Postsecondary State Network Meeting

January 30-31, 2019 • Austin, TX

JFF

AGENDA

DoubleTree by Hilton Austin
6505 North Interstate 35
Austin, TX 78752

MEETING PURPOSE

To facilitate peer learning and knowledge exchange across sectors to accelerate the adoption and scaling of guided pathways in order to increase student completion.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019

8:00–8:45 AM   **NEW-TO-THE-NETWORK BREAKFAST**

8:00–9:00 AM   **BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION**

9:00–9:30 AM   **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

> **Cynthia Ferrell**, Vice President, Texas Success Center, Texas Association of Community Colleges **@TACC_News**

> **Maria Flynn**, President and CEO, JFF **@MariaKFlynn @JFFTweets**

9:30–10:15 AM   *Opening Plenary*
STATE ATTAINMENT GOALS FOR RACIAL EQUITY AND STUDENT SUCCESS

While degree attainment rates are improving, racial equity eludes most reform efforts. The Education Trust's rigorous analysis of statewide degree attainment efforts paints a vivid picture of the successes and challenges of our reform agenda. This discussion will address updated research and the importance of higher education for social mobility.

> **Katie Berger**, Senior Policy Analyst for Higher Education, The Education Trust **@KatieLBerger**

> **Wil Del Pilar**, Vice President for Higher Education, The Education Trust **@Wil_EdTrust**

10:15–10:45 AM	**BREAK**

10:45 AM–12:00 PM	*BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND 1*

REAL SOLUTIONS, REAL CHALLENGES

1. Enhancing Equity and Improving Outcomes: Dual Credit and Early College High Schools in Texas

Dual credit and early college high school (ECHS) models are proven strategies for increasing positive student outcomes and closing achievement gaps for high-need high school students. In this session, panelists will explore how Texas implements these strategies statewide. They will discuss the recent redesign of the state's ECHS blueprint and designation process; the development of outcomes-based measures for evaluating ECHS; equity implications; funding considerations; and challenges in scaling these models.

> **Stacy Avery,** Director, Postsecondary Preparation Programs, Texas Education Agency

> **John Fitzpatrick,** Executive Director, Educate Texas

> **Rex Peebles,** Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

> **Moderator: Charlotte Cahill,** Director, JFF

2. The Politics and Policy Designs of Statewide College Promise Programs

Tuition-free college is gaining political momentum as more states consider policy proposals for statewide college promise programs. In this session, community college leaders from Virginia and New Jersey will share how they navigate the political dynamics and policy considerations while developing new promise programs. They will offer perspectives on the opportunities and challenges for colleges and their students. The Education Trust will provide broader context on the state of promise programs across the United States.

> **Katie Berger,** Senior Policy Analyst for Higher Education, The Education Trust

> **Aaron Fichtner,** President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

> **Sharon Morrissey,** Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research, Virginia Community College System

> **Moderator: David Altstadt,** Associate Director, JFF

3. Scaling Mathematics Pathways: What We Have Learned from Statewide Efforts

The Charles A. Dana Center has coordinated and collaborated with state leaders and mathematics faculty across the country. This session offers an update on its math pathways work and shares resources available to states. It will also highlight lessons learned from states doing this work, with a particular focus on Arkansas, where these reforms are achieving significant scale and being aligned with other statewide student success efforts.

> **Mike Leach,** Director, Center for Student Success, Arkansas Community Colleges

> **Paula Talley,** Manager, Professional Learning for Higher Education, Charles A. Dana Center, The University of Texas–Austin

4. Statewide and College Approaches for Promoting Equity

How can a focus on equity be effectively infused into guided pathways implementation? This session will delve into state and college strategies for addressing equity gaps as part of overall guided pathways efforts. The Washington Student Success Center will discuss lessons learned from collaborating with colleges to develop and implement strategies for achieving equitable success. Everett Community College and Skagit Valley Community College will share their equity-minded approaches to institutional transformation.

> **Thomas Keegan,** President, Skagit Valley College

> **María J. Peña,** Chief Diversity and Equity Officer, Everett Community College

> **Kristi Wellington-Baker,** Executive Director, Washington Student Success Center, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

5. Strategies for Supporting Undocumented Students

How can community colleges support undocumented students? This session will present national and institutional perspectives on the unique challenges these students face while navigating postsecondary pathways. Presenters will discuss how they engaged in institutional transformation motivated by equity and inclusive excellence. They will share high-impact strategies for empowering all students, promoting social and economic mobility, and improving undocumented students' quality of life through an enhanced educational experience. The session will explore how these strategies can contribute to increased retention and completion among undocumented students.

> **Mona Aldana-Ramirez,** Director of Student Success, San Antonio College

> **Patricia Munsch,** College Associate Dean for Student Engagement Assessment, Suffolk County Community College

> **Moderator: Victor Sáenz,** Chair, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy; Fellow, Sid W. Richardson Regents Chair in Community College Leadership, The University of Texas–Austin

12:00–1:00 PM	**LUNCH**
1:00–2:15 PM	*Keynote* **IMPROVING UPWARD MOBILITY IN AMERICA** Higher education is pivotal to driving intergenerational mobility. Professor Friedman will take us on a journey across the postesecondary ecosystem—powered by big data—to help us better understand the relationship between college completion and upward economic mobility, and their implications for pursuit of the American Dream. > **John Friedman,** Associate Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs, Brown University; Founding Co-Director, Opportunity Insights **@John_N_Friedman**
2:15–2:45 PM	**NETWORKING BREAK**
2:45–4:00 PM	*BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND 2* **DATA DEEP DIVES** **1. Calculating Return on Investment for Developmental Education** For many underprepared students, the time between enrolling in college and completing a gateway course is lengthened by the traditional sequence of developmental education courses. While these courses were designed to develop academic skills, most students never complete their assigned sequence. Research shows that enrolling directly into a gateway course—through a corequisite, compressed, or modularized/emporium course structure—is a better choice for many students. Explaining to stakeholders the impact of these developmental education reforms is critical. Session attendees will learn about a holistic framework for measuring return on investment and participate in the calculation, discussion, and communication of an ROI measure. > **Kathleen Cleary,** Associate Provost for Student Completion, Sinclair Community College > **Chris Mullin,** Director, Strong Start to Finish **2. Equity, Economic Mobility, and Place** Increasingly, community colleges are considered a gateway to opportunity and economic mobility for historically disenfranchised populations. This session will examine how economic mobility differs by location. Panelists representing urban and rural community colleges will explore how colleges can disrupt these trends, sharing strategies, lessons learned, and critical questions for bolstering economic mobility for particular populations and places. > **Jessica Howard,** President, Southeast Campus, Portland Community College > **Russell Lowery-Hart,** President, Amarillo College > **William Serrata,** President, El Paso Community College

3. The Future of Learning Meets the Future of Work

The future of work depends on the future of learning. How can colleges proactively develop guided pathways that keep pace with the influence that automation and artificial intelligence (AI) have on the future of work? How can these efforts promote equitable access to learning that equips underserved populations with the skills and opportunities necessary for upward mobility? In this session, participants will discuss labor market data showing the impact of automation and AI on employment opportunities and consider implications for the future of learning in community college.

> **Stephen Yadzinski,** Managing Director, JFFLabs

4. Harnessing the Power of Data through Design Thinking

Student access and success in higher education remain heavily impacted by the effects of structural inequality that manifest in student outcomes. Eliminating the persistent equity gaps requires colleges to redesign the student experience with equity in mind. This interactive session will introduce participants to the essential components of the design thinking process relating to implementing or supporting colleges' transformative redesign efforts. Participants will practice using design thinking tools and learn tips for using the process in their own work while maintaining a focus on equity.

> **Julia Lawton,** Director of Holistic Student Supports, Achieving the Dream, Inc.

5. How to Use High-Quality Data to Increase Campus Engagement and Improve Student Success

How do we build better data sets for campus use? With limited resources and capacity, many campus administrators primarily use data for federal reporting and compliance but struggle to incorporate these rich data sets into their work on continuous improvement. This panel session features three perspectives on how to encourage data use in campus decision-making. Panelists will highlight the types of student success questions that high quality data can answer, discuss available dashboards and how to use them, and address common concerns, such as staff capacity.

> **Michelle Blackwell,** Manager for Data Partnerships, National Student Clearinghouse

> **Ben Konruff,** Director of Performance Analysis & Continuous Improvement, Office of Student Success, Wisconsin Technical College System

> **Danielle Taylor,** Manager, Voluntary Framework and Accountability Program & Development, American Association of Community Colleges

> **Moderator: Nicole Ifill,** Senior Program Officer, Data, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

| 4:15–5:15 PM | *Plenary* |
| | ## FEDERAL AND STATE POLICY UPDATE |

The 2018 elections brought significant shifts to the national political landscape. What are the implications for our work? Lexi Barrett, from JFF's national policy team, will discuss the federal and state policy developments that 2019 may bring. Additionally, this session will spotlight JFF's new comprehensive state policy agenda, "Smart Postsecondary Policies that Work for Students and the Economy," and discuss how states can use the agenda as a roadmap for policy and systems change.

> **David Altstadt,** Associate Director, JFF **@JFFDave**

> **Lexi Barrett,** Senior Director, JFF **@LexiBarrettJFF**

| 5:30–7:00 PM | ## RECEPTION |

| 6:30–11:30 PM | ## EVENING SHUTTLES |

Shuttle service will be provided between the hotel and the Domain neighborhood of Austin, to provide you with easy access to local shops and dining options.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

7:30–9:00 AM

Closed Meeting
BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER NETWORK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BREAKFAST

8:00–9:00 AM

BREAKFAST

9:00–9:15 AM

OPENING REMARKS

> **Lucretia Murphy,** Senior Director, JFF **@LucretiaPilissa**

9:15–10:30 AM

Plenary
THE EVOLUTION OF NETWORKS

In the field of education, networks and communities are used to increase access, boost completion, and drive socioeconomic mobility for all students. Although this approach is not new, our understanding of what does and does not work in network design, development, implementation, and evaluation is evolving. This plenary will explore the differing methodologies and approaches of three higher education networks. Panelists will candidly discuss what is effective across various types of networks and identify innovative practices and tools that increase the impact on students and institutions.

> **Bridget Burns,** Executive Director, University Innovation Alliance **@BBurnsEDU**

> **Stacey Clawson,** Senior Director, JFF **@StaceyLClawson**

> **Harrison Keller,** Deputy to the President for Strategy and Policy and Clinical Professor of Public Policy Practice, The University of Texas–Austin **@JWHKeller**

> **Moderator: John Fitzpatrick,** Executive Director, Educate Texas

10:30–11:00 AM

NETWORKING BREAK

11:00 AM–12:15 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND 3
EXPLORING THE ECOSYSTEM OF EDUCATION AND WORK

1. Facilitating Connections to Work as an Equity Strategy: JFF's Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Approach

Without an intentional focus on diversity, many underrepresented and traditionally underserved populations (including people of color, women, and opportunity youth) are continually left out of the high-quality, work-based learning experiences that can serve as stepping stones to increased economic opportunities. In this session, representatives from JFF's Center for Apprenticeship & Work-Based Learning and Pathways to Prosperity teams will share how JFF supports community colleges in increasing students' employment opportunities by facilitating their connections to work early in their programs of study.

> **Charlotte Cahill,** Director, JFF

> **Deborah Kobes,** Director, JFF

> **Moderator: Michael Collins,** Vice President, JFF

2. Forging Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations to Bolster Student Financial Stability

The Michigan Center for Student Success is committed to increasing postsecondary outcomes statewide. While assisting institutions in refining practices and policies is essential, so is encouraging these institutions to engage with community partners to provide the vital support services that enable students to stay in college. Building these community partnerships is critical—and complex. In this session, the Michigan Center for Student Success, along with its partner organization United Way, will present a common challenge of practice they've faced in working together. Through a consultancy approach, participants will engage in collaborative problem solving, surfacing common challenges, successes, and strategies for effective partnerships to bolster student success.

> **Leslie Kellogg,** Provost & Vice President, Academic Affairs, Lake Michigan College

> **Nancy Lindman,** Director, Public Policy and Partnerships, United Way

> **Erica Orians,** Executive Director, Michigan Center for Student Success, Michigan Association of Community Colleges

> **Moderator: Amy Girardi,** Senior Program Manager, JFF

3. Mapping the Ecosystem of Education and Economic Mobility

Each of us exists within an ecosystem—a dynamic group of actors that, intentionally or not, interacts with and creates change in each other and in the shared environment. In this session, participants will map actors in our ecosystem, consider their actions and interactions, and identify opportunities to accelerate and sustain work together. This is a very interactive session, so come prepared to engage!

> **Julita Bailey-Vasco,** Program Manager, JFF

> **Victoria Cirks,** Senior Technical Assistant Consultant, American Institutes for Research

4. Startups at the Frontline of Change

Technology is changing the way people work and how individuals learn and access training. JFFLabs, in partnership with JFF's Center for Apprenticeship & Work-Based Learning, is separating signal from noise in the market by vetting and organizing workforce and education technologies. Join JFFLabs and three of its acceleration partners—Catalyte.io, LaunchPath, and Nepris—for an interactive session to discuss how startups can drive better education outcomes and career opportunities. The focus of this conversation will be to inform and influence the future behaviors of traditional and new economy systems as each evolves to meet changing needs.

> **Tim Aldinger,** Executive Director of Workforce Development, Foundation for California Community Colleges

> **Nancy Chan,** Head of Strategic Partnerships, Catalyte.io

> **Sabari Raja,** Cofounder and CEO, Nepris, Inc.

> **Binu Thayamkery,** Cofounder & Chief Technology Officer, Nepris, Inc.

> **Stephen Yadzinski,** Managing Director, JFFLabs

5. CLOSED SESSION: Student Success Center Network Services Providers Meeting

In this interactive session, JFF will share its vision and strategy for designing and delivering services for the Student Success Center Network (SSCN) in partnership with national service providers. Attendees will have opportunities to learn from their peers about what various service offerings have looked like in SSCN states, and discuss opportunities for collaboration, alignment, and knowledge sharing across the network of providers. This is a closed session specifically for providers who currently serve the SSCN, and will be one of many ongoing touch points with this important part of the network.

| 12:15–1:15 PM | **LUNCH** |

| 1:15–3:00 PM | *Closing Plenary* |

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Our closing plenary will be a dynamic three-part session where we will hear about the Gates Foundation's strategy to improve outcomes in postsecondary education and its implications for the network. Patrick will begin with a presentation on the Foundation's postsecondary strategy. We will then shift to an interview format and draw out some of the details of the theory of change underpinning the strategy with special attention to implications for the postsecondary network. The session will close with an engaging Q & A and dialogue.

> **Michael Collins**, Vice President, JFF **@MikeJFF**

> **Patrick Methvin**, Director, Postsecondary Success, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation **@gatesfoundation**

| 3:00 PM | **ADJOURN** |

| 3:00–4:00 PM | **TEAM TIME** |

We have created space on the agenda to accommodate those who would like to debrief with their teams after the meeting adjourns. You may utilize the Phoenix Ballroom for this purpose until 4:00 p.m.

#JFFpostsecondary • #StudentSuccess

Access meeting resources and speaker biographies at www.jff.org/psn