WCET 2021 Leadership Summit

Tuesday, Apr 06   **11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

The EdTech Gambit

General Session

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

Phil Hill
Partner, MindWires

Amelia Parnell
Vice President for Research and Policy, NASPA

Russ Poulin
Executive Director, WCET

Meaghan Setterbo
Student, Northeast Lakeview College

What have we learned from digital learning implementation post-pandemic? What best practices can we share going forward? What are the considerations for tech adoption relative to social justice, accessibility, and privacy? The goals of this opening session are to share stories from different perspectives about what we learned about technology-enhanced teaching and learning during the pandemic and what factors are driving digital learning forward post-pandemic. The role of technology as a tool, not the solution.

Tuesday, Apr 06   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Caring for Students

Breakout Presentation

Susan Adams
Associate Director of Teaching and Learning, Achieving the Dream

Alex Case
Associate Vice President of Strategic Grants and Partnerships, Online Learning Consortium

Angela Gunder
Chief Academic Officer and Vice President of Learning, Online Learning Consortium

Patricia O'Sullivan
Content Manager, Every Learner Everywhere, WCET

COVID has changed the way we work, learn, and socialize. With instructors' work being focused on interacting with students, they have found themselves essentially acting as the glue holding the learning experience together. To support students and their success, we must support instructors in caring for the whole student. But, how can this be done in authentic and easily implementable ways? Please join the authors of the Caring for Students Playbook as they discuss taking what we've been learning and reflecting on over the last year in regards to teaching and learning and applying it to our future. We need ...

Tuesday, Apr 06   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Current and Future Landscape of EdTech

Roundtable Discussion

Bill Cochran
Associate Director for Instructional Media, Wiley Education Services

Join our expert for a facilitated conversation about how tools and services for teaching and learning were used during the pandemic and how the experience will inform edtech usage and development in the future. What are the essential considerations for learners and educators? What tools are on the horizon or should be?

Tuesday, Apr 06   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

EdTech and Accessibility: So Happy Together

Breakout Presentation

Kelly Hermann
Vice President, Accessibility, Equity & Inclusion, University of Phoenix

The union of edtech and accessibility is a logical pairing, but the global COVID pandemic has accelerated awareness of the criticalness for accessible edtech. What are some of the effective practices and initiatives that are helping ensure accessibility? How can educators and administrators ensure equitable access to all content for all learners? Join our expert to learn about current global efforts and good practices.

Tuesday, Apr 06   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

What Faculty Wish Administrators Knew

Roundtable Discussion

Langston Clark
Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

Laura Davenport
Assistant Professor, Northeast Lakeview College

Chantae Recasner
Dean for Academic Success, Northeast Lakeview College

Leesha Thrower
Professor of Communications, Cincinnati State Technical & Community College

When the pandemic hit the doorsteps of higher education, administrators were quick to respond and transition to remote delivery. Highly-impactful decisions needed to be made and executed very quickly. The opportunities to engage faculty in decision making were limited. The metaphorical ball was down the field before the team knew which direction their field goal was. Advance 12 months and many of us are still midfield and faculty have valuable insights on how to move the ball effectively. Join this roundtable discussion for a conversation about what faculty wish administrators knew as we transition to post-COVID academia.

Tuesday, Apr 06   **01:00 PM - 02:00 PM**

EdTech: Kings, Queens, Pawns and Crafting a Winning Strategy

General Session

Michael Berman
Chief Information Officer, California State University, Office of the Chancellor

Tazin Daniels
Assistant Director, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan

Terry Di Paolo
Vice Provost of eLearning, Dallas College

Sharon Leu
Entrepreneur in Residence, JFFLabs

Russ Poulin
Executive Director, WCET

Sasha Thackaberry
Vice President of Online & Continuing Education, Louisiana State University

Which edtech tools hold the position of king as we move through the chess board of teaching and learning and which are serving as pawns? The chess analogy may be a stretch but thinking about effective strategy at the start is as essential for making the winning strategic moves for edtech evaluation, purchasing, adoption, and implementation. Join our panel to talk about critical considerations including stakeholder input, accessibility, privacy and security, and investment. Panelists will also discuss the role of technology in digital learning, the ebb and flow of tools, and the significance of digital fluency for faculty and students. ...

Tuesday, May 04   **11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

WCET Discovery: Where No Educator Has Gone Before

General Session

Bryan Alexander
Futurist and Consultant, The Future of Education Observatory

Lisa McIntyre-Hite
Senior Principal, Guild Education

Robbie Melton
Associate Vice President, SMART Global Technology Innovation Center and Dean, Graduate School, Tennessee State University
John Opper
Executive Director, Distance Learning and Student Services, Florida Virtual Campus

Russ Poulin
Executive Director, WCET

Rahim Rajan
Deputy Director, Postsecondary Success, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

What pragmatic lessons learned can we bring forward to improve digital learning for all learners? How can we collaborate for better efficiencies and economics? Who are the learners? And in the short and long term, where will teaching and learning occur? The goals of the opening session are to identify some of the environmental and structural challenges that are facing higher education in the coming years. The panel will also explore some initial ways in which digital learning might be part of the solution.

Tuesday, May 04   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Alternative Providers' Role in Bridging Post-COVID Knowledge Gaps

Breakout Presentation

Amy Smith
Chief Learning Officer, StraighterLine

Burck Smith
CEO and Founder, StraighterLine

With a significant decline in Fall enrollment, how can higher education institutions re-engage the already challenging population that is adult learners in a post-COVID world? Recent data shows that an overwhelming number of non-traditional students have seen their employment outlook negatively impacted by the pandemic. As a result, most adult learners are experiencing financial constraints that will make the journey back to school much harder than before. How can alternative providers create equitable and affordable options for institutions to attract and retain this student population? StraighterLine's experts will answer this question and discuss innovative partnerships that can help students towards ...

Tuesday, May 04   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

The Challenges of Changing Demographics

Breakout Presentation

Patrick Lane
Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research, WICHE

Enrollment trends have been changing over the past several decades due to many factors including reduced birth rates. Throw in a worldwide pandemic and the impacts, although not fully realized, will change how institutions recruit and retain students. What do changing demographics mean for colleges and universities in the short and long-term? How are regions and states projected to be impacted by population growth and contraction? In the session, you will learn more about the changing demographic of learners and WICHE's recently released Knocking at the College Door report which includes projections of high school graduates through the Class of ...

Tuesday, May 04   **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Faculty Development Post-Pandemic – Where Do We Go Next?

Breakout Presentation

Jeffery Galle
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Faculty Development, University System of Georgia

Mark Jones
Co-Founder, OneHE

James Lang
Professor of English and the Director, D'Amour Center for Teaching Excellence, Assumption University

During the pandemic, higher education pivoted to fully online delivery in record time: courses were redesigned, content created, pedagogies adapted and technologies applied. Behind all this lay the challenge of faculty development and how best to give educators the tools, confidence and support to be successful for our students. In this panel discussion, we will look at the experience of faculty development during the pandemic, the lessons learned and successes, and explore the opportunities that now exist to support faculty development at scale.Learning objectives: Review the lessons learned from faculty development during the pandemic. Identify the opportunities for faculty development ...

Tuesday, May 04 **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Planning for Post-COVID at Institutions

Roundtable Discussion

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

Tina Parscal
AVC for CCCOnline and Academic Affairs, Colorado Community College System

Doug Stein
Vice Provost, Colorado Technical University

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, May 04 **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

Post-Pandemic World of Teaching and Learning

Roundtable Discussion

Jory Hadsell
Executive Director, California Virtual Campus (California Community Colleges)

The post-pandemic world of teaching and learning has illuminated the opportunities provided for remote-based work and learning. Many faculty who were previously in classrooms are finding their stride with online learning. Students are becoming accustomed to the flexibility and effectiveness of online learning and accessing services online. How will the paradigm shift, and what does this mean for leaders of online learning programs, faculty, and students? Bring your insights and experiences to this facilitated roundtable discussion.Learning objectives: Explore patterns and trends that emerged during pandemic-induced online learning expansion to inform areas for long-term change. Examine where pre-existing systemic structures may ...

Tuesday, May 04 **12:15 PM - 01:00 PM**

The Role of the Instructional Designer

Roundtable Discussion

Tyler McCloskey
Storyteller, Turnitin

Drew Smith
Director of Online Learning, Walsh College

COVID-19 disrupted the globe and highlighted the need for higher education to undergo a much-needed digital transformation. Within a matter of days, campuses were thrust into cyberspace and suddenly faculty were faced with the conundrum of trying to achieve their course goals using unfamiliar tools and unaccustomed teaching methodologies. While faculty may know what to teach, they may be less familiar with how to teach in this online environment. While no one can expect faculty to become overnight experts in online teaching and learning, institutions must adapt and improve. Perhaps this is why Inside Higher Ed called instructional design the ...

Tuesday, May 04   **01:15 PM - 02:15 PM**

Discover the New Future of Higher Ed: Digital Learning's Next Frontier

General Session

Rhonda Epper
President, Trinidad State Junior College

Angela Gunder
Chief Academic Officer and Vice President of Learning, Online Learning Consortium

Dale Johnson
Director of Digital Innovation, Arizona State University

Russ Poulin
Executive Director, WCET

Loraine Schmitt
Executive Dean, Instructional & Student Affairs Innovation & Technology, Portland Community College

Kiara Williams
Student, Georgia State University

The global pandemic has demonstrated that higher education can be nimble and innovative and that challenges are also a catalyst for change. What is next for higher education? How can digital learning be a scaffold for high-quality, accessible, and inclusive learning? What do students want their education to be after their lived experience of the past year? The panel brings together incredible perspectives including Rhonda Epper, a rural community college president; Dale Johnson, an adaptive learning pioneer from ASU; Loraine Schmitt, a leader at the intersection of technology and student service; and Kiara Williams, a student and a true subject ...

Tuesday, May 04   **02:15 PM - 02:45 PM**

Summit Closing Social

Join us for a happy half-hour following the closing general session! We look forward to seeing you there and hearing your off-the-cuff thoughts about the Summit.