, Director Operations, JobPath, Inc.

Broadway III

*Career Exploration via CareerOneStop - What's New?*

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

CareerOneStop (COS) provides free, online tools to help job seekers, students, businesses and career professionals. Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Labor, COS sees 1.2 million users each month, accessing 5.5 million page views. COS uses the most authoritative, accurate and up to date information available for all our tools, so your customers can locate resources and services nationally and in their own local area. We also provide customized resources for these targeted audiences: dislocated and laid off workers, workers who have a criminal conviction, workers who have disabilities, older workers, veterans, students and entry level workers. COS helps workforce professionals serve job seeker populations, with resources such as Career assessments.

Presenters: Bill McMahon, Content Manager and Danielle Tharaldson, Marketing Manager, CareerOnestop

Director's Suite

*Young Adult Reentry Partnership*

Track: Navigating Mountains, Discovering Waterfalls: Employer Engagement and Partnerships

The path between reentry after justice involvement for young adults and a productive career that leads to a fulfilled life. Pima Community College partners with Goodwill Industries of Southern AZ Young Adult Reentry Program for ages 18-24 who have been involved in the justice system and/or who left high school prior to graduation. Earning stackable certificates and industry-recognized credentials in high-paying careers thru Pima Community College’s Fast-Tracks and on to other college degrees. The program empowers lifelong success among young adults by offering educational pathways, skills-based training, apprenticeship opportunities, work experience, and needs-driven wraparound services (including childcare, transportation, clothing, tools, equipment, incentives, stipends, and tuition).

Presenter: Robert Ramirez, Young Adult Reentry Partnership, Pima Community College

Forum Suite

*Employer Partnerships Focusing on DEI*

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Great employers are committed to diversifying their workforces, and their partnerships with community colleges can be the great equalizer through workforce programs. Lone Star College (LSC) has combined its DEI practices and employer engagement efforts with two excellent partners, Dell Technologies and National Oilwell Varco (NOV). In this session, hear both the college and employer perspectives on the preparatory steps, marketing, mentoring, and student success stories.

Presenter: Carlecia Wright, Chief Diversity Officer; Linda Head, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor, External and Employer Relations; and Micki Jain, Executive Director, Corporate College and Student Job Placement, Lone Star College
Studio Suite

**Pushing the Envelope: Iowa Dashboards for Perkins V**

Track: Paddling Rough Waters to Achieve Calm: Pathways to Student Success

The Iowa Department of Education created a public student performance Tableau dashboard to meet the Federal Perkins V data reporting requirement, as well as a Labor Market Information Tableau dashboard to assist local eligible recipients with completing the second round of the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) for their Perkins V application. This presentation demonstrates how the dashboards function along with a conversation about federal and state considerations as a part of the development process.

*Presenter: Jeffrey Fletcher, Education Program Consultant, Iowa Department of Education*

Council Suite

**Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Pima Community College Break First Responder Barriers**

Track: Blazing Trails to Circumvent Barriers: Supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

In 2018, the PYT and PCC partnered in basic Emergency Medical Technician training for 21 students (13 men/8 women). The training was unique/inspirational in meeting student success and building a skillful workforce that met community needs and prepared them for employment. On 2021, we completed our fourth PYT/PCC EMT100 course. EMT graduates are challenged to take their learning to the next level. On May 2019, three PYT EMT males graduated from the PCC Fire Academy as firefighters. On May 2021, two PYT EMT women graduated from the PCC fire academy and began work as firefighters for the PYT, a first.

*Presenters: Natividad (Nate) Gonzalez, Academic Director, Public Safety and Emergency Services Institute and Amanda Abens, Dean Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Pima Community College*