Please join us for this Special Workshop on Wednesday morning, April 13, before the Annual Meeting begins!

The goal of the workshop, which will be held in conjunction with the WALF Annual Meeting, is to broaden awareness about the Common Core State Standards and engage in a productive discussion about their practical implications for higher education in the Western region. There is no fee to attend the workshop, but you must register. Applicable registration fees for the WALF Annual Meeting apply.

WICHE will reimburse all workshop participants for the cost of Tuesday night’s hotel stay; deans of colleges of education who attend the special workshop and accompany their provost to the WALF annual meeting will also receive $200 toward their WALF meeting registration.

The workshop will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am on Wednesday, April 13, and will include lunch. Two additional sessions on the WALF meeting agenda will expand our conversation on these topics. A special breakout session will also be held on Friday, April 15, for deans of colleges of education.

Sessions include:

Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Speakers:
David Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
Jacqueline King, assistant vice president & policy research advisor, Center for Policy Analysis, American Council on Education (INVITED)
Sharmila Basu Conger, senior policy analyst, State Higher Education Executive Officers (INVITED)

What are the Common Core State Standards? An Overview
Though generally understood by the K-12 education community, the Common Core State Standards movement is much less understood or accepted by American higher education. This session will introduce the history and progress of the Common Core State Standards to postsecondary leaders and practitioners.

Moderator:
David Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Chris Minnich, senior membership director & interim strategic initiative director, standards, assessment & accountability, Council of Chief State School Officers (INVITED)
Travis Reindl, program director, postsecondary education, National Governors Association (INVITED)

With support from Carnegie Corporation of New York
The Role of Arts and Sciences Faculty in the Development of the Common Core State Standards
For the Common Core State Standards movement to be successful, faculty must be informed and engaged in the implementation of clear and consistent standards for elementary and secondary education. This session will describe the involvement of arts and sciences faculty in the development of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts and feature strategies key academic leaders can use to engage postsecondary faculty and successfully align K-12 and postsecondary efforts.

Moderator:
Jacqueline King, assistant vice president & policy research advisor, Center for Policy Analysis, American Council on Education (INVITED)

Speakers:
Susan Pimentel, lead writer, Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy (INVITED)
Doug Sovde, director of instructional supports and educator engagement for the PARCC Consortium, Achieve, Inc. (INVITED)

Implications of the Common Core State Standards for Colleges of Education: A Breakout Session for Deans of Colleges of Education
A major implication of the adoption of the Common Core State Standards relates to teacher education and professional development for in-service teachers. Colleges of education have the opportunity to play a significant role in preparing teachers for the common standards and curriculum in a collaborative environment among the K-12 and higher education sectors. This session will provide a forum for deans of colleges of education to discuss potential strategies for implementing new approaches of preparing teachers for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards.

Additional Relevant Sessions at the WALF Annual Meeting include:
Common Core State Standards: Status and New Assessments
Two national initiatives are striving to close the alignment gap between high school and college by developing and assessing common core standards. Some WICHE states participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). Others participate in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). Some states participate in both. What are the similarities and differences in these initiatives? How is higher education involved in the development of their assessments?

Speakers:
Joe Willhoft, executive director, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
TBD, Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

Advancing the Quality Needle During the Numbers Initiatives: A Facilitated Discussion about Readiness, Quality, Completion, and the Common Core State Standards
After some opening remarks about the relationship of readiness and completion initiatives to maintaining and advancing the quality of student learning as well as how the Common Core State Standards fit into these efforts, Longanecker will pose several questions for consideration by the attendees. During this open forum, all are invited to share their comments.

Facilitator:
David Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

TO REGISTER: www.wiche.edu/walf/meetings/annual2011

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