

COLLEGE READINESS INSTITUTE

For Educators

FROM INSPIRATION
TO ACTION:
CREATING A COLLEGE
GOING CULTURE



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Community College of the District of Columbia
August 1-5, 2011

HOSTED BY:

REACH FOR COLLEGE! &
COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



About Reach for College!

Reach for College! was founded in 2005 by two urban educators who dedicated their careers to helping traditionally disadvantaged students realize their dreams of attending college. Our mission is to promote equity by increasing and supporting the number of disadvantaged students who pursue and complete postsecondary education. Through our curriculum-based college readiness program, we help students succeed in high school, set goals, learn about careers, prepare for, access, and graduate from college.

Reach for College! is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. We are part of the Consolidated Federal Campaign (CFC) and the United Way network of charities—CFC # 32839, United Way #9340. Learn more about Reach for College! at www.reachforcollege.org.

About the RFC! College Readiness Institute

The RFC! College Readiness Institute brings together educators, school administrators, college officials, and community stakeholders whose efforts are focused on helping students obtain the preparedness needed to achieve a postsecondary education. CRI serves as a vehicle by which participants can examine strategies to increase academic rigor, discuss trends and research regarding academic achievement and college attainment, and share best practices in college prep.

The 2011 CRI will take a holistic approach to examining the challenges and opportunities that exist when preparing students for a postsecondary education. Our theme, From Inspiration to Action: Creating a College Going Culture, sets the stage for a comprehensive discussion on how to motivate, prepare, and steer students toward a successful college experience and viable career paths.

About the Community College of the District of Columbia

The Community College of the District of Columbia, a member of the University System of DC, was officially launched in August 2009 to provide residents of the Washington metropolitan area access to affordable, high quality education. The College currently offers 22 associate degree and three certificate programs, 22 workforce development programs, and more than 1,000 continuing education courses.

Visit www.ccdc.usdc.edu for more information.



Welcome!



Jonathan B. Williams
Executive Director
Reach for College!



Jonathan Guevera, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Community College of the
District of Columbia

We are so pleased to partner once again to bring you the 2011 College Readiness Institute. We are glad you chose to come.

Your commitment:

The fact that you are attending this Institute in the hot days of the summer break speaks volumes about your commitment to your students and helping them reach their goals for success in college and careers. We are honored to have you here, and we vow to make this experience exciting and worth your time.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Institute is to bring together a community of adult learners to share expertise, experience, wisdom and practical instructional lessons and strategies to increase academic rigor and prepare students to be ready to succeed in their postsecondary lives in college or careers. We will be representing two different levels of the education pipeline—high school and postsecondary education—and we will all inevitably learn from each other. Take advantage of this opportunity to talk with your colleagues working with students at a different age.

Goals:

Our goals for this intensive week-long professional development experience are to be both inspiring and practical. We hope you go back to your school with a vision of college-and career-readiness for all students that will inform your work with students and that you can share with colleagues. We also hope you'll go back with specific strategies and lessons that you can implement right away to improve academic rigor and student achievement.

Homework:

In order to get the most out of this experience we are providing you with a free book—College Knowledge—that we have found to be especially useful. There will be some pages to read each night (not many) that will extend thinking that will have occurred during the day or to prepare for the next day. Remember how you always wish your students would have read their homework? Well . . .

Be active and have fun:

Five full days in the hot summer is a long time to 'sit and git'. We want this to be intensive, but it shouldn't be dull. Feel free to be creative, active, spontaneous and enjoy learning with your colleagues. We hope to provide some lighthearted moments. Feel free to laugh (at us or with us.)

Thank you for coming! Enjoy the week ahead!

Thank You to Our Sponsors



MONDAY, AUGUST 1
CREATING A COLLEGE GOING CULTURE IN TODAY'S SCHOOLS

8 a.m.
Registration Opens
Coffee/Donuts

9 a.m.



Welcome Remarks
Room 116
Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!
Dr. Jonathan Gueverra, CCDC

9:30 a.m.



Creating a College Going Culture in Today's Schools
Emily Durso
Deputy Superintendent
Office of the State Superintendent of Education

10 a.m. -- Break

10:15 a.m.
Building a College Going Culture
Alisha Scruggs
Management & Program Analyst
U.S. Department of Education

Participants will examine challenges causing low high school and college completion rates, acquire strategies to build and sustain a college-going culture. They will also learn key strategies, recommendations and resources that will assist them in successfully implementing a college-going culture within their classrooms and schools.

11 a.m.
Using the Reach for College! Curriculum to Prepare Students for College
Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!
Kenneth Parker, Program Director, RFC!

This session is designed to provide an overview of the Reach for College! curriculum and how it can be leveraged within schools as a valuable resource to support educators, counselors and mentors as they prepare students for a postsecondary education.

11:45 a.m.
Lunch on Your Own
(Restaurant Guide Included in Packet)

1 p.m.
College Readiness: A Leader's Perspective

Panelists:
Susan Flora, Cesar Chavez
Ruth Jones, Ballou High School
Anita Berger, Banneker High School
Charles Adams, SEED Public Charter School

Moderator:
Julie Johnson, Deputy to the CEO
Community College of DC

2 p.m. -- 4 p.m.
CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Repeating Sessions)

Creating and Sustaining a College-Going Culture
Room 523
Sanjay Mitchell, Counselor &
Emma Levine, Upper School Advisor
Thurgood Marshall Public Charter School

This workshop will highlight how we use data and benchmark assessments to increase performance on both state exams and pre-college standardized exams. The workshop will highlight how to use these methods to increase college enrollment and persistence from grades 9 – 20.

Creating a Team for College Success
Room 524
Monica Williams, Adjunct Faculty
Community College of DC

This session will provide participants with the tools needed to prepare soon-to-be college freshman on how to effectively communicate their needs to succeed in college, socially, academically and emotionally.

4 p.m.
Evaluations/Wrap Up

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2--EXPECTATIONS VERSUS REALITY:
INCREASING STUDENT CAPACITY TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE & CAREER**

8 a.m.
Registration Opens
Coffee/Donuts

9:15 a.m.
A Preview of the Day
Room 116
Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!

9:30 a.m.



An Overview of Double the Numbers Website
Yvonne Green, Manager
Double the Numbers Coalition

10 a.m. -- Break

10:15 a.m.
What Type of Thinking Is Required in College and How Do We Prepare Students?
Lucy Holsonbake, Professor
Northern Virginia Community College

What can we, as educators, do to lead our students into the higher levels of thinking necessary for success in college and in life? Explore strategies and activities geared for developing critical thinking skills. Make your classroom a laboratory for higher learning with YOU as the leader!

11:30 a.m.
Lunch on Your Own
(Restaurant Guide Included in Packet)

1 p.m.
What Academic, Social and Financial Challenges Have Students Faced?

Student Panelists:
Davon Yates
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Charnee' Pearson-Starling, Graduate
Bennett College
Brittany Everett, Trinity University
Santesia Jones, CCDC
Mark Seongkook Berry
University of Maryland

Moderator:
Yolanda Barbier Gibson
Acting Director, Student Success Center
Community College of DC

2 p.m. -- 4 p.m.
CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Choose 2)

YOU Can Afford College!
Room 523
James Rose, Program Manager
Reach4Success

This seminar is designed to provide a basic understanding of financial aid concepts, identify different ways to pay for college, learn various strategic steps that can be taken to prepare-starting now, and how schools and the government figure out a student's "need" for aid and how it affects the kind and amount of financial help each family may receive.

Developing College Level Writing Skills
Room 524
Peter Ufland, Adjunct Faculty
Community College of DC

This seminar will present attendees with several practical tips for improving their students' college application essays. These tips will focus on the key elements of both structure and content that college admissions officers look for when reading application essays. In addition, the seminar will discuss the most common mistakes that students make in writing their application essays, and provide the attendees with some examples of highly successful college application essays.

Motivation Building
Room 704
Orisdale Awodola, Adjunct Faculty
Community College of DC

Learn how to increase self-esteem and remove self-doubt which are some common experiences that interfere with motivation building. This workshop will open with a short discussion on Motivation Building accompanied with exercises that will provide counselors and teachers with tangible tools to help increase student motivation through a combination of processes that include ice-breakers, cultural identity, discovery and commitment.

4 p.m.
Evaluations/Wrap Up



➤ Making Home a Place Where Children and Families Thrive.

At the Freddie Mac Foundation, we believe in doing everything we can to help make home a place where children and families thrive. That's why we invest in programs that help build better lives for children and families. We're proud to support your efforts to bring about better tomorrows.



www.FreddieMacFoundation.org

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3
PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS TO COLLEGE

8 a.m.

Coffee/Donuts

9:15 a.m.

A Preview of the Day

Room 116

Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!

9:30 a.m.



Preparing Students for Successful Transitions to College

Greg Darnieder

Special Assistant & Advisor

Secretary's Initiative on College

Access, U.S. Department of Education

10 a.m. -- Break

10:15 a.m.

Higher Education Financial Services

Ken Howard

Operations Manager Higher Education Support

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

This session will offer participants an opportunity to learn about the current situation regarding the DCTAG Program and status of the LEAP Program now and in the future. Participants will be well informed and equipped to support DC students who will be submitting applications for funding.

11:30 a.m.

Lunch on Your Own

(Restaurant Guide Included in Packet)

1 p.m.

Admissions Strategies for DC Students

Panelists:

Karen Ohen, Howard University

Kelly Gosnold, Trinity University

Marian Smith, University of the District of Columbia

Sean Vereen, University of Pennsylvania

Colin Touhey, Community College of DC

Moderator:

Eric J. Furda, Dean of Admissions

University of Pennsylvania

College admissions officers will share successful programs and strategies designed to increase student access to postsecondary options.

2 p.m. -- 4 p.m.

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Choose 2)

Essentials of Student Communication with College Faculty Members

Room 523

Cecilia Alvarado, Visiting Assistant Professor

Community College of DC

This workshop will outline specific strategies that all students should be drawing upon to establish a relationship with their professors, be clear about the instructor's expectations and deadlines and keep a communication line open and flowing (during class and outside of class) throughout the semester that will result in success for the student in every course.

Incorporating Critical Reading Strategies in Your Class

Room 524

Maryann Valcourt, Visiting Associate Professor

Community College of DC

This session is designed to help educators develop their students' ability to read critically. Many students are overwhelmed with the amount and the level of difficulty of reading that is required of them during their coursework, particularly those majoring in the health sciences. Participants will learn strategies and tools that can help students better comprehend what they are reading so they can be better prepared for college.

Financial Aid Session

Room 704

L.D. Ross, Vice President, Programs

DC College Access Program

Laurent Ross, Program Manager

DC College Savings Program

This nuts and bolts session is designed to offer participants information on the DC College Savings Plan (DCCAP) and how it can benefit students and parents. We have all heard of the DCCAP but do you really know all that it does.

4 p.m.

Evaluations/Wrap Up

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2011
COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS: IT DOES INDEED TAKE A VILLAGE

8 a.m.
Coffee/Donuts

9:15 a.m.
A Preview of the Day
Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!

9:30 a.m.



College & Career Readiness: It Does Indeed Take a Village
Herb Tillery
Executive Director
College Success Foundation

10 a.m.--Break

10:15 a.m.
Capitalizing on Resiliency: Curricular Reform that Enables College Student Success
Dr. Carlota Ocampo, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Trinity University

One of the most successful programming transformations has successfully occurred within our own backyard at Trinity University. This session will offer participants an opportunity to learn how Trinity has restructured its curriculum to meet the needs of underprepared students.

11:30 a.m.
Lunch on Your Own
(Restaurant Guide Included in Packet)

1 p.m.
YOUiversity
A City at Peace Production

Planning for college, getting through high school and following your dreams are not always one in the same. YOUiversity is an original musical production that tells a few local stories about young people's stride and struggle with getting to college and believing in themselves. The City at Peace DC Summer Street Theater cast writes and performs an original musical based on their lives--this year focused on the realities of planning (or not planning) for college.

In partnership with: Youth Education Alliance, DC Public Schools and The College Success Foundation.

Supported by: The DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, DC Public Schools and local donors.

2 p.m. -- 4 p.m.

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Choose 2)

Creating Relevant and Meaningful Learning Experiences
Room 523
Frances Villagran-Glover, Interim Dean Learning and Technology Resources
Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus

Today's students learn much differently from students just a few years older. They are entering the classroom with a different mindset. Dubbed the "iGeneration" students born in the 1990's live in a time of rapidly changing technology; constantly connected and the need to be engaged. This session will cover strategies and Web 2.0 tools to help teachers and students create relevant and meaningful learning experiences.

Preparing High School Students for Successful Transition to Post Secondary Education and Beyond
Room 524
LaBonnie Wise, Adjunct Faculty
Community College of DC

The workshop will provide participants with planning activities for increasing a college-going culture in their perspective high schools. The presenter will provide an overview of the importance of building college-going culture in their school; strategies for meeting the needs of students in preparation for high school and college; the resulting impact on students and the importance of ensuring that all students graduate high school prepared to enroll and succeed in credit-bearing college courses with skills expected by employers.

Preparing Diverse Students for College: The Value of Using Innovative Strategies
Room 704
Dr. Dacia P. Hastings, Adjunct Faculty
Community College of DC

This interactive and hands on sessions is designed to equip participants with tools they can use to prepare students for a successful post secondary education. Using case scenarios and group collaboration, participants will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation for the value of using innovative strategies to prepare diverse students for college.

4 p.m.
Evaluations/Wrap Up

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2011
CREATING CAREER-READY STUDENTS

8 a.m.

Coffee/Donuts

9:15 a.m.

A Preview of the Day

Room 116

Jonathan B. Williams, RFC!

9:30 a.m.



Creating College & Career Ready Students

*Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode
Director, Amachi Program*

10 a.m. -- Break

10:15 a.m.

Invisible Man: Getting and Keeping Black Males on the Yard

*L. Darnell Shields, President
Urban Leadership Institute*

*Ryan J. Davis, Manager for Outreach
Gates Millennium Scholars Program*

Invisible Man (continued)

Whether measured by unemployment rates, poverty, imprisonment or recidivism, the challenges facing African American males — are stark and undeniable. In this session, participants will examine effective strategies and best practices for schools, agencies, community groups, parents and programs interested in the improvement of the quality of life for African-American males on college campuses. After this analysis, participants will develop action plans to incorporate proven strategies to transition African American male students successfully from high school to higher educational opportunities.

11:30 a.m.

Closing Luncheon

Room 116

*Featuring a Discussion with Joseph Mathews
Author of The Dropout*

1 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Presentation of Awards & Wrap Up

2 p.m.

Conference Adjourns



Inspiring Achievement and Helping Youth Reach Their College Goals!

WWW.REACHFORCOLLEGE.ORG



KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES



Emily Durso

Acting Assistant Superintendent for Post Secondary Education Office of the State Superintendent of Education

Emily Durso is Acting Assistant Superintendent for Post Secondary Education in OSSE. She is a native Washingtonian, a graduate of Georgetown University with a BA in history. After 5 years of running a bookstore in Washington Ms. Durso worked on the first elected D.C. City Council, for Councilmember Polly Shackleton from Ward 3. Following that were a year with the Bureau of Parking (DPW), three years as Assistant Director for Economic Development and Executive Assistant to the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development. Ms. Durso then left the D.C. Government and became Director of Marketing for the Techworld Project, at the time the largest private sector project ever built in Washington. In 1990 Ms. Durso became President of the Hotel Association of Washington D.C. Special projects include building the Washington Convention Center, setting up Destination DC, the District's convention and tourism marketing arm and founding and managing the Hospitality Public Charter High School. In February 2011 Ms. Durso joined OSSE as Director of Workforce Development and moved into the Interim Assistant Superintendent position in April.



Herb R. Tillery, Executive Director, College Success Foundation

Herbert R. Tillery is executive director, District of Columbia College Success Foundation (DC CSF). He is responsible for providing leadership in the establishment, development and management of all aspects of the DC Achievers Scholarship Program. The DC Achievers Scholarship Program is designed to improve the high school and college graduation rates of low-income, high-potential students in six high schools in Wards 7 and 8 in the District of Columbia. Achievers scholarship awards will be granted over the next ten years – all made possible by a \$116 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Prior to Mr. Tillery's appointment as the Executive Director of DC CSF, he served as the Deputy Mayor for Operations, which carried the responsibility for providing leadership and direction in the management of the Office of Contracting and Procurement; the Office of Personnel; the Office of Property Management; the Department of Public Works; the Department of Transportation; the Department of Motor Vehicles; and the Department of the Environment. He also concurrently served as the interim Director, Department of Health, (consisting of over 1400 employees with a \$1.5 billion budget) responsible for improving morale; restoring credibility in the public health care system; rebuilding the infrastructure; and leading the search for a new permanent director. He was again called upon to concurrently serve as the interim Director, Office of Contracting and Procurement, with primary objectives of streamlining the contracting and procurement processes; improving customer support; providing expanded opportunities for Local, Small, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (LSDBEs); and matching the skills to the needs of the organization.

Before his appointment as Deputy Mayor, Mr. Tillery served as the Executive Director of The George Washington University Center for Excellence in Municipal Management (now called the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership) where he was primarily responsible for the design, development, implementation and oversight of the *Program for Excellence in Municipal Management*. Mr. Tillery is a board member of a number of distinguished organizations. He is also a Life Member of the ROCKS, Inc and a Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc



Gregory M. Darnieder

Senior Advisor to the Secretary on the College Access Initiative

Greg Darnieder began his career in education as a middle grades teacher in St. Louis and Riverdale MD. He has a BA in Sociology, a K-8 teaching certificate from St. Louis University and a MA in Christian Education from Wheaton College. He worked for 15 years as the executive director of youth development and college access organizations in Chicago's Cabrini Green Housing Development. Beginning in 2003, Mr. Darnieder oversaw the Steans Family Foundation's community focused philanthropic efforts in Chicago's North Lawndale community including early childhood, education, organizational development and affordable housing. He has served in leadership roles for several foundations and on over twenty non-profit organization boards.

In 2003, Mr. Darnieder established the Department of Postsecondary Education and Student Development (DPSESD) at Chicago Public Schools (CPS), designing and implementing an assortment of postsecondary, academic, financial, and social support programs and building university, corporate and civic partnerships to enhance college access. In 2008, he was named the director of the Department of College and Career Preparation (DCCP) for CPS, a newly formed department that consists of the DPSESD and the Department of Education To Careers.

In 2009, Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, named Mr. Darnieder Senior Advisor to the Secretary on the College Access Initiative at the U.S. Department of Education, where he currently serves.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES



Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Director, Amachi Program

Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr. is a Senior Fellow at Public/Private Ventures and is Director and organizer of the nationally acclaimed Amachi Program, a national faith-based mentoring model for children of incarcerated parents. Because of his innovative and ground-breaking work, in 2006 he received two prestigious awards: the Civic Ventures \$100,000 Purpose Prize, and the Philadelphia Inquirer's Citizen of the Year. He is an ordained Baptist Minister with 57 years of service at the First Baptist Church of Paschall located in southwest Philadelphia.

Dr. Goode led groundbreaking work in faith-based housing for low and moderate income persons. He was the first African American member, and later became Chairman, of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. He broke racial barriers with his appointment as Managing Director for the City of Philadelphia. He would follow that as the City's first African American Mayor for two terms. He subsequently spent 7 years as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Education under the Clinton Administration. He left that position in 2000 to help organize the Amachi program, which is now his ministry and life's work.

Dr. Goode is a member of the Leadership Foundations of America, Chairman of the Philadelphia Leadership Foundation, and Self, Inc., a nonprofit corporation dedicated to homeless men and women. He is a Board Member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast PA, and previously served as the Chairman. He is also a Board Member of America's Promise Alliance and other prestigious organizations. He is a member of Sigma Pi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternities.

Dr. Goode has earned degrees from Morgan State University (BA), the University of Pennsylvania (MA), Eastern Baptist [now Palmer] Theological Seminary (D.Min.), and fourteen honorary doctorates.



Dr. Jonathan Gueverra, Chief Executive Officer, Community College of the District of Columbia

Jonathan Gueverra serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the new Community College of the District of Columbia, driving innovation and enlisting diverse talent to ensure higher education opportunity for all. Dr. Gueverra has held numerous leadership and faculty positions at both two-year and four-year higher education institutions nationwide—most recently as the provost for the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), one of America's largest community colleges.

Dr. Gueverra has taught undergraduate courses in accounting, management, and human resources, as well as graduate courses in leadership and strategic management and continues to work with doctoral students at Lesley University. He has published articles on planning, leadership, and technology, including "Repositioning for a Virtual Culture," which won a Highly Commended Award at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2008. Dr. Gueverra also has served on numerous boards, including those of the Massachusetts Business Educators Association, New England Educational Assessment Network, Lesley University, ITT Technical Institute, and the Marshfield Youth Soccer Association.

Dr. Gueverra earned an MBA and Doctor of Education from the University of Massachusetts, Boston; a bachelor's degree from Providence College; and an associate's degree from Newbury College.



Jonathan B. Williams, Executive Director, Reach for College!

Jonathan has over 25 years of professional experience blending the education, government and non-profit sectors. Throughout his career, Jonathan has specialized in creating access to mainstream opportunities for under-resourced youth and adult populations. His work in higher education and college access includes serving as the Director of Programs at Heads Up of Washington, DC, a college admission professional at Oberlin College, the University of Pennsylvania and Dartmouth College and a high school college counselor, teacher and coach. Prior to joining Reach for College!, Jonathan was the President of JWA Strategies, a management consulting firm specializing in the design and development of diversity initiatives for community-based and non-profit organizations. Some of his work includes the University of Missouri Diversity Education Program, "Getting Together," and the inaugural NASCAR Diversity Internship Program.

He served as Director of Corporate Relations for The Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that promotes volunteering and service. Under his strategic leadership, the Corporation experienced record-breaking gains in volunteer and donor participation in high profile programs such as the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, AmeriCorps Week, the AmeriCorps Diversity Recruitment Program and the Corporate Pro Bono Summit.

Jonathan is a graduate of Dartmouth College and holds a graduate degree from The University of Maryland at College Park.

The people of Deloitte Connecting with our communities

We share a long tradition of supporting the communities in which we live and work. In addition to financial contributions made by our organization, thousands of our people volunteer for worthwhile causes. Sharing our success with local communities is an expression of our values and part of our commitment to the public trust.

It gives us great pleasure to dedicate our talent and resources to worthwhile organizations such as Reach for College! and to join other businesses to support the Greater Washington community.

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