Tuesday, November 13, 2006

Policy Discussion: State Strategies to Enhance Student Success

Improving the chances of student success, as measured by year-to-year retention and degree completion, is generally considered a problem for colleges and universities to solve. But state-level policy can support or hinder the effectiveness of institutional decisions to address student success problems and how those efforts are directed. Many states now require institutional reporting on retention and graduation rates; only a few have budgetary inducements in the form of incentive or performance funding for institutions that increase retention or degree completion. In this session, consultant Art Hauptman will look at current state strategies for improving student success and explore with participants other approaches states might consider to help postsecondary institutions increase their persistence and graduation rates.

Biographical Information on the Speaker

Arthur Hauptman has been a public policy consultant specializing in higher education finance issues since 1981. He has written or edited a number of volumes and dozens of chapters and articles on issues relating to the provision of student financial aid, fee setting, and the public funding of institutions. In the U.S., he has consulted with a number of federal and state agencies, and higher education associations and institutions. Internationally, over the past decade he has consulted with government ministries or funding bodies in more than a dozen industrialized and developing countries. He holds a B.A. in economics from Swarthmore College and a M.B.A. from Stanford University.