

Monday, Nov 01

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Accelerating the Adoption of Adaptive Courseware

Learn How Your College Can Successfully Implement and Scale Adaptive Courseware that is High-Quality and Equitable

Adaptive Learning Workshop

Chuck Dziuban

Director Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness, University of Central Florida

Connie Johnson

Provost, Colorado Technical University

Julia Chadwick

Program Manager, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Matt Renn

Data Analyst, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Megan Tesene

Director, Personalized Learning Consortium, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Patsy Moskal

Director, Digital Learning Impact Evaluation, University of Central Florida

Ryan Luke

Adaptive Learning Program Director, University of Louisville

Sarah Pingrey

Lead Faculty of Mathematics, Colorado Technical University

Tonya Buchan

Instructional Designer, Colorado State University

Tonya Haas

Lead Faculty of Mathematics, Colorado Technical University

Over the past decade, colleges have increasingly relied on digital and adaptive courseware technologies to aid students in the mastery of introductory course content and to close equity gaps in student access and success. AL tools can improve the quality of teaching and learning and promote equitable outcomes for Black, Latinx, Indigenous, poverty-affected, and first-generation student populations. As colleges emerge from the pandemic, learning from institutions that have a history of implementing these technologies at scale in a way that blends the classroom experience with the digital tools will be critical to inform the best path forward. During this preconference ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

09:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Empowering Learners: Can Blockchain Technology Unlock the Full Potential of Transcripts and Credentials?

Annual Meeting

General Session

Angie Paccione

Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education

David Andrews

President, National University

Joe May

Chancellor, Dallas College

John Domingue

Director of the Knowledge Media Institute, The Open University

With its origins in the same underlying technology used to develop bitcoin, blockchain and distributed ledger technologies are still very much in their nascent stages of use beyond the world of cryptocurrency. A growing number of institutions are beginning to experiment with the application of this new technology to develop more portable and more accessible digital transcripts and learning records for students, employers and institutions. But questions around implementation, interoperability and scale remain largely unknown. In this session, join a panel of institutional leaders who are pioneering the use of blockchain and digital transcripts to explore the potential of blockchain ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Lightning Talks - Deep Learning, All Learning Counts: Badges, Micro-credentials

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Deep Learning, Divergent Thinking, and Digital Badging

Annual Meeting

Jennifer Reichart

Faculty Development Specialist, University of North Dakota

Deep learning might sound like a lengthy, intimidating process among faculty who have had to suddenly pivot to online teaching, but this session will demonstrate ways in which faculty can engage online students in deep learning strategies quickly, effectively and meaningfully. By implementing creative, divergent thinking in the online classroom, faculty can utilize microlearning, microcredentialing, and digital badging to reach student learning outcomes and document each student's unique progress and learning pathways as well as their range of skills and achievements. We will demonstrate how ePortfolios can be used to demonstrate student clinical competencies and achievement caps in co-curricular programming.

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

The Pathways to Opportunity are Paved with Skills

Annual Meeting

Deb Eldridge

Director of Academic Engagement, Western Governors University

Kacey Thorne

Director, Program Architecture, Western Governors University

Sarah Demark

Vice President, Program Development, Western Governors University

The need for upskilling and reskilling is real—but so is the complexity of the range of solutions emerging. The Open Skills Network (OSN) is a coalition of employers, educational institutions, military, and other stakeholders dedicated to advancing—and clarifying and simplifying—the world of skills. The OSN was founded to reduce costs, increase benefits, and improve the overall quality of skills data translation, management, and publication by education institutions and employers using open standards, open-source tools, and shared best practices. During this Lightning Talk we will share progress to-date of the OSN towards these goals. We will also discuss the OSN's vision ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Three Ways to Use Digital Credentials to Develop Skills and Talent

Annual Meeting

Claire Sullivan

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Innovation in Digital Badges and Micro-Credentials, University of Maine System

Kelly Hoyland

Higher Education Program Manager, IMS Global Learning Consortium

Kimberly Moore

Director for Workforce, Professional and Community Education, Wichita State University

Luke Dowden

Chief Online Learning Officer / Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Success, Alamo Colleges District

Uncover ways to help your learners succeed as they transition to employment. Institutional leaders representing two-year, four-year, and system perspectives share models for embedding digital badges and micro-credentials into your new and existing programs. Alamo Colleges District presents an initiative to build students' marketable skills by incorporating digital badges into academic courses—providing benefits by increasing student engagement and awareness of skills gained by connecting content to the workforce. Wichita State University discusses a collaborative project to identify and align the competencies produced by educational programs and required for job roles—creating a nationally recognized credential to help learners meet workforce needs ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Lightning Talks - Equity in Course and Assessment Design

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Advancing Online Teaching: Creating Equity-Based Digital Learning Environments

Annual Meeting

Kevin Kelly

Educational Consultant, MindWires & San Francisco State University

Over the past year, the majority of higher education courses were taught online and most student services were provided virtually as well, amplifying equity issues for a variety of learners. Different student populations bring different needs to the online environment, may require different approaches to distance education, and/or may face issues like limited technology access, or the use of images and media that do not adequately represent them. In his Lightning Talk, Kevin Kelly will share practical strategies for increasing learning equity both at the course level and at the institutional level. These strategies are derived from research-based principles such ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Assessment Design is a Diversity Issue

Annual Meeting

Maria Andersen

CEO, Coursetune LLC

Regina Henry

Dean, Strayer University

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are top discussion topics at institutions as they recognize the one-size-fits-all model of assessment, course design, and program offerings don't work for today's diverse student body. Using a variety of assessment techniques is key to the retention of underrepresented populations in higher education. At this moment in time, when instructors all over the world are being forced to change their teaching and assessment practices, it is the perfect time to look at changing assessment practices. What kind of assessments better align with minority or underrepresented student populations? How can you use a mix of assessment techniques ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Lightning Talks - Humanizing Learning

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Tuesday, Nov 02

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Ensuring Purposeful Learning in the Now Normal

Annual Meeting

Brett Christie

Director of Learning Design, O'Donnell Learn

Gerry Hanley

Director, Center for Usability in Design and Accessibility, California State University, Long Beach

Higher education institutions are experiencing and adapting to a broader range of course delivery formats, creating the need to further adapt while still meeting the needs of all students. This session will demonstrate our Purposeful Learning Framework that includes proven teaching-learning strategies that enable a more humanizing and effective course experience for the greatest diversity of learners – regardless of modality. Through demonstration and interaction, session participants will be engaged across Purposeful Learning Framework elements, exemplars, and resources available that lead instructors and developers to an individualized Course Enhancement Plan that enables a manageable and iterative process. Participants will have ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

The Faculty-Student Dialogical Relationship

Annual Meeting

Sheri Prupis

Director, Teaching & Learning Technologies, Virginia's Community Colleges

This lightning session will explore the educational relationships between faculty and students in community college courses delivered in a fully asynchronous online mode. For transformational learning to occur, Freire (2018) and hooks (1994) emphasized the importance of the co-construction of knowledge through the faculty-student dialogical relationship. However, both authors were referring to classes that met in a physical classroom in real-time. When learning happens asynchronously and virtually, mediated by a learning management system (LMS), what are the dynamics of the faculty-student educational relationship? Without the faculty-student relationship, online learning environments have the potential to return to the banking of education, ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

PelotonU: Coaching Hybrid College Students to Success

Annual Meeting

Cynthia Suarez

Director of Coaching, PelotonU

Sarah Saxton-Frump

Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, PelotonU

Alma Raymer

Innovation Manager, PelotonU

Learn more about PelotonU's unique competency-based education model paired with transformative and personally tailored coaching of students that is focused on supporting students through tackling emotional barriers towards completing their degree first, then logistical barriers, as well as academic. Founded in 2012 in Austin, TX, PelotonU is the first of a growing network of Hybrid College nonprofit organizations turning the world of higher education on its head and producing 3-5X the outcomes for our students. We will engage session participants through polls, Q&A, resource sharing, and the invitation to engage more deeply themselves or encourage their students to engage with ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

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Lightning Talks - Online Student Services

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

8 Lessons Learned: Providing A Robust & Engaging Orientation to Create Online Learning Success

Annual Meeting

Kristen Seldon

Director of Partner Relations, Innovative Educators

Meg Foster

First-Year Experience Instructor and Academic Coach, Piedmont Virginia Community College

Megen Drulia

Academic Services Officer III, Wayne State University

Stephanie Williams

eLearning Manager, Mesa Community College

How can institutions craft orientation programs that prepare learners for an online environment while also creating community and engagement? In this lively discussion, student services professionals and a current student will discuss the 8 lessons they learned in creating orientation content that is both well received and also community forming. Presenters will relate challenges they overcame in content creation, decision making around orientation platform selection, and the step-by-step process through which they developed their orientations. Examples of orientation content will be shared along with assessments and student learning outcomes. Audience participation is of critical importance, and the audience will be ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Student Support 2.0: An Innovative Team Approach

Annual Meeting

Amanda Hawkins

Associate Professor, Columbus State University

Harriet Watkins

Chief Academic Officer, Instructional Connections, LLC

Nicole Letchworth

Student/Program Manager, Instructional Connections, LLC

Tracia Forman

Assistant Professor, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

This session focuses on how student support has in some ways experienced a metamorphosis from a centralized support hub on college campuses to an in-course, timely system of support in online courses. Our panel has a wealth of experience using academic coaches within the online course to provide 360° support. We will discuss how integrative support has changed the dynamics within the online course and enhanced support for online students and faculty alike. Through a host of probing questions, these faculty members will address how academic coaches provide effective support in the online classroom. Coaches foster positive, meaningful affective and ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Student Support Strategies during the Pandemic: Best Practices for Preparing Staff to Create Connections Remotely

Annual Meeting

Kathleen Mohr

Assistant Director of Enrollment Services, Ocean County College

In a time of global uncertainty, students beginning or continuing their educational journeys look to institutions of higher education to offer the same level of support and connection that they would otherwise receive on-campus. In this session, you will learn how Ocean County College was able to leverage its One Stop Shop Best Practices to continue supporting students online, without a gap in service.

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Lightning Talks - Quality and Continuous Improvement

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Online Program Design Process: A Framework for Designing High-Quality Online Programs

Annual Meeting

Lightning Talks

Christine Bauer

Associate Dean of Extended Studies and Executive Director of the eCampus Center, Boise State University

Lisa Berry

Associate Director, Instructional Design Services, Boise State University

To support academic departments to develop high-quality online programs, the eCampus Center created and continues to refine our Online Program Design Process. To date this facilitated process has been customized and completed in partnership with over 20 programs across Boise State University. This process is designed to form a solid foundation for new online programs to create a cohesive learning experience to meet the specific needs of their online students. We will provide an overview of the four main pillars of the Online Program Design Process framework (Context, Alignment, Specifications, and Plan for Development/Launch), discuss how the framework has evolved ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Maintaining and Improving Online Program Quality

Lightning Talks

Brenda Boyd

Senior Academic Director: Program Services, Quality Matters

Shannon Riggs

Executive Director, Oregon State Ecampus

Factors that impact the success of quality online programs are complex. As online education providers mature, institutions will need to balance resources between new development and maintenance and continual improvement of existing programs. Quality programs might use tools such as QM's Program Certification Criteria, 21st Century Distance Education Guidelines or other measures to assess current state and determine desired state. Oregon State University Ecampus undertook such an inventory to identify areas for opportunity, growth, and quality assurance opportunities. Join this roundtable discussion about approaches to quality assurance for online degree programs. We will explore such questions as: What are the ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Lunch and Networking

Networking Activity

Tuesday, Nov 02

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM

Burned Out: Stories of Compassion Fatigue

Annual Meeting

Roundtable Discussion

Patrice Torcivia Prusko

Associate Director, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Whitney Kilgore

Co-founder & Chief Academic Officer, iDesign

This session builds on the article Burned Out: Stories of Compassion Fatigue. Compassion fatigue occurs when you take on the suffering of others who have experienced extreme stress or trauma. Components include burnout, traumatic stress, or indirect exposure to trauma via helping others. This interactive session uses a Liberating Structures framework to allow participants time for reflection, sharing and facilitated conversation around reflection questions such as: Tell us about a specific experience where you have experienced burnout since Covid-19? In what ways might you be experiencing more or less burnout in the current work environment, and do you have any ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM

Digital Learning Transformation Strategy

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Jessica Rowland Williams

Director, Every Learner Everywhere, WCET

Working as a network of collaborative partners, Every Learner Everywhere helps colleges and universities pursue equity-focused, student-centered, faculty-powered, and institution-driven improvement in teaching and learning. We believe that digital courseware can be a catalyst for improving course outcomes for marginalized students by enabling faculty to adapt instruction to students' needs and capabilities, promoting active and collaborative learning, and providing learners with actionable, timely feedback. In this session, we will share our network's strategy for digital learning transformation at scale through designing and delivering services, developing resources, and sharing expertise and insights across organizations.

Tuesday, Nov 02

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM

Planning for Post-COVID at Institutions

Annual Meeting

Roundtable Discussion

Real-world scenarios to identify and discuss post-COVID planning from a strategic and operational standpoint and to address instruction as it affects faculty, students, and the institution.

Tuesday, Nov 02

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM

What I Wish I Would Have Thought about Before Adopting a Tech Product

Annual Meeting

Roundtable Discussion

Deb Maeder

Director of Digital Education and Instructional Design, Bryan College of Health Sciences

Kristy Plander

Dean of Educational Development, Bryan College of Health Sciences

Technology adoption has multi-faceted considerations such as the features/functionality of the product, integration, accessibility, security, privacy, etc. But with all of these technology-centric considerations, it can be all too easy to lose sight of the learning goals the technology is supposed to support. The purpose of this session is to engage in conversation about learning considerations for technology adoption and potentially initiate a new WCET resource guide. Please come prepared to share your ideas for keeping learning goals at the center to avoid regrets after adoption!

Tuesday, Nov 02

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

OPM? OPX? The Differences and the Future

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Darcy Hardy

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, North America, Blackboard Inc.

Jessica Sheehan

Senior Director, Strategic Consulting, Blackboard Inc.

As the demands and demographics of students continue to change, the need to provide more flexibility and convenience through online programming has continued to grow. Post-COVID we will likely see the competitive landscape escalate – institutions that did not offer any or very few online programs may now see a path to increase their enrollments and bring in new tuition dollars. The problem for many of these institutions boils down to resources, both financial and staffing. With higher education enrollments declining across the country, managing those resources while at the same time trying to move forward is a challenge. Institutions ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

Real-World Application of Learning in a Virtual World

Annual Meeting

Roundtable Discussion

Alyssa Albrecht

Assistant Instructional Designer, University of Central Florida

Ashley Salter

Instructional Designer, University of Central Florida

Jessica Tojo-Raible

Assistant Instructional Designer, University of Central Florida

This interactive session will prompt the exchange of ideas amongst institutions to spark discussions and cultivate ideas for applying real-world learning experiences in a virtual world. During the discussion, participants may explore best practices for facilitating applicable learning examples and share successes and failures from this past year through the lens of their institutional context. Facilitators will introduce the session with a set of guiding questions first to situate participants' thinking. The "getting started" questions implore participants to discuss the challenge and importance of transforming real-world context into successful learning outcomes. Participants will discuss their unique institutional contexts and their ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

Recovery With Equity: Developing a Post-Pandemic Roadmap for Higher Education

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Judy Sakaki

President, Sonoma State University

Lande Ajose

Senior Policy Advisor for Higher Education, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Michael Wiafe

Student, University of California, Berkeley

Nathan Brostrom

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, University of California Office of the President

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, California's higher education leaders convened a Recovery With Equity Taskforce – a groundbreaking effort that brought together state leaders, institutions, advocates, students and national thought leaders to chart a post-pandemic roadmap for higher education. The Taskforce, chaired by Dr. Lande Ajose, Governor Gavin Newsom's Senior Policy Advisor for Higher Education, released its final report in February 2021. (Learn more at <https://www.capostsecondaryforall.org>). During this session, audience members will hear about the Taskforce and its report, with a particular focus on recommendations that leverage 21st century technology to improve student success: creating a single unified ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

Supporting Faculty Beyond Course Design: Online Teaching Principles

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Katherine McAlvage

Assistant Director of Course Development and Training, Oregon State Ecampus

Shannon Riggs

Executive Director, Oregon State Ecampus

Faculty support staff at Oregon State University Ecampus found that while they had the tools needed to depict quality course design, they needed a resource that could paint a picture of what quality online teaching looks like. Recognizing the need for faculty support and development extended beyond course design, Ecampus staff developed research-based Online Teaching Principles to help online educators take a well-designed course and facilitate it successfully. This interactive session will cover the principles themselves, how they were developed, how they might be used at Oregon State Ecampus—and, because they have been made available with a Creative Commons license—how ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

Virtual Teamwork and Mentorship in the Time of COVID-19

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Amanda Taylor

Instructional Designer, California State University, San Bernardino

Mauricio Cadavid

Senior Instructional Designer, California State University San Bernardino

When joining a well-established technical team, new hires can struggle to acclimate to the culture and expectations of their new position, especially without a formal onboarding process or designated mentor(s). This difficulty is compounded in an all-remote work environment when new hires are unable to meet their colleagues or supervisors in-person to become acquainted with team members, team expectations, and the physical workspace. In an all-remote work environment, regular and consistent communication and mentorship, even if informal, is vital to both acclimating new hires and creating/maintaining a cohesive team. Our presentation has three parts. Part one will explore the necessity ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

Behavior-Based Prior Learning Assessments: Transitioning to a Virtual Experience for Online Higher Education

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Bruce Griffiths

President/Senior Consultant, Organization Systems International

Kathleen Stone

Associate Vice Provost, Strayer University

Nick White

Chief Learning Officer for Alternative Learning, Strategic Education, Inc.

Tiffany Freeze

Consultant/Chief Assessment Officer, C-BEN and The QuILTSS Institute

Students can enter universities with substantial employability skills that are not typically recognized through academic credit. Research shows that students that come in with prior learning assessment credit (PLA) complete at much higher rates. Preliminary data show that students that are evaluated through assessment centers and other behavioral-based assessment methods are demonstrating the equivalent of a substantial number of credits, saving them time and money. At Strayer University, students can earn up to 18 quarter credits through an assessment center experience. Additional behavior-based assessment examples are offered through The QuILTSS Institute, who delivers healthcare programs, and the Competency-Based Education Network, ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

Leading Micro-credential Strategies: Tips from the Frontlines

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Erica Barreiro

Future of Work Strategist, Central New Mexico Community College

Lesley Voigt

Director, Digital Credentials Institute, Madison College

Luke Dowden

Chief Online Learning Officer / Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Success, Alamo Colleges District

Rose Rojas

District Director | Workforce Strategies, Maricopa Community Colleges District

Micro and Alternative Credentials are a fast growing segment of digital post-secondary learning. Community Colleges are on the front lines of micro-credentialing pursuing strategies to stack all forms of alternate credentials into degree programs. Leaders from four very large community college systems representing four states will share how each is exploring, designing, and/or creating alternative pathways into the college for workers who want a non-credit credential to reskill or upskill. These questions will be addressed: What is included in your micro-credential suite? How are you ensuring a quality learning experience? How are you capturing student experiences? What are you learning ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

Listening to Student Voice to Create Opportunities for Innovative Learning Experiences

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Claudia Arcolin

Director of Digital Learning, The University of Texas at San Antonio

Marcela Ramirez

Executive Director of Digital Learning, The University of Texas at San Antonio

Melissa Vito

Vice Provost of Academic Innovation, The University of Texas at San Antonio

The pandemic pushed universities to review their processes and implement strategies to help faculty transition to remote teaching. How did institutions involved students in these changes, and how did students react to the new college experience? The University of Texas at San Antonio included students in its strategy to rethink the entire learning environment and created spaces for an authentic dialogue. The collaboration among administrators, faculty, student and staff promoted actions to enhance digital fluency, guaranteed attention to accessibility and inclusion, and provided students with opportunities for enhancing their sense of belonging to the institution, empowerment toward their learning process, ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

Making Active Learning Work

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Abha Ahuja

Academic Program Director, Minerva Project

Christopher Wilkinson

Student, Minerva Schools at KGI

James Genone

Managing Director of Higher Education Innovation, Minerva Project

Virtual learning environments have yielded mixed results in engaging students and maximizing learning, although they have the potential to be better than physical environments. This session will explore: What are the design pedagogical principles underpinning active learning? How do you create engagement and intimacy in a virtual environment? What is the role of formative assessment to optimize active learning, and why are virtual environments better than traditional classrooms to evaluate and engage students?

Tuesday, Nov 02

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

Notes from an Epic Course (Re)design Journey

Annual Meeting

Breakout Presentation

Kate Parker

VP HE Content Services, LearningMate

Lynn Cohen

Account Director, Strategic Accounts, LearningMate

Nick Carbone

Director of Instructional Design, LearningMate

In 2020, Broward College secured a CARES Act grant to redesign 200 existing online courses and to bring 100 face-to-face courses online for the first time. Our North Star was to increase student-to-student engagement, deepen the learning experience, and increase faculty joy. Research tells us this work will support our student success, will improve retention, and our college would better meet its essential mission. 300 courses is a massive number to work on at once. It was more massive because we only had 7 months to execute the project. With an internal project team of 9 instructional designers, 11 deans/associate ...

Tuesday, Nov 02

03:30 PM - 04:00 PM

Closing Social

Networking Activity