Wednesday, September 15

8:00 – 8:45 am Networking Breakfast
Georgetown/Silverplume/Leadville

Networking Breakfast
Enjoy a full breakfast while networking with your counterparts from around the country. WICHE staff and consultants will be available at designated tables to discuss issues related to data, academic affairs, student services, financing/financial aid, and communications/marketing.

8:45 – 9:00 am Welcome and Introductions
Central City

Speaker:
David A. Longanecker, president, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

9:00 – 9:15 am A Brief Update about the Non-traditional No More Project
Central City

A Brief Update about the Non-traditional No More Project
With the third year of NTNM nearing completion, this session will review past efforts and provide an update on potential future project activities.

Speaker:
Demarée Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

9:15 – 10:45 am Lessons Learned: Highlighting the Successful Outcomes of NTNM
Central City

Lessons Learned: Highlighting the Successful Outcomes of NTNM
The project states have experienced a great deal of success over the last three years. State leaders will engage in an interactive discussion of promising practices and policies they have implemented, including information on measuring outcomes, ensuring sustainability, and increasing degree completions.

Moderator:
Demarée Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Robert Larson, director, North Dakota University System Online
Matt McKeever, director, extended studies, Colorado Department of Higher Education
James Purcell, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
Paul Turman, associate vice president for academic affairs, South Dakota Board of Regents
Sharon Wurm, director of financial aid, Nevada System of Higher Education

10:45 – 11:00 am Break
Wednesday, September 15 (continued)

11:00 am – 12:15 pm  What Else is New? Adult-focused Efforts from Around the Country
Central City

A few states from around the nation have been engaged in serving ready adults for several years. This panel of experts will discuss their major accomplishments, marketing efforts, and remaining challenges that exist even after the states have made a concerted effort to address these issues for some time. In particular, they will describe their efforts to assess and improve success rates for adult learners.

Moderator:
Patrick Lane, project coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Allen Lind, vice president, information and technology, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
Luke Dowden, executive director, Center for Adult Learning in Louisiana, Louisiana Board of Regents
Houston Davis, vice chancellor, academic affairs, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

12:15 – 1:30 pm Lunch
Georgetown/Silverplume/Leadville

1:30 – 2:45 pm Breaking the Logjam on Prior Learning Assessment: An Introduction to CAEL’s Virtual PLA Center
Central City

Many adult students are interested in earning college credit for work-based prior learning and competencies. To respond to the growing need, the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) recently announced a new nationwide Virtual Prior Learning Assessment (VPLA) Center that will use an online platform to help students earn all forms of PLA credit. This session will provide an overview of recent research conducted by CAEL related to PLA and provide an overview of this exciting new development for assessment.

Moderator:
Demarée K. Michelau, director of policy analysis, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speaker:
Judith Wertheim, vice president, higher education services and administration, Council for Adult and Experiential Learning

2:45 – 3:00 pm Break

3:00 – 4:15 pm Lost and Found: Tracking Down Former Students to Bring Them Back to Campus
Central City

Utilizing a cost-effective private-sector partner, Arkansas is exploring a new way to find up-to-date demographic and contact information for ready adults identified through the state’s data mining process. Through this partnership, the state hopes to overcome a hurdle that has hindered efforts in all project states while developing a deeper understanding of the ready adult population.

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

Speakers:
Joel Neubert, government accounts executive, Acxiom Corporation
James Purcell, director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
Dinner on Your Own
Please refer to the list of recommended restaurants in your meeting packet.

Thursday, September 16

8:00 – 8:45 am  Networking Breakfast
Georgetown/Silverplume/Leadville

Networking Breakfast
Enjoy a full breakfast while networking with your counterparts from around the country. WICHE staff and consultants will be available at designated tables to discuss issues related to data, academic affairs, student services, financing/financial aid, and communications/marketing.

8:45 – 10:15 am  Paving the Path: Nevada’s Adult Learner Concierge Model
Central City

Paving the Path: Nevada’s Adult Learner Concierge Model
Several states and institutions are working to implement a single point-of-contact model to provide ready adults with one person or office who can help navigate their path to college success. Nevada’s concierge model has been in place for over a year and has generated some valuable lessons for those interested in adopting this strategy.

Moderator:
Patrick Lane, project coordinator, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Speakers:
Sharon Wurm, director of financial aid, Nevada System of Higher Education
Ann Johnson, associate vice president, student affairs, College of Southern Nevada
Fred Lokken, associate dean for Truckee Meadows Community College WebCollege & Academic Support Center, Truckee Meadows Community College
Salvador Mora, academic advisor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

10:15 – 10:45 am  Break and Hotel Checkout

10:45 am – 12:00 pm  Remedial Education: A Priority for States, A Necessity for Adults
Central City

Remedial Education: A Priority for States, A Necessity for Adults
Remedial education has long been a neglected area of higher education, and this neglect mostly occurs at the expense of students. Facing national college completion goals, declining budgets, and economic pressures, states now are looking for ways to fix what many view as a remedial education problem. This session will highlight important research trends and innovative strategies so that states and institutions can make informed decisions about how to better serve ready adults.

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

Speakers:
Bruce Vandal, director, postsecondary and workforce development institute, Education Commission of the States
Shirley Gilbert, special assistant to the president, El Paso Community College

12:00 pm  Lunch and Adjournment
Georgetown/Silverplume/Leadville

Lunch and Adjournment
Those whose schedules permit are welcome to stay for an informal lunch.