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Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders

ANNUAL MEETING
Phoenix, AZ
April 17-18, 2012
Message from the Chair

There is no doubt that the challenges facing higher education are many and complex. The Alliance was formed out of the recognition that these issues are bigger than any one campus or system. The changes we face in economic restructuring, technological innovation, attainment rates, and workforce alignment, as well as in defining quality and success, all speak to a sense of urgency. The Alliance was formed around this sense of urgency, along with the belief that this moment also presents us with an opportunity.

Welcome to this unprecedented gathering of focused and talented academic innovators and change agents. We are dedicated to clarity, solution-oriented engagement, and sharing strategies and tools.

In addition, we are seeking ways to join forces when appropriate (grants, policies, research, and more) to bring a better educational landscape into being. Given the challenges facing all of us, there is comfort in seeing the caliber of academic leaders that have come together in this organization. Please join me in thanking Pearson for its lunch sponsorship which helped us to plan a richer meeting at a more affordable cost. Enjoy the meeting!

Peter Quigley, Alliance Chair
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs,
University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

Pre-Meeting Activities (download meeting materials at: http://www.wiche.edu/alliance/meetings/annual2012/materials)

Tuesday, April 17
Hyatt Regency Phoenix

9:00 am – Noon
Borein Room
Executive Committee Meeting (executive committee members only)

9:30 am – Noon
9:00 am departure from the east lobby hotel entrance, taxi dropoff/departure area
Tour of Rio Salado’s Sustainable Food Systems Program (optional for additional fee)
Join us for a 45-minute tour of the Sustainable Food Systems Program at Rio Salado College. The tour begins in the student cultivated Garden @ Rio where seasonal vegetables, composting and a small aquaponics project comingle in the Arizona sun. We then head to the Café @ Rio to discuss the hands-on cooking classes, internship the other classes that prepare our students to lead a more sustainable workforce after they complete their studies. Then we’ll have lunch in the program’s café. Bon appetit!

1:00 – 4:30 pm
Cassidy Room
Making $s and Sense: Tips and Trends in Successful Grant Writing
Competition for grant funding among higher education institutions has never been keener. At the same time, several new grant programs at the federal level have expanded the opportunities for community colleges to secure funding. What does it take to win one of these grants? Learn about some new grant writing tips and trends. And find out how to tell the compelling story that will land your next proposal in the winners’ circle.

Workshop Leader:
Lisa Cirincione, JVA Consulting

Meeting Program

8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Registration
Atrium
(2nd floor near the escalator)

5:00 – 6:00 pm
Welcome Reception for New Members
Garden Terrace (3rd Floor)
6:20 pm  Topic dinners hosted by Executive Committee
Various Restaurants in the Arizona Center – attendees to pay for their own dinners
- New Faculty: Opportunity for Change – Marlene Tignor, Laramie County Community College
- Dual Credit and Concurrent Enrollment – Geri Anderson, Colorado Community College System
- State Funding & Open Access – Maria Harper-Marinick, Maricopa Community Colleges
- Involving More Effective Legislators – Camille Preus, Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
- Articulating the Interface: Work Experience, Non Credit, and Credit – Barbara Grover, Salt Lake Community College

Wednesday, April 18
Hyatt Regency Phoenix

7:00 – 8:00 am  Continental Breakfast Buffet
Atrium

8:00 – 8:15 am  Welcome & Meeting Overview
Ellis Room
Peter Quigley, Alliance Chair, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

8:15 – 9:15 am  The Role of Community Colleges in the Nation’s Broad Agenda of Change
If every crisis brings new opportunities, what is the silver lining in the economic downturn for higher education institutions? For most community colleges, enrollments are skyrocketing and resources are plummeting. At the same time, the focus on student outcomes and accountability also highlight the need for comprehensive institutional and instructional transformations. Yet, this speaker is very optimistic about the future of community colleges and sees promising practices that can be scaled to the benefit of all stakeholders. Find out why and how your institution can play an important role in this era of the new normal.

Moderator:
Peter Quigley, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

Speaker:
Keith Bird, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce

9:15 – 9:30 am  Break

9:30 – 11:00 am  The Creative Presidents’ View: Driving Change to Meet Tomorrow’s Reality
Three dynamic community college presidents will talk about the changes they are making in their institutions today to meet tomorrow’s challenges head on. What are their biggest fears and greatest hopes? How do they inspire others to follow their lead into this uncertain future?

Moderator:
Maria Harper-Marinick, Maricopa Community Colleges

Speakers:
Chris Bustamante, Rio Salado Community College
Nancy McCallin, Colorado Community College System
Cindy Miles, Grossmont/Cuyamaca District

11:00 – 11:15 am  Break

11:15 am – 12:30 pm  The Disruptive Innovators’ View: The Best Way to Predict the Future is to Create It
Can we reduce the cost and the time to graduation for students by outsourcing instruction, focusing on outcomes, or offering college credit to secondary students? These speakers will tell you how they are partnering with community colleges to do so.

Moderator:
Michael Cartney, Lake Area Technical Institute
Speakers:
Burck Smith, Straighterline
Kenneth Sorber, Western Governors University
William R. Torres Conley, Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center

12:30 – 12:45 pm
Break

12:45 – 1:45 pm
Lunch: On Board the Transfer Express – Promising Practices by Community Colleges
Today more students are beginning their college experience at a two-year college and then transferring to a four-year institution to finish their degree. For some, this is easy. For others, it is a nightmare. Seamless transfer pathways are essential to keeping costs down for students, institutions, and states and to keep students engaged in working toward their goals. Which institutions are most successful in transferring students and articulating their courses to degree programs? What are some of their promising practices? What role does policy play in encouraging and discouraging transfer and articulation?

Moderator:
Camille Preus, Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development

Speaker:
Demarée Michelau, WICHE Policy Analysis and Research

1:45 – 2:00 pm
Break

2:00 – 3:00 pm
Innovative Practices: Setting the New Agenda – Rotating Roundtable Discussions
Choose three topics of interest below. Every 15 minutes a bell will ring and attendees will move to a new topic.

● Today’s Classroom: Four Generations of Students
For the first time in history, the US has four generations in the workforce and in the classroom. As post-secondary education changes and evolves to handle the “digital natives”, education must also understand and accommodate the different perspectives, cultures and interaction of the Matures, Baby Boomers, Gen Xers, and Millennials in the classroom... and in the workforce.

Mike Cartney, Lake Area Technical Institute

● Wage Outcome Report in Colorado
Studies show that a community college education leads to positive economic gains. To determine the actual wage outcomes for students, the Colorado Community College System compared before and after wages of students who left community college and did not transfer to another institution. Participants will learn about the study and plans to expand the work in Colorado.

Geri Anderson, Colorado Community College System

● Adjunct Academy: Focusing on Quality
Designed by faculty to improve the quality of instruction, the Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) Adjunct Academy pairs cohorts of adjunct instructors with full-time faculty mentors, and provides a combination of online and live training on pedagogy, classroom management, SLOA and e-Portfolios. Participants will learn about the challenges and successes of SLCC’s initial implementation.

Barbara Grover, Salt Lake Community College

● Prioritizing Programs: Making the Important Decisions
With limited resources and continuing needs, how do you decide which current programs need additional resources in order to strengthen them, which programs need to be shelved, and how to position your institution for the future with new programs that will draw students and funding. Resources are all inclusive – faculty, space, funding, etc.

Marlene Tignor, Laramie County Community College
Performance-Based Funding
Just a short time ago performance-based funding was an interesting but marginal policy lever in states’ change arsenal. Today, it is deployed in many states and some of the approaches are restructuring base budgets not simply layering extra money on top as a bonus. This restructuring of higher education funding mechanisms is poised to revolutionize the academic scene.

Peter Quigley, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

Telling The Comprehensive Two-Year College Story
This session will highlight Montana’s efforts to rebrand its state two-year and community college system. Learn how the state worked to target communications to effectively engage constituent groups and increase their awareness of the comprehensive two-year college education mission and vision in Montana.

John Cech, Montana University System

Predictive Analytics: What We Can Learn From Them
Rio Salado College, with over 42,000 online students, has developed its data mining predictive models to predict student success by the eighth day of class with 70 percent accuracy. Like the sophisticated systems used by Netflix or Amazon.com, these “learner analytics” are possible by capturing and utilizing the large amounts of actionable information on student behaviors and performance from multiple data sources. These predictive models create new possibilities for student engagement, personalization, and interventions for student success and completion.

Shannon Corona, Rio Salado Community College

3:00 – 3:15 pm Break

3:15 – 4:15 pm The Accreditors’ View: Ensuring Quality in an Era of Dynamic Change
Declining state support, increased global competition, and the rising use of technology are forcing dramatic changes in the way higher education institutions operate. Accrediting agencies, charged with being the watchdog for quality across the postsecondary enterprise, are changing the way they operate too. Is there synergy in these changes? Do the accrediting agencies have new expectations for institutions? Are more changes in the offing?

Moderator:
John Cech, Montana University System

Speakers:
Lynn Priddy, The Higher Learning Commission
Mike Rota, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

4:15 – 4:55 pm Alliance Annual Business Meeting
All are welcome to attend but only Alliance members may vote.

4:55 – 5:00 pm Wrap Up and Adjournment of Alliance’s 2012 Annual Meeting
Peter Quigley, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

Emergency contacts during meeting: Laura Ewing 303.589.3369 Kay Hulstrom 303.548.8274

Thank you!

Sincere appreciation goes to our sponsors for the 2012 Alliance Annual Meeting!
Speaker Bios

**Geri Anderson** currently serves as the vice president of academic and student affairs and provost for the Colorado Community College System. In the role of chief academic and student affairs officer, Anderson provides leadership for all community college academic and student affairs policy review and development, ensuring the development and enhancement of high-quality career and technical and transfer education programs through on-going program review, assessment of student learning, and high academic standards. Prior to joining the Colorado Community College System, Anderson served as the vice president of student learning at Front Range Community College, the largest community college in Colorado. In her 30 years of experience as a higher education administrator and faculty member, she has worked at large public research institutions, private liberal arts colleges, and public community colleges.

**Keith Bird** is the senior fellow at Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW). He conducts a blend of research and development, project implementation, and evaluation work focused on increasing economic opportunity. Bird joined CSW in 2009 after serving 10 years as the first chancellor of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), where he was responsible for systemwide direction of academic, student, and economic development and workforce initiatives. Bird has a Ph.D. and an M.A. in history and political science from Duke University and a B.A. in history and political science from Alma College.

**Chris Bustamante** is president of Rio Salado College, one of the 10 Maricopa Community Colleges and the largest online community college in the nation, serving nearly 70,000 students annually, with over 41,000 students online. Previously, Bustamante served as interim president, vice president of community development and student services, dean of academic affairs, and in senior-level government affairs positions. He is well known as an advocate for increasing access to higher education and for forging transformational partnerships. Bustamante earned an M.Ed. and Ed.D. in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University and a B.S. in business administration from the University of Arizona. He represents Arizona on the WICHE Commission.

**Michael D. Cartney** has served as the vice president of the Lake Area Technical Institute since February 2007. He primarily oversees academics, enrollment, financial aid, and IT infrastructure, ensuring Lake Area is meeting northeastern South Dakota’s postsecondary technical education needs. A 30-year Air Force veteran and colonel (now retired), he had recently served as the United States Air Force Academy Congressional Liaison in Washington, D.C. Cartney received his B.S. in computer science from the United States Air Force Academy and his M.S. in numerical analysis from Purdue University; he was a National Defense Fellow at Harvard University’s Program on Information Resources Policy.

**John E. Cech** is the deputy commissioner for two-year and community college education for the Montana University System (MSU) and chair of the system’s Two-Year Education Council. As deputy commissioner, he also serves as the state director for Montana’s Carl D. Perkins Program and as the project director for Montana’s CollegeNow initiative, funded through Lumina Foundation. Cech previously served as dean and campus CEO of the Montana State University Billings College of Technology (MSUB COT) from 2002-2010. From 1989 through 2002, he was the dean of continuing education and community services at Rocky Mountain College. During the last 22 years of his career, he has led the development of instructional programs at both RMC and the MSUB COT.

**Lisa Cirincione** is a senior consultant, trainer, technical writer and grantwriter. She has a broad background in nonprofit program development, planning and fundraising, with particular expertise in proposal writing and planned giving. Cirincione has extensive experience writing both federal and foundation grant proposals and requests for proposals (RFP) for nonprofits, school districts and government agencies—raising over $51 million dollars for her clients and regularly facilitates JVA trainings on fundraising, planned giving and grantwriting, bringing the extensive knowledge gained while working on a statewide committee that revised the Colorado Common Grant Application in 2008. Formerly, Cirincione was JVA’s director of research, which involved investigation of the latest research on best practices in a variety of fields. For her expertise in best practices, she was chosen to testify before the Joint Budget Committee of the Colorado State Legislature as an expert on best practices related to youth violence prevention.

**William Conley** is the assistant superintendent of the Arizona Agribusiness & Equine Center High Schools. He previously served in various education positions, including adjunct professor at a variety of institutions. Conley received his B.A. in political sciences/history, an M.A. in secondary education, and Ph.D. in education all from Arizona State University.

**Shannon Corona** is the faculty chair for the Physical Sciences/FON Department at Rio Salado College. She has held this position since July 2008. She has been a residential faculty member with Rio Salado for the past five years. She holds a B.S. from the University of Arizona, an M.A. from Arizona State University and is pursuing her Ph.D. in Professional Studies from Capella University. Corona has worked with institutional research to pilot and develop predictive analytics in science courses and is currently working with faculty to integrate RioPACE across the College. She has presented on several topics, including the Faculty perspective on predictive analytics and RioPACE.

**Barbara Grover** is associate vice president for institutional effectiveness at Salt Lake Community College in Utah, where she directs institutional planning, assessment, and accreditation work. She also oversees The Center for Innovation and Professional Development, Institutional Research, Curriculum, and Scheduling. Her educational credentials include a B.A. from Princeton University and an M.S. from the University of Oregon.
Maria Harper-Marinick is the executive vice chancellor and provost for the Maricopa Community College District in Arizona, comprised of 10 colleges and 2 skills centers that serve over 260,000 students annually. Originally from the Dominican Republic, Harper-Marinick came to Arizona State University as a Fulbright Scholar in 1982. She holds a Ph.D. from Arizona State University and a Licentiate in School Administration and Pedagogy from Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Urena in the Dominican Republic. Harper-Marinick has served on many national and local boards and advisory committees; was chair of the Academic Program Articulation Steering Committee for the state of Arizona from 2006-2008; and was a distinguished national advocate for the Center for Renewal and Wholeness in Higher Education.

Nancy McCallin is president of the Colorado Community College System, where she leads the state’s largest system of higher education, serving more than 162,000 students annually. She collaborates with higher education public and private institutions, as well as other agencies and legislative bodies to improve the quality of education throughout Colorado. Previously, she served as the executive director of the Governor’s Office of State Planning and Budgeting for six years and as the chief economist for the legislative council of the Colorado General Assembly for ten years. McCallin received her B.A. from Claremont McKenna College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Demarée K. Michelau is the director of policy analysis at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). The author of numerous education reports, policy briefs, and magazine articles, she has experience in higher education policy on issues such as accelerated learning options, adult learners, college affordability and access, articulation and transfer, and K-16 reform. Previously, she worked for the National Conference of State Legislatures as a policy specialist. Michelau received her bachelor’s degree in public law from Northern Illinois University and her master’s degree and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Cindy Miles is chancellor of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, a two-college district with 30,000 students that is the third-largest employer in eastern San Diego County. For nearly 25 years, she has served community colleges as a faculty member, administrator, and founding campus president for rural and urban institutions in five states, as well with the international League for Innovation in the Community College. Miles is a registered medical technologist and received an M.S in higher education from Texas A&M University and a B.A. in biology and Ph.D. in educational administration from The University of Texas at Austin.

Camille Preus is the commissioner of the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD). CCWD provides leadership and advocacy with the governor, the legislature, and other statewide stakeholders for Oregon’s 17 community colleges, seven workforce investment areas, and many community based organizations. Preus serves on numerous regional/national boards that champion and advocate for increasing postsecondary education. Prior to her appointment as commissioner, she held leadership roles in workforce development at the local and state levels. She also has private sector experience as a chemist and quality control manager with United States Steel. Preus graduated from Cumberland Junior College, Middle Tennessee State University, earned an MSBA from Indiana University and received her doctorate in Community College Leadership from Oregon State University. She represents Oregon on the WICHE Commission.

Lynn Priddy is vice president for accreditation services for the Higher Learning Commission of NCA. She joined the Commission in 1999 as assistant director of the Peer Corps and its support processes. During her tenure she has served as associate director of AQIP, director of education and training, and the founding director of the Commission’s Academy for Assessment of Student Learning. In her current position, she is responsible for key commission processes including decision-making, the peer corps and peer review, PEAQ and AQIP operations, education and training, and the Academy for Assessment of Student Learning. Priddy earned her B.A. from the State University of New York, her M.A. from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, and her Ph.D. in Higher Education from Capella University.

Peter Quigley is the University of Hawai‘i System community colleges’ associate vice president for academic affairs. He is responsible for academic program planning, evaluation, and assessment; course and program articulation; regional accreditation; federal higher education and workforce development issues, and collaboration with external agencies. He also has served as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa and chancellor at Leeward Community College. Prior to coming to Hawaii, Quigley served as dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Minnesota State University and as dean of academics/chief academic officer at Embry Riddle University.

Michael T. Rota became chancellor of Honolulu Community College in 2009, after serving as interim chancellor for one year. He has more than 40 years of service in public education in Hawaii. Prior to heading the Honolulu campus, he served as associate vice president for academic affairs for the University of Hawai‘i (UH) Community Colleges, where he was responsible for academic program planning, evaluation, and assessment; course and program articulation; regional accreditation; federal higher education and workforce development issues; and collaboration with external agencies. Rota previously served as vice chancellor for academic affairs for the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges and held various posts at Hawai‘i Community College and the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. Rota has represented the UH System on the State Workforce Development Council since its inception in 1997 and is a member of the O‘ahu Workforce Investment Board. He led the state initiative on adult workforce development, one of eight statewide projects funded by the National Governors Association Policy Academy, and serves on the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the
Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Rota received his B.S. and M.Ed. from the University of Maryland.

Burck Smith is the CEO and founder of StraighterLine. Since 2008 StraighterLine has provided ultra-affordable online, general education college courses directly to students. Between 1999 and 2009, he cofounded and ran Smarthinking, the leading provider of online tutoring services to higher education. A prolific writer, Burck recently wrote a book chapter on public policy barriers to postsecondary cost control, an essay on the impact of subscription pricing on developmental education, and a book chapter on course-level choice and pricing in K-12 education. Burck holds a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and a B.A. from Williams College.

Ken Sorber has served as vice president of strategic relations at Western Governors University (WGU) since 2005. He has been responsible for WGU’s efforts to create relationships with business, military, healthcare organizations, and community colleges nationwide. Previously, he built and directed regional and national sales teams for WICAT Systems, Academic Systems Corp., and Vinca Corp. He served as vice president of sales and marketing for Netoria, until that company was acquired by Novell. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University.

Marlene Tignor has served as vice president of instruction for Laramie County Community College since 2003. Prior to moving to Wyoming, she served as dean of instruction at North Central Missouri College and has also been an associate dean and instructor while at Labette Community College. Tignor received her B.A. from St. Mary of the Plains College, M.S. from Pittsburg State University, and Ed. D. from the Kansas State University. She has served on the board of directors for both the American Association of Community Colleges and the National Council of Instructional Administrators and is a consultant-evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission.

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 SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE AND LEARN FROM YOUR ALLIANCE COLLEAGUES YEAR ROUND ...

* Alliance Listserv: ALLIANCE-ALL@listserv.wiche.edu
* Academic Leaders Toolkit: http://alt.wiche.edu/

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### Alliance Executive Committee

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For further information, please contact:

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