

# 2025 STUDENT SUCCESS SUMMIT ELEVATING HIGHER ED THROUGH TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

FEBRUARY 10-11, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY GATTON STUDENT CENTER  
160 AVE. OF CHAMPIONS, LEXINGTON



**The Kentucky  
Student Success  
Collaborative**

# DAY 1 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Rm 212 ABC

*Welcome Remarks*

## YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO KENTUCKY'S STUDENT SUCCESS

Kentucky has a strong commitment to advancing student success and has implemented a number of policies and initiatives that have made significant impact on outcomes. CPE President Aaron Thompson will share progress data on several key metrics, celebrate the state's successes, and highlight areas where further challenges remain.



**Dr. Aaron Thompson**  
President  
Council on Postsecondary Education

*Opening Keynote*

## FROM SEAMLESS ADMISSIONS TO SEAMLESS TRANSFER: WHAT'S GOING ON IN LOUISIANA

Dr. Tristan Denley is known as a national leader for his work in data-driven education redesign. In this session, Denley will focus on the state's work to create seamless transitions for students from admissions to transfer, as well as policy changes and innovative practices that have proven to improve accessibility, reduce barriers, and streamline transfer pathways.



**Dr. Tristan Denley**  
Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation  
Louisiana Board of Regents

*Initiative Spotlight*

## MERGING PATHWAYS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley, leader of CPE's Kentucky Student Success Collaborative (KYSSC), will provide an update on KYSSC's work and outline how the annual Student Success Summit is the anchor and driver of important work to come.



**Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley**  
Assistant Vice President  
Kentucky Student Success Collaborative  
Council on Postsecondary Education

2:30-3:00 p.m.

## NETWORKING & TRANSITION BREAK

Please be mindful of the event staff lowering partitions between rooms 212 A, B, and C.

# DAY 1 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

3:00-4:00 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Please choose one of the four breakout sessions to attend; sessions will repeat once.

Harris  
Ballroom  
(3rd floor)

### DUAL ENROLLMENT AS A COLLEGE-GOING AND COLLEGE-SUCCESS STRATEGY (CONNECT THE PATH)

Aurely Garcia Tulloch, co-author of the DEEP Insights report, will share her personal education journey and the best practices institutions should use to improve access to dual enrollment programs. She will also talk about her research on dual enrollment student needs, and how institutional policies and practices can be strengthened.



*Presenter*

**Aurely Garcia Tulloch**

Senior Research Assistant

Community College Research Center (CCRC)

Rm 212A

### FACULTY MINDSET IMPACT ON STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS (CHART THE PATH)

Dr. Chris Hulleman, professor at the University of Virginia and director of Motivate Lab, specializes in motivation research aimed at enhancing learning and well-being. In this session, Hulleman will explore the concept of Faculty Mindset and how instructors should implement strategies to cultivate Growth Mindset, Purpose, and Belonging in their courses to improve academic success and help close gaps among students.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Chris S. Hulleman**

Professor of Education and Public Policy, University of Virginia

Founder and Director, Motivate Lab

Rm 212B

### IMPACT OF BELONGING & BASIC NEEDS ON MENTAL HEALTH (CONTINUE THE PATH)

Dr. Erica Riba of The Jed Foundation leads projects aimed at fostering mental health and suicide prevention in higher education. In this session, Riba will examine how belonging and basic needs influence student mental health and wellness. She will also share proactive strategies for supporting students and addressing mental health challenges before they escalate.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Erica Riba, Ed.D., LCSW**

Director, Strategic Higher Education Initiatives

The Jed Foundation

# DAY 1 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

3:00-4:00 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (CONTINUED)

Please choose one of the four breakout sessions to attend; sessions will repeat once.

Rm 212C

### COMMITTING TO QUALITY: FOR STUDENTS, THE ECONOMY AND DEMOCRACY (COMPLETE THE PATH)

Dr. Carol G. Schneider is a leading advocate for improving academic quality in higher education. In this session, Schneider will discuss the need to broaden the definition of student success, to include the challenges students will encounter in the workplace and society. Schneider will also share research on high-impact practices that enhance both graduation rates and students' readiness to thrive as professionals and active civic participants.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Carol Geary Schneider**

President Emerita

American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU)

4:00-4:15 p.m.

## TRANSITION BREAK

4:15-5:15 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (REPEAT)

Each of the previous sessions will be repeated in the same locations.

Harris  
Ballroom

Dual Enrollment as a College-Going and College-Success Strategy (*Connect the path*)

Rm 212A

Faculty Mindset Impact on Student Academic Success (*Chart the path*)

Rm 212B

Impact of Belonging & Basic Needs on Mental Health (*Continue the path*)

Rm 212C

Committing to Quality: for Students, the Economy and Democracy (*Complete the path*)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

## CELEBRATING KENTUCKY'S TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERS

After the final breakout session, attendees are encouraged to reconvene in the pre-function and plenary space for a networking reception and dinner. Following dinner, CPE will recognize Kentucky's Education Transformational Leaders for their significant achievements during the past year. Cash bar opens at 5:30; dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

# DAY 2 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

8:00-8:45 a.m.

Rm 212 ABC

## NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Join your fellow attendees for a hot breakfast and conversation. The buffet will close 10 minutes prior to the morning session.

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Rm 212 ABC

## Student Panel

### KENTUCKY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS: A STUDENT VOICE PANEL

Back by popular demand, day two of this year's Summit kicks off with the highly anticipated student panel, featuring four high school seniors from GEAR UP Kentucky schools. Moderated by Lena Blackstock from Process/Practice Studio, the panel will delve into their college admissions journeys and offer valuable insights on ways to improve the process.



Welcome Remarks  
**Kim Welch**  
Executive Director  
GearUP Kentucky



Presenter & Moderator  
**Lena Blackstock**  
Partner and Managing Director  
Process/Practice Studio

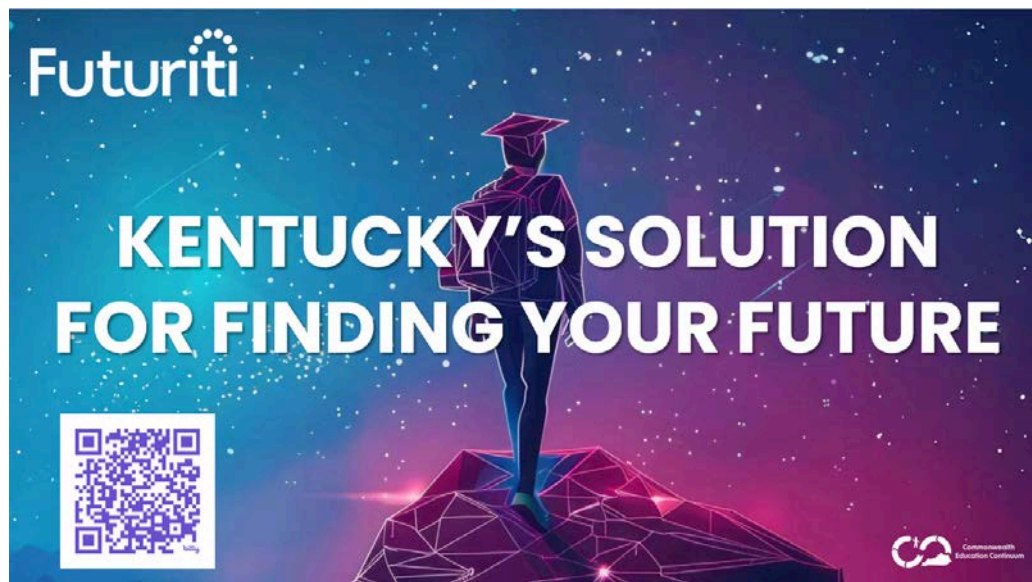
#### Student Panelists

- Athelia Buckler, senior at Robertson County High School
- Raegan Daniels, senior at Mercer County Senior High School
- Katie Davis, senior at Paris High School
- Michael McLoney, 2023 graduate of Mason County High School & second-year student at Morehead State University
- Hayden Townsend, senior at Bath County High School

10:30-10:45 a.m.

## TRANSITION BREAK

Please be mindful of the event staff lowering partitions between rooms 212 A, B, and C.





# DAY 2 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

## 10:45-12:00 p.m. CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Please choose one of the four breakout sessions to attend; sessions will not repeat.

Rm 212A

### FOSTERING TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS: BUILDING BELONGING ON CAMPUS (*CONNECT THE PATH*)

What can two- and four-year institutions do to better support transfer students and foster a sense of belonging? What support systems do students depend on during their transfer journey, and what gaps still need to be addressed? This engaging session features a dynamic student panel who will share their personal stories and shed light on the challenges and rewards of adjusting to new academic settings.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Dawn Offutt**

Executive Director of Access,  
Engagement & Belonging,  
CPE



*Presenter*

**Stephanie Cheung**

Associate Director for  
Transfer Strategy,  
KYSSC/CPE



*Moderator*

**Darryl "Dee" Parker**

KYSSC Graduate  
Fellow

#### Student Panelists

- Ella Bewley, Murray State University
- Dania Britt, University of Louisville
- Adisyn Donk, Northern Kentucky University
- Ben Moore, Bluegrass Community & Technical College
- Kayla Morgan, Northern Kentucky University

Rm 212B

### DUAL CREDIT & GATEWAY COURSE SUCCESS (*CHART THE PATH*)

Dual credit courses offer high school students a chance to earn college credit, but how do they affect success in critical gateway courses? This thought-provoking session, featuring experts on data analysis, policy and practice, explores that link through data, strategies, and group discussions. Attendees will learn how these pathways impact student readiness and success, with practical takeaways for curriculum design and institutional policy. Ideal for educators, administrators, and policymakers focused on academic planning and student success.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Chris Ledford**

Director of Data and  
Analytics, CPE



*Presenter*

**Ashley O'Neil**

Associate Director of  
Gateway Course Success  
KYSSC/CPE

#### Facilitators

- Kanya Allen, Hopkinsville Community College & KYSSC Senior Fellow
- John Hall, Northern Kentucky University & KYSSC Senior Fellow
- Robin Hebert, Senior Fellow of Student Access and Success, CPE
- Kausha Miller, Bluegrass Community and Technical College & KYSSC Senior Fellow
- Shane Redmond, Eastern Kentucky University & KYSSC Senior Fellow
- Trinity Walsh, Coordinator of Early Postsecondary Opportunities, CPE

# DAY 2 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

10:45-12:00 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (CONTINUED)

Please choose one of the four breakout sessions to attend; sessions will not repeat.

Harris  
Ballroom  
(3rd floor)

### CREATING SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT THROUGH BASIC NEEDS STRATEGIES FOR ADULT AND PARENTING STUDENTS (*CONTINUE THE PATH*)

Adult and parenting students face numerous challenges on their path to success. This session, led by One Parent Scholar House, will highlight holistic solutions and comprehensive support systems that can transform the lives of adult and parenting students. Panelists will focus on their strategies for improving retention, increasing credential attainment, and driving meaningful change through topics like proactive advising, wrap-around services, and community partnerships.



*Presenter & Moderator*

**Chris Peck**

Chief Advancement Officer  
One Parent Scholar House



*Panelist*

**Autumn Bishop**

Student/Family Services  
Specialist  
GearUP Kentucky



*Panelist*

**Lamont Campbell**

Family Scholar House at  
Bluegrass Community &  
Technical College



*Panelist*

**Brittany Collins**

Student  
Eastern Kentucky University



*Panelist*

**Robyn Moreland**

Director, Center for Student  
Parents  
Eastern Kentucky University

Rm 212C

### CAREER READINESS AND THE QUALITY IMPERATIVE (*COMPLETE THE PATH*)

How can institutions seamlessly integrate career readiness into their academic programs, ensuring students graduate with both academic knowledge and the practical skills needed for the workforce? Led by an expert in the field, this session will explore how institutions can increase workforce outcomes by focusing on essential skills competencies, cross-sector collaborations, and communication outreach initiatives.



*Presenter*

**Dr. Angela Christie**

Faculty Director  
Georgia State University

# DAY 2 AGENDA

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

12:00-1:15 p.m.  
Rm 212ABC

## *Closing Keynote and Lunch*

### **TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP: BEING STUDENT READY TO ADVANCE STUDENT SUCCESS**

Transformational leadership is a powerful framework for fostering student readiness and success in today's educational environment. Dr. Tia Brown McNair will discuss how educational leaders can harness their leadership abilities to inspire success among their students, fellow practitioners and stakeholders.



**Dr. Tia McNair**  
Partner  
SOVA

1:15-1:30 p.m.  
Rm 212ABC

## *Closing Remarks*

### **THE ROAD AHEAD: NEXT STEPS FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERS**

What will you take away from this year's Summit? What are your next steps to ensure continued momentum and success for all students?



**Dr. Aaron Thompson**  
President  
Council on Postsecondary  
Education



**Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley**  
Assistant Vice President  
Kentucky Student Success  
Collaborative, CPE

**VISIT THE IMPACT EXCHANGE!**

Scan the QR Code to access supplemental materials and speaker details on the KYSSC Impact exChange.

