



A Symposium on Transforming the Postsecondary Experience

October 31-November 2, 2025 Chicago, IL



Friday, October 31, 2025

8:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Registration	Sheraton Promenade
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Pre-Conference Workshops	
8:00 am - 3:30 pm	Teaching and Learning Community	Ontario
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Transformation Institutions Community of Practice	Mayfair
	Dual Enrollment	
1:00 - 4:00 pm	Leading Student Success in Academic Units	Mayfair
	Hidden Populations: Foster, Adopted Youth & Students with Trauma	Huron
5:00 - 6:15 PM	Opening Plenary Drew Koch, Chief Executive Officer, Gardner Institute	Sheraton IV & V
6:15 - 7:15 PM	Reception	Sheraton Promenade

Saturday, November 1, 2025

7:00 AM	Registration	Sheraton Promenade
7:15 - 8:15 AM	Breakfast	Sheraton IV & V

8:30 - 11:30 AM	Workshop Tracks	
	The Transfer Experience	Michigan A
	Gateway Course Experience®	Sheraton I
	Strengthening the First-Year Experience to Support Student Achievement	Michigan B
	The Second Year of College	Huron
	Purpose-Driven Academic Advising	Ontario
	Reducing Structural Complexity in the Curriculum	Mayfair
	AI and Student Success: A Strategic Pause for Alignment	Sheraton III
11:30 AM - 12:45 PM	Lunch and Barefoot & Gardner Awards Presentation	Sheraton IV & V
1:00 - 1:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Practice Makes Progress: A Case Study of Health Science Student Experience with Anatomy and Physiology Recitations for Better Comprehension Aurora University	Michigan B
First Year	Safe, Seen, Supported: Neurobiology, Belonging, and Humanistic Approaches to Supporting First-Year Students Louisiana State University Shreveport	Sheraton I
First Year	Where We've Been, Where We Go From Here: Developing and Refining a Circle of Support for First-Year Students Columbia College Chicago	Mayfair
Second Year	Guiding At-Risk Second-Year Students to Success: A Peer-Led Model for Student Engagement and Retention Brigham Young University	Ontario
Advising	Advising for Success: Structured Academic Planning for Neurodivergent Students Beacon College	Huron
Transfer	Building Shared Responsibility for Student Success: Lessons from the Transfer Playbook 2.0 Aspen Institute	Sheraton III
Curricular Analytics	Auto-Generated Curriculum Maps: A Tool for Rapid, Large-Scale Program Revision Columbia College Chicago	Michigan A
2:00 - 2:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	10 Years of Gateway Course Improvement - Creating Systems that Scale Florida International University	Sheraton I
Second Year	Beyond the Sophomore Slump: Building Wrap around Support Systems for Second-Year Student Success University of South Alabama	Huron

Advising	Lessons Learned from Advising Administrators: Innovative Approaches to Managing Change To Support Student Success California State University, San Bernardino Texas Tech University James Madison University	Michigan B
Transfer	Statewide Communities for Transfer Student Success: Three Case Studies Education Strategy Group AZTransfer Colorado Department of Higher Education Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)	Sheraton III
Curricular Analytics	Ensuring Every Student Learns, Thrives, and Graduates: The Spartan Undergraduate Experience Strategy Michigan State University	Michigan A
AI and Student Success	How AI Can Improve Student Learning Motivation and Engagement While Reducing Faculty and Admin Burden University of California, Irvine	Mayfair
Transformation	Drew Koch	Ontario
3:00 - 3:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
First Year	Bridging the Equity Gap: From Data to Action in the First College Year and Gateway Courses Louisiana State University Shreveport	Mayfair
Second Year	Addressing Social Skill Deficits in Neurodiverse Students Beyond their First Year Beacon College	Huron
Gateway Course Experience™	Infusing inclusive perspectives and pedagogy in gateway courses at an urban college in downtown Chicago Columbia College Chicago	Sheraton I
Advising	Student Success Through Holistic Advising Kalamazoo Valley Community College	Sheraton III
Curricular Analytics	A Proven Model for Developing, Implementing, and Administering Competency-Based Education Programs at the Post-Secondary Level South Texas College	Michigan A
4:00 - 4:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Down, but Not Out: Student Support and Academic Recovery in Higher Education North Carolina A&T State University University of Colorado of Denver	Sheraton I
First Year	Building Foundational Skills Henry Ford College	Michigan B
Second Year	Engaging Second-Year Students through Career Exploration and Pathway Planning Brevard College	Ontario
Advising	Perceptions and Mismatches: How Advisor and Student Growth Mindsets Influence Advising Interactions University of Kentucky	Huron

Transfer	Transfer Pathways and the Evolution of a Community College to University Partnership: It's About the Journey and the Destination University of Nebraska Omaha Metropolitan Community College	Sheraton III
Curricular Analytics	From Insight to Impact: Leveraging Curricular Analytics to Reduce Structural Complexity and Strengthen Student Retention Emmanuel College	Michigan A
AI and Student Success	AI in Education: Strategic Pathways for Schools, Students, and Communities Finger Lakes Community College	Mayfair
5:00 - 5:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Leveraging the Learning Assistant Model to Foster Success in Gateway Courses University of Southern Maine	Sheraton I
First Year	Evolving Teams, Expanding Impact: Redesigning First-Year Support through the Four Frames of Leadership Kennesaw State University	Michigan A
Second Year	Empowering First-Gen Students to Prepare for Post-College Georgetown University	Huron
Advising	Is Technology the New Helicopter Parent? Western Michigan University	Michigan B
Transfer	Transfer-Receptive, Not Transfer-Friendly: Rethinking Institutional Policy and Practice Columbia College Chicago	Sheraton III
Curricular Analytics	Curricular Analytics in Action: A College-Wide Approach to Program Improvement Queensborough Community College	Mayfair
AI and Student Success	Data Driven Retention Model Predicting Student Success University of Miami	Ontario
Sunday, November 2, 2025		
7:15 - 8:15 AM	Breakfast	Sheraton IV & V
7:15- 8:15 am	Registration	Sheraton Promenade
8:30 - 9:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Improved Student Success Through Introductory Mathematics: PROJECT EMBER Transforming Post-Secondary Education in Mathematics (TPSE) Math	Ontario
Gateway Course Experience™	Improving Learner and Instructor Experiences in Gateway Courses with Data Western Michigan University	Sheraton I

First Year	Transforming the First-Year Experience: A Comprehensive Student Success Framework Saint Xavier University	Michigan B
Second Year	STIR Up Innovation: Transforming Student Transition Programs for Lasting Success Delaware State University	Huron
The First College Year	From Transactional to Transformational: Using academic advising and success coaching to transform the first college year Fairmont State University	Michigan A
Transfer	The Power of Connection: Where Transfer Conversations Spark Change University of Colorado Boulder	Sheraton III
AI and Student Success	Leading the Charge: How a Technical College Can Redefine AI Education and Workforce Innovation Waukesha County Technical College	Ontario
AI and Student Success	Facilitating Learning with AI in an Online Mathematics Class Florida International University	Mayfair
9:30 - 10:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions	
Barefoot and Gardner Award Recipient	Compass to Completion: A Data-Driven Framework for Student Success Colorado Mountain College	Sheraton III
Gateway Course Experience™	Second Chances, Stronger Futures: Empowering Students to Overcome Academic Hurdles University of Utah University of Illinois Chicago	Michigan B
Gateway Course Experience™	Transforming Gateway Courses: Driving Student Success at Western Michigan University	Sheraton I
First Year	Rooted & Rising: Reimagining First-Year Experience at HBCUs and MSIs through a Culturally Responsive Lens UNCF Institute for Capacity Building	Michigan A
Second Year	Using LEGO to Build a Strong Second Year Western Michigan University	Mayfair
Advising	Academic advising reform through “power-with” models of organizational change University of Iowa	Ontario
AI and Student Success	Facilitating Metacognition Equity through AI Henry Ford College	Huron
10:15 - 10:40 AM	Break and hotel check out	
10:45 - 11:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Breaking Down the AHA Report—American Lesson Plan: Teaching US History in Secondary Schools New American History, University of Richmond	Ontario
Gateway Course Experience™	Revising a high enrollment, multi-section biology course: A data-driven approach Marist University	Sheraton III

Gateway Course Experience™	Student Outcomes from a Post-Semester Course Extension Program in Multiple Gateway Mathematics Courses Florida International University	Huron
Gateway Course Experience™	ReGEN: Leveraging Structured Course Redesign to Narrow Equity Gaps in Gateway General Education Courses Pennsylvania Western University	Michigan B
First Year	Transforming Students – Once Success Coach at a Time University of Houston - Downtown	Michigan A
First Year	When One Size Doesn't Fit All: Creating a Community College First Year Experience Queensborough Community College	Sheraton I
Advising	Removing Barriers through: Advising, Focus on High DFW Courses, and Student Supportive Services BridgeValley Community & Technical College	Ontario
Advising	Bigfoot, The Loch Ness Monster, and FERPA: Common Myths Sacred Heart University	Sheraton II
Transfer	Empowering Tribal College Transfer: Navigating College Transfer and Strengthening Support Systems American Indian College Fund Chief Dull Knife College	Mayfair
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
Gateway Course Experience™	Before They Fail: What Academic Recovery Teaches Us About Gateway Course Students Arizona State University	Sheraton I
First Year	Coaching with Purpose: Empowering Students to Support Students Arizona State University	Michigan B
First Year	Catalyzing the Academic Comeback UMass Dartmouth	Sheraton III
Gateway Course Experience™	Belonging Begets Belonging: The Power of Faculty Community for Transforming the Foundational Student Experience Kent State University	Michigan A
Transfer	Our Students are All Transfers: One University Library's Approach Providing the FYE Experience Texas A&M University-Central Texas	Ontario
First Year	"Excelerate" Student Success: Transforming the First-Year College Experience through Project-Based Learning Utah Valley Univiersity	Michigan A
First Year	Foundations First: Designing Transformative First-Year Experiences for First-Generation Students Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Camden Campus	Michigan B
First Year	"There's No Place Like Home": Caring for and Addressing Familial Trauma in First-Generation College Students Kentucky State University	Sheraton II
12:45 - 1:45 PM	Lunch as a group in workshop rooms	
2:00 - 2:30 PM	Closing Session with full group	Sheraton IV & V