



Speaker: Dr. Michael Torrence

Title: Embedding Focus Area Courses to Strengthen Pathway Commitment

Audience: Faculty Advisor

Topic: Designing Introductory Courses to Build Pathway Identity

Project track: Curricular Engagement

Objectives:

- Train faculty to design/identify introductory focus area courses that give students an early sense of their chosen field.
- Implement strategies to incorporate career-relevant content into these courses to increase student commitment.
- Develop methodology to assess the impact of focus area courses on students' academic motivation and pathway alignment.

Session Description

Coming soon!

Speaker Bio

Dr. Michael Torrence, President of Motlow State Community College since 2018, is a nationally recognized leader in higher education. A visionary and technology strategist with over 35 years of experience, he champions inclusive excellence and innovation in rural and urban communities alike. His expertise spans workforce development, student success, AI, VR, robotics, and gamification. A sought-after speaker, Dr. Torrence serves on numerous influential boards and was recently named a Distinguished Alumnus by South Dakota State University. He holds a Ph.D. in Exceptional Learning and is a U.S. Air Force veteran and Maxine Smith Fellow within the Tennessee Board of Regents system.