

Western Academic Leadership Academy



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July 21-23, 2021

Preliminary Program

Western
Academic
Leadership
Forum



The Western Academic Leadership Academy's intensive, two-day professional development seminar kicks off a year-long process of building the leadership skills and functional knowledge of academic leaders aspiring to become chief academic officers in the West's postsecondary four-year sector.

Western Academic Leadership Academy

July 21-23, 2021 - Virtual

The Western Academic Leadership Academy (the Academy) provides a strong foundation for understanding the broader context in which a chief academic officer and an institution operate, including the intersection with governing boards and external communities. The Academy offers a particular focus on the development of practical skills within academic affairs, fiscal affairs, student affairs, and external relationships.

The program for the Academy's summer seminar, including small group discussion, addresses the context of academic leadership, the development of academic goals and priorities, and specific skill sets that are required of chief academic officers. This summer event will be followed by several virtual opportunities for academy participants to convene with their cohort colleagues throughout the year. Cohort participants will also be matched with a faculty mentor for individual consultation throughout the year including guidance about career paths. The Academy culminates in a session at the Western Academic Leadership Forum annual meeting the following spring.

The Academy is sponsored by the Western Academic Leadership Forum (Forum), whose members are the chief academic leaders of the four-year institutions and associated system and state agencies in the 16-member state and U.S. Pacific Territories region of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

Application Process

Participants must hold a position of dean or higher at a Forum-member institution or organization and be nominated by their chief academic officer. Nomination of candidates who reflect the growing diversity of the region are encouraged.

Space is limited - 17 participants will be accepted into the program for 2021.

A letter of nomination, along with a letter of interest from the candidate and a current CV, should be sent by email to Anna Galas, Director of Academic Leadership Initiatives at WICHE: agalas@wiche.edu.

Application Due Date: February 15, 2021

Selection by the members of the 2021 Academy Faculty will be completed by March 15, 2021.

Fees, Dates, and Location

Dates: July 21-23, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

Cost: The program fee is \$2,000 per attendee if paid by March 31, 2021.
After this date, the cost will be \$2,500.

Schedule

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 pm

2021 Academy Cohort Meet and Greet

Join your colleagues and Academy Faculty for an informal meet and greet.

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

9:30 - 9:50 am

Introductions and Goals for the Day

Laura Woodworth-Ney, Academy program and mentoring coordinator

9:50 - 10:50 am

Role of the Provost: How It Differs from Other Academic Leadership Roles

All-Faculty Discussion:

Renny Christopher, vice chancellor for academic affairs, Washington State University – Vancouver

Veronica Dujon, director of academic planning and policy, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Brian Jersky, provost and senior vice president academic affairs, California State University, Long Beach

Susan Jeffords, provost and vice president for academic affairs, Portland State University

10:50 - 11:05 am

Break

11:05 - 11:35 am

Small Group Reflection: Finding and Filling Gaps in Your Preparation

Laura Woodworth-Ney

11:35 am - 12:20 pm

The Importance of Building Coalitions: Presidential and Cabinet Relations

Susan Jeffords; Glen Nelson

12:20 - 1:20 pm

Lunch Break

1:20 - 2:20 pm

Managing Personnel and Legal Issues

Renny Christopher; Jean Bannon

2:20 - 2:50 pm

Small Group Reflection and Case Studies

2:50 - 3:05 pm

Break

3:05 - 3:50 pm

Managing External Relations and Working with the State and Boards

Veronica Dujon; Sunny Deye

3:50 - 4:05 pm

Wrap-up and Adjourn

Laura Woodworth-Ney

Thursday, July 22, 2021

9:30 – 9:45 am	Reflections and Goals for the Day Laura
9:45 - 11:30 am	Overview of COVID Impact/ Future of Post-Pandemic Higher Ed All Faculty; Guest Faculty Therapist
11:30 - 11:45 am	Break
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	The Provost, Fundraising and Non-traditional CAO Roles Brian Jersky; Scott Marshall
12:30 am - 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 – 2:00 pm	The Provost and Student Success: Enrollment Management and Collaborating with Student Affairs Brian Jersky; Susan Jeffords
2:00 - 2:30 pm	Small Group Reflection and Case Studies
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 - 3:30 pm	The Provost’s Role in Finance: Policy, Budget, and Funding Formulas Susan Jeffords; Glen Nelson
3:30 - 4:15 pm	Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Renny Christopher; Veronica Dujon; Kirsty Fleming
4:15 - 4:30 pm	Wrap-up and Adjourn Laura Woodworth-Ney

Academy Faculty



Renny Christopher is vice chancellor of academic affairs at Washington State University Vancouver. She was previously associate provost at California State University Channel Islands. She holds a B.A. in English from Mills College, a master’s in linguistics from San Jose State University, and a Ph.D. in literature from the University of California Santa Cruz. Before she earned her Ph.D., she worked as a printing press operator, typesetter, carpenter, and horse wrangler. Her teaching and research interests focus on issues of race, class, and gender in U.S. literature and culture. She was a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Barcelona, Spain, in 2000.



Veronica Dujon is the director for academic policy and authorization at Oregon Higher Education Coordination Commission. She leads the Commission’s efforts to coordinate academic programs, degree pathways, and student success initiatives among Oregon’s public universities. Dujon also oversees degree authorization for private schools, and licensing and compliance for private career schools. Prior to joining the HECC she was an associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Portland State University. Dujon did her graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dujon’s research and publications focus on conflicts over declining natural resources; the role of women in the global economy; and the tensions between national development strategies and forces of globalization.



Brian Jersky is the provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at California State University, Long Beach. Jersky promotes excellence in academics, including undergraduate and graduate education, research/creative activity, and international education. Previously, Jersky served as dean of Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Science and dean of the School of Science at Saint Mary’s College. Prior to those roles, he spent 15 years at Sonoma State University in the mathematics department. He has a bachelor’s degree in mathematical statistics/economics from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in statistics from Cornell University.



Susan Jeffords joined Portland State University in 2018 as provost and vice president for academic affairs. She served previously in numerous roles at the University of Washington, including department chair, vice provost for global affairs, and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Washington Bothell. Jeffords has written and taught broadly in the area of American popular culture, with a particular emphasis on Hollywood film, the Vietnam War, and feminism. She is particularly committed to increasing opportunities for more diverse and underrepresented communities to participate actively in higher education, including expanding opportunities for international and community engagement.



Laura Woodworth-Ney is executive vice president and provost at Idaho State University. Previously, she served as provost and vice president for academic affairs and associate vice president for academic affairs. Woodworth-Ney's former administrative appointments at ISU include chair of the department of history and co-director of women studies. She also served on the ISU faculty senate, both as a senator and as an elected member of the faculty senate executive committee. Woodworth-Ney is an active national speaker on topics in higher education and the humanities. Woodworth-Ney has authored more than 30 articles, book reviews, and scholarly essays, as well as three books (several co-authored). She earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Idaho, and a Ph.D. in American history and public history from Washington State University.

Guest Speakers



Jean Bannon enjoys advising clients on employment law compliance, mentoring other German • Burnette & Associates attorneys and assisting with the defense of cases in all of the firm's practice areas. Prior to joining the firm in 2009, Bannon served as senior in-house employment counsel for the University of New Mexico for many years and also worked in private practice. She is an experienced employment lawyer, advising clients on a variety of personnel matters, and other civil litigation claims against public and private entities. Jean offers practical legal advice and a wealth of expertise in employment and other areas of law. She has served as an arbitrator, has participated in numerous mediations and federal settlement conferences, and has provided management training for public and private clients. She has been a frequently invited speaker at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities annual conferences.



Sunny Deye is a program director at the National Conference of State Legislatures. She leads NCSL's postsecondary education team in tracking and analyzing postsecondary education legislation in all 50 states, publishing state policy issue briefs and reports, developing professional development opportunities for state legislators and legislative staff, and conducting NCSL's annual Legislative Institute on Higher Education. Prior to joining NCSL, Deye served as a legislative editor in the bill drafting office of the Colorado General Assembly. She holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon and a master's degree in politics and public policy from the University of Colorado.



Kirsty Fleming serves as the associate vice president for faculty affairs at California State University Long Beach, where she works to foster an inclusive climate through faculty professional development, faculty hiring, retention, reappointment, tenure, promotion, compensation, and labor relations. Previously, she served as dean of the College of Natural Sciences at CSU, San Bernardino, as executive director for the Kentucky Center for Mathematics, as a department chair at Northern Kentucky University and as a faculty member at Central Michigan University. Kirsty received her B.Sc. from the University of London and Ph.D. from the University of Birmingham, both in mathematics.



Scott Marshall leads the academic and student affairs team at the Institute for Shipboard Education/Semester at Sea. For each voyage, its team hires, trains and evaluates 25 faculty and 30 staff members; designs and delivers 75 courses and over 200 in-country field programs; and oversees co-curricular programming, residence life and student conduct. The team collaborates with Colorado State University on curriculum management, student matriculation, registration and articulation and library and bookstore processes. Previously, Marshall was at Portland State University, most recently as vice provost for academic and fiscal planning. He holds a Ph.D. in international strategy, University of Oregon; an M.A. in international affairs, George Washington University; and a B.A. in economics, Willamette University, Oregon.



Glen Nelson is the vice president, finance, and business affairs for Idaho State University. He has worked in higher education for twenty-four years holding senior administrative positions at the college, university and system levels including service at Arizona State University, the University of Nebraska, and the University of Wisconsin System. Prior to entering higher education, he spent fourteen years in the corporate sector. Glen earned a Ph.D. in educational studies, with a specialization in educational leadership and higher education from the University of Nebraska, an M.B.A. from Thunderbird (AZ), and a B.S. in business administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



About the Western Academic Leadership Forum

The **Western Academic Leadership Forum** (Forum) provides a unique avenue by which the West's top academic leaders share perspectives on current issues to help inform their future decision making and leadership. Through the Forum, colleagues share the lessons they have learned from tackling challenges and provide advice and assistance to one another based on their special expertise. They engage in planning and developing innovative regional initiatives addressing common concerns and together help build a stronger future for higher education in the West. The official representatives of the Forum's members are the chief academic leaders at the four-year institutions and their related system and state agencies in the WICHE region.

www.wiche.edu/Forum.

About the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education



Since 1953, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region. As an interstate compact, WICHE partners with states, territories, and postsecondary institutions to share knowledge, create resources, and develop innovative solutions that address some of our society's most pressing needs. From promoting high-quality, affordable postsecondary education to helping states get the most from their technology investments and addressing behavioral health challenges, WICHE improves lives across the West through innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy.

WICHE members include: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States (specifically the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam).

www.wiche.edu.



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For more information, please contact
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