# Better Data, Better Decisions: Using Data to Inform State Policy

**AGENDA**  
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## Monday, September 19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 – 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Pre-Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Near First Floor Elevators</strong></td>
<td>Meeting participants are welcome to pick up their materials during pre-registration.</td>
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## Tuesday, September 20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 8:30 am</td>
<td>Registration and Networking Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Roxy</strong></td>
<td>Join your legislative colleagues for a full breakfast.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:00 am</td>
<td>Welcome, Introductions, and Overview of WICHE and the Legislative Advisory Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baldwin</strong></td>
<td>Speaker: Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:15 am</td>
<td>The 2016 Legislative Sessions: A Banner Year or Much Ado about Nothing?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baldwin</strong></td>
<td>This session will present highlights and trends from the 2016 legislative sessions; during the subsequent facilitated discussion, LAC members will share their perspectives.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker:</strong></td>
<td>Christina Sedney, Project Coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 – 10:00 am</td>
<td>Facilitated Discussion - The 2016 Legislative Sessions: A Banner Year or Much Ado About Nothing?</td>
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<td><strong>Baldwin</strong></td>
<td>Facilitator: Christina Sedney, Project Coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:15 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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**Tuesday, September 20**

**10:15 – 10:45 am**

*Informing Policy Decisions: Using Cross-State Data to Answer State Policy Questions*

“Data-driven decision making” is a ubiquitous phrase in just about any materials on good government and policymaking. But actually taking advantage of the data resources that exist and applying them to real-world policy problems is a formidable challenge. This session will examine the current “data ecosystem” in higher education and workforce development to show the strengths and weaknesses of potential data sources, including State Longitudinal Data Systems, federal education datasets, the National Student Clearinghouse, the Multistate Longitudinal Data Exchange, and the Wage Record Interchange System. Examples from states using these diverse sources will provide a framework for a facilitated discussion on how to use these data to improve a range of policies and practices.

*Speakers:*
Melissa Beard, Data Governance Coordinator, *State of Washington Education Data and Research Center*  
Patrick Lane, MLDE Project Manager, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

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**10:45 – 11:15 am**

*Facilitated Discussion - Informing Policy Decisions: Using Cross-State Data to Answer State Policy Questions*

*Facilitator:*
Patrick Lane, MLDE Project Manager, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
*Speaker:*
Melissa Beard, Data Governance Coordinator, *State of Washington Education Data and Research Center*

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**11:15 – 11:45 am**

*Dual and Concurrent Enrollment: Exploring Outcomes and Quality through Data*

Several Western states have a long history of using dual and concurrent enrollment as a strategy to increase student access and success and reduce costs for students, while others have invested more recently. This session will explore what the available data show about this approach, including issues related to student outcomes, equity, cost, and quality.

*Moderator:*
Demarée Michelau, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research, *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*  
*Speakers:*
Veronica Dujon, Director, Academic Planning and Policy, *Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission*  
Jason Taylor, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, *University of Utah*
Tuesday, September 20

11:45 am – 12:15 pm
Facilitated Discussion - Dual and Concurrent Enrollment: Exploring Outcomes and Quality through Data

Facilitator:
Demarée Michelau, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speaker:
Veronica Dujon, Director, Academic Planning and Policy, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission
Jason Taylor, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, University of Utah

12:15 – 1:15 pm
Networking Lunch

1:30 – 2:15 pm
Looking Inside the Black Box of Performance Funding: Let the Data Tell the Story

For the last several years, states have increasingly used outcomes-based funding— which directly connects state funding to a postsecondary institution’s performance on indicators such as student persistence, credit accrual, and college completion—as a way to incentivize institutions to behave in certain ways, generally toward better college outcomes. As most states have made enormous investments in performance funding, questions about whether this strategy has achieved its intended outcomes, and whether it has produced unintended consequences (e.g., restrictions in access for underrepresented students or weakening of academic standards), have not been adequately answered. By drawing on data that were previously unavailable, researchers have begun to investigate these important questions, and this session is an opportunity to hear firsthand what they have found so far.

Moderator:
Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Kevin Dougherty, Senior Research Associate, Community College Research Center
Nate Johnson, Founder and Principal, Postsecondary Analytics

2:15 pm – 2:45 pm
Facilitated Discussion - Looking Inside the Black Box of Performance Funding: Let the Data Tell the Story

Facilitator:
Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Kevin Dougherty, Senior Research Associate, Community College Research Center
Nate Johnson, Founder and Principal, Postsecondary Analytics
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| 3:00 – 3:30 pm | Addressing the Postsecondary Attainment Gap through the Use of Data | Postsecondary attainment across the United States is increasing, but underlying these promising data are trends that show that certain groups of Americans, including those from low-income and certain racial/ethnic backgrounds are not earning postsecondary credentials at the same rates as other students. This session will highlight Colorado's efforts at the state and institutional levels, as well as other evidence-based strategies, to address the attainment gap through the use of data.  
Moderator: Christina Sedney, Project Coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  
Speakers: Lindsey Malcom-Piqueux, Associate Director for Research and Policy, Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California  
Michael Vente, Research and Information Policy Officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education |
| 3:30 – 4:00 pm | Facilitated Discussion - Addressing the Postsecondary Attainment Gap through the Use of Data | Facilitator: Christina Sedney, Project Coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  
Speakers: Lindsey Malcom-Piqueux, Associate Director for Research and Policy, Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California  
Michael Vente, Research and Information Policy Officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education |
| 4:00 – 4:30 pm | An Update on WICHE's Mental Health Psychology Internship Program     | Speaker: Dennis Mohatt, Vice President, Mental Health Program, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education |
| 6:00 pm      | Networking Dinner                                                     | Please meet in the hotel lobby at 6:00 pm. The group will be transported by shuttle the short distance from the hotel to the restaurant. |
**Wednesday, September 21**

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<td>Join your legislative colleagues for a full breakfast.</td>
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<td><strong>Ambassador</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:00 am</td>
<td>Interstate Collaborative Efforts in the WICHE Region</td>
<td>Start the day learning about WICHE’s interstate collaborative efforts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baldwin</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:30 am</td>
<td>The Cost and Price of Distance Education: What do Data Really Tell Us?</td>
<td>State legislators often ask, “When will distance education start to save us money?” They want to know about the “cost” of creating, offering, and supporting courses and about the “price” that students ultimately pay in tuition and fees. This session will present results of a survey of colleges about both cost and price, recent legislative and gubernatorial actions, and options for consideration.</td>
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<td>9:30 – 10:00 am</td>
<td>Facilitated Discussion - The Cost and Price of Distance Education: What do The Data Really Tell Us?</td>
<td>Facilitator: Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Speakers: Fred Lokken, Professor, Political Science, Truckee Meadows Community College Russell Poulin, Director, Policy &amp; Analysis, WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET)</td>
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Wednesday, September 21

10:00 – 10:15 am  Break

10:15 – 11:00 am  Baldwin

**Evidence-Based Strategies for Student Success**

Policymakers are increasingly searching for evidence-based strategies that lead to student success. In recent years, three approaches—guided pathways, direct admissions, and co-requisite remediation—have emerged with promising results. Learn about these strategies, what makes them effective, and what the data tell us.

*Moderator:*
Demarée Michelau, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

*Speakers:*
Joanne Itano, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Hawaii System
Matt Freeman, Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education
Sarah Tucker, Chancellor, West Virginia Council for Community and Technical Education

11:00 – 11:30 am  Baldwin

**Facilitated Discussion - Evidence-Based Strategies for Student Success**

*Facilitator:*
Demarée Michelau, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

*Speakers:*
Joanne Itano, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Hawaii System
Matt Freeman, Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education
Sarah Tucker, Chancellor for Community and Technical College Education, West Virginia Council for Community and Technical Education

11:30 – 12:00 pm  Baldwin

**The 2017 Legislative Sessions: What’s on the Agenda?**

LAC members will present ideas to each other, raise questions, and share insights about issues they plan to address in the 2017 legislative sessions.

*Facilitator:*
Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

12:00 pm  Baldwin

**Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

*Speaker:*
Joseph Garcia, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

12:15 pm  ABQ Grille

**Optional Networking Lunch**
2016 LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
(*Indicates LAC member is also a WICHE Commissioner)

ALASKA
Representative Paul Seaton [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator Gary Stevens [APPOINTED 2015]

ARIZONA
Representative Paul Boyer [APPOINTED 2016]
VACANCY

CALIFORNIA
Assemblymember Jose Medina [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator Carol Liu [APPOINTED 2015]

COLORADO
Senator Owen Hill [APPOINTED 2015]
Representative Dave Young [APPOINTED 2013]

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero [APPOINTED 2014]
*Senator Jude Hofschneider [APPOINTED 2015]

GUAM
VACANCY

HAWAI‘I
Representative Isaac Choy [APPOINTED 2013]
Senator Brian Taniguchi [APPOINTED 2013]

IDAHO
*Representative Wendy Horman [APPOINTED 2014]
Senator Dean Mortimer [APPOINTED 2015]
Representative Donna Pence [APPOINTED 2015]

MONTANA
Representative Nate McConnell [APPOINTED 2015]
VACANCY

NEVADA
Senator Joseph Hardy [APPOINTED 2015]
VACANCY

NEW MEXICO
Representative Larry Larrañaga [APPOINTED 2015]
*Senator Mark Moores [APPOINTED 2013]
Senator John Sapien [APPOINTED 2015]

NORTH DAKOTA
*Senator Ray Holmberg [APPOINTED 2008]
Representative Bob Martinson [APPOINTED 2015]
Representative Mark Sanford [APPOINTED 2015]

OREGON
Senator Michael Dembrow [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator Richard Devlin [APPOINTED 2015]

SOUTH DAKOTA
Senator Terri Haverly [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator Bruce Rampelberg [APPOINTED 2015]

UTAH
Representative Keith Grover [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator Peter Knudson [APPOINTED 2006]*
Senator Stephen Urquhart [APPOINTED 2015]

WASHINGTON
Senator Barbara Bailey [APPOINTED 2015]
*Representative Gerry Pollet [APPOINTED 2015]
Senator David Frockt [APPOINTED 2016]

WYOMING
Senator Paul Barnard [APPOINTED 2015]
*Representative Samuel Krone [APPOINTED 2011]
Representative Robert McKim [APPOINTED 2015]