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# Partnerships for Progress

## A Meeting of the College Access Challenge Grant Network

February 23-24, 2010 • Seattle, Washington

### AGENDA

#### Tuesday, February 23, 2010

7:45 – 8:30 am  
*Adams*

##### Networking Breakfast

Participants are encouraged to network with project leaders from other states.

8:30 – 8:45 am  
*Olympic*

##### Welcoming Remarks

Speaker:

**Demarée Michelau**, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

8:45 – 10:15 am  
*Olympic*

##### CACG Programs in the Network States

State leaders will share an informal 10-15 minute presentation on CACG efforts in their states. Participants will learn about other states' plans for the second year of the grant and discuss efforts to sustain progress made during the first year of their programs.

Facilitator:

**Patrick Lane**, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speakers:

**Lora Jorgensen**, director of outreach and early awareness, *Alaska Commission for Postsecondary Education*

**Natalie Mazzullo**, community education specialist, *Nevada System of Higher Education*

**Erik Cutler**, director, North Dakota College Access Program, *North Dakota University System*

**Weiya Liang**, director, GEAR UP, *Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board*

10:15 – 10:30 am

##### Break

10:30 – 11:15 am  
*Olympic*

### **The Future of Federal College Access Programs**

With uncertainty surrounding the future of the CACG program, this session will focus on the entire spectrum of federal college access funding, while also providing an update on congressional efforts to extend the program.

Moderator:

**Demarée Michelau**, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speaker:

**Greg Darnieder**, special assistant and advisor to the secretary on the secretary's initiative on college access, *US Department of Education* (via teleconference)

11:15 – 11:45 am  
*Olympic*

### **Learning from Others: State Policy Inventory Database Online (SPIDO)**

With so many states implementing new laws, policies, and programs dealing with college access and success, it can be difficult to keep abreast of the latest developments. WICHE staff will demonstrate how SPIDO can help policymakers and project leaders follow new state policies, legislation, and regulations and keep informed about the latest publications and reports.

Speaker:

**Carl Krueger**, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

11:45 am – 12:45 pm  
*Adams*

### **Lunch**

12:45 – 2:00 pm  
*Olympic*

### **Who's Knocking at the College Door? Projections of High School Graduates in the CACG States**

State demographics and future high school populations play a huge role in developing long-term plans for promoting college access and success for low-income students. This session will examine projections of high school graduates for network states in the coming years and discuss the implications of changes in the target population.

Speaker:

**Brian Prescott**, director of policy research, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

2:00 – 3:30 pm  
*Olympic*

### **Using Project-Level Data to Improve Outcomes**

Although the network states are implementing different types of programs, the need to critically evaluate them with project-level data is a central commonality. This discussion will focus on tools that states can use to track and evaluate their CACG projects.

Moderator:

**Brian Prescott**, director of policy research, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speakers:

**Scott Gillie**, executive director, *Encouragement Services, Inc.*

**Jeff Tanner**, vice president, *National Student Clearinghouse*

3:30 – 3:45 pm

### **Break**

3:45 – 4:45 pm

*Olympic*

### **Additional Resources for Promoting College Access**

The Pathways to College Network has developed an excellent collection of data and resources that can help projects like those in the CACG Network develop into long-term, sustainable efforts to promote access and success. This session will showcase some of the available resources and discuss effective ways of using them in state projects.

Moderator:

**Carl Krueger**, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speaker:

**Lorelle Espinosa**, director of policy and strategic initiatives, *Institute for Higher Education Policy*

6:30 pm

*Hotel Lobby*

### **Dinner**

## Wednesday, February 24, 2010

8:00 – 8:45 am  
*Adams*

### Networking Breakfast

Participants are encouraged to network with project leaders from other states.

8:45 – 9:45 am  
*Olympic*

### Building Partnerships for Progress

Trying to increase the number of low-income students that enroll and succeed in postsecondary education requires more than just student-focused programming, but effectively engaging parents can be difficult. This session will discuss successful parental outreach efforts aimed at low-income families in Washington.

Moderator:

**Carl Krueger**, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speaker:

**Dori Peralta Baker**, parent programs liaison, GEAR UP4 Families, *University of Washington*

9:45 – 10:15 am

### Break and Hotel Check-out

10:15 – 11:15 am  
*Olympic*

### Reaching and Engaging the Business Community

The private sector is an often overlooked, but critically important partner in developing strong college access programs. While the business sector and education agencies regularly proclaim the need to work together, effective examples of this cooperation in the college access arena are less common. This session will discuss how effective partnerships evolved in Nevada and share lessons from the State Scholars Initiative.

Moderator:

**Patrick Lane**, project coordinator, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speakers:

**Terese Rainwater**, former director, *State Scholars Initiative*

**Mendy Elliot**, business consultant, *Elliott Consulting*

11:15 – 11:45 am  
*Olympic*

### CACG Program Administration

This session will provide participants with an opportunity to discuss CACG program administration and management issues. The Department of Education program manager will participate via teleconference.

Moderator:

**Demarée Michelau**, director of policy analysis, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Speaker:

**Karmon Simms-Coates**, CACG program manager, *US Department of Education* (via teleconference)

11:45 am

### Lunch and Adjournment