What’s Up in the West? A Focus on Colorado, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming

David Longanecker will lead a discussion with representatives from Colorado, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming on how activities in their states relate to the general WICHE themes, such as enhancing access, financing the enterprise, and assuring a well-prepared workforce for the future. In addition, they’ll also look at innovation and quality assurance issues, as well as at accountability.

Speakers:
Tom Buchanan, WICHE commissioner and SHEEO from Wyoming
Richard Kendell, WICHE commissioner and SHEEO from Utah
Jenna Langer, WICHE commissioner and SHEEO from Colorado
Jane Nichols, WICHE commissioner and SHEEO from Nevada

Biographical Information on the Discussion Leader

David A. Longanecker is the executive director of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in Boulder, CO. Previously, he served for six years as the assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S. Department of Education, developing and implementing national policy and programs that provided more than $40 billion annually in student aid and $1 billion to institutions. Prior to that, he was the state higher education executive officer (SHEEO) in Colorado and Minnesota. He was also the principal analyst for higher education for the Congressional Budget Office. Longanecker has served on numerous boards and commissions and has written extensively on a range of higher education issues. His primary interests in higher education are: access and equity; promoting student and institutional performance; finance; the efficient use of educational technologies; and internationalizing American higher education. He holds an Ed.D. from Stanford University, an M.A. in student personnel work from the George Washington University, and a B.A. in sociology from Washington State University.