

2019 Annual Conference Tracks

College & Career Readiness

Intended Audience: Career and Technical Education, Adult Education

The increasingly competitive global economy makes it imperative that more students enter career fields that enable higher wages and greater potential for growth, however, the business community and higher education institutions are concerned about the lack of preparation of high school students and working-age adults for postsecondary education or training necessary to succeed in these careers. This track will focus on sharing fundamental ideas and practices for engaging students in a College & Career Readiness Program through accelerated training strategies and/or incorporation of the College & Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education.

Customer Service & Efficiency

Intended Audience: Public Relations, Admissions, Registrar, Adult Education/WorkReadyU, Financial Aid, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Institutional Research, Information Technology, Recruiting, Disability/Counseling

As we focus on the next decade, there will be an emphasis on creating and sustaining a culture of engaged partnerships with students. This track provides an opportunity to feature some of the common issues, latest trends, and best practices related to enrollment management. Areas emphasized include: capitalizing on social media interactions with students, improving conversion of admitted to enrolled students, transitioning WorkReady U students to postsecondary completion and sustainable employment; improving the financial aid delivery system, redefining recruitment and retention strategies, improving student support services to positively impact student success, building and maintaining relationships with alumni, SAP and default management, Federal Workstudy regulations and parameters, and Banner 9 shortcuts.

Diversity & Student Support

Intended Audience: All

To help you better navigate diverse workplaces and populations, this track improves your understanding of communication similarities and differences among diverse groups. This track explores practices, trends and difficulties that arise when people from different cultural backgrounds attempt to communicate and understand one another. This track examines topics such as current theory and research on communication and culture with regard to race, sex, age & sexual orientation, plus disability, mental health, student engagement and buy-in, career services initiatives, engaging transfer students.

Integrated Education and Training Strand

Intended Audience: Adult Education, Faculty, Workforce, Administration, Program Leaders

The skills gap in Louisiana is a priority. More than 600,000 working age citizens require additional education and training to qualify for living-wage employment opportunities. Integrated Education and Training (IET) are innovative programs of study incorporating research-proven educational strategies. "Integrated Education and Training is a service approach that provides adult education and training concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancements." (WIOA, Sec 203 definitions (II), Regulation 463.35). This track provides an opportunity for instructors, faculty, program leaders, workforce and others to feature best practices in moving all students to credential completion.

Leadership Development & Career Enhancement

Intended Audience: All

Office of Professional Development
January 2019

Community & technical colleges and WorkReady U programs support the leadership and professional development of their employees to energize and enhance our mission and grow our leaders. Topics in this track lead to personal enrichment and focus on career advancement, administrative/management skill development, faculty/staff/leadership development, retirement planning, stress/time management, and health and wellness.

Resources Lead to Results

Intended Audience: Business, Finance, Accounts Receivable, Institutional Advancement, Grants

Success in delivering the mission to our students is dependent on the effective use of existing resources and the execution of innovative strategies to tap new sources of funding. The ability to develop and access new funding streams, whether it's through grants, workforce training contracts and partnerships, or fundraising strategies and private philanthropy, will be hallmarks of the successful community and technical college of tomorrow. In addition, the ability to leverage resources and funding will also be vital to colleges in this new economic reality. Presentations in this track will focus on grant writing, fundraising, leveraging resources, business administration, etc.

Teaching & Learning and Student Engagement

Intended Audience: Faculty

At the very core of our mission, colleges and WorkReady U programs are teaching and learning institutions. This track provides an opportunity for faculty to showcase the best practices of teaching, learning, and student engagement as well as focus on alternatives to lecture-based classes. Designed to engage a broader cross-section of faculty, this track is primarily focused on research-based instructional strategies and methods that have demonstrated value in teaching and learning to engage students, enhance professional goals, and affect learning outcomes.

Workforce & Education Collaboration

Intended Audience: Workforce, Adult Education, Faculty

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) supports innovative strategies to keep pace with changing economic conditions and calls for improved collaboration between adult education, vocational rehabilitation, and workforce development agencies. Building strong partnerships at both the state and local level can create a more efficient and effective education and training system in Louisiana that expands education opportunities and employment outcomes for individuals. Our colleges also need to identify best practices for building coalitions that help colleges meet industry needs. In these sessions, participants will hear from program managers, educational leaders, workforce partners at the forefront of providing these integrated services to eligible LA citizens under the new law, as well as business & industry partners who are helping move Louisiana forward.