The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a regional organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact, adopted in the 1950s by Western states. WICHE and its 15 member states work to improve access to higher education and ensure student success. Our student exchange programs, regional initiatives, and our research and policy work allow us to assist constituents throughout the West and beyond.

Founded in 1918, The American Council on Education is the major coordinating body for all the nation’s higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents, and more than 200 related associations, nationwide. It provides leadership on key higher education issues and influences public policy through advocacy.

State Higher Education Executive Officers is a nonprofit, nationwide association of the chief executive officers serving statewide coordinating and governing boards for postsecondary education. The mission of SHEEO is to assist its members and the states in developing and sustaining excellent systems of higher education. SHEEO provides professional development opportunities for its members; serves as a liaison between the states and the federal government; provides research and leadership on higher education policy issues; and implements projects to improve the effectiveness of higher education in the United States.

This meeting was funded by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York
Complimentary Breakfast at the Residence Inn

Approaches to Common K-12 Assessments: Roles for SHEEOs and Higher Education
As the Common Core State Standards are further implemented across the country, developing effective K-12 assessments aligned to the standards will become increasingly important. Two national consortia of states, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the Smarter-Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter-Balanced), have been funded by the federal government to undertake this task. This session will outline plans for developing these new assessments and highlight some of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Moderator:
Charles Lenth, vice president for policy analysis and academic affairs, State Higher Education Executive Officers

Speakers:
Stanley Rabinowitz, project management lead, WestEd
Karen Nicodemus, higher education consultant, Achieve, Inc.

K-12 and Higher Education Working Together: Strategies for Effective Implementation of the Common Core State Standards
K-12 leaders have already been working towards the successful implementation of the Common Core State Standards across the country. This session will provide participants with an overview of current K-12 activities in two Western states in order to help higher education leaders consider how to develop their own strategies in conjunction with K-12 efforts.

Moderator:
Kathy Christie, chief of staff, Education Commission of the States (Invited)

Speakers:
Jack Warner, executive director and chief executive officer, South Dakota Board of Regents
Ed Dennis, deputy to the superintendent, Oregon Department of Education

Networking Lunch

Implementing the Common Core State Standards and Assessments: How to Engage Policymakers and Practitioners
The national association of State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) has been working with SHEEO members who have developed, in collaboration with their K-12 colleagues, descriptions of college and workforce readiness for their states. Examples from select states will be presented, followed by a facilitated discussion with meeting participants on whether these “models of engagement” could be duplicated in their states, and if not, what alternative models might be implemented.

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

Speaker:
Julie Carnahan, senior associate, State Higher Education Executive Officers

Closing Remarks
David Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
Complimentary Breakfast at the Residence Inn

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Speakers:
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Ed Dennis, deputy to the superintendent, Oregon Department of Education

Implications of the Common Core State Standards for Higher Education Institutions in the West
Many questions surround the potential implications of the Common Core State Standards for higher education. This session will shed light on how the Common Core State Standards movement will affect postsecondary institutions, as well as the action state-level leaders can take to both align their current efforts with K-12 and push the agenda forward. A facilitated discussion will follow the presentation.

Moderator:
Julie Carnahan, senior associate, State Higher Education Executive Officers

Speaker:
Jacqueline King, assistant vice president & policy research advisor, Center for Policy Analysis, American Council on Education
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**Agenda**

**November 9, 2010**

2.00 – 2.15 pm

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
- Paul Lingenfelter, president, State Higher Education Executive Officers

2.15 – 3.30 pm

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
- Doug Sovde, senior associate, mathematics, Achieve, Inc.

3.30 – 4.45 pm

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 development and 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

Speakers:

- Susan Pimentel, lead writer, Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy
- Doug Sovde, senior associate, mathematics, Achieve, Inc.