



VIRTUAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

February | 8 - 10 | 2021



NLS DRAFT PROGRAM

Monday, February 8, 2021

10:30AM - 11:45AM EST

Opening General Session:

Welcome to the 2021 Community College National Legislative Summit

Welcome Remarks

- David Mathis, Chair of the Association of Community College Trustees; Trustee, Mohawk Valley Community College, NY
- Dr. William Serrata, Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges; President, El Paso Community College, TX

Keynote Speaker: Amy Walter, National Editor of the Cool Political Report and Host of WNYC's The Takeaway Fridays.

Amy Walter is widely regarded as one of the best political journalists covering Washington. During this session, she will offer insights into issues, trends, and events that will shape the 2021 political landscape.

11:45 - 11:55 - A Message from AACC and ACCT Leadership

- Dr. Walter Bumphus, President and CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges
- J. Noah Brown, President and CEO of the Association of Community College Trustees

12:00PM -1:00PM EST

General Session:

A Look at the New Lay of the Land on Capitol Hill and its Impact on Higher Education

During this session, panelists will outline the makeup of the 117th Congress and discuss the impact of the current political landscape on policies related to higher education.

- Michael Stratford, Education Reporter, Politico

- Danielle Douglas-Gabriel, Economics of Education Reporter, The Washington Post
- Joe Schaffer, President of Laramie County Community College, Chair of AACC Public Policy Committee

1:15PM - 2:45PM EST

**General Session:
Overview of the 2021 Community College Priorities**

Every year, ACCT and AACC come together to release federal legislative priorities for community colleges. During this session, speakers will provide an overview of the 2021 priorities to help community college leaders prepare for advocacy meetings on Capitol Hill.

- Jee Hang Lee, Facilitator, ACCT, Senior Vice President
- David Baime, AACC, Senior Vice President for Government Relations & Policy Analysis
- Jim Hermes, AACC, Associate Vice President, Government Relations
- Katie Brown, ACCT, Director of Government Relations
- Jose Miranda, ACCT, Senior Government Relations Associate

3:00PM - 3:45PM EST

**Policy Focus Session:
Pandemic-Related Aid for Community Colleges and Students**

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the higher education sector—including on community colleges and their students. During this session, panelists will discuss federal policies aimed at offsetting the adverse impacts of the pandemic and shed some light on what we can expect in the 117th Congress

- Sarah Abernathy, Executive Director, Committee on Education Funding
- Jared Bass, Professional Staff Member for the Majority, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS)
- Alex Ricci, Professional Staff Member for the Minority, House Education and Labor Committee
- Dr. Richard Rhodes (facilitator), Chair-Elect of the American Association of Community Colleges Board, Chancellor of Austin Community College

4:00PM - 4:45PM EST

**Policy Focus Session:
A Path Forward for College Promise Programs**

This session will focus on federal, state, and local initiatives aimed at providing two years of tuition-free community college to all students.

- Katie Berger, Professional Staff Member for the Majority, House Education and Labor Committee
- Anjana Venkatesan, Research and Policy Consultant to the College Promise Campaign
- Rose Benavidez (facilitator), Vice Chair of the Association of Community College Trustees Board

5:00PM- 5:45PM EST

**Policy Focus Session:
The Role of Community Colleges in an Economic Recovery**

This session will feature a discussion on the potential for a federal infrastructure package and the important role community colleges play in building a skilled workforce.

- Ivy Love, Senior Policy Analyst, Center on Education & Labor at New America
- Katie Spiker, Director of Government Affairs, National Skills Coalition
- Katie Brown (facilitator), Director of Government Relations, Association of Community College Trustees.

6:00PM - 7:00PM EST

Networking Reception with Northern Virginia Community College

NOVA's Fab-lab will be hosting a live Design Challenge to illustrate how fabrication can work in a virtual environment. This is open to anyone interested and will engage participants in collaborative brainstorming to solve a fun yet relevant problem. The Fab Lab staff will lead the session while simultaneously live streaming the real-time prototyping and fabrication of the eventual solution.

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

10:30AM - 11:30AM EST

**General Session:
Higher Education and the Future of Our Economy**

During this session, experts will discuss the current state of our nation's economy and how postsecondary education ties into future economic success.

11:45AM - 12:45PM EST

General Session: Perspectives from the Administration

Hear from members of the Administration as they provide insights into their priorities for community colleges.

1:15PM - 2:15PM EST

**General Session:
Speakers from Capitol Hill**

This session will feature Representatives and Senators from the 117th Congress who will discuss policy priorities related to higher education and the workforce.

- Representative Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-PA-15)
- Representative Lloyd Smucker (R-PA-11)
- House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC-06)
- Representative Jahana Hayes (D-CT-05)

2:45PM - 3:45PM EST

**Policy Focus Session:
Connecting Basic Needs Services with Workforce Education and Training**

During this session, panelists will discuss the significance of basic needs services for postsecondary students and the importance of embedding these services into education and training programs. Panelists will also introduce ACCT's new SNAP Employment and Training National Partnerships grant initiative.

- Molly Bashay, Senior Policy Analyst, CLASP
- Mary Nelson, Policy Associate, American Public Human Services Association
- Steph Smith, Senior Associate, National Community Action Partnership
- Allison Beer (facilitator), Senior Policy Analyst, ACCT

4:15PM - 5:15PM EST

**General Session:
Speakers from Capitol Hill**

This session will feature Representatives and Senators from the 117th Congress who will discuss policy priorities related to higher education and the workforce.

- Representative Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, (D-CA-12)
- Senator Tim Scott (R-SC)
- Representative Bobby Scott, Chair of the House Education & Labor Committee, (D-VA-03)

- Representative Tom Cole, Ranking Member of the House Appropriations LHHS Subcommittee (R-OK-04)
- Senator Patty Murray, Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee

5:30PM - 6:30PM EST

Networking Reception

Wednesday, February 10

10:30AM - 11:30AM EST

**Policy Focus Session:
Strengthening Rural Community Colleges**

During this session, panelists will discuss rural community colleges' successes and challenges and outline policy solutions that can help support these institutions and their communities.

- Dr. Twyla Baker, President of Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College in North Dakota
- Dr. Matthew Thompson, President of Indian Hills Community College in Iowa
- Dr. Jennifer Lindon, President of Hazard Community and Technical College in Kentucky.

11:45AM - 12:45PM EST

**General Session:
Speakers from Capitol Hill**

This session will feature Representatives and Senators from the 117th Congress who will discuss policy priorities related to higher education and the workforce.

- Representative Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH-16)
- Representative Andy Levin (D-MI-09) (Vice Chair of Education & Labor Committee)
- Representative Alma Adams (D-NC-12)
- Representative Raul Grijalva (D-AZ-03)
- Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-01)

1:00PM - 2:00PM EST

Closing Session and

the National Education Services Awards Presentations

- David Mathis, Chair of the Association of Community College Trustees Board of Directors and Mohawk Valley Community College Trustee
 - Dr. William Serrata, Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors and President of El Paso Community College
 - Dr. Belinda Miles, President of Westchester Community College, NY
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- Award Recipients
 - Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
 - Lamar Alexander served as a Republican U.S. Senator for Tennessee from 2003-2020. Sen. Alexander held the position of Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee from 2015-2020. Prior to running for Congress, Sen. Alexander served as the Governor of Tennessee and the 5th United States Secretary of Education. He announced his retirement from Congress in 2018.
 - Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)
 - Nita Lowey served as the Democratic Representative for New York's 17th Congressional District from 1989-2020. In 2018, Rep. Lowey became the first woman to chair the House Appropriations Committee. Prior to running for Congress, Rep. Lowey held several leadership positions for the state of NY. She announced her retirement from Congress in 2019.