

2026 ACCA CONFERENCE

NOV 8-10, 2026

MONTGOMERY RENAISSANCE HOTEL AND SPA MONTGOMERY, AL



Registration is open for all attendees until Nov. 1

ADMINISTRATION

Just-in-Time Faculty Onboarding: A Lean Six Sigma Approach to Nursing Adjunct Readiness

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Andrea Agnew - Dean of Health Sciences, Bishop State Community College
Outline a replicable framework for creating standardized onboarding tools that can be adapted to various programs and institutions.

24x7 Help Desks: Evolving Trends and Marketplace Solutions in Higher Education

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Jay Baucom - AVP Professional Services, Ferrilli
Explore trends reshaping higher education help desks, including staffing, budgets, and 24/7 service expectations. Learn how to evaluate third-party partnerships, outsourced and co-sourced support models, and capabilities across Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 services.

Pouring Into Employees: Using CLEAR Leadership to Create Loyal Teams That Thrive

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Andy Green - Dean of Student Services, Gadsden State Community College
Participants will apply the CLEAR Leadership Framework to strengthen trust, empower employees, align teams with institutional goals, and reinforce practices that improve engagement, accountability, retention, and organizational success.

Typcasting: What TV's Most Memorable Characters Can Teach Us About Personality Types in the Workplace

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Chris Franklin - Dean of Student Services, Wallace Community College
To identify how different personality types shape workplace interactions and help us learn strategies to communicate more effectively, navigate conflict, and build stronger teams. By using examples of classic TV characters, the presentation makes personality concepts engaging and relatable.

Next in Line: Developing Leaders Before They Have the Title

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Takeema Johnson - Huntsville Site Director, Calhoun Community College
Participants will identify practical strategies for developing leadership readiness and determine one action they can take to better prepare themselves or others for future leadership opportunities.

Better Together: SME + Instructional Design + AI - Building Scalable Master Courses to Meet the Demand for Online Learning

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Katelyn McKee - Instructional Designer, Calhoun Community College
Explore how faculty expertise, instructional design, and AI can create scalable online master courses. Learn approaches using ADDIE and backward design, with practical considerations for instructional quality, faculty compensation, responsible AI use, and sustainable course development.

Ghost Students and the Live Person: What Community Colleges Need Before the Next Disbursement

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Calvin Fabre - Founder, Envoc
Ghost students and synthetic identities are creating a costly new challenge for colleges: financial aid can be disbursed before a campus ever knows whether a real student is on the other side of the screen. Attendees will leave with a practical framework for strengthening identity assurance.

Beyond the Promotion: Making the Shift from Doer to Leader in Higher Education

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Taylor Simmons - Career & Talent Management Consultant, Horizon Point Consulting, Inc.
Participants will identify practical strategies to shift from “doer” to leader by adapting their leadership approach, empowering others, strengthening communication and accountability, and creating an action plan for immediate application.

Leading Through Change: How LBW Community College and BibliU Turned Vision Into Results

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Anika Wichmann - BibliU
By the end of this session, attendees will be able to apply a framework for evaluating an outsourced bookstore partner and balancing affordability, revenue, and student access, drawing on LBW Community College’s first-year transition with BibliU.

Transforming Bishop State Community College: Visionary Renovation of Student Services and Redesigned Campus Space to Elevate the Student Experience

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Tyson OBrien - Principal Architect, Watermark Design Group
Explore Bishop State Community College’s renovation of Student Services and redesign of campus spaces to improve the student experience. The session highlights leadership, strategic planning, and institutional transformation through the college’s developing campus project.

Leading Through Change: Transforming Vision into Results

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Melinda Grissom - Executive Director of CTE, Northwest Shoals Community College
Explore the Workforce 360 framework for connecting education, training, industry, and opportunity. Learn to align CTE with regional workforce needs, strengthen partnerships, and create clear pathways from dual enrollment and credentials to work-based learning and employment.

Leadership Lessons Dolly Taught Us

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Kathy Murphy - President, Wallace Community College
Valuable leadership lessons will be shared in a unique and fun approach using the music, video clips, quotes, and life of Dolly Parton.

Preparing New Graduates for an AI-Driven Workforce: Rethinking Career Readiness in Community Colleges

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Tara Zirkel - Director of Strategic Research, Community Colleges, EAB
Describe how Gen Z’s expectations and skills differ from prior generations. * Explain how AI is changing entry-level work and employer expectations. * Identify strategies to prepare students for early career success.

What Students Are Saying: How Student Voice AI Empowers Southwest Mississippi Community College to Turn Student Feedback into Action

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Erica Melo - Senior Partnerships Director, EdSights
Learn how SMCC leverages EdSights conversational AI to engage proactively and consistently with all students, capture students' real-time feedback about how their college experience is going and if they're facing barriers to persistence, and intervene before it's too late and students disengage.

Beyond ChatGPT: Rethinking College Operations

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Marty Reed - Founder and CEO, EdBlueprint
Attendees will leave with a practical framework for thinking about operational AI on their own campuses and a clearer understanding of the leadership decisions colleges need to make now as AI moves from an individual productivity tool to part of the institution’s operational infrastructure.

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FACULTY

Been There. Done That. Learned Something.

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Brittany Beatty - English Discipline Chair, Central Alabama Community College
Explore experiential learning and how it differs from a hands-on activity. Identify opportunities that connect course content to real-world experiences, workplaces, communities, and problems, and examine practical examples for classroom use.

Present with INTENT: Evaluating Nursing Students Beyond the Exam

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Stephanie Hedden - Nursing Instructor, Coastal Alabama Community College
1) To explore the necessity of formal training in case presentation 2) to discuss the benefits of descriptive, formative feedback on case presentation, & 3) to describe the synergistic effects of the case presentation event upon critical thinking and clinical judgment skills for nursing students

Going Back to One: Teaching the Skill Under the Math

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Chris Vaughn - Adjunct Math Professor, Calhoun Community College
Participants will experience a live attention-training practice, identify the specific cognitive skill each practice rehearses, and adapt the structure to a moment of not-knowing in their own discipline.

Intentional Partnerships: Managing Key Relationships for Success

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Rachael Lalowski - Account Manager II, Lightcast
By the end of this session, participants will be able to: Develop a framework for building and maximizing strategic partnerships that advance institutional and workforce development goals Utilize labor market intelligence to maximize relationships with local employers and industry partners

Developing a Simulation-Based Boot Camp Model: A Bold Framework for Real Impact

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Carman Godfrey - Director-Simulation Program, Coastal Alabama Community College
1. Describe one benefit to implementing a simulated boot camp experience model for your program. 2. Identify two components of implementing a simulated boot camp experience model for your program. 3. Formulate a plan to create a personalized simulation boot camp experience model for your program.

Preparing Future Nurses for Crisis: A Student-Created Mini Mass Casualty Simulation

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Angela Hyde - Nursing Instructor, Shelton State Community College
Upon completion of this presentation, participants will: 1. Explore a student-created mass-casualty simulation. 2. Gain insight into using START triage in nursing education. 3. Consider low-cost strategies for strengthening disaster preparedness.

Using Innovative Technology to Remove Barriers to Student Academic Success.

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Janina Nobles-Slack - Child Development Instructor and CTE Division Chair for Sumiton and Jasper, Bevill State Community College
Explain how cross-sector partnerships (community college, university, and community organizations) enhance student access, engagement, and success. 2. Identify common barriers to postsecondary retention and program completion and how the Virtual Learning Lab addresses them.

Designing Real-Time Feedback in Canvas Using AI, HTML, SCORM, and APIs

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Sherry Stancil - Speech Instructor, Calhoun Community College
1. Identify different ways to add interactive learning experiences to Canvas. 2. Examine examples of AI-supported practice and feedback activities. 3. Build and package an interactive lesson using the provided app. 4. Upload and test the completed lesson in Canvas from a learner's perspective.

From Passive to Purposeful: Designing Meaningful Interaction Without Increasing Faculty Workload

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Stephanie "Paige" Scott - Director of Distance Education, Central Alabama Community College
By the end of the session, participants will distinguish surface-level activities from meaningful interaction, assess alignment with RSI requirements, and apply practical strategies to strengthen engagement and instructor presence in online courses without increasing workload.

Death of the Monologue: Transforming the Classroom Scene by Scene

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Verjilya Hughes - English Tutor 1| English Adjunct Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Transform lecture-heavy content into interactive lessons using a scene-by-scene design framework. Explore visual, auditory, and hands-on strategies, practice redesigning a course topic, and learn ways to strengthen engagement without doubling preparation time.

From Chapter to Champions: How to Build and Grow SkillsUSA

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Kelli Morris - Director of Career Services & Cooperative Learning, Calhoun Community College
Participants will leave with actionable tools, proven practices, and adaptable strategies to launch or expand SkillsUSA at their institutions.

Learning Styles: Preference or Predetermination?

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Kendall Yates - Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage, Southern Union State Community College
Educators will understand that "preference" to learning doesn't mean it's the only way you CAN learn. We will discuss engaging ways to get students interactive in classroom and discover alternative study habits and form plans that work for them.

Selfless Leadership for Success

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Marisa Hamilton - Chair Division of Communications/Instructor, Jefferson State Community College
This presentation will address conflict management, faculty burnout, motivating future leaders, and supporting balance for your faculty and staff. Additionally, I will address some of the moments in my tenure "policy and procedure" couldn't prepare me for but the lessons learned were invaluable.

Beyond ChatGPT: Using Artificial Intelligence to Foster Critical Thinking, Engagement, and Workforce Readiness

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Syed Raza - Instructor, Calhoun Community College
Identify AI strategies that increase engagement; design AI-enhanced active learning activities; integrate AI literacy and ethical practices; develop critical thinking and workforce-ready skills; apply AI for simulations, decision-making, and authentic learning experiences.

Bold Moves, Real Impact: Transforming Mathematics Through Music, Games and Hands-On Learning

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Simone Mosley - Mathematics Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Participants will be able to identify and apply innovative instructional strategies, including music, educational games, collaborative learning, and hands-on activities to increase student engagement, strengthen retention of mathematical concepts, and build student confidence in mathematics.

Teach Like a Pirate

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Robert McWilliams - Psychology Instructor, Bishop State Community College
In order for all members of the classroom to be engaged and learning, both the teacher and the students need to be excited about what they are learning. Showing students that you are excited about learning will engage them as learners and lead to more successful learning.

Beyond Supervision: The Essential Role of Clinical Instructors in Developing Clinical Judgment

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Julie Jones - Nursing Instructor, Jefferson State Community College
Examine clinical instructor's role in fostering clinical judgment. Compare active and passive clinical teaching models. Discuss the impact of instructor engagement on student clinical reasoning and patient safety. Implement instructional strategies that promote clinical judgment.

What Do You Mean by That? Rethinking How Students Understand Course Concepts

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Kelly Kendall - Instructor/Division Chair, Coastal Alabama Community College
Explore how students' experiences shape their understanding of course terms. Practice using image clusters to identify gaps between intended meanings and student associations, uncover misconceptions, and guide clarification, discussion, and instruction.

From Input to Impact: Elevating the Student Experience through 3-Tiered Feedback

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Ashley Alfaro - Speech Instructor, Calhoun Community College
Participants will evaluate early, midterm, and end-of-term feedback tools and formulate targeted solutions for common classroom feedback.

Looking in the Mirror: Self-Discovery for Stronger Teams and Better Student Service

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Robert McWilliams - Psychology Instructor, Bishop State Community College
By the end of the presentation, participants will identify personal strengths, understand how personality influences workplace and student interactions, and apply self-discovery insights to improve collaboration, communication, and student support.

Evolving Biology Instruction: From Passive Lecture to Evidence-Based Instructional Practices

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Schuyler Huff - Biology Instructor, Coastal Alabama Community College
By the end of the session, participants will be able to identify and apply at least three evidence-based active learning strategies that can be incorporated into their existing courses to increase student engagement while maintaining academic rigor and required course content.

From Paper to Automation: SSCC Streamlining Health Services Program Decisions Through Automated Communication

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Tennyson Smith - Director of Recruitment, Shelton State Community College
1. Explain the benefits of automating program decision communications. 2. Assess how communication automation can improve both operational efficiency and the student experience. 3. Best practices for creating a seamless student experience for program decision offer letters and orientation.

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STUDENTS

Transforming Student Success Through Credit for Prior Learning

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Lisa Rollan - Director of Grants, Alabama Community College System
Explore ACCS's statewide Credit for Prior Learning initiative, including policy review, implementation strategies, and shared tools. Learn how colleges can recognize prior learning to expand access, reduce barriers, and support adult, military-affiliated, and workforce learners.

The Blue Eagle Effect

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Regina Pearce - Coordinator for Student Engagement and Success/ Ambassador Advisor, Drake State Community and Technical College
Participants will learn practical strategies to empower student ambassadors to make bold moves that strengthen student engagement, foster belonging, connect peers to resources, and develop leadership skills that create real impact on the student experience.

Mission Transition: The ACCS Effect in Supporting Student Veterans

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Lee Conerly - Associate Dean Academic Instruction, Coastal Alabama Community College
Analyze the unique experiences and needs of veterans. -Translate research and veteran perspectives into practical support strategies for faculty and staff. -Design approaches for fostering belonging among veteran students. -Commit to a specific action that creates real impact for veterans.

From Scratch to Sectionals: Launching and Funding a Community College Scholars' Bowl Program

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Kathleen Roberts - Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Learn how to launch and sustain a community college Scholars' Bowl program. This roundtable explores startup costs, funding, recruitment, faculty mentorship, academic and transfer benefits, and ways competition can strengthen student retention and campus visibility.

Building Student Success Before Day One

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Taylor Hayes - Bridge Program Director, Snead State Community College
This presentation will highlight the Summer Bridge Program at Snead State Community College; specifically, how early enrichment and support have positively shaped the transition from high school to college for the students who have completed the program.

From Silos to Student Success: Leveraging Technology to Build a Coordinated Student Support Network

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Darlene Andrews - Director of Advising, Northeast Alabama Community College
Learn how one community college uses TracCloud to connect advising, tutoring, faculty early alerts, academic probation, financial aid success plans, and other supports into a coordinated approach. Hear practical strategies, lessons learned, and ideas to strengthen collaboration and student success.

Leveraging FAFSA Data to Estimate Pell Awards and Improve Student Communication

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Taylor Hilyer - Director of Student Life, Alabama Community College System
Participants will learn how to use the ACCS Estimated Pell Award Tool to better understand potential Pell awards and out-of-pocket costs and apply this information to strengthen student communication, recruitment, and outreach.

Breaking Down the Silos: How Community College CRM Admins at Rival Schools Collaborate to Drive Enrollment and Shatter Silos

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Tennyson Smith - Director of Recruitment, Shelton State Community College
Describe CRM collaboration challenges, explain cross-institution teamwork, identify strategies, apply data-driven communication, evaluate what works and what does not, and adjust approaches to improve efficiency, personalization, and enrollment outcomes.

My Story, My Journey: The Transformative Power of Mentorship

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

James Walden - Early College Advisor, Bishop State Community College
Personal Trajectory: From foundational support to higher education leadership. Psychological Pillars: Self-efficacy, sense of belonging, and proactive advising. Institutional Impact: Data-backed retention and completion strategies. Implementation Roadmap: Building sustainable, scalable mentorship

Conduct, Complaints and Crash Outs

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Dendy Moseley - Dean of Students, Coastal Alabama Community College
Participants will learn practical strategies for identifying, de-escalating, and responding to challenging student situations, including conduct concerns, student complaints, and escalating behavior, while balancing student support, accountability, institutional policy, and appropriate referral.

From 5 Tons to Total Dignity: Reimagining Campus Food Security

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Robert Vickery II - Professor of English & Philosophy, Bishop State Community College
Participants will evaluate a student-led operational blueprint to restructure Federal Work-Study allocations, establish high-volume corporate food recovery loops, and deploy a student-managed, retail-style campus market that eliminates student stigma.

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SUPPORT

The Hidden Cost of High Performance: Preventing Burnout Before It Impacts Results

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Dr. Renee Sunday, M.D. - MD, Fractional Wellness Consultant, DRS Global
Participants will be able to identify early indicators of burnout and cognitive overload, assess workplace stress using practical tools, apply strategies that support resilience and decision-making, and create action steps that strengthen employee well-being and organizational effectiveness.

From Prompt to Practice

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Eula Todd - Director of Title III and Sponsored Programs, Lawson State Community College
Equip community college employees with practical strategies to use AI confidently and purposefully to streamline everyday tasks, save time, improve efficiency, and create greater capacity to focus on students, relationships, and other high-impact work.

Every Student, Every Story: Personalizing the Path for Success Coaching

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Ashley Tyson - Success Coach, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College
Participants will identify and apply practical strategies for developing individualized plans that build on each high school student's unique strengths, interests, and aspirations while empowering students to create meaningful pathways toward their educational and career goals.

DON'T COUNT THEM OUT: Turning At-Risk Potential Into Student Success, Career Pathways & Purpose

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

David Perry - Executive Director, Joshua Generation Ministries
Participants will learn practical strategies for recognizing overlooked potential, building student belonging, combining encouragement with accountability, and connecting underserved and at-risk students to educational, career and workforce pathways that support persistence and success.

From Compliance to Commitment: Building an Accessible Campus Culture that Drives Student Retention

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Laura Catoe - ADA Coordinator, Gadsden State Community College
Identify small, practical actions that promote an accessible and welcoming campus culture • Understand how informal outreach and clear communication support earlier student connection • Recognize accessibility as a shared responsibility and a retention strategy

Don't Forget the Trash Can: Why Small Details Determine the Success of Big Initiatives

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Ebony Bradley - Dean of Students, Reid State Community College
Participants will be challenged to rethink how the 'small details' can strengthen student and stakeholder experiences that shape trust, culture, and outcomes.

Empowering Success: Strategies for Recruiting and Retaining Non-Traditional Students

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Angie Kelly - Adult College Services Director, Jefferson State Community College
Participants will identify effective strategies for recruiting, supporting, and retaining adult learners by examining the unique needs of non-traditional students and exploring practices that promote enrollment, persistence, and academic success.

New Peer Tutoring Program: Making a Real Impact

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Maribeth Farr - English Instructor / QEP Director, Central Alabama Community College
By the end of this session participants will be able to: 1. Describe how a peer tutoring program can be developed from scratch 2. Identify key implementation strategies 3. Use technology to scale up tutoring services 4. Measure program effectiveness 5. Apply lessons learned at their own college

The Magic Behind the Mayhem: The Bold Moves That Create Real Impact

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Laura Moore - Executive Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Student Services, Calhoun Community College
By the end of this session, participants will be able to identify strategies for managing competing priorities, adapting to different leadership styles, and proactively addressing challenges in their roles to increase their effectiveness and impact within their institutions.

Prompt Like a Pro: Build Your Own AI Productivity Assistant for Faculty and Staff

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Ryan Buchanan - Instructional Designer & Technologist, Coastal Alabama Community College
Participants will learn to write effective prompts, build a reusable prompt library, and configure a role-based AI productivity assistant that supports daily college work, communication, operational efficiency, and student-centered service.

Wash, Rinse, Repeat... & Repeat Again: Digital Accessibility at NWSCC

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Shelby Luna - Director of Distance Education and Information Technology, Northwest Shoals Community College
1. Strategy and the Iterative Process - Attendees will learn more about the iterative lifecycle of institutional digital accessibility, moving from initial auditing to continuous remediation and maintenance, as well as how to formulate a scalable framework for continuous accessibility efforts.

Beyond the Referral: Building a Campus-Based Mental Health Support Model at the Community College

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Brandon Brown - Director of Student Disability, Counseling, & Support Services & Title IX Coordinator, Calhoun Community College
Identify key components of a comprehensive community college mental health support model. Apply strategies to strengthen counseling, referral, and wellness efforts on their campus.

From Incarceration to Opportunity: Ingram State's Reentry Success Story

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Kelly Emfinger - Director of Re-Entry Services, JF Ingram State Technical College
Explore Ingram State's Reentry Services model, including case management, career coaching, job placement, and supportive services. Learn how partnerships with correctional facilities, employers, and community organizations support transitions to education, employment, and community reintegration.

The Administrative Assistant's Field Guide: From Surviving to Thriving in Higher Education

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Toniesha Morris - Administrative Assistant I, Bishop State Community College
Participants will learn practical strategies to improve efficiency, leverage technology and AI, anticipate challenges, strengthen communication, and develop a personalized action plan to thrive as strategic administrative professionals in higher education.

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WORKFORCE

Stackable from the Start: How the NCRC Anchors Community College Career Credentialing

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Susan Bartlett - Account Executive, ACT
Participants will understand how the NCRC can serve as a foundational, portable credential that validates core workplace skills (Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, Workplace Documents) before students enter technical coursework - reducing early attrition and remediation needs in career pathway programs

Cultivating Industry Partnerships: Growing Workforce Talent Through Collaboration

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Chad Sutton - Associate Dean of Workforce Development & Strategic Initiatives, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College
Attendees will explore how LBW community college, ATN, and industry partners collaborate to address employer needs, expand workforce training, share resources, and strengthen partnerships that support Alabama’s workforce and economic development.

Human + Machine: Teaching Soft Skills in a High Tech Workplace

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Grace Trevino - Project Engineer - LMD, ATN
1) Understand the importance of humans and machines in our workforce. 2) Examine the current workforce skills gap 3) Analyze the challenges of teaching soft skills 4) Discuss practical approaches to training these skills

Building the Bridge: Creating a Sustainable Healthcare Workforce Pipeline Through Dual Enrollment

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Jamekia Richardson - Student Success / Career Coordinator, Chattahoochee Valley Community College
Attendees will leave with practical strategies for strengthening partnerships among secondary education, community colleges, and employers and for transforming dual enrollment from an early-college opportunity into an intentional workforce development strategy.

Fast Track to the Future: A Mobile Fast-Track Training Model for Rapid Workforce Impact

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Jim Fugate - Energy Infrastructure Training Manager, Alabama Power Company
By addressing the three issues outlined in our proposal, access, affordability, and speed to employment, attendees will gain an understanding of the programs offered, the responsibilities of college partners, and how to translate local employer demand into deployable short-term training solutions.

More Than a Second Chance: Building Pathways to Skills, Careers, and a Future

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Julie Frizzell - Chief of Operations, AL Community College System Innovation Center
Explore how a community college, the ACCS Innovation Center, Adult Education, and community-based organizations combine resources to meet learners where they are and create pathways to skills, high-demand careers, self-sufficiency, and long-term success.

IET Career Plus: Building Pathways from Basic Skills to Careers

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Nicholas Moore - State Director of Adult Education, Alabama Community College System
Explore IET Career Plus, a model connecting adult education, workforce preparation, short-term training, credentials, and paid work-based learning. Learn to coordinate partner roles, funding, supportive services, and employer engagement around a learner’s path to employment.

Beyond the Business Card: Establishing Professional Authority through Books, Podcasts and Content Creation

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Robert McWilliams - Psychology Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to identify and apply strategies for establishing professional authority by creating and sharing valuable, targeted content across various digital platforms.

More Than Credits: Building Students Who Can Compete, Communicate, and Contribute

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Sophia Downs - Founder, Certified Career Coach, and Workforce Development Strategist, Brighter Horizons Career & Development Services / North County Youth Development & Training Center
Participants will identify practical strategies to strengthen student workforce readiness by connecting soft skills, career confidence, support services, employer expectations, and community partnerships.

Breaking Barriers Behind Bars: Turning Incarceration into Workforce Opportunity

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Joseph Metz - Workforce Development, Coastal Alabama Community College
Participants will learn to build correctional training partnerships, overcome security and instructional barriers, and connect industry-recognized credentials to education, reentry services, and employment opportunities.

FIX\$™: Putting Community Colleges in the Economic Development Room

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Gregory Anderson - STAR Tutor, Calhoun Community College
Participants will learn how FIX\$™ can position community colleges as regional economic development partners by connecting work-based learning, employers, technology, and economic data to build workforce skills, strengthen businesses, and increase community impact.

Being the Brand and the Person: Leadership, Identity, and Consistency Beyond the Workplace

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Ebony Bradley - Dean of Students, Reid State Community College
Participants will leave with a stronger understanding of how leadership identity is developed, perceived, and sustained, along with practical reflection tools for aligning personal values with professional influence and institutional culture.

Beyond Technical Skills: Developing the Total Professional for Sustainable Career Success

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Bertha Robinson Little - Instructor/Adviser, Drake State Community and Technical College
Participants will identify gaps between technical skills and professional readiness, explain how the five P.O.W.E.R. To Lead domains support professional identity, and apply practical strategies that strengthen workforce preparation, career advancement, and sustainable career success.

More Than Training: Building Workforce Solutions That Transform Communities

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Julie Frizzell - Chief of Operations, AL Community College System Innovation Center
Gain a clear understanding of the ACCS Innovation Center, Skills for Success, Navigate, and available statewide resources, and how your college can use them to expand opportunities for participants, meet workforce needs, and strengthen your community.

Talent Pipelines Through Dual Enrollment and Strategic Partnerships

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Tiffany Bain - Dean of Health Sciences, Calhoun Community College
Examine how intentional school-college partnerships create career pathways, increase credential attainment, and address regional workforce needs in healthcare, technology, and other high-demand industries.