



Shaping Regional Innovation: Sustaining Rural America



Conference Program

Sunday, September 10, 2006

- 9:30 -11:30 a.m. Board Meeting, Spendthrift Room, seventh floor
- 1:00-5:00 p.m. Registration in the lobby of the Griffin Gate Marriott
- 2:00-5:00 p.m. Presenter Technical Review, Spendthrift Room, seventh floor
- 6:00-7:30 p.m. Opening Reception in the Bluegrass Pavilion

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Plenary Session

Presiding:
Bruce Ayers, President
Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College
Cumberland, Kentucky

Keynote:

Rural Students: The Forgotten American
Robert Zemsky
Chair and Professor of Education
The Learning Alliance, University of Pennsylvania

Monday, September 11, 2006

7:00 a.m. Executive Committee of the Rural Community College Alliance will meet in the Griffin Gate Gardens restaurant.

8:30-9:45 a.m.

Breakfast / Plenary Session

Grand Ballroom, lower level
Presiding:
Cheryl Sparks, President
Howard College, Big Spring, Texas

Keynote:

Rural Indiana Strategy for Excellence: A 2020 Vision for the Indiana Countryside

Steve Daily, Chancellor of Kokomo Campus, Ivy Technical Community College of Indiana

Phil Anderson, Executive Director, Indiana Rural Development Council

RISE 2020 focuses on creating a voice and platform for stakeholders. The strategic vision that builds upon this foundation has eight “pillars” to guide action and implementation: regional frameworks; civic leadership and engagement; asset-based community development; rural innovation; youth engagement; wealth creation and retention; access to basic services; and diversity and inclusiveness.

9:45-10:00 a.m. Visit with our Exhibitors and Sponsors

10:00-11:00 a.m. **Break-out Sessions in the lower level:**

Leading Regional Innovation *Rural Leadership for Community Change: Preparing Rural Community College Students to Become Leaders*

Dixiana/Lanes End Room



Presenters:

Jill Coe, Professor, Southwest Texas Junior Community College
Margaret Lovelace, Professor, New Mexico State University - Carlsbad
Linda Childress, Professor, Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Courtney Smith, Staff Associate MDC, Inc.

This session will provide an overview of a funded project aimed at enhancing and encouraging community college students to become more engaged in leadership in their local communities. The colleges will present their model for leadership development, explain how it has affected their students and the larger community, and share lessons learned from their experience.

Shaping Lives

Achieving the Dream

Calumet Room

Presenters:

Terry Suarez, President, Mountain Empire College, Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Santanu Bandyopadhyay, Director of Institutional Research, Zane State College

The Lumina Foundation has provided “Achieving the Dream” grants to a number of community colleges to address two goals: The first of these is to increase the success of minority and/or low-income students who may also have been identified as being “high-risk” students. The second goal is to create a culture of measurement so that the factors that create risk for these students and the interventions that are implemented to address those risks are based on systematic analysis and measurement. Mountain Empire Community College (a first round college) and Zane State College (a second round college) will discuss the factors that identify high-risk students at each institution, the interventions that are to be implemented, and some of the pitfalls that might be encountered as colleges seek to institute fundamental changes in approaches to student success.

Sustaining Community *Rebuilding Hope, Restoring History and Culture, Restoring Health: Stories from Tribal Native Serving Colleges*

Darby Dan Room

Presenter:
Mary Emery, Associate Director, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development, located at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

Often described as serving poor and distressed communities, a number of Tribal and Native-serving College programs focus on the wealth of assets found in these communities, particularly those connected to cultural and social capital. Building on these assets, the colleges contribute significantly to an upward spiraling of resources, opportunities, and possibilities in the communities they serve. In this session we will report on our project to collect and study promising practices within these institutions related to increasing access to education, stimulating sustainable economic development, and fostering wellness.

11:00-11:30 a.m.

Visit with our Sponsors and Exhibitors



11:30-12:30 p.m. Break-out Sessions:

Leading Regional Innovation *Higher Learning Opportunities, Advancing Higher Learning Opportunities in Rural Canada – Random Digressions on an Innovative Learning Action Plan*

Dixiana/Lanes End Room

Presenter:
Tom Thompson, President and CEO, Olds College, Alberta Canada

The Community Learning Campus, (CLC), a unique higher education initiative, represents a ground breaking approach to higher learning for youth in rural Alberta. Integrated with the Olds College campus, the facilities of the CLC – a core high school, e-learning core, health and wellness facility, a community services mall, a transportation center, a student leadership center and a fine arts and multi-media center – will provide the physical framework from which to build opportunities for all community learners.

Shaping Lives *Talent Development: A Regional Workforce Strategy*

Calumet Room

Presenter:
Sue Collins, Vice President, Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District, Chisholm, Minnesota

To accomplish talent development, the Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District created a position to be shared with Iron Range Resources, a government agency, to assist regional businesses in locating resources to meet their workforce needs. The goal is to ensure that the region is home to a talent pool with skills and abilities required by area businesses and to align educational institutions with industry and the workers they need for economic growth.



Sustaining Community

Increasing Educational Opportunities in Healthcare for Rural Communities through Innovative Public & Private Partnerships

Darby Dan Room

Presenters:

Carolyn K. Lewis, Assistant Dean of Nursing, Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Jay McChord, Lexington Fayette, Urban County Government, Councilman

Laura Fraebel, Bachelor of Arts Coordinator

Lori Collins, Director of the Workforce Investment for the Bluegrass Area Development District



Rural states face unique challenges that are vastly different than those in urban areas. The viability of rural communities depends in part on the future quality and range of health care services. Rural states face a unique combination of factors, especially in the health care arena, and community colleges are challenged to provide educational opportunities to meet this need.

Session X

This session repeats Tuesday at 9:45 a.m.

(Please select one to attend)

Interactive Mapping - Data Mining: The Analysis and Mapping of Information about Rural America

A/B Salon

Presenters:

Erin Barbaro is a Geographic Information Systems Specialist and Program Coordinator for the Rural Policy Research Institute's Community Information Resource Center (CIRC)

David Hardy, Director of Research for the Education Policy Center University of Alabama

Stephen G. Katsinas, Director of the Education Policy Center at the University of Alabama.

In this hands-on, interactive workshop, representatives of RUPRI's Community Information Resource Center (CIRC) and the University of Alabama's Education Policy Center will lead participants through the process of creating their own GIS maps and callable reports through the updated National Institute for Rural Community Colleges (NIRCC) web-based mapping system. Maps and reports from this system, designed by the co-presenting organizations, can be customized by end users to illustrate and analyze demographic, economic, educational, labor force, and geographic features of their own community college service areas and states. Participants are encouraged to bring their own wireless-ready laptop computers so that they can create their own maps during the session, save them, and take them home.

12:30-12:45

Break

12:45-2:00 p.m.

Lunch & Plenary Session
Grand Ballroom, lower level

Presiding:
Terry Suarez, President
Mountain Empire Community College
Big Stone Gap, Virginia



Keynote:
Thomas C. Dorr, Under Secretary for Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

2:00-2:15 p.m.

Break

2:15-3:15 p.m.

Break-out Sessions:

Leading Regional Innovation

Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development: A Team of Eight Rural Colleges

Dixiana/Lanes End Room

Presenters:
Bill Scaggs, Executive Director, Rural Community College Alliance
Bill Crawford, Deputy Director for Asset Development of the Mississippi Development Authority & WIRED Initiative
Roger Whitlock, Director of Workforce Development for East Central Community College, Decatur, MS
Brian Gann, Director of Institutional Advancement of Bevill State Community College, Alabama

Shaping Lives

Survivor's Youth Leadership Experience – Helping Rural Youth Achieve

Calumet Room

Presenter:
Robert Vidos, President, Workforce Institute, Portland, Oregon



The Survivor's Youth Leadership Experience is a week long residential leadership experience for at-risk youth. Presenters will use the Survivor's Program as an example of how community colleges can establish stronger partnerships with their Workforce Investment Boards (WIB's).

Sustaining Community

Sustaining Your Enrollments in a Changing Market Environment

Darby Dan Room

Presenter:
Kathi Swanson, President of CLARUS Corporation, Alliance, Nebraska

Understand the current markets demographically and learn to use market research to define new opportunities. Starting with the strategic vision of your college, we will focus on how a college can strategically position itself as a key leader in its market area. Examples will be



provided of how rural colleges have defined market opportunities and found the partners to deliver the services.

3:15-4:15 p.m. Visit with our Sponsors and Exhibitors

4:15-5:30 p.m.

Plenary Session

Grand Ballroom, lower level

Presiding:

Joe Sertich, President, Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District, Chisholm, Minnesota; Chair, Rural Community College Alliance Board of Directors

The Role of Knowledge Clusters in the Creation and Renewal of Networks

Presenters:

Brian Bender, Manager, Sectoral Liaison Unit and Rural and Remote Initiatives, Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC)
Carrie Schafer, Community Development Manager, College of the Rockies, British Columbia

Knowledge clusters foster the creation and renewal of networks of individuals and institutions to expand and share a local knowledge base. Knowledge clusters can stimulate an entrepreneurial culture and result in social and economic benefits to the local community. A consortium of three colleges (College of the Rockies in British Columbia, Collège Boréal in Ontario and Nova Scotia Community College), led by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC), have been funded by the Models for Rural Development and Community Capacity Building Program of the Rural Secretariat to demonstrate the role of colleges and institutes in three particular rural knowledge clusters: tourism, forestry and geomatics. The approach includes partnership development, knowledge sharing, applied research and innovation and workforce development. This workshop will feature a brief overview of the knowledge cluster concept, a progress report on the ACCC Rural Knowledge Clusters project, and implications of this project for other colleges and institutes. What do colleges need to know about knowledge clusters? How can the learning from this project be documented and shared? How can this learning be transferred to other settings?

7:00 p.m.

Leadership Council Dinner Meeting of the Alliance of Rural Community Colleges (ARCC) at JW's Steakhouse in the hotel. Please see John Ondov, Joe Sertich or Linda Danielson for details.

Monday evening on your own

Tuesday, September 12

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Breakfast and Plenary Session

Grand Ballroom, lower level

Presiding:

George Edwards, President

Big Sandy Community and Technical College, Prestonsburg, Kentucky

Keynote:

Transforming Lives & Transforming Economies: Career Pathways at Community Colleges

Keith Bird, Chancellor

Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Versailles, KY

9:30-9:45 a.m.

Break

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Break-out Sessions:

Leading Regional Innovation

Shaping Lives through Access to Education; Reaching Students in the New Millennium with Mobile Learning

Dixiana/Lanes End Room

Presenters from Hazard Community & Technical College:

Bart Massey, Webmaster

Robert McCown, Project Manager

Donna Roark, Director of Information Technology

Becky Neace, Information Technology Support Specialist



Hazard Community & Technical College recently implemented Macromedia Flash Software. This offers the unique combination of traditional classroom instruction that is now enhanced with streaming media, reaching those students who may not have the opportunity to step on your campus. A high speed internet connection will be used during the demonstration.

Shaping Lives

Alaska's Exemplary Program: The Rural Alaska Honors Institute; Nearly a Quarter Century of Success

Calumet Room

Presenter:

Denise Wartes, RAHI Program Coordinator, University of Alaska Fairbanks



RAHI is a college-preparatory summer bridge program for high school juniors and seniors from Alaska Native and rural villages. RAHI students take classes that earn them seven to twelve college credits, thus giving them a head start on college. A program of rigorous academic activity combines with social, cultural, and recreational activities.

Sustaining Community

Pine Mountain Community Development Corporation

Darby Dan Room

Presenter:

Paul L. Pratt, Dean, Community and Economic Development
Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College
Cumberland, Kentucky

A collaboration among Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College and six bank partners has helped create and sustain 57 businesses in the three county region of Eastern KY, (served by the college) with a loan fund and technical assistance program.

Session X

Interactive Mapping - Data Mining: The Analysis and Mapping of Information about Rural America

A/B Salon

Presenters:

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David Hardy, Director of Research for the Education Policy Center, University of Alabama
Stephen G. Katsinas, Director of the Education Policy Center at the University of Alabama.

10:45-11:00 a.m.

Break



11:00-12:15 p.m.

Closing Plenary Session
Grand Ballroom, lower level

Presiding:
Bruce Ayers, President
Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College
Cumberland, Kentucky

Introduction of The Alliance of Rural Community Colleges (ARCC)

Presenters:

Terry Anne Boyles, Vice President Member Services and Public Policy, Association of Canadian and Community Colleges

Brian Bender, Manager Sectoral Liaison Unit and Rural and Remote Initiatives, Association of Canadian and Community Colleges

Chuck Fluharty, Director, Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI)

Joe Sertich, President, Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District, Chisholm, Minnesota



12:15-12:30 p.m.

Break

12:30 p.m.

Lunch & the Annual George Autry Award
Grand Ballroom