



# **VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

**June 2, 2020 -  
June 4, 2020**

**Conference Program**

Updated 5/31/2020

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## TUESDAY JUNE 2

10:00 A.M.	COMING TOGETHER KEYNOTE
10:30 A.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 1
2:00 P.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 2
4:00 P.M.	COMMUNITY COLLEGE/TRANSFER SIG MEETING & SOCIAL
5:00 P.M.	COMING TOGETHER CLOSING/HAPPY HOUR

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 3

10:00 A.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 3
1:00 P.M.	NYSACAC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ( <i>INVITE ONLY</i> )
1:00 P.M.	NYSACAC VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION
2:00 P.M.	CONFERENCE WELCOME/LEGISLATIVE SESSION
3:00 P.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 4
5:00 P.M.	AFRICAN DIASPORA SIG MEETING AND SOCIAL
6:00 P.M.	ACCEPT SIG MEETING AND SOCIAL
7:00 P.M.	SOCIAL EVENT AND FUNDRAISER - LET'S GO TRIVIA!

## THURSDAY JUNE 4

10:00 A.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 5
1:00 P.M.	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, NACAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE, AND AWARDS
2:00 P.M.	EDUCATIONAL SESSION 6
5:00 P.M.	LGBTQIA+ SIG MEETING AND SOCIAL
6:00 P.M.	LATINX SIG MEETING AND SOCIAL

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AUCTION**

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# TUESDAY, JUNE 2

## 10-10:30 A.M.: Coming Together Welcome and Keynote

Angel Perez, CEO-Elect of NACAC

## 10:30-11:30 A.M.: Educational Session 1

### A) "Which Box Do I Check?": Teaching about DROP (Diversity, Racism, Oppression, & Privilege) through the College Application Process

*Facilitators: Briana Avery, College Bound Initiative/Brooklyn Prep High School, Alendi Vidal, College Bound Initiative/Validus Preparatory Academy*

The main intention of our proposal is to shine a light on the complexities surrounding the ideas of race and ethnicity that our students face through the application process. Most of this is brought up by questions that require students to have to categorize themselves into a box. Although questions like these are mostly used for data collection purposes, it does bring up hard conversations with our students. We hope that through this our participants can understand that checking a box carries a larger conversation and ways in which we can approach these conversations around diversity, racism, oppression, and privilege, along with microaggressions and imposter syndrome, as ways to better support our students to and through college.

### B) Improving College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities in New York City

*Lead Facilitators: Katie Taylor, Heather Hermansen, and Audrey Mangan, New York City Department of Education*

There are over 220,000 students who have an IEP in New York City public schools. We know that a student's transition from high school to postsecondary is tough, and for students with a disability it can be extra challenging and complicated. NYC boasts 5 Transition and College Access Centers (TCAC), borough-based offices designed to increase expertise in transition planning for school staff and families by providing workshops and resources that turnkey best practices, curriculum, and practical next steps. Centers also facilitate work based learning opportunities including Training Opportunities Program (TOP) and Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Come participate in an interactive session with members from the College and Career Planning and the Manhattan TCAC team about best practice, tools, and strategies for school staff to support students with disabilities as they prepare for postsecondary college and career pathways.

### C) Satisfactory Academic Progress - A Primer

*Facilitator: Margo Wright, Yenko*

Learn how to use a proactive approach to advising your students on meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Requirements each semester. In this session, you will learn where to find the SAP rules, as well as when and how to apply them strategically to guide students in optimizing financial aid.

## 2:00-3:00 P.M.: Educational Session 2

### A) Showing Up For Trans and Queer Black, Indigenous and Students of Color

*Facilitators: Lenni Y. Foreman, City Polytechnic High School for Architecture, Engineering and Technology, Maria Monica Andia, Brooklyn Emerging Leaders Academy, Sara Aboobakar, Bard High School Early College*

Queens! In supporting our queer and trans black, indigenous and students of color (QTBISSOC), there is no easy fix; rather we must fight white supremacy, heterosexism and transphobia and go "beyond the basics" to create intersectional practices and policy in our work as counselors. Using recommendations from the Consortium of Higher Ed LGBT Professionals, student testimonials and recommendations, and other resources, we will discuss what college access counselors, success counselors and admissions counselors alike can do to make their practices be better and do better.

## **continued Educational Session 2**

### **B) What is "White Fragility" and How Can We Use it in the Landscape of College Access and Admissions Lead**

*Facilitators: Danielle (Danny) Robinson, SUNY Maritime, Cassie Magesis, The Urban Assembly*

A lesser known field of thought, explored by author Robin DiAngelo, that dives into inherent privilege and its effects. "Why is it so hard for white people to talk about racism?" This session will focus on how to acknowledge, begin to understand and handle racial stress in ourselves and how we can use that to aid our students. In this session we will explore the different ways we, as higher education professionals, can use our positions in high schools, CBOs and as college administrators to approach topics and serve our students better. What impact can we affect for the future of our industry?

### **C) Creating a Roadmap for ELL/Newcomer Students to Successfully Attend College**

*Facilitators: Yeribel Lopez, Gregorio Luperon High School, Jackie Pena, English Language Learners and International Support Preparatory Academy, Catherina Villafuerte, El Puente Academy*

As new counselors working with ELL/newcomer students, we quickly realized we needed to change certain expectations and assumptions about the work to best help our students. We hope to use this session to provide best practices for supporting students through the application process and setting them up for success in college. We plan to focus on: family engagement, developing students' awareness and agency, and the role of College Admissions Counselors as partners in this work.

### **4:00-5:00 P.M.: Special Interest Group (SIG): Community College/Transfer**

*Facilitators: Dave Follick and Doug McNabb*

The Community College/Transfer Special Interest Group is designed to engage people in discussion about the unique issues facing community colleges and transfer students. This is a special interest group for the discussion of issues that relate specifically to the students at community colleges and those that transfer from a community college to a four-year institution.

### **5:00-6:00 P.M.: Coming Together Closing/Social**

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# **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**

### **10:00-11:00 A.M.: Educational Session 3**

#### **A) One Year Later - An Update on the NYS DREAM Act**

*Lead Facilitators: Cassie Magesis, The Urban Assembly, Melanie Mac, New York City Department of Education*

The NYS DREAM Act became law one year ago. Leaders and practitioners from CUNY, the NYC Department of Education, HESC and the Urban Assembly will share insights into how the first year of NYS DREAM Act implementation went, and how these organizations are collaborating to improve student experience with the program for the years ahead. Participants will be able to share their experiences, and their students' experiences with the DREAM Act, and provide feedback on how the program can be improved to better serve all eligible students.

#### **B) Wonder Women in Higher Education**

*Lead Facilitators: Meylin Andares, SUNY System Administration, Lisa Sohmer, Sohmer College Counseling, Kristen Harris, New York City Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Readiness*

Women mentoring other women is key to creating and sustaining a community of female leaders in the field of college admissions counseling. This panel will discuss the strengths and intersectional identities that women bring to leadership and will focus on the benefits that come from the friendships and connections that exist between women in our profession. Panelists will share insight on the skills, decisions and relationships that have helped them achieve success.

## **continued Educational Session 3**

### **C) Gather Share Learn - A Strong Model for Sharing Strong Practices**

*Facilitators: Raymond Johnson, New York City Department of Education, Katie Taylor, New York City Department of Education*

This experiential workshop aims to give participants firsthand knowledge of the collaborative planning model we use to scale and sustain post secondary planning supports for 400+ high schools in New York City. The 'Gather Share Learn' is a deceptively simple, low cost, high yield opportunity for schools to gather, share promising practices and learn more to address challenges in a network improvement environment. Come learn with our team and schools already using this model about how to accelerate learning in safe and collaborative learning environments and you'll walk away with the tools you need to host your own.

### **1:00- 2:00 P.M.: NYSACAC Virtual Information Session**

Whether this is your 1st NYSACAC Conference or you have questions on NYSACAC involvement or mentorship, join us! This session will be led by former NYSACAC leaders.

### **2:00- 3:00 P.M.: Annual Conference Welcome and Legislative Session**

Keynote by NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, Chair of Education Committee

### **3:00- 4:00 P.M.: Educational Session 4**

#### **A) Coping with Burnout**

*Facilitators: Whitney Longworth, Summit Educational Group, Susan Davidson, Rye Country Day School, Luis Barcelo, Pelham Memorial High School*

Work burnout is a state of complete exhaustion - emotional, physical and mental - from work-related stress. Signs of burnout include feeling overwhelmed, drained and unable to meet the constant demands impressed upon you. Counselors are at high risk of falling victim to this because most work extended hours, travel to visit schools and programs, and are trying to help others manage their emotional stress. This session will break down the signs of burnout, and provide coping strategies for self-care. We will also discuss the impact of burnout amidst COVID-19 and social distancing and provide some strategies to use while working remotely.

#### **B) Are You Down with (H)EOP? Yeah, you know me!**

*Facilitators: Aaron Ray, Skidmore College, Alex El Helou, SUNY Maritime College*

A discussion of what opportunity programs are, including their history. We will go over what the stigmas of the opportunity programs are, along with what purpose these programs serve. How does one qualify? What services do these programs provide? We will look at what makes one program different from the other; how to determine the appropriate fit between student and institution. We will also discuss how transferring students fit into the opportunity program model, as well as what methods work best to reach an "at-risk" student. Participants will gain a better understanding of opportunity programs and the success they promote.

#### **C) Reimagining NACAC: Bringing New Voices and Perspectives to the Table**

*Facilitators: Cornell LeSane, Allegheny College, Stephanie Espina, Adelphi University*

Hear from NYSACAC President, Stephanie Espina, and current NACAC Board Director, Cornell LeSane as they discuss general NACAC updates, various ways for professionals to become involved and serve on local and/or national committees, responsibilities that encompass the existing NACAC board, and the benefits and significance of engaging in the vital work of the association. The session will also explore the importance of having diverse representation at the local and national level to ensure a greater variety of perspectives. Throughout the session, both presenters will reflect on their own involvement and experiences with the association. The session will be interactive encouraging attendees to ask questions and offer feedback.

### **5:00-6:00 P.M.: Special Interest Group (SIG): African Diaspora/Social**

*Facilitators: Shameek Robinson and Kaitly Modesto*

The African Diaspora SIG is a place where people can discuss and seek solutions to issues around college access and success as they pertain to both professionals in the field and students who identify as members of the African Diaspora. The group will also decide how to respond to various events that affect our students and colleagues who are contending with racism and acts of hate in professional or academic settings.

*continued*

## **6:00-7:00 P.M.: Special Interest Group (SIG): ACCEPT/Social**

*Facilitator: Lisa Sohmer, Sohmer College Counseling, and NACAC Special Guest, Marie Bigham*

ACCEPT: Admissions Community Cultivating Equity & Peace Today empowers college admissions professionals who seek to center anti-racism, equity and justice in our work and communities.

ACCEPT will lead the college admissions profession in creating an equitable, just, and anti-racist path to post-secondary education.

## **7:00 P.M.: Let's Go Trivia FUN-draiser**

**Limit 500 max - first come, first serve**

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# **THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

## **10:00-11:00 A.M.: Educational Session 5**

### **A) The CEPP: What's Gone and What Remains**

*Facilitators: Mike Campanelli, Urban Assembly School for Green Careers, Austin Brass, Daemen College*

This session will look at the current state of ethical monitoring in the college admissions field. We will look back at the development of the SPGP and its growth into the CEPP, the DOJ's antitrust investigation, and where we stand today. We will review the current plan to recast the CEPP back to a best practices guide and discuss the implications of this change on various stakeholders in our community.

### **B) From the North Woods to the Southern Tier: Student Success at Rural Campuses**

*Facilitators: Julianne Burton, SUNY Morrisville, Erin Colvin, St. Lawrence University*

What would bring a student to a college in the "middle of nowhere?" We are going to discuss specific strategies to recruit first-generation, low income and students of color given the challenges of being located in a rural community. We are then going to look at what is necessary to retain those students. We will also explore what happens in the classroom by looking at specific strategies using Angela Duckworth's research around GRIT. The presenters will talk about how a simple assessment has been pivotal to understanding student perseverance and how it helps students generate big goals that they refuse to give up on.

### **C) #EndCCStigma: Why Community College**

*Facilitators: Meghan DeMayo-Dalen, Suffolk County Community College, Dave Follick, Nassau Community College, Bryan Rothstein, Hofstra University*

Did you know that according to the American Association of Community Colleges, 41 percent of all undergraduate college students are enrolled at a community college? Join us to discuss the benefits and value of a community college education and help to #EndCCStigma. From breaking down stereotypes and myths, to admissions requirements, transfer articulation agreements, best practices and so much more. Find out why community colleges are a great place for your students to start and why they are a wonderful place to recruit students with Associate's degrees from. Join the conversation!

## **1:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M. General Membership Meeting, NACAC Board of Directors Update, and Awards**



**continued**

## **2:00-3:00 P.M.: Educational Session 6**

### **A) Fostering CBO & Higher Ed Collaboration to Improve Data Utilization**

*Lead Facilitators: Latiqua Washington, City University of New York (CUNY), Sharlene Diamond, Graduate NYC*

Since fall 2018, the Network for College Success has brought together over 450 professionals from 76 organizations and all CUNY undergraduate campuses, with the goal of aiding CBOs to access up-to-date CUNY information and policies as well as student-level data. Through this presentation we want practitioners to think more critically about how they use data in advisement and program development towards college momentum and graduation goals. By participating in this session, we hope that participants will be able to recognize some of the common ways that data is used and examine what this means for the students they advise.

### **B) Culturally Responsive Family Engagement Strategies for Effective College and Career Planning**

*Facilitators: Kaity Modesto, Candice Horton, and Raymond Johnson, New York City Department of Education*

Families are the number one influence on children's postsecondary decisions. As high school educators, we have a responsibility to inform families of their students' postsecondary options and support them in the process. This interactive workshop is for high school educators who want to improve their parent engagement strategies in a culturally responsive way. Participants will learn best practices, share activities and obtain resources. To conclude the session, participants will create an action plan to better serve their students and families.

### **C) Re-Enrollment vs. Stopping Out: Ethical Implications of Advising the "Murky Middle"**

*Facilitators: Jonathan Chavez and Courtney Camacho, Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation*

In cases when working with our most vulnerable students, we consistently return to conversations about whether to take a break from school, consider non-college options, or re-enroll and try again. Some of our students struggle to understand why they are in college while some struggle academically, retaking courses repeatedly. Participants in this session will consider the ethical implications of their counseling strategies as they assist students who are dealing with these ambiguous decisions. Facilitators will lead a discussion to take a closer look at relevant case studies, encourage participants to share their own past experiences, and offer best practices for moving forward.

## **5:00-6:00 P.M.: Special Interest Group (SIG): LGBTQIA+/Social**

*Facilitators: Manny Cruz, Erica Padilla, and Lenni Yesner*

The LGBTQAI+ SIG provides opportunities for members to discuss issues of college admission that affect LGBTQAI+ students and others. The LGBTQAI+ SIG will address issues by offering opportunities to engage in discussion and act as an agent for change.

## **6:00-7:00 P.M.: Special Interest Group (SIG): Latinx/Social**

*Facilitators: Meylin Andares and Estrella Redondo*

The Latinx SIG represents the perspectives and concerns of professionals who are responsible for guidance, recruitment, and transition (from high school to college) of Latino students. We will also provide the opportunity to discuss/disseminate, and represent any and all related topics, issues and trends relevant to Latino/Hispanic college admission counseling.

**Conference Technical Support Sponsored by:**



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# Virtual Conference Steering Committee

## Conference Chairperson

Marissa Guijarro, Suffern High School

## Committee Members:

Kathleen MacArthur, NYSACAC

Melissa Bellantonio, Adelphi University

Kate Budzinski, Marist College

Mike Campanelli, Urban Assembly School for Green Careers

Susan Davidson, Rye Country Day School

Meghan DeMayo-Dalen, Suffolk County Community College

Risa Dubow, Grad Team Collective

Stephanie Espina, Adelphi University

Joseph Fantozzi, Hunter College

Dave Follick, Nassau Community College

Kristen Harris, NYC DOE

Brenna May, Hamilton College

Douglas McNabb, Niagara County Community College

Marie Nocella, Siena College

Anna Ragno, Utica College

Aaron Ray, Skidmore College

Estrella Redondo, Marymount Manhattan College

Beth Roper, Ursuline Academy

Bryan Rothstein, Hofstra University

Zee Santiago, NYC DOE

Beverly Santos, Uncommon Charter

Carla Shere, Brooklyn Technical High School

Emily Task, New Visions for Public Schools

Kurt Thiede, NYSACAC Gates Project

We also wanted to extend a special thanks to the all conference steering committee members who were a part of the conference planning process that was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19, especially Manhattanville College for their partnership.