



ACCSC

a community



of partners  
in education

# 2018

ACCSC Professional Development Conference

September 25-27, 2018

Hilton Long Beach  
Long Beach, California

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On behalf of my fellow Commissioners, the Executive Director, and the professional staff at ACCSC, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Long Beach, California for the 2018 ACCSC Professional Development Conference (PDC).

Now in its 12th year, the ACCSC PDC continues its tradition of being a membership-driven event with the educational sessions being created, implemented, and presented by representatives from the ACCSC community of schools. The PDC is a time when we, as an ACCSC community, can come together to share ideas, best practices and offer support to one another. During the conference you will see all Commissioners actively involved in the breakout sessions and events – we are very interested in getting to know you and learning more about your institutions.

This year we are excited to have involvement from ACCSC-school graduates as part of the conference program. The Keynote Address will be delivered by a panel of graduates who have the unique perspective to talk about best practices from the student point of view. We hope this provides insights and sparks ideas to bring back to your school for the benefit of students.

On behalf of ACCSC, I want to thank you for the work that you and your institutions do for your graduates, your students, and your community. I also want to thank you for taking the time to be with us here in Long Beach and to express how appreciative I am of your support, both of this conference and of the Commission. I trust that you will find this year's conference to be an interesting and informative experience. The ACCSC Commissioners and staff look forward to meeting you over the course of the next few days.

Welcome to the PDC.

Sincerely,

Mollie Ludwig  
*Chair of the Commission*

## General Conference Information

PDC Registration Desk: Ballroom Foyer located on the 2nd Floor at the Hilton Long Beach

### Hours:

Tuesday, September 25th

7:30 am – 5:30 pm

Wednesday, September 26th

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, September 27th

7:30 am – 10:00 am

Please check-in at the ACCSC Registration Desk before the start of the conference to receive conference materials and a name badge, which is required for admission to all PDC events. The PDC will kick-off on Wednesday, September 26th and is scheduled to conclude on Thursday, September 27th at 12:00 pm with the PDC Raffle. All PDC events, with exception of the Community Dinners, will take place on the 2nd Floor at the Hilton Long Beach.

Pre-Conference Workshops will be held on Tuesday, September 25th and require separate registration.

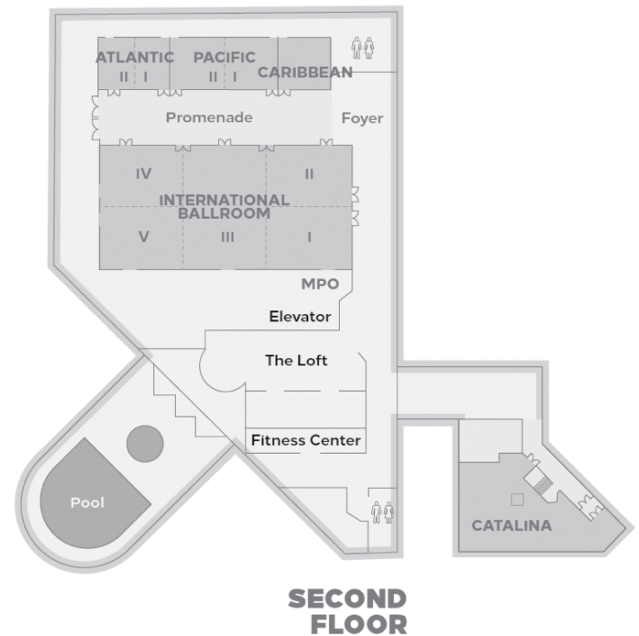
### Complimentary Wi-Fi for PDC Participants

Wi-Fi for PDC participants is provided by PDC Platinum Sponsor, MaxKnowledge. PDC Participants should log onto the PDC network and enter *MaxKnowledge* as the password.

Sponsored by



## Map of PDC Meeting Space



## Supporting Professional Development

In an effort to recognize ACCSC-accredited member schools' dedication to ongoing professional development, the Accrediting Commission will issue professional development certificates to PDC and Pre-Conference Workshop participants. These ACCSC-authorized certificates are intended to serve as documentation to demonstrate the implementation of an aspect of a school's overall professional development activities required by accrediting standards. To obtain a PDC certificate, participants must have attended at least (4) Learning Labs during the conference. Certificates will be distributed in the International Ballroom at the PDC Finale at 12:00 pm on Thursday, September 27th.



## Community Dinners

As we come together as *A Community of Partners in Education*, ACCSC once again invites conference participants to take advantage of an opportunity to gather with representatives from the ACCSC community for an evening of fellowship and dining in Long Beach. Inquire at the ACCSC Registration Desk for more information about the Community Dinners, one of the most popular events featured at the PDC.





## Volunteering with ACCSC

ACCSC recognizes that its success as an organization is in large part due to the dedication and support of our community of volunteers who enhance the Commission's work through their active involvement in the accreditation process. Throughout the PDC, conference participants will have the opportunity to visit with ACCSC Commissioners and staff the PDC Registration Desk to learn more about the many volunteer opportunities currently available to qualified representatives from ACCSC-accredited institutions. Maurya Scanlon-Sorokes will be available throughout the conference to answer any questions on the volunteer application process.

## The ACCSC Certified Accreditation Professional (CAP) Program

**CAP** CERTIFIED  
ACCREDITATION  
PROFESSIONAL

The CAP program, powered by MaxKnowledge, was developed around a simple idea: The ACCSC Standards of Accreditation are a blueprint for educational quality in career schools and colleges. Through this innovative approach, the ACCSC CAP program will broaden – in practical and profound ways – an individual's knowledge and understanding of ACCSC accreditation as it relates to enhanced institutional results and improved student success. Karen Marcinski, Director of Member Services, will be available throughout the PDC to answer any questions about the CAP program.

# 2018 Professional Development Conference Overview

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

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7:30 am – 5:30 pm

**Registration for the Pre-Conference Workshops & PDC**

*Ballroom Foyer: 2nd Floor*

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9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Pre-Conference Morning Workshops**

Five Steps for Boosting Retention and Building Community

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Sponsored by  Collegiate Admission & Retention Solutions

Using the IAIP to Manage Your School Between Accreditation Cycles

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

Leadership Matters

**Room:** International 2

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9:30 am – 4:30 pm

**2018 Team Leader Conference (by invitation only)**

**Room:** International 1

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12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

**Pre-Conference Workshop Participant & Team Leader Conference Lunch**

**Room:** Catalina

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1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**Pre-Conference Afternoon Workshops**

Building Community Through Conflict Resolution and Collaboration

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Sponsored by  Collegiate Admission & Retention Solutions

Building a Model for Faculty Development Using Deliberate Institutional Behaviors

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

A Student Life Cycle: Operational Best Practices

**Room:** International 2

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5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

**Welcome Reception**

**Room:** Pool Terrace

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## Wednesday, September 26th

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7:30 am – 4:00 pm

**Registration Desk Open**

**Room:** Ballroom Foyer: 2nd Floor

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9:00 am – 10:30 am

**PDC Key Note Address**

**Room:** International Ballroom

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10:45 am – 12:00 pm

**Learning Labs**

Improving Academics, Outcomes, and Reputation Through Community Engagement  
*Best Practices*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Implementing an Effective Employment Verification Program  
*Career and Student Services*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

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The PROFound Professional: Recognizing and Fostering Principles of Professionalism for Successful Multi-Generational Interactions  
*Trends and Innovations*

**Room:** International 2

Using G&E Reports to Make Strategic Institutional Decisions  
*Best Practices*

**Room:** International 1

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12:00 pm - 1:45 pm

**ACCSC Awards Luncheon**

**Room:** International Ballroom

Sponsored by 

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2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

**Learning Labs**

Beyond the Classroom: Preparing for the Future


*Career and Student Services*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Let's Lead the Way in Bridging the Essential Workplace Skills Gap!

*Best Practices*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

Sponsored by 

Online Learning: Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Factors to Predict Student Success

*Best Practices*

**Room:** International 2

Six Ways to Use Informal Assessment: Engaging Students for Success

*Faculty and Staff Development*

**Room:** International 1

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3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

**Learning Labs**

Implementing Hybrid Learning: Minimizing Challenges and Maximizing Student Success

*Trends and Innovations*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Winning Tactics for a Student-Centered Support System

*Faculty and Staff Development*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

Sponsored by 

Self-Assessment Isn't Ugly

*Best Practices*

**Room:** International 2

Postsecondary Retention Best Practices

*Career and Student Services*

**Room:** International 1

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6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**Community Dinners (Separate Registration Required)**



## Thursday, September 27th

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7:30 am – 10:00 am

### Registration Open

**Room:** Ballroom Foyer - 2nd Floor

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7:30 am – 9:00 am

### Breakfast

**Room:** International Ballroom – 2nd Floor

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9:00 am – 10:15 am

### ACCSC Annual Meeting & Institutional Awards Ceremony

Room: International Ballroom

Sponsored by **ELSEVIER**

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10:30 am – 11:45 am

### Learning Labs

Implementing a Student-Centered Active Education (S.A.E.) Model  
*Faculty and Staff Development*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

Tips for Preparing G & E Charts and Supporting Documentation  
*Best Practices*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

Sponsored by **ELSEVIER**

How \$100 in Hot Dogs Resulted in Verified Placements  
and Strengthened Employer Relationships  
*Career and Student Services*

**Room:** International 2

Safety for Your School: Let's Not Learn the Hard Way  
*Trends and Innovations*

**Room:** International 1

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12:00 pm

### The Big Finale: PDC Raffle

**Room:** International Ballroom

Be sure to pick up your PDC Certificates during The Big Finale.

# 2018 Professional Development Conference

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

Separate Registration is required for the Pre-Conference Workshops and incurs an additional registration fee. Please check-in at the ACCSC Registration Desk, located outside the International Ballroom on the 2nd Floor for more information.

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**9:00am – 12:00pm**

Pre-Conference Morning Workshops

## **Using the IAIP to Manage Your School Between Accreditation Cycles**

*Dr. Julie Basler, Platt College-Aurora*

*Dr. Juanita Gurubatham, Director of Institutional Review and Development, ACCSC*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

When preparing for an accreditation visit, the spotlight is on institutional assessment and planning (IAIP); however, schools sometimes struggle to keep up the momentum and continued involvement in institutional planning and assessment between accreditation cycles. This workshop will demonstrate how to use your IAIP as an everyday tool to keep self-evaluation momentum going at your school. Specifically, this workshop will provide participants with tools to take back to their own schools to build a culture that puts evaluation as a daily task resulting in a dynamic IAIP. Participants will learn how to engage faculty, staff, Program Advisory Committee members, boards, and others to build an evaluation culture, using a shared IAIP as a guide to improvement in all areas.

## **Five Steps for Boosting Retention and Building Community**

*Elizabeth Keifer-Herron, Collegiate Admission and Retention Solutions*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

2018 PDC Bronze Sponsor  Collegiate Admission & Retention Solutions

Join Elizabeth Keifer-Herron from Collegiate Admission & Retention Solutions to explore five key steps to implement a successful student retention initiative. Through this workshop, participants will learn about key risk factors that increase the likelihood of attrition, and initiatives to improve student retention and build community. Participants will learn more about how to implement a framework to measure and improve overall student outcomes at their institution.

## Leadership Matters

*Dr. Michale McComis, Executive Director, ACCSC*

**Room:** International 2

Leadership in any organization is a key component to the success of that organization. In today's higher education landscape, college leaders must be able to articulate the vision for their institutions, set the tone, and challenge their people to achieve greatness. This session will cover best practices in leadership that contribute to high levels of institutional and student success. Topics include leadership in a school setting, establishing partnerships in your community, and committing to meaningful and reflective improvement.

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**9:30 am – 4:30 pm**

## 2018 Team Leader Conference (Invitation Only)

*Alicia DeMartini, Director of Accreditation, ACCSC*

*Maurya Scanlon-Sorokes, Volunteer Coordinator, ACCSC*

**Room:** International I

The 2018 Team Leader Conference provides opportunities for active ACCSC Team Leaders to share experiences with fellow peer evaluators and to provide feedback to Commission staff as we collectively seek to improve and enhance the peer review process.

This **invitation-only** training event is devoted to ensuring consistent application of accreditation standards and provides an opportunity for volunteer peer evaluators to network with colleagues and discuss best practices. Active Team Leaders who have pre-registered for the 2018 Team Leader Conference should check in at the *PDC Registration Desk* in the *Ballroom Foyer* prior to the start of the 2018 Team Leader Conference.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with ACCSC, be sure to connect with Maurya Scanlon-Sorokes, Volunteer Coordinator.

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**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**

## Pre-Conference Workshop Luncheon

**Room:** Catalina

Pre-Conference Workshop Attendees and Team Leader Conference Participants are invited to Join ACCSC for Lunch in *Catalina*, which is included with registration for both the morning and afternoon Pre-Conference Workshops.

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**1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

## Pre-Conference Afternoon Workshops

### **Building a Model for Faculty Development Using Deliberate Institutional Behaviors (DIBs)**

*Eva Clare Stein, Ph.D.*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

Faculty development is an on-going element of daily school operations. Dr. Eva Stein will lead a dynamic workshop designed to guide participants in their understanding of the notion that retention, graduation, and career placement rates are merely outcomes of Deliberate Institutional Behaviors (DIBs) that permit us to focus, leverage and support activities, and support retention, graduation and placement outcomes. Based on the DIBs, participants will build a faculty development model tailored to their school's specific needs and requirements that support instructors, student success, and student satisfaction.

### **Building Community Through Conflict Resolution and Collaboration**

*Elizabeth Keifer-Herron, Collegiate Admission and Retention Solutions*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

2018 PDC Bronze Sponsor 

Elizabeth Keifer-Herron from Collegiate Admission and Retention Solutions will lead participants through a variety of experiential education exercises designed to identify sources of conflict that prevent team or institutional success and guide participants in developing tools to use at their own institutions to improve communication and collaboration through community building. Participants will gain understanding in how to evaluate potential for and mitigate conflict; understand the impact of trust and how to foster it within their teams; and return to their campuses with real methods designed to foster collaboration over competition.

### **Student Life Cycle: Operational Best Practices**

*Yasith Weerasuriya, Stanbridge University*

**Room:** International 2

To graduate happy, well-prepared students, schools must take a holistic approach to student services starting at the first interaction with school representatives, through orientation and as student transitions into the classrooms, and into their career field post-graduation. During this workshop, participants will have an opportunity to engage in a dialogue on the American with Disabilities Act, Title IX, bullying, academic dishonesty, and substance and alcohol abuse on campuses. The second part of the workshop will entail a presentation on how to create, implement, and incorporate student lead organizations and activities such as community service and other service learning initiatives, and to engage an Alumni Association into the student life cycle.

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**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

Welcome Reception

**Room:** Pool Terrace

Before diving into the PDC, take in some California sunshine and join the Commissioners, ACCSC Staff, and 2018 PDC conference participants in an inviting social setting for the PDC Welcome Reception.

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## Wednesday, September 26, 2018

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**9:00 am – 10:30 am**

PDC Key Note Address

**Room:** International Ballroom

### **Reflecting Forward: A Student Perspective**

ACCSC's Executive Director, Dr. Michale McComis will moderate a lively discussion with our esteemed panel of graduates. The graduate panelists will be discussing their experiences and perspective about what it takes to build a culture that contributes to student success.

### Graduate Panelists

#### **Kerry Brodie**

*Institute of Culinary Education - Culinary Arts*

Kerry is the founder and executive director of Emma's Torch. Emma's Torch is a non profit restaurant in Brooklyn that provides culinary training and job placement services to refugees, asylees, and survivors of human trafficking. Prior to founding Emma's Torch, Kerry worked in public policy, most recently as the Global Press Secretary of the Human Rights Campaign. Kerry is a graduate of the Institute of Culinary Education, where she won the Wusthof Award for Leadership. She holds a Masters in Government from Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelors in Near Eastern Studies from Princeton University.



**Patricia Hansen**

*Stanbridge University - Occupational Therapy Assistant*

Patricia Hansen's experiences in the US Navy, special needs of her family members, and education have created an undying passion for helping others with achieving their goals through occupational therapy. As a student Patricia volunteered numerous hours with organizations including High Hopes Head Injury program where she helped survivors of brain injury relearn how to walk and use their arms to complete daily tasks. Her educational experience at Stanbridge University enabled her to teach the "un-teachable" and has further fueled her passion in civic engagement and community service.

**Ed Claye Joiner**

*North-West College-Long Beach - Licensed Vocational Nurse*

Ed Claye is a single mother of three children who worked hard throughout her program. She showed true commitment by coming to school to study before and after school. Upon completing the Licensed Vocational Nursing program in 2016, Ed Claye took an entry-level position to get her foot in the door. Her hard work and perseverance paid off and she now has the job of her dreams at Kaiser Permanente and Harvard Partners and is part of North-West College's Program Advisory Committee.

**Matthew Kennedy**

*Universal Technical Institute – Long Beach - Automotive and Diesel Technology*

Matthew completed the Automotive and Diesel Technology program at Universal Technical Institute last October. As a student, he demonstrated strong academic standing, a high level of responsibility, and excellent customer service skills which allowed him to participate as a student worker supporting the student services department at UTI. Matthew has also been participating as a graduate student speaker for a number of campus events and is currently working as a Diesel Technician with Westrux International.

**Jessica Young**

*The Los Angeles Film School - Recording Arts, Music Production, Entertainment Business*

Jessica is originally from Ames, Iowa, but has been living in Los Angeles for 5 years. She graduated with Honors from The Los Angeles Film School and received her AS in Recording Arts, AS in Music Production and BS in Entertainment Business. Jessica is a US Army Veteran and volunteers some of her time with Veterans in Media Entertainment (VME), and is currently a Student Success Advisor at The Los Angeles Film School.



## Learning Labs

The 2018 PDC offers a diverse array of focused *Learning Labs* that cover a wide range of important topics relevant to ACCSC-accredited institutions. The 75-minute *Learning Labs* focus on best practices of high performing institutions and provide tangible take-aways for PDC participants. This year, the Learning Labs are categorized into four distinct focus areas:



Career and Student Services



Trends and Innovations



Best Practices



Faculty and Staff Development

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

Learning Labs



### Improving Academics, Outcomes, and Reputation Through Community Engagement

Best Practices

*Aaron Reed, Neumont College of Computer Science*

*Tim Clark, Neumont College of Computer Science*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

**Purpose:** Establishing and Maintaining Effective Partnerships & Connections with Industry.

As educators, we know that community partnerships are critical to success in higher education. From establishing and maintaining employer relationships, to fostering deeper connections to members of the Program Advisory Committee and other industry partners, we know that positive, collaborative relationships can have a dramatic impact on the reputation of an institution. In this session participants will discuss ways in which they can positively affect change by leveraging these relationships.

#### Session Outcomes:

- Describe the benefit of partnering with various community constituents
- Identify different groups with whom an institution may want to develop partnerships
- Understand how to formulate a plan to initiate and develop community partnership relationships



**Graduate Placement and Verification Best Practices:  
Implementing an Effective Employment Verification Program**

Career and Student Services

*Joseph Pappaly, Auxicent*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

2018 PDC Gold Sponsor 

**Purpose:** Discuss and share Best Practices deployed by institutions in maintaining verifiable placement records.

The objective of this session is to share a first-hand perspective of what third-party verification auditors face when completing an independent placement verification project for accreditation purposes. This session will provide an overview of the various tools and technologies that schools can implement to ensure placement data is both reliable and verifiable, and will identify the importance of understanding the various verification category definitions as defined by ACCSC. Additionally, the session will stress the importance of establishing a road-map to implement on the first day of school in order to support the work being done in the Career Services department.

**Session Outcomes:**

- Understand the importance of maintaining reliable and verifiable graduate employment records
- Implement the Tools & Technologies needed to support placement data
- Understand the definitions of the assigned Verification Categories



**The PROFound Professional: Recognizing and Fostering Principles of  
Professionalism for Successful Multi-Generational Interactions**

Trends and Innovations

*Brent Molen, RDH, M.Ed., The Utah College of Dental Hygiene*

**Room:** International 2

**Purpose:** Identify solutions that foster professional conduct in diverse group interactions.

The ability of an institution to instill principles of professionalism in their graduates is a skill that can benefit any student and those who work at institutions of higher learning. However, to teach the principles of professionalism, there must first be a recognition of just what comprises professional action. This session will cover concepts that will help school instructors and administrators better understand their unique role in identifying and instilling professional actions in their educational institutions. During this session, participants will have an opportunity to discuss methods and share strategies that are especially important in establishing an environment that is not only inviting to acts of professionalism but that will reinforce the importance and value of integrating professional action and thought in the multi-generational and younger student populations.

### Session Outcomes:

- Identify and recognize different perceptions of what is accepted professional conduct and what is not in modern times as it relates to differences in an individual's age, cultural background, and educational level
- Identify tools that can be integrated to foster greater professionalism in students, instructors, staff, faculty and administration
- Identify and discuss how better to integrate professional action into our everyday actions and instruction

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### Using Graduation and Employment Reports to Make Strategic Institutional Decisions

#### Best Practices

*Raye Mahlberg, Community HigherEd*

**Room:** International I

**Purpose:** To show the strategic value of the Graduation and Employment Chart

Successful student achievement through the reporting of acceptable levels of student graduation and graduate employment in the field for which training was provided is a crucial and critical aspect of the accreditation process. And as all ACCSC-accredited institutions are aware, Graduation and Employment Charts are a very important part of the accreditation reporting process. But did you know the data collected via ACCSC's Graduation and Employment Chart can also be used for strategic planning? During this session participants will learn how to use G&E Chart as a strategic planning tool and will be able to identify trends in the reports which can help guide the institution in making strategic decisions about program viability and institutional effectiveness

### Session Outcomes:

- Understand the strategic value of Graduation & Employment Charts in addition to their value in the accreditation process
- Identify trends in Graduation & Employment Charts and how to use the trends for strategic decision making
- Understand how to use G&E reports as an evaluation tool



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**12:00 pm – 1:45 pm**

### ACCSC Annual Awards Luncheon

*Mollie Ludwig – Chair of the Commission*

*Sue Johnson – Commissioner, ACCSC*

*Dr. Michale McComis, ACCSC Executive Director*

**Room:** International Ballroom

2018 PDC Gold Sponsor  Collegiate Admissions  
& Retention Solutions

During ACCSC's Annual Awards Luncheon, the Commission will recognize the 2018 Award Winners, including winners of the: Excellence in Community Service Award, Excellence in Student Services Award, Outstanding Volunteer Awards, Commitment to Education Award, and Outstanding Graduate Award.

See page 26 for more information on this year's award winners.

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**2:00 pm – 3:15 pm**

### Learning Labs



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### **Beyond the Classroom: Preparing for the Future**

Career and Student Services

*Nancy Jones, Concorde Career Colleges*

*Graham Nott, Concorde Career Colleges*

*Koula Foura, Concorde Career Colleges*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

**Purpose:** Soft skills enhancement to improve career readiness and benefit the community

During this session, participants will learn how they can develop and implement soft skills content within their curriculum to enhance employability of graduates. This interactive session will focus on the necessary and important collaboration that must be fostered across an institution, to include both Academics and Career Services, in order to

develop stronger, well-rounded, more confident, and marketable graduate, and thereby supporting the school's efforts to demonstrate successful student achievement.

**Session Outcomes:**

- Communicate the importance of soft skills within the graduate toolkit
- Establish partnerships with the community
- Understand the global impact of career-ready graduates



**Let's Lead the Way in Bridging the Essential Workplace Skills Gap!**

**Best Practices**

*Jay Hollowell, MaxKnowledge*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

2018 PDC Platinum Sponsor 

**Purpose:** Bridge the skills gap while simultaneously improving institution-wide outcomes.

In 1991, The U.S. Department of Labor's Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) Report was published identifying essential skills needed to successfully enter and thrive in the workplace. Now, 27 years later, employers are identifying many of the same career readiness challenges as noted in 1991. This interactive session examines five key areas - across the entire institution - where schools can lead the way in bridging the essential workplace skills gap for graduates while, at the same time, enhance institutional effectiveness.

**Session Outcomes:**

- Determine why implementing best practices to bridge the essential workplace skills gap for graduates must be a community-wide initiative
- Examine five key areas where our schools can further take charge of bridging the essential workplace skills gap while improving graduate success and enhancing program outcomes
- Assess the value of establishing a campus-wide essential workplace skills committee

BP

## Online Learning: Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Factors to Predict Student Success

### Best Practices

*Dr. Art Waller, Vista College, ACCSC Commissioner*

*Dr. Larry Banks, Vista College*

**Room:** International 2

**Purpose:** Identify the risk factors that determine student attributes for success in online learning.

Do you know how to assess a potential applicant's commitment, ability, and skills that are necessary for student achievement in online courses? This session explores the crucial role of distance education readiness, will help participants to understand how to effectively meet the needs of "first generation students", and will provide both cognitive and non-cognitive factors that predict online student retention. Participants will also have an opportunity to learn about established strategies designed to help schools to effectively use distance education programs to retain students at the same rate as students in residential programs by using a robust applicant assessment tool.

### Session Outcomes:

- Describe attributes and behaviors that are important for online learners
- Understand a practical readiness survey that is designed to evaluate student readiness for distance education coursework
- Understand criteria that determines success in a distance education setting

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## Six Ways to Use Informal Assessment: Engaging Students for Success

### Faculty and Staff Development

*Dr. Marcia Wratcher, ACCSC Education Specialist, EDU Consulting Associates, LLC.*

**Room:** International 1

**Purpose:** Model informal assessment strategies that contribute to student success.

Informal assessment strategies that engage students increase their willingness to attend class, their ability to maintain interest, and desire to learn. They also inform faculty of student progress, learning needs, and allow an opportunity to provide individualized feedback to students and plan teaching and learning accordingly to maximize student success. This session focuses on modeling and implementation of six informal assessment strategies. Participants will leave with practical strategies that they can implement easily and immediately to move students from passive observers to active participants in their learning. There will also be a discussion of an actual implementation that has taken place.



### Session Outcomes:

- Be able to implement easy and quick engagement strategies for informal assessment of learning
- Be able to identify necessary steps for implementation of informal assessment strategies
- Be able to recognize the relationship of learner engagement, informal assessment, and academic success

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3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

Learning Labs



### Implementing Hybrid Learning: Minimizing Challenges and Maximizing Student Success

Trends and Innovations

*Julian Imbrescia, Douglas Education Center*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

**Purpose:** Provide insights and strategies for institutions to successfully transition from traditional residential learning to hybrid learning.

This session provides an opportunity for participants to review a case-study on the real-world challenges, opportunities, and experiences of a historically “fully-residential” institution that has embraced hybrid delivery. Using this case study format, participants will have an opportunity to discuss and identify strategies to ensure the successful integration of technology as part of the delivery of hybrid education, and a chance to share and discuss best practices that help to establish faculty buy-in and ultimately increase student success.

### Session Outcomes:

- Identify challenges that occur when transitioning a curriculum from fully residential to a hybrid format
- Describe best practices for schools to implement that will address the challenges for students who will be transitioning to hybrid programs
- Discuss solutions related to obtaining faculty buy-in, training faculty to teach in a hybrid method, preparing students for hybrid instruction, and ensuring that students have the skills to be successful in a hybrid format

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## Winning Tactics for a Student-Centered Support System

Faculty and Staff Development

*David Grimes, Cyanna*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

2018 PDC Silver Sponsor 

You have seen the realities of career college students. They learn at different paces, they possess different skill levels, and they bring different background experiences and knowledge when entering your classroom. Each student is, indeed, different. In this session, participants will learn more about effective strategies and practices that support the creation and fostering of student-centered practices designed for student success. Participants will learn about this process where every administrator, staff member, and teacher plays a key role to create a more engaging, personalized educational experience.

BP

## Self-Assessment Isn't Ugly

Best Practices

*Dr. Tami Erickson, Ancora Education*

**Room:** International 2

**Purpose:** Self-Assessment Can and Should be a Positive Experience.

Accreditation is built on a foundation of peer-review. During this session, participants will learn how to identify what your campus is doing well so that self-assessment is a positive experience for across the campus. Participants will also have an opportunity to discover the essential role self-assessment plays in improving the overall functions on campus and how to design and implement a simple self-assessment for an individual department within a larger campus structure.

### Session Outcomes:

- Discover the key role self-assessments play in improving the overall functions at your campus
- Identify how to design and implement a self-assessment for your department at your campus



## Postsecondary Retention Best Practices

Career and Student Services

William Lynch, Orleans Technical College

Nick Aquilino, Orleans Technical College

**Room:** International I

**Purpose:** To discuss best practices and strategies to increase student retention.

Retention of students is related directly to student achievement, student graduation rates, institutional effectiveness, and compliance. The fact is, institutions serve students well when they are able to deliver a quality education that leads to a high-priority, in-demand job. This session will review different strategies that can be employed at your institution to help improve retention rates, elicit feedback from other institutions on additional strategies, and give you the tools and confidence to return to your institution to evaluate student barriers to success in order to create your own strategic plan to address your institution's specific challenges.

### Session Outcomes:

- Be able to identify the barriers students face that prevent them from completing programs
- Understand best practices and strategies to address barriers for students without lowering educational standards and expectations
- Be able to adopt or evolve strategies to improve retention rates

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**6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

### ACCSC Community Dinners

As we come together as *A Community of Partners in Education*, ACCSC once again invites conference participants to take advantage of an opportunity to gather with representatives from the ACCSC community for an evening of fellowship and dining. Inquire at the ACCSC Registration Desk for more information about the Community Dinners, one of the most popular events featured at the PDC.

## Thursday, September 27, 2018

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**7:30 am – 9:00 am**

Breakfast with ACCSC

**Room:** Ballroom Foyer – 2nd Floor

Join the Accrediting Commission, ACCSC Staff, and your fellow PDC participants for breakfast, included with registration.

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**9:00 am – 10:15 am**

Annual Meeting & Institutional Awards Ceremony

*Dr. Michale S. McComis, Executive Director, ACCSC*

*Dr. Art Waller, Treasurer of the Commission*

**Room:** International Ballroom

During this General Session, ACCSC will facilitate the Annual Meeting for the purpose of delivering the Treasurer's Report and to provide the membership with an update on the Commission's activities and strategic initiatives. The Award Ceremony portion of the General Session provides an opportunity for the Accrediting Commission to honor the ACCSC Outstanding Staff Member, the 2018 Schools of Distinction, and the 2018 Schools of Excellence.

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**10:30 am – 11:45 am**

Learning Labs

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**Implementing a Student-Centered Active Education (S.A.E.) Model**

Faculty and Staff Development

*Dr. Michele Ernst, SAE Institute*

*Gabe Jones, SAE Institute*

**Room:** Atlantic 1 & 2

**Purpose:** To share practical tips on implementing a student-centered teaching methodology in all classes.

Student-centered Active Education (S.A.E.) provides a pathway designed to prepare students for entry-level employment in their chosen fields of employment. During this session, participants will learn how to actively engage students in their learning by applying what they are learning through practical, real-world assignments. Participants will also have a chance to learn more about proven best practices to ensure the successful and sustained impact of change management strategies,

**Session Outcomes:**

- Understand the components of the Student-centered Active Education (S.A.E.) teaching model
- Gain specific tips and an opportunity to share ideas for implementing a similar methodology



**Tips for Preparing Graduation and Employment Charts & Supporting Documentation**

**Best Practices**

*Alicia DeMartini, Director of Accreditation, ACCSC*

**Room:** Pacific 1 & 2

**Purpose:** This session provides a framework designed to help accredited institutions to gain a better understanding of ACCSC's process for assessing successful student achievement.

The ACCSC Graduation and Employment Chart is the Commission's mechanism for collecting, for each program, the rate at which students graduate from a program and the rate at which those graduates obtain employment in a training related field. During this session, participants will have the opportunity to get answers to some of the most common questions related to inputting data in Graduation and Employment Charts, to learn best practices for maintaining verifiable employment documentation, as well as to discuss the strategies deployed by schools to demonstrate compliance with accrediting standards when responding to an additional information or student achievement reporting requests.

**Session Outcomes:**

- Gain a profound understanding on how to successfully complete the Graduation and Employment Chart
- Learn about strategies and techniques deployed by highly effective institutions on preparing a comprehensive Outcomes Report that demonstrates successful student achievement in accordance with established guidelines
- Learn more about key aspects of ACCSC's Guidelines for Employment Classification



## How \$100 in Hot Dogs Resulted in Verified Placements and Strengthened Employer Relationships

Career and Student Services

*Sarah Kiepper, ETI Technical College*

**Room:** International 2

**Purpose:** To share outside the box ideas for best practices in career services.

When ETI's Career Services department began holding on-campus career fairs in 2016 and invited employers to the campus to interview students and graduates, the college's employment rate not only rose, but the school built stronger relationships with employers who were able to get to know faculty, students, and learn more about the school's programs and services. During this session, participants will have an opportunity to learn about how one school's enhanced usage of social media to keep in contact with students post-graduation along with the on-site career fairs/cookouts, encouraged alumni to attend and reconnect with classmates and instructors, while also offering them the chance to interview with new employers.

### Session Outcomes:

- Gather practical ideas to increase placement rates
- Gain take-away tips on verifying employment
- Gain lessons learned from one school's successes and failures



## Safety for your School ... Let's not Learn the Hard Way

Trends and Innovations

*Richard Scott Mitchem, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Infrastructure Protection*

*Kim Trignano, Lincoln Educational Services*

*Marya Withers, Ed.D., Lincoln Educational Services, ACCSC Commissioner*

*Ted Settle, Ph.D., ACCSC Commissioner*

**Room:** International I

**Purpose:** Increase the awareness of the need for emergency planning and preparation to enhance campus security

Over the last few years schools across the nation have experienced many kinds of emergencies: floods, fires, earthquakes, loss of power, tornadoes, bombings, and unfortunately, and most tragically, school shootings. Representatives from the US Department of Homeland Security, the ACCSC Accrediting Commission, and an ACCSC-accredited member school will discuss the need for planning and preparedness for diverse kinds of threats and will identify local, state, and national resources to assist member schools. The session will incorporate two brief exercises and a robust Q&A session.



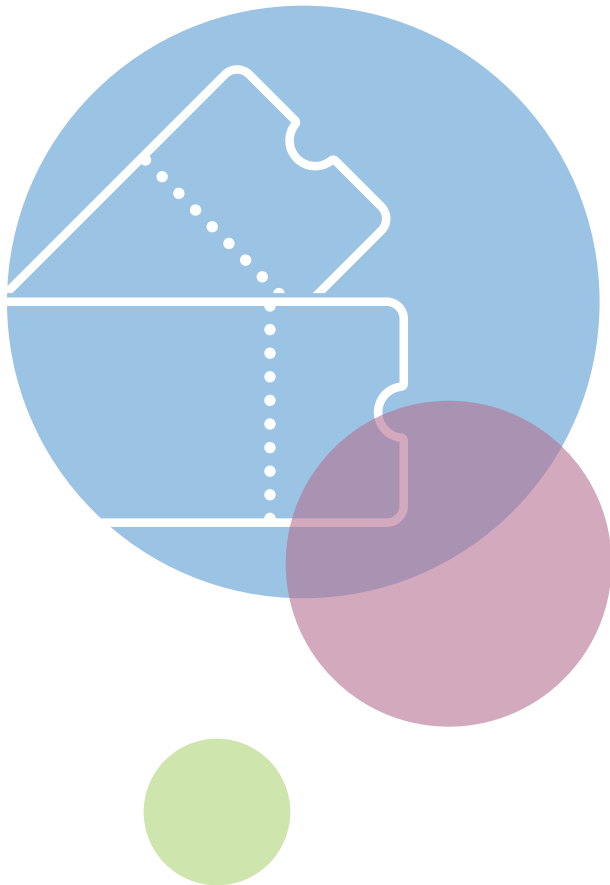
### Session Outcomes:

- Develop an awareness of the need for an operational emergency preparedness plan that addresses various threats
- Increase the awareness of local, regional, and national resources to enhance development and implementation
- Instill a campus-based call to action to prepare and implement an emergency plan with associated training, resources, and testing

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**12:00 pm**

The Big Finale: PDC Raffle



Stay for the entire\* PDC for the Chance to Win a complimentary registration to one of ACCSC's professional development events, including:

- One Complimentary Registration to the 2019 Professional Development Conference;
- One Complimentary Registration to a 2019 ACCSC Accreditation Workshop;
- One Complimentary Registration for ACCSC's Online Certified Accreditation Professional program;
- A 90-minute presentation at your school with ACCSC's Executive Director, Dr. Michale McComis

*\*Winners drawn at the conclusion of the last session on Thursday, September 27th in the International Ballroom; must be present to win.*



## 2018 ACCSC Award Winners

The 2018 ACCSC Award Winners will be recognized throughout the PDC and during two special events. First, be sure to join ACCSC on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 12:00 pm in the *International Ballroom* for the ACCSC Awards Luncheon where the Commission will present the following awards:

Excellence in Community Service Award

Excellence in Student Services Award

Outstanding Volunteer Awards

Commitment to Education Award

Outstanding Graduate Award

Additionally, on Thursday, September 27, 2018, during the Institutional Awards Ceremony the Annual Business Meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:00 am in the International Ballroom, ACCSC will recognize the following institutional award winners, along with a special ACCSC staff presentation:

2018 Outstanding ACCSC Staff Member

2018 Schools of Distinction

2018 Schools of Excellence

# About the 2018 ACCSC Award Winners

## 2018 Excellence in Community Service Award

### **Centura Colleges and Aviation Institutes of Maintenance (AIM)**

The Excellence in Community Service Award recognizes ACCSC-accredited institutions for the outstanding contributions made to their local community through service initiatives. This year, ACCSC is recognizing Centura Colleges and Aviation Institutes of Maintenance (AIM) for the significant contributions made towards supporting their local communities.

Centura Colleges and Aviation Institutes of Maintenance (AIM) have implemented a community service structure that has manifested into a centralized community outreach “way of life” for their schools. Over the past 18 months the campuses have sponsored and participated in over 275 community outreach events. The campuses started their community service initiatives with relatively simple campus events, such as blood drives, school supply donations, food drives, clothing donations, and kids’ carnivals. Building on that momentum, campuses started new initiatives such as academic development programs for a city Fire and Rescue Academy, a “Backpack Attack” that provided needed school supplies for children in need, and building a fleet of 41 bicycles to support children at a local elementary school.

These efforts have refocused the schools’ efforts to beyond simply providing a quality education to students and preparing them for careers, but showing them, by example, how to share their passion, experience, and energy with those in need in their communities. It is clear to the Accrediting Commission that these initiatives are not only serving their communities, but also inspiring others.

Please join ACCSC in recognizing Centura Colleges and Aviation Institutes of Maintenance (AIM) as the winner of the 2018 Excellence in Community Service Award.

## 2018 Excellence in Student Services Award

### **Ohio State College of Barber Styling – Columbus, Ohio**

The Excellence in Student Services Award recognizes an ACCSC-accredited institution that has implemented an outstanding student services program. For this year’s award winner, Ohio State College of Barber Styling (OSCBS), their student services program supports the school’s mission by emphasizing the importance of a student-centered learning environment that enables their students to reach their highest level of personal, professional, and academic success in a respectful and supportive environment.

At OSCBS, while student advising is available at any time, staff and faculty seek out students to proactively address attendance or academic issues as a part of regular, on-going meetings. For those students with strong records of attendance and academic performance, the school hosts special lunches as a way to engage the students with guest speakers from the industry that share their real world experiences.

Through OSCBS' Faith Mission partnership, students offer their barbering services to those in need at Faith Mission's homeless shelter, teaching them to be compassionate, giving, and professional. The school also sends out budget haircut vouchers to local homeless shelters, which not only serves to benefit those in need, but also provides meaningful practice time for new students. Another student-centered institutional initiative supports Barbershop Books, a nonprofit community-based program that creates child-friendly reading spaces in barbershops and provides early literacy training to barbers across America.

Please join ACCSC in recognizing Ohio State College of Barber Styling as the winner of the 2018 Excellence in Student Services Award.

## 2018 Outstanding Volunteer Awards

The Outstanding Volunteer Award is an award which recognizes individuals from the ACCSC community who have made significant contributions to career education through his or her dedication to, and support of, the accreditation process. This year, the Commission is pleased to recognize two outstanding individuals who have dedicated their time and significant talents to supporting the mission of ACCSC: *Dr. Gail Robin and Christine Cordek*.

### **Dr. Gail Robin, M.Ed., D.B.A.**

*ACCSC Education Specialist*

Dr. Gail Robin has served as an Education Specialist since April 2015 and since that time, she has participated on 36 on-site evaluations to institutions in the ACCSC accreditation process. Incredibly, last year Gail participated on 18 on-site evaluations in support ACCSC's efforts to provide accreditation services to a significant number of institutions transitioning to ACCSC from another accrediting body. For all practical purposes, last year Gail became an extension of ACCSC and the Accreditation Department, consistently in the field, leading the educational assessment process for schools seeking accreditation, and often taking on some of the most challenging and complex on-site evaluations. In addition, Gail has been a tremendous resource to Accreditation Department staff as they started growing ACCSC's pool of Distance Education Specialists. She has recommended some of her colleagues to volunteer to support ACCSC, and those she has put forth demonstrate similar work ethic and attention to detail, adding tremendous value to the ACCSC community.

The entire organization at ACCSC knows that without hesitation, we can count on Gail, and institutions can have the confidence that Gail will support on-site evaluation team's efforts to consistently conduct a fair and comprehensive review. Please join ACCSC in congratulating Dr. Gail Robin on being named as an Outstanding Volunteer.

## **Christine Cordek – Centura College / Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Virginia Beach, Virginia**

*ACCSC Team Leader*

Christine “Tina” Cordek is based at the Virginia Beach home office and serves as the Director of Compliance at Centura College / Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM) where she is responsible for regulatory and compliance matters for 17 campuses. Tina has been with the Centura/AIM school system for 29 years and since becoming a Team Leader in 1999 has brought forth a wealth of knowledge and experience to ACCSC with her active involvement on more than 60 on-site evaluations.

Tina is by all accounts, an exceptional Team Leader, and an even better person. Tina is both knowledgeable and hardworking, and leads every on-site evaluation with passion and enthusiasm. Through her active leadership, profound understanding of the Standards of Accreditation, and belief in peer review, Tina has ensured that the ACCSC accreditation process is collaborative and meaningful to institutions and the students they serve.

In addition to her active involvement as a Team Leader, over the last year Tina provided vital insight to ACCSC as part of the development of the Certified Accreditation Professional (CAP) program, and has been a driving force behind ACCSC’s efforts to continue to offer high-touch, student-centered accreditation services. Tina is an outstanding representative of ACCSC and the Commission sincerely appreciates her dedication to ACCSC over the years

Please join ACCSC in congratulating Tina Cordek on being named as an Outstanding Volunteer.

## **2018 Commitment to Education Award**

### **Jamie Stevens – Dolphin Research Center Training Institute – Grassy Key, Florida**

Jamie Stevens started volunteering at Dolphin Research Center Training Institute (DRCTI) in 2000 while still in college. After earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees, Jamie became a member of the school’s Animal Care and Training Team and in 2015, Jamie assumed the position of Assistant Director. As the Assistant Director of DRCTI, Jamie spearheaded the implementation of a number of student centered initiatives designed to maximize opportunities for students to be successful in the competitive field of marine mammal training, and reimagined the course design from its original inception to better meet the needs of the staff, faculty and students.

Jamie has also led volunteer initiatives at local animal shelters and has created pathways for students to work with other animals at hospitals and aquariums. Through her relationships with several organizations within the marine mammal community, Jamie leads field trips to facilities where students experience personal interactions with staff charged with enriching the lives of the animals in their care.

After only one week in school, the Class of 2018 was evacuated from the Florida Keys due to the approach of Hurricane Irma. With an extensive hurricane plan in place, Jamie took care to prepare the facility and the animals for the storm and aftermath, as well as being in constant contact with the school's students and their parents throughout the event, while also taking care of her own family's evacuation. Once allowed back in, the school also hosted their first ACCSC on-site evaluation and Jamie is credited with leading the charge of their successful visit in which DRCTI not only earned initial accreditation, but recognition as a 2018 School of Excellence.

Please join ACCSC in recognizing Jamie Stevens as the winner of the 2018 Commitment to Education Award.

## 2018 Outstanding Graduate Award

### Kerry Brodie – Institute of Culinary Education – New York, New York

Kerry Brodie maintained a stellar academic record at the Institute of Culinary Education (ICE) over the course of her diploma program in Career Culinary Arts. Graduating with Highest Honors distinction and a 4.0 GPA, Kerry was also the recipient of the Wusthof Leadership Award, which is awarded to the class member who has demonstrated the strongest degree of leadership during his or her time at ICE. The award criteria defines leadership as the ability to motivate, guide and even inspire classmates in a positive manner, with an expectation that these skills will carry forward in the workplace.

While a student at ICE, Kerry laid much of the groundwork for launching her non-profit organization, Emma's Torch, whose mission is to "empower refugees through culinary training." Emma's Torch demonstrates Kerry's extraordinary commitment to the culinary arts and its power to transform other individuals' lives through occupational training. The training program is not only free for participants, but also affords participants to earn money while they train and intern in a restaurant. While the non-profit has only been in existence for barely two years, it has already seen its first training program graduates go on to employment within respected New York City restaurant kitchens. Kerry, along with her Culinary Council, designed a training program that covers basic techniques, along with training on the soft skills needed to advance in the profession. Those that need English as a Second Language training also receive that support from certified instructors. The overwhelming support from the community is evidenced by the corporate partners that have signed on: Whole Foods Market, Roland Corporation, Ben & Jerry's Foundation, The Starbucks Foundation, and a grant from Brooklyn Community Foundation, to name just a few. Additionally, Kerry has created working partnerships with a range of other non-profits that refer students for the free training and provide other services: Sanctuary for Families, International Rescue Committee, and Catholic Charities.

Please join ACCSC in recognizing Chef Kerry Brodie as the winner of the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Award.

## 2018 Schools of Distinction

The ACCSC School of Distinction Award recognizes member schools that have demonstrated a commitment to the expectations and rigors of ACCSC accreditation as well as a commitment to delivering quality educational programs to the students, graduates and employers that deserve our best work. Through this award, it is the Commission's intent to recognize the significant achievement of schools that successfully completed the accreditation process and satisfied all requirements required of an ACCSC accredited institution to be in good standing with the Commission.

The 2018 School of Distinction Award recognizes institutions that successfully completed the accreditation process and were reviewed by the Commission from August 2017 through May 2018.

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**Bryan University**

Tempe, Arizona

**IBMC College**

Fort Collins, Colorado

**IBMC College**

Greeley, Colorado

**Laurel Business Institute**

Uniontown, Pennsylvania

**New England Tractor Trailer**

**Training of Massachusetts**

North Andover, Massachusetts

**Orleans Technical College**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania Gunsmith School**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Pinnacle Career Institute**

Kansas City, Missouri

**SBB College**

Bakersfield, California

**SBB College**

Rancho Mirage, California

**SBB College**

Santa Maria, California

**Spartan College of Aeronautics**

**and Technology**

Broomfield, Colorado

**Sunstate Academy**

Clearwater, Florida

**Triangle Tech**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Unitek College**

Hayward, California

**Unitek College**

South San Francisco, California

**Valley College**

Beckley, West Virginia

**Valley College**

Martinsburg, West Virginia

**Valley College**

Princeton, West Virginia

## 2018 Schools of Excellence

The School of Excellence Award recognizes ACCSC-accredited institution for their commitment to the expectations and rigors of ACCSC accreditation, as well as the efforts made by the institution in maintaining high-levels of achievement among their students. In order to be eligible for the School of Excellence Award, an ACCSC-accredited institution must meet the conditions of being granted accreditation without any findings of non-compliance with accrediting standards, satisfy all requirements necessary to be in good standing with the Commission, and demonstrate that the majority of the schools' graduation and employment rates for all programs meet or exceed the average rates of graduation and employment among all ACCSC-accredited institutions.

The 2018 School of Excellence Award recognizes institutions that successfully completed the accreditation process and were reviewed by the Commission from August 2017 through May 2018. Each of the 2018 Schools of Excellence qualify for an additional year of accreditation.

**ABCO Technology**  
Los Angeles, California

**American Institute of Clinical Massage**  
Post Falls, Idaho

**Bradford School**  
Columbus, Ohio

**Bradford School**  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Clary Sage College**  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

**Dolphin Research Center Training Institute**  
Grassy Key, Florida

**Douglas Education Center**  
Monessen, Pennsylvania

**Global Medical & Technical Training Institute**  
Miami, Florida

**IBMC College**  
Longmont, Colorado

**International Business College**  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

**King's College**  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Learnet Academy**  
Los Angeles, California

**Massage Institute of Memphis**  
Memphis, Tennessee

**Minneapolis Business College**  
Roseville, Minnesota

**North American University**  
Stafford, Texas

**PCI Health Training Center**  
Dallas, Texas

**PCI Health Training Center**  
Richardson, Texas

**Platt College**  
Aurora, Colorado

**Radiological Technologies University VT**  
South Bend, Indiana

**Triangle Tech**  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

**Triangle Tech**  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

**Universal Healthcare Careers College**  
Los Angeles, California

**Universal Technical Institute of Massachusetts**  
Norwood, Massachusetts

**Universal Technical Institute of Northern California**  
Sacramento, California



## 2018 ACCSC Outstanding Staff Member

The Outstanding Staff Member Award provides an opportunity for the professional staff at ACCSC to recognize one of their fellow staff members. As part of the nomination process, staff have the opportunity to highlight a peer's significant contribution to the organization, espousal of ACCSC's Core Values, and demonstrated leadership. Please join ACCSC in recognizing Mohammad Arif as the 2018 Outstanding Staff Member.

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### **Mohammad Arif**

*Finance and Operations Coordinator*

Mohammad Arif has been with ACCSC for over 10 years and in that time has proven to be a reliable and valuable asset to the ACCSC team. In his role as Finance and Operations Coordinator, it is Mohammad's responsibility to provide oversight of the Commission's accounts payables as well as the travel reimbursement process. This year, Mohammad faced a series of significant challenges, but none as daunting as ensuring the integrity of the Commission's accounting procedures and guidelines while processing an enormous influx fees and travel expenses associated with a transition process for hundreds of institutions seeking accreditation from ACCSC. In typical Mohammad fashion, he did so without a hint of a complaint, with precision, and with integrity. Mohammad consistently performs at a high level in one of ACCSC's behind-the-scenes positions that, while not getting a lot of fanfare, requires a high level of integrity and accountability. More than that, and in addition to his stellar work product, Mohammad is most often described by his peers as both kind and understanding.

Mohammad is a valued and respected member of the Commission's professional staff who day-in and day-out, dedicates himself to supporting the mission, vision, and core values of ACCSC.

# 2018 Professional Development Conference

## Recognizing ACCSC's Educational Partners

Please join ACCSC in thanking our educational partners for their continued support of the Commission and ACCSC-accredited institutions, and for their active involvement in the Professional Development Conference.

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Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsor



# 2018 – 2019 ACCSC Commission

## ACCSC Executive Committee

### **Mollie Ludwig**

*Chair of the Commission*

For over 20 years, Mollie Ludwig has served in leadership positions at ACCSC-accredited institutions and has dedicated her career to supporting students to be successful in-and outside the classroom. Currently, Mollie serves as the Vice President of Central Oklahoma College in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where she is responsible for day-to-day operations of the campus, as well as licensure, accreditation, and compliance initiatives. Mollie has been volunteering as a Team Leader for ACCSC since 2004 and was recognized as ACCSC's Volunteer of the Year in 2009.

### **Ted Settle, Ph.D.**

*Vice Chair of the Commission*

From 1992 to 2010, Dr. Theodore "Ted" Settle served in a variety of roles at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, including the Director of Economic Development, Adjunct Associate Professor for a Higher Education and Student Affairs Program, and as the Director of Continuing Education. Throughout his career, Dr. Settle has served on numerous regulatory bodies and oversight agencies, most notably, the Education Council, the National Association of Manufacturers, and U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.



### **Patricia Thomas**

*Secretary of the Commission*

Patricia “Pat” Thomas currently serves as the Regional Director of Operations for the Aviation Institute of Maintenance, based out of Virginia Beach, Virginia where she oversees the operations of a six campus system. Previously, Pat served as a School Director for Centura College in Virginia Beach, Virginia, as a Regional Director of Operations for Sylvan Learning Center, and as a Director of Education for Barclay Career School. Since 2008, Pat has supported ACCSC and its mission by serving as a Team Leader during the on-site evaluation process.

### **Art Waller, Ph.D.**

*Treasurer of the Commission*

Dr. Art Waller is the Campus Director for the On-Line campus of Vista College, headquartered in Dallas, Texas. Art brings 25 years of experience in higher education and extensive distance education experience to the Commission. Since 2011, Art has served as a Team Leader in the ACCSC on-site evaluation process and has helped the Commission to evaluate and assess successful student achievement as a member of the Program Review Committee. Additionally, Art is actively involved with Academy of Management, the University Continuing Education Association, and the Regional Campus and Distance Education Association.

### **Jennifer Bergeron**

For over 15 years, Jennifer Bergeron has worked tirelessly in pursuit of providing a student-centered culture that focuses on quality education and student achievement at NASCAR Technical Institute in Mooresville, North Carolina, which is the exclusive educational provider for NASCAR. Since 2010, Jennifer has served as Campus President, where she is responsible for providing leadership



and strategic direction for the campus. Jennifer began volunteering as a Team Leader in 2014, and currently serves on the North Carolina Association of Career Schools and Colleges as the Secretary and Treasurer.

### **Nathan Clark**

A graduate from a career college himself, Nathan “Nate” Clark has spent the greater part of the last 30 years working in career and technical education at Career College of Northern Nevada (CCNN) in Sparks, Nevada, which has been accredited with ACCSC since 1989. Since 2012, Nate has served as President and CEO of CCNN, where he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the college. Nate also serves as Vice Chair of the Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education, which is charged with ensuring private colleges in Nevada serve the needs of students in the state. Nate began volunteering as a Team Leader in 1998.

### **Vickie Clements**

Vickie Clements is the Director of Education and Institutional Compliance at Great Lakes Institute of Technology and Toni & Guy Hairdressing Academy located in Erie, Pennsylvania, a 2017 ACCSC School of Excellence Award Winner. Throughout her career, Vickie has been an active volunteer with ACCSC serving on the Progress Review Committee which is charged with supporting the Commission’s efforts in the review and assessment of successful student achievement at accredited institutions, as well as serving as a Team Leader since 2013.

### **Kathryn Dodge, Ph.D.**

Dr. Kathryn Dodge is the founder of the Dodge Advisory Group, LLC, a practice focused on working with institutions domestically and globally on strengthening capacity for institutional effectiveness through a commitment to quality and student success, and a co-founder of Radio Higher Ed, a national podcast focused on higher education policy issues and their broader implications. Additionally, by gubernatorial appointment, Kathryn represents New Hampshire as a Commissioner at Education Commission of the States and is on the founding board of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA).

### **Susan Johnson**

Susan Johnson is the Director of Education, Accreditation, and Regulatory Affairs at Gemological Institute of America (GIA) located in Carlsbad, California, a 2017 ACCSC School of Excellence. This marks Susan’s second term as an ACCSC Commissioner, previously being elected by the membership in 2007. Susan has also been an active Team Leader where she has lead more than 20 on-site accreditation evaluations to institutions in the ACCSC accreditation process. Susan is an active advisory board member for National University and a member of the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics.

### **Mildred Lane, Ed.D.**

Dr. Mildred “Millie” Lane is a professor emeritus from Duquesne University where she taught graduate and undergraduate courses in the College of Education’s Special Education Program. In 1997, Mildred began volunteering with ACCSC as an Education Specialist, which evaluates the educational delivery of programs offered by institutions that are seeking accreditation, and since that time has participated on approximately 100 on-site evaluations. In recognition of her service to ACCSC, in 2012, the Commission selected Mildred as a Volunteer of the Year.

### **Alfred Medro**

Alfred Medro has served as the Vice President and School Director of Platt College in San Diego, California since 2003. Alfred has volunteered as an ACCSC Team Leader since 2010 and as an ACCSC Nominating Committee Member since 2014. In addition to his work with the Commission and with Platt San Diego, Alfred previously served on the Board of Directors for the California Association of Private Post-Secondary Schools (CAPPS).

### **Cedric Page, Ph.D.**

Dr. Cedric D. Page is a Professor Emeritus from University of New Mexico-Los Alamos, where he served as the Dean of Instruction, Professor of Geography, and Executive Director. He previously served as Dean of Faculty at DigiPen Institute of Technology, an ACCSC-accredited institution and on the faculty of the University of Colorado-Denver and of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Cedric has supported ACCSC in a variety of ways over the years, including serving as an ACCSC Team Leader, Education Specialist, and an Appeals Panel member.

### **Carol Palacios**

Carol Palacios is the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the Executive Director of Atlantis University in Miami, Florida, a 2017 ACCSC School of Excellence. For the past decade, Carol has been responsible for providing leadership and support to institutional operations at Atlantis University while ensuring compliance, institutional oversight and monitoring within the organization, as well as serving a student community with varied career needs, professional interests, and international and cultural backgrounds.



## Joanne Wenzel

For the last 19 years, Joanne Wenzel worked in various capacities for the California State oversight agency for private postsecondary schools in California, most recently serving as the Bureau Chief, California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Schools, a position from which she retired in 2017. Before moving into to the regulatory and compliance side of education, Joanne worked directly with students daily at the campus level with a focus on student affairs, career development, and financial aid advising. A former community college instructor, Joanne has also work with the University of California and Arizona State University in a diverse number of roles.

## Marya Withers, Ed.D.

Dr. Marya Withers has served as the Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs of Lincoln Education Services since 2009, during which time she has overseen and supported 36 campus education operation systems across fifteen states. Since 2013, Marya has been an active ACCSC volunteer Team Leader for onsite evaluations. Marya is a member of Kappa Delta Pi National Education Honor Society and the recipient of the Excellence in Corporate Service Award from Lincoln Education Services.



Notes:





# SAVE THE DATE

for the 2019  
Professional Development  
Conference!

**September 23-25, 2019**

*Reston, Virginia*



2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 302  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
[www.ACCSC.org](http://www.ACCSC.org)