GUIDED PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS
ADVISORS WORKSHOP

Designing and Customizing Degree Maps

AGENDA

May 20, 2015
Ivy Tech Community College
Corporate College and Culinary Center
2820 N Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208

1:00 p.m.  Welcome & Overview
Teresa Lubbers, Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education
Stan Jones, President, Complete College America

1:30 p.m.  Indiana Degree Map Implementation
Sarah Ancel, Associate Commissioner, Commission for Higher Education

1:50 p.m.  Table Talk: Degree Map Challenges & Opportunities
What are the key challenges you are experiencing with implementing Degree Maps?
How can we address those challenges?

2:20 p.m.  Designing and Customizing Degree Maps: Q&A with National & State Experts
Larry Abele, Director, Institute for Academic Leadership, Florida State University
Allison Calhoun-Brown, Assistant Vice President for Student Retention, Georgia State University
Dhanfu Elston, Vice President, Complete College America
Sarah Ancel, Associate Commissioner, Commission for Higher Education

3:20 p.m.  Next Steps & Adjournment
Teresa Lubbers  

Commissioner  

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Teresa Lubbers was appointed in 2009 to serve as Indiana's Commissioner for Higher Education, the coordinating agency charged with ensuring that the state’s postsecondary education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. Prior to joining the Commission, Lubbers served in the Indiana State Senate for 17 years, leading on education and economic development issues as Chair of the Senate Education and Career Development Committee.

As Commissioner, Lubbers has worked to increase college completion, improve productivity, and ensure academic quality. She has partnered with policymakers and higher education leaders to implement the state’s higher education strategic plan, Reaching Higher, Achieving More and promoted innovative educational models and efforts to control college costs.

Lubbers served as Commissioner and Chair of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact, Commissioner for the Education Commission of the States, and as a member of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education for the National Conference of State Legislatures. She is a member of the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) and the Immediate Past Chair. She serves on the Indiana Education Roundtable and the Indiana Career Council. Lubbers holds an undergraduate degree from Indiana University and a Masters in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Stan Jones  

President  

Complete College America

Following three decades successfully reforming higher education in Indiana as Commissioner of Higher Education, state legislator, and senior advisor to the governor, Stan Jones founded Complete College America in order to build a network of states committed to substantially increasing the number of Americans with a postsecondary credential.

Jones began his longstanding commitment to education in 1974, when, at the age of 24, he was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives. As a member of both the House Education and State Budget committees, he developed expertise in higher education and higher-education finance. Stan served 16 years in the Indiana State Legislature and more than five years as a senior advisor to Governor Evan Bayh. His service as Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education spanned 12 years and the tenure of four different governors from both political parties. As Commissioner, he was credited as a primary architect of several landmark education policy initiatives in Indiana. These initiatives include the 21st Century Scholars program, an early promise scholarship program aimed at increasing the number of low-income students attending and completing a postsecondary education; the development of Indiana’s new community college system; the creation of Indiana's Education Roundtable; and the implementation of Core 40, a college prep curriculum that has contributed to a significant increase in high school seniors going to college.
Lawrence G. Abele  
*Director, Institute for Academic Leadership*  
*Provost Emeritus, Florida State University*

**Lawrence Abele** is a national authority on the use of student and institutional data to redesign academic programs and student support systems. As the Director of the Institute for Academic Leadership at the State University System of Florida and Provost at Florida State University he has improved retention and graduation rates through a strong commitment to data-driven actions and focused attention to details. Abele has demonstrated that success and progress requires many actions sustained over a long period of time. Some examples of successful actions he has been involved with include creating Freshmen Interest Groups; adding a “Successful Learning Strategy” course; adding tutors, both drop-in and by appointment, for certain courses; adding advisors; and adding coaches. To the extent possible, each of these actions was tested with randomized, controlled trials. Increases in tuition collection can both cover the costs of improving retention and graduation and yield new revenues for additional investments in the university.

---

**Dr. Dhanfu Elston**  
*Vice President*  
*Complete College America*

**Dhanfu E. Elston, Ph.D.** Dr. Dhanfu E. Elston (pronounced: dah-nee-foo) serves as Vice President for Complete College America. Over two decades of his higher education career in academic and student affairs, Elston has created and implemented comprehensive success and retention programs that have garnered national attention. He has been recognized as an expert in college completion policy initiatives at institutions that educate highly diverse and underrepresented student populations. Prior to his current role, Dr. Elston held the position of Executive Director of Student Success and Transition at Purdue University Calumet. Under Elston’s leadership, Purdue Calumet launched many of CCA’s “Game Changers” strategies and experienced gains in first-year retention, graduation rates, and enrolled credit hours. In addition, enhancements made to campus-wide advisement processes led to the receipt of the Education Advisory Board’s inaugural Data-Driven Impact Award for utilization of predictive analytics.
Dr. Allison Calhoun-Brown
Assistant Vice President for Student Retention
Georgia State University

Allison Calhoun-Brown (Ph.D. Emory University, 1994) is Assistant Vice President for Student Retention and a professor in the Political Science Department at Georgia State University. Her research and teaching interests include public opinion, religion and politics, and African American politics. Dr. Calhoun-Brown is particularly interested in the influence of churches and ministers on political behavior in the black community. She is a past chair of the Religion and Politics section of the American Political Science Association and has published her research in journals such as The American Politics Quarterly, The Journal of Politics, and The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion. Her current research projects examine the effects of religiosity on the political attitudes and behaviors of African Americans.

Sarah Ancel
Associate Commissioner for Policy and Legislation
Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Sarah Ancel currently serves as Associate Commissioner for Policy and Legislation for the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. In that role, she is responsible for implementing the Commission’s strategic plan by overseeing foundation-funded projects, coordinating Commission activities and developing the Commission’s legislative priorities. As an economist and policy analyst, Sarah has filled various roles within state government and contributed to reform efforts including property tax restructuring, local government transparency and student financial aid reform. Sarah also taught macroeconomics as an adjunct professor at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis, where she had previously earned her master’s degree. Sarah resides in Indianapolis with her husband Marc and their children Evie and Jude.

We thank our partners...