

Speaker: Dr. Donna Linderman

Title: Creating Support Structures for Milestone Completion: Lessons from the Evidence-based ASAP|ACE Model

Audience: Administrators

Topic: Developing Institutional Support for Milestone Interventions

Summit track: Milestones and engagement

Objectives:

- Enhance understanding of importance of adopting evidence-based comprehensive support models to improve academic momentum and realize milestone completion
- Create policies for targeted financial or advisement support that helps students overcome milestone barriers.
- Measure the success of milestone support structures by tracking retention and progression rates.

Session Description

This workshop will provide a history and overview of key components of the nationally acclaimed, evidence-based Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) and its baccalaureate counterpart Accelerate, Complete and Engage (ACE), which have been found in rigorous random assignment studies in multiple settings to dramatically increase retention and completion of participating students. The workshop will explore how the program model originated and has been scaled at the City University of New York, broad national replication, and a review of the program's robust evidence base. The workshop will also provide a deep dive into key program components critical to its success, including financial resources to remove barriers to full-time study, its high-touch, triage advisement model, and use of program benchmarks and key program data to measure movement towards timely completion. Finally, a set of considerations for campuses considering implementation of the comprehensive ASAP|ACE model. The workshop leader personally led ASAP|ACE at CUNY for 14+ years and is now leading the largest replication of the program in the country across the State University of New York (SUNY) at 25 campuses.

Speaker Bio

Donna Linderman is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Success for the State University of New York. In this role, Linderman is leading SUNY's systemwide investment through the SUNY Transformation Fund, which is supporting many campus initiatives including the replication of the evidence-based ASAP|ACE degree completion model, upward mobility initiatives, multi-campus transfer partnerships, operational efficiency and essential student supports. Donna previously served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the City University of New York (CUNY) where she led the design and implementation of nation-leading student success initiatives. She was a principal architect of the design and scaling of the CUNY Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) model, which has been shown in rigorous, randomized, controlled trial evaluations to double community college completion rates and has been successfully replicated in multiple states and also led the development and execution of CUNY Accelerate, Complete, and Engage (ACE), along with CUNY Start, and has led successful CUNY system-wide initiatives to improve completion by strengthening academic momentum, reform developmental education, improve educational and employment outcomes. Donna began her academic career as an Assistant Professor at Brooklyn College and holds a BFA in Drama from the University of Southern California, an MFA in Theatre from Brooklyn College, and an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from Northeastern University.