

*Lazaro Lopez, Ed.D.*  
**Chairman**



*Karen Hunter Anderson, Ph.D.*  
**Executive Director**

Greetings!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2018 *Forum for Excellence* Conference! This year marks the *Forum for Excellence's* 16th year in providing comprehensive professional development and networking for the Illinois Community College System. This conference will reflect the strength of partnerships within career, technical and adult education in Illinois, essential to fulfilling the individualized needs of our students. This year's *Forum for Excellence* also aligns with National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, which aims to promote awareness about the need for and value of adult education and family literacy.

Career pathway development has been the driving force of our work throughout the past year, which is why it is featured as this year's conference theme. The Strategic Plan for Adult Education and Literacy, supported by a variety of stakeholders, focuses on expanding and scaling comprehensive career pathways and integrated education and training programs. Additionally, our community college system continues to smooth transitions enrolling over 57,000 students in dual credit courses, representing a 16 percent increase over the last five years. Lastly, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) was signed into law this July, effectively reauthorizing the Perkins Act. Perkins V places an even greater emphasis on career pathway development and is sure to shape and provide additional support to high-quality CTE programming here in Illinois.

Our keynote speakers are Maria Flynn, president and CEO of Jobs for the Future (JFF), and Michele S. Jones, motivational speaker, activist, and retired command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Reserve. Maria Flynn leads JFF's overall growth strategy which includes funding diversification and building partnerships across its education and workforce development sectors. Michele S. Jones has had an illustrious career in the armed forces, including being, at one time, the highest-ranking African-American female enlisted in the United States military. She has received multiple awards, including the Meritorious Service Award by the NAACP, and was appointed under the Obama administration as a member of the Senior Executive Service. Both speakers are sure to encourage leadership and promote student success. This year's Forum also features sessions on innovative local implementation of apprenticeship programming and other work-based learning activities, integrated education and training models, and promoting equity.

On behalf of everyone at the ICCB, thank you for your continued commitment to career, technical, and adult education students. Your dedication to improving education and the workforce in Illinois is what makes the Illinois Community College System the best in the country. We hope you enjoy the 2018 *Forum for Excellence* and utilize it as an opportunity for partnership and collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Hunter Anderson".

Karen Hunter Anderson, Ph.D.  
Executive Director





## Agenda At-A-Glance

# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

8:00 am	REGISTRATION - CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	Pre-Function Area
9:00 am	WELCOME/OPENING SESSION	Redbird CD
	<b>Welcome and State of Education in Illinois</b>	
	<b>DR. KAREN HUNTER ANDERSON</b> Executive Director Illinois Community College Board	
9:30 am	<b>Exploring the Future of Work</b>	
	<b>MARIA FLYNN</b> President and CEO Jobs for the Future	
10:30 am	FORUM SPONSOR EXPLORATION	Pre-Function Area
10:50 am	BREAKOUT SESSION I	
12:00 pm	LUNCHEON/PLENARY SESSION	Redbird CD
	<b>Panel on Scaling Apprenticeships in Illinois: A Collaborative Effort</b>	
	An apprenticeship is an effective, innovative, and real-world approach for educating and training individuals in and for high-skill, high-wage careers. These unique learning opportunities afford participants on-the-job training and a wage while learning, all while developing a professional network and soft skills throughout the experience. During this plenary session, you will learn about the components and benefits of apprenticeship pathways including pre-apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and specifically the Department of Labor's Registered Apprenticeship. Bruce Hallam, U.S. Department of Labor, will give an introductory presentation on apprenticeship programming. Following this informative presentation, a Q & A panel discussion between varying stakeholders will take place exploring Illinois' dedicated effort in scaling apprenticeship opportunities, especially those underserved by this pathway.	
2:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSION II	
3:00 pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK & SPONSOR EXPLORATION	Pre-Function Area
3:30 pm	BREAKOUT SESSION III	
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	VENDOR SPONSORED RECEPTION AT MARRIOTT HOTEL	Redbird CD



## *Agenda At-A-Glance*

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018**

7:30 am	REGISTRATION - FULL BREAKFAST	Pre-Function Area
8:30 am	BREAKOUT SESSION IV	
9:45 am	BREAKOUT SESSION V	
11:00 am	BREAKOUT SESSION VI	
12:15 pm	CLOSING SESSION & LUNCHEON	REDBIRD CD
	<b>DR. BRIAN DURHAM</b> Deputy Director for Academic Affairs Illinois Community College Board	<b>JENNIFER K. FOSTER</b> Deputy Director for Adult Education and Workforce Illinois Community College Board
	<b><i>Moving Forward Through Partner Engagement</i></b>	
	<b>MICHELE S. JONES</b> President and CEO The Bones Theory Group, LLC	
2:00 pm	ADJOURNMENT	

*The wifi password for the conference is: forum2018*

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



***Dr. Karen Hunter  
Anderson***

Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, Executive Director for the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), joined the ICCB in 1999. Advancing from the position of Vice President of the ICCB, Dr. Anderson is the first ICCB staff person to be selected for the permanent position of Executive Director. During her tenure at ICCB, Dr. Anderson has provided leadership and has served as an administrator for nearly all the Board's functions in the divisions related to workforce, career and technical education, student services, minority affairs, accountability and assessment, adult education, institutional research, education technology, international education, and academic affairs.

Dr. Anderson's experience includes 20 years at ICCB, 11 years with campus administration, and 12 years of teaching experience, for a total of over 40 years of educational experience. Prior to her work at the ICCB, Dr. Anderson was the Principal and President of Ursuline Academy in Springfield; provost, registrar, and acting President of Springfield College in Illinois; assistant professor of English at Millikin University; and a professor and coordinator of the Bilingual Business Studies Program at Midway College. Dr. Anderson is currently serving as the Chair of the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges.

Dr. Anderson received her M.A. in English and Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Anderson is also the author of an ESL college-level textbook. In November, 2010, Dr. Anderson received an award from the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, recognizing her outstanding service to the community college system and is the recipient of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association 2016 Meritorious Service Award. As Executive Director of ICCB, she has participated in three White House Summits. She speaks four languages and has two sons.

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***Maria Flynn***

Maria Flynn is the President and CEO of Jobs for the Future (JFF) and leads JFF's overall growth strategy, including funding diversification, strategic planning, partnership building, system deployment, change management, and talent development. She is responsible for all of JFF's programs and operations in a highly collaborative environment across its education and workforce development sectors.

Previously, as JFF's Senior Vice President, Ms. Flynn led JFF's Building Economic Opportunity Group, working to help entry-level workers advance to family-supporting careers while enabling employers to build and sustain a productive workforce. She also led JFF's federal policy and advocacy strategies, which are focused on advancing the educational needs of under served Americans and developing a skilled workforce. Ms. Flynn is a leading national expert on issues such as career pathways, employer engagement, sector strategies, and place-based initiatives.

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



***Jennifer K. Foster***

Jennifer K. Foster is the Deputy Director for Adult Education and Workforce at the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). She serves as the State Director for Adult Education and Literacy and High School Equivalency. Jennifer is leading the implementation efforts of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for Adult Education and serves on the WIOA Interagency Workgroup.

Mrs. Foster has been with the ICCB for more than 19 years and worked in adult education for nearly 30 years. She is the past chair of the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium (NAEPDC) and the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education (NCSDAE). She is also a member of the State Workforce Board and the Chicago Workforce Board. Mrs. Foster has been instrumental in the development of the Adult Education Strategic Plan, "Creating Pathways for Adult Learners." This plan was developed to expand and develop career pathway programs and instructional services in adult education.



***Dr. Brian Durham***

Dr. Brian Durham is the Deputy Director for Academic Affairs at the Illinois Community College Board where he has spent the last 16 years of his career. In this capacity, Brian leads all aspects of academic and CTE responsibilities of the ICCB, including administration of the postsecondary Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. Additionally, he is a statewide leader in remedial education reform, the implementation of career pathways, including integrated education and training programs, and WIOA implementation for the community college system. To this end, he serves as a member of the Illinois Workforce Investment Board (IWIB), the IWIB Apprenticeship Taskforce and the WIOA Interagency team focused on the implementation of WIOA across the required sectors.

Brian also brings experience in adult education to his position, having once served as the Director of Adult Education at the ICCB. He holds a B.A. from the University of Evansville in Political Science, an M.A. from Southern Illinois University–Carbondale, and an Ed.D. from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he focused on Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership with a concentration on Higher Education.



***Michele S. Jones***

Michele S. Jones, President and CEO of The Bones Theory Group, LLC, leads a dedicated team that provides unique leadership training, professional and personal development, thought-provoking diversity and inclusion training, youth development workshops, and family leadership training.

She was appointed by the Obama Administration as a member of the Senior Executive Service from July 2009 to December 2012. She served as the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense White House Liaison.

In her military career, she distinguished herself as being the first woman selected as class president at the United States Sergeants Major Academy (Class 48), the first woman to serve as a division Command Sergeant Major (CSM), and culminating as the first woman to serve as the CSM of any of the Army's Components, Active or Reserve. Prior to her retirement, she held the highest noncommissioned officer position of any woman in the Army.



# BREAKOUT SESSION I

The breakout sessions at the 2018 Forum for Excellence are designed to highlight educational initiatives and effective practices across Illinois. All sessions were selected from a number of excellent submissions to the Forum for Excellence request for presentations.

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 10:50 AM – 11:50 AM**

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## Strategies and Lessons Learned in Developing Successful ICAPS Model 1 and Model 2 Programs

Redbird A

*Arlene Santos-George, College of Lake County*

*Levia Loftus, College of Lake County*

*Jennifer Cordova-Arteaga, College of Lake County*

Developing an Integrated Career and Academic Preparation System (ICAPS) program for transitioning adult education students requires a great deal of time, effort, resources, coordination, and funding. It also requires a commitment from leadership and faculty. This session will share the strategies the College of Lake County's Adult Education program utilized in FY2018 to create and implement a successful ICAPS Model 1 in seven short-term certificate programs and one ICAPS Model 2 program. It will also share lessons learned and a plan for an expansion of the program in FY2019.



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## Compassionate All-Inclusive Retention Efforts

Redbird B

*Toula Kelikian, Morton College*

*Lydia Falbo, Morton College*

*Carolyn Markel, Morton College*

Latino make up 17% of the Illinois population, but less than 2% of registered nurses are Latino. Morton College, a Hispanic Serving Institution with an 85% Latino population, is addressing this disparity by incorporating the Compassionate All-Inclusive Retention Effort (C.A.R.E.) into its nursing program. The C.A.R.E. program strives to increase nursing student retention and success by providing one-on-one coaching, study strategy seminars, tutoring, and other resources for its students.



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## Strategies Promoting CTE Program Awareness to Area Youth

Redbird E

*Paul Bruinsma, Frontier Community College*

*Kara Blanton, Frontier Community College*

Frontier Community College was awarded a Special Populations Support Grant from the Illinois Community College Board for 2017-2018. This presentation will describe the activities and objectives outlined in the grant proposal; discuss challenges, issues, and solutions; describe outcomes and the future direction of the project; and elaborate on newly-formed partnerships with local elementary and middle school teachers and administrators.



**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 10:50 AM – 11:50 AM**

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## Incorporating Research into a Standard-Aligned Lesson

Redbird F

*Amy Elston, College of DuPage*

*Jennifer Schreier, College of DuPage/Harper College*

During this presentation, attendees will: 1) identify the standards that are met by research; 2) examine several ways to integrate research into instruction; and 3) discuss problems and related solutions you may encounter when integrating research into instruction. Additionally, the presentation will cover the important relationship between research and strengthening workplace skills and will provide clear strategies for implementing research in an adult education context.



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## High Quality CTE Programming: Taking Another Look at Program Approval and Review Policies

Redbird G

*Whitney Thompson, Illinois Community College Board*

This presentation will explore and share updates with the field on the journey to evaluating and revising the statewide program approval and review processes. In addition to historical context to these processes, attendees will learn the goals and objectives of both the CTE High Quality Program Approval Pilot Project funded by the Joyce Foundation, and OCCRL's external evaluation of the state's program review process. Attendees will learn the importance of building a culture of evidence that supports equity-minded evidence-driven change as part of the program review process, while providing a summary of the results from the program review project. In addition to sharing next steps (which may include upcoming professional development, technical assistance, and resources), time will be available for the audience to converse and ask questions concerning these processes.



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## Choosing, Applying, Interviewing, and Succeeding with Road to Work and WorkWise

Beaufort

*Michael Matos, Albany Park Community Center*

*Carol Larsen, New Readers Press/ProLiteracy*

Having work readiness skills is crucial to finding employment. The Road to Work® and WorkWise® series help build the English language and literacy skills and workplace content knowledge emphasized under WIOA Title II. Learners need to employ language, job readiness, and college and career readiness skills in the job hunt and attainment process. Practicing workplace appropriate listening, speaking, reading, and writing can lead to real-world employment.



**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 10:50 AM – 11:50 AM**

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## Building and Sustaining Effective Relationships at your WIOA Career Center and Beyond

Fell A

*Margaret Wolf, Kankakee Community College*

*Mary Posing, Kankakee Community College*

In this session, we will share how we created partnerships at our One-Stop (American Job Center) and at our institution. Learn how we came together to create a web of resources that can be used to support our student/client success. Allow us to share strategies that we have used to expand our ability to serve our student/clients. Learn about our Top 10 list for being an effective One-Stop partner.



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## My Big, Fat, Greek and Latin Roots

Fell B

*Susan Wilson, C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation*

Teaching vocabulary words for the content areas, such as science and history, and teaching new words to English language learners are more effective when new words are taught in the context of their relationships to already familiar words. Participants will be given instruction and ideas about using prefixes, roots, suffixes, and cognates to decode unfamiliar words for themselves and their students.



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## Creative and Practical Approaches for Incorporating Career Awareness in Language Arts Instruction

Fell C

*Irina Cline, Morton College*

In the age of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Language Arts classroom is a place where reading, writing, test preparation, technology skills, and career awareness peacefully coexist on a solid foundation of the Illinois Content Standards. This presentation focuses on providing creative and practical strategies for seamless incorporation of career awareness in reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities, as well as research projects and group assignments. By advancing employability skills early on, adult students transform into thinkers who exercise their independence in the classroom and follow a successful career and academic path.





**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 10:50 AM - 11:50 AM**

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## Moving Equity Beyond Inquiry through Pathways to Results

Broadway

*Marci Rockey, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Chaddrick Gallaway, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Eboni Zamani-Gallaher, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Heather Fox, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

Pathways to Results (PTR) is an outcomes-focused, equity-guided process funded by the Illinois Community College Board to improve programs and policies that support student transition to and through postsecondary education into employment. During this presentation, preliminary findings from an interview study of previous PTR team leaders will be shared. These findings will highlight the ways in which professionals at Illinois community colleges have experienced PTR as a vehicle to move from data-driven inquiry to equity-guided change.



**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 - 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

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## Blended Learning for Any Class

Redbird A

*Kerry Urquizo, Heartland Community College*

*Heather Huckstadt, Heartland Community College*

*Khrystyna Sanborn, Heartland Community College*

*Valerie Conrady, Heartland Community College*

Have you heard about blended learning and all of the benefits it provides for students and instructors? Come and learn how a program incorporated blended learning into all its classes. We will show you how to implement the framework, design a program plan, and develop lesson ideas. We will also share the challenges and successes of this process. You will start this project when you hear how simple and fun it can be!



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## A Powerful Combination for Instructors: Using TABE 11 and 12 Blueprints and the IL ABE/ASE Content Standards

Redbird B

*Anita Kerr, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center*

*Amber Fornaciari, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center*

Are you feeling overwhelmed by the rigor of the new Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE)? Do you struggle to figure out which skills and standards to emphasize in your instruction? Join us in this session to practice using two key tools - the TABE 11 & 12 Blueprints and the Illinois Adult Basic Education/Adult Secondary Education (ABE/ASE) Content Standards - in order to target your instruction and improve student outcomes.



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## Experiential Learning in Criminal Justice: Make it Real

Redbird E

*Jemel Townsend, Elgin Community College*

*Cathy Taylor, Elgin Community College*

Through extensive collaboration with college administrators and external stakeholders, the criminal justice (CRJ) program at Elgin Community College was assigned an active criminal investigation by the Cold Case Investigation Research Institute (CCIRI) of Atlanta. This presentation will focus on the efforts of CRJ faculty to provide a unique experiential learning opportunity for students, faculty partnership with academic advising to facilitate the selection of students for the project, the careful steps taken to prepare students for the right mindset, and defining measurable outcomes from semester to semester.



**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

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## Special Populations Update: What's New with Perkins Reauthorization?

Redbird F

*Aime'e Julian, Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support*

The new Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act passed on July 31, 2018. There are exciting updates that impact special populations and equity. During this session we will explore what is new in the law regarding special populations, who are the new special populations, and what resources are available to assist programs in supporting these students.



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## Level Up Math: Accelerating Students' Progress through Modified Emporium

Redbird G

*Jacqueline Lynch, Triton College*

*Mitchell Goins, Triton College*

Placement test scores do not always accurately reflect the math knowledge that students possess, which often results in under-placing students. The goal of a pilot program by Triton College's Adult Education department, called Level-Up Math®, is to give all ABE/ASE math students an opportunity to accelerate through the math course sequence and ultimately toward the high school equivalency (HSE) exam. While initial placement is based upon student TABE score, students do not immediately start in a traditional class; rather, all students work individually on level-appropriate math topics in a computer lab using a web-based, adaptive instructional software (ALEKS) and receive personalized support from math instructors and tutors. Come and hear about the pilot program's results and how it helped students accelerate their progress!



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## GED® Program Update: New Tools and Resources for Student Success

Beaufort

*Liz Lanphear, GED® Testing Service*

The GED® program has continued to evolve to provide new tools and resources to ensure adult learners are not only able to pass the GED® test but also find a good job or go to college. From outcomes research to educator tools, this session will take a comprehensive look at the GED® program and provide insights to adult educators on how to best serve their students.



# BREAKOUT SESSION II

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

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## Supporting English Language Learners in Bridge and IET Programs

Fell A

*Laurie Martin, Adult Learning Resource Center*  
*Catherine Porter, Adult Learning Resource Center*

English Language Learners (ELLs) often need instructional support that is different from the native speakers of English in their Bridge and IET classes. This session will examine how ELLs are different from native English speaking students. The presenters will discuss how to anticipate ELLs needs when designing Bridge and IET programs and will share techniques for supporting ELLs so that they can successfully complete these programs.



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## Micro What? Micro-Aggressions and the Impact on Faculty, Staff, and Students

Fell B

*Chaddrick Gallaway, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*  
*Marci Rockey, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*  
*Eboni Zamani-Gallaher, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*  
*Heather Fox, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

The purpose of this session is to educate participants on the nature of micro-aggressions and how to counteract them in and outside of the classroom. Micro-aggressions are conscious and unconscious actions and choices of words that are offensive to certain social identity groups. Participants will engage in discussions to advance the creation of inclusive campus environments by empowering faculty and staff to cultivate a diverse, equitable, and just community that supports student learning and success.



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## Strategies to Increase Adoption of Digital Literacy Tools: Evaluating Success Both Inside and Outside the Classroom

Fell C

*Elizabeth Romero, Illinois Digital Learning Lab*  
*Heather Erwin, Illinois Digital Learning Lab*  
*Eduardo Pimentel, McLean County Youthbuild*  
*Mary Ann Kolls, Kishwaukee College*  
*Nilay Zan-Donmez, Albany Park Community Center*

Integrating digital literacy in the classroom can be challenging. Instructors often don't have time to find tools that are effective for students, let alone integrate these tools into existing curriculum. In this session participants from the Illinois Digital Learning Lab will discuss strategies to increase adoption of digital literacy tools. Methods of evaluation, including practical tips around the use of new technology/tools, will be explored so they can be used both inside and outside the classroom.



**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 - 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

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## Aligning Free and Open Educational Resources to Support TABE 11/12 Transition

Broadway

*Jeff Goumas, CrowdEd Learning*

As we fully transition to the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) by way of TABE 11/12, finding effective and aligned resources can be challenging. In this session, we will share tools that are being used to help support material alignment for both free and publisher materials, to ensure you have a wide range and variation of instructional resource options for implementing standards, best practices, career pathways, and Integrated Education and Training (IET) requirements of WIOA. Participants will leave with loads of fantastic free resources, as well as actionable ideas for integrating them into their curriculum and instruction.



# BREAKOUT SESSION III

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

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## The Psychology of Scarcity: Why Questionable Decisions May Make Perfect Sense

Redbird A

*Sarah Goldammer, Southern Illinois Professional Development Center*

Ever wonder why individuals we serve make decisions or choices that just don't seem to make any sense? Hear about the latest research: Scarcity – The New Science of Having Less and How it Defines Our Lives. Learn what some of those common decisions or choices are, the economic and personal rationales that are often behind them, and how we can best support those we serve. Spend time considering alternate plans to best assist our students as they transition from the classroom to employment and self-sufficiency. Discussion will be facilitated and resources will be provided to assist all to reevaluate their adult education program structure in an effort to maximize opportunities for student success.



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## Get Your Motor Running: Partnerships with Purpose

Redbird B

*Alyson Gaspar, Waubonsee Community College*

*Ken Kunz, Waubonsee Community College*

*Kathryn Leiting, National Coalition of Certification Centers*

*Brian Steele, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles*

In 2017, Waubonsee Community College launched a collaborative partnership with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) and the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3), establishing Waubonsee as a Mopar Career Automotive (CAP) local training site. Through this partnership, Waubonsee has been able to provide valuable training and networking opportunities for students while helping local dealerships fill the growing number of open technician positions. This presentation will identify the supports and resources required for partnership development and share the actions taken to ensure student and stakeholder success, which are relevant to any CTE-related area.



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## Update from the Illinois State Board of Education

Redbird E

*Marci Johnson, Illinois State Board of Education*

*Steve Parrott, Illinois State Board of Education*

*Brian Houser, Illinois State Board of Education*

*Whitney Mehaffey, Illinois State Board of Education*

*John DeWeese, Illinois State Board of Education*

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) staff will provide updates for CTE programs regarding plan submission, reporting, and technical assistance. This session is targeted for Education for Employment (EFE) System Directors.





**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

## Don't Be Humble! Share Your Success

Redbird F

*Melissa Lachcik, Joliet Junior College*

*Michelle Lyman, Joliet Junior College*

*Libby Budd, Joliet Junior College*

Adult Education students have some of the most inspiring stories around. One of the best ways to promote your program is to make personal connections and highlight student success. Share the good news! It's time to shine and let others know how your program is making a difference!



## Civil Rights Reviews: Ensuring Equity Through Best Practices

Redbird G

*Natasha Allan, Illinois Community College Board*

Join us for an interactive and engaging presentation on the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)'s proactive effort to increase accessibility at Illinois community colleges and assist those colleges in promoting an atmosphere of equity and inclusion. In this session you will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the ICCB's civil rights review process and ascertain best practices for ensuring equity in your college programs and services. Student success is the ultimate goal, and these practices can help your college achieve that.



## Alumni and Labor Market Data: Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Opportunities

Beaufort

*Lucas Dickson, Economic Modeling Specialist International (EMSI)*

With college funding increasingly being tied to the career success of students, the need for labor market insight is greater than ever before. Learn how alumni and labor market data can help you measure student outcomes, align academic programs with the labor market, and understand your local economy.



# BREAKOUT SESSION III

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

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## The Language of Math: Fusing the New ESL Math Standards

Fell A

*Meg Dawczak, Moraine Valley Community College*  
*Patrick Lohan, Moraine Valley Community College*  
*Christian Torres, Moraine Valley Community College*

Does implementing math into your English as a Second Language (ESL) curriculum wake you up in a cold sweat every night? Does decoding the ESL Math Content Standards make you feel like you're navigating a foreign language? Participants will explore instructional strategies which allow the learner to access and master content through auditory, visual, and tactile models. Participants will learn how to incorporate cultural differences in mathematics; reading; and translating notations, symbols, and terminology. Instructors will leave with ideas on how to engage their ESL students with stimulating math lessons that meet the standards.



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## Work = Play: To Homework or Not to Homework

Fell B

*Alexandr Zvodinsky, City Colleges of Chicago - Malcolm X College*

The main focus of the presentation is development of social intelligence in students and faculty. Latest neuroscience data is used to explain how developing SEI (Social and Emotional Intelligence) aids in knowledge retention and acquisition. Fun interactive activities are introduced to clarify major points. The use of simple student progress tracking tools (Excel, Padlet, email, etc.) and devices is explained as well. The audience will be shown the results of using these strategies in ESL and College Success Seminar classrooms in the past two years.



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## Teaching Science to All While Meeting the Needs of Special Learners

Fell C

*Monica Waller, Lewis and Clark Community College*

Do you struggle to meet all the learning needs of the students in your classroom? In this presentation, participants will be shown how to take proven effective lessons and modify them to engage **all** learners and meet special learning needs by involving multiple modalities. Contextualized work applications and Illinois ABE/ASE Standards will be infused giving the greatest possible return on lesson investment.



# BREAKOUT SESSION III

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

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## Defining a Concise Problem Statement to Guide Equity-driven Change Through Pathways to Results Implementation

Broadway

*Marci Rockey, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Chaddrick Gallaway, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Eboni Zamani-Gallaher, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

*Heather Fox, Office of Community College Research and Leadership*

This session is intended for colleges that have received grants to participate in Pathways to Results (PTR) Year Two: Implementation Partnerships for the 2018-2019 academic year. The purpose of this session is to help teams develop and refine concise problem statements to guide equity-driven program improvement. This session will serve to kick-off the work of these teams engaging in implementation and include an overview of timeline and deliverables.



## SOCIAL RECEPTION

We invite you to join us the evening of September 25, 2018, from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm at the Marriott Hotel & Conference Center for a social reception hosted by our generous sponsors.

The reception will be held in Redbird CD.

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BurlingtonEnglish is an online digital solution for language learning. The centerpiece of BurlingtonEnglish is its innovative speech-processing platform. BurlingtonEnglish's cutting-edge, proprietary, and patented technologies provide English programs with the most advanced online platform in the world for learning English.

**Robert Breitbard**  
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Emsi is a labor market analytics company that helps colleges align programs with industry demands and measure the impacts the programs make in their region economy.

**Lucas Dickson**  
*Account Executive*  
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GED Testing Service® offers the only learner-centric program that is recognized and portable from state to state. The program is based on the expectations and standards for college and career readiness and will lead to better outcomes in education.

**Brian Smith**  
*State Relationship Manager*  
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## SOCIAL RECEPTION

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Built on the College and Career Readiness Standards, the ETS HiSET exam gives out-of-school youth and adults an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and earn a state-issued high school equivalency credential. Now the fastest-growing exam on the market, it has been adopted in more than 28 states and territories.

**Marissa Goodwin**  
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**Carol Larsen**  
**Independent Sales Consultant**  
**815.245.6469**  
**[carolmlarsen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolmlarsen@sbcglobal.net)**



Realityworks, Inc. is a Wisconsin-based company that creates innovative learning tools for skills training. We offer interactive resources for many CTE fields, including FACS, Health Science, Agriculture, Welding, and Trade Skills. The hands-on experiences students have with our products help them develop job skills that prepare them for the future.

**Merri Johnson**  
**Account Manager**  
**800.202.3806**  
**[merri.johnson@realityworks.com](mailto:merri.johnson@realityworks.com)**

# SOCIAL RECEPTION

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Xello, formerly Career Cruising, prepares people for their successful future by helping them define and plan their own unique journey. Our engaging and fun-to-use software encourages users to understand themselves, explore their options, and create an actionable plan.

*Lisa Kardish*  
*Educational Consultant*  
*1.800.965.8541 ext. 120*  
*lisak@xello.world*



With over 100 years of combined experience, Kaplan and Aztec have joined forces to create the most comprehensive individualized, targeted, computer-based solutions, assisting adult learners with HSE prep, ABE needs aligned to TABE, pre-HSE, and college prep. We are creating the best experience for our learners to achieve success! Ask us about our free practice tests!

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COMPLETION



For the past 50 years, the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE®) have been used by educators, states, employers, and correctional facilities to assess the knowledge and skills of adult learners. With the recent addition of the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) to measure High School Equivalency, DRC now can effectively and affordably provide students and programs a complete cohesive testing platform from beginning adult basic education to high school equivalency.

*Mike Johnson*  
*National Adult Education Director*  
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*mjohnson@datarecognitioncorp.com*

*Michle Ruszkowski*  
*Assessment Solutions Representative*  
*224.407.0729*  
*mruszkowski@datarecognitioncorp.com*



## SOCIAL RECEPTION

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Since 2002, Essential Education has helped over 1.4 million people reach their life goals with our pioneering online study programs. Whether the goal is earning credentials, furthering computer knowledge, or reaching new career or professional development goals, we help students and educators succeed by providing affordable, easy and engaging learning solutions.

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Paxen Publishing is a recognized leader in the development of a wide array of curriculum and software that helps learners build functional employment skills and increased academic skills. We strive to meet the diverse needs of government agencies, national nonprofits, school districts, community colleges, private companies, and foundations.

**Jayne Schultz**  
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**[Paxenpublishing.com](http://Paxenpublishing.com)**



The purpose of ILACEP is to support concurrent enrollment programs through the advocacy of best practices, research, and collaboration that promote student access and completion, program development, professional development, communication, and high quality standards. Key focus areas also include disseminating the NACEP standards of quality concurrent enrollment programs and fostering strong partnerships between postsecondary and secondary institutions.

**Dave Naze**  
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**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

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## Stackable Certificates and Career Pathways

Redbird A

*Mary Beth Ottinger, Harper College*  
*John Sands, Moraine Valley Community College*

Stackable credentials support career pathways by aligning rigorous, high-quality education with industry needs in order to support postsecondary credential attainment and career advancement. Two Illinois community colleges have been featured in a recent U.S. Department of Education publication Stackable Credentials Toolkit®. These colleges will share how they have embedded stackable certificates and industry credentials into AAS degrees. Stackable certificates are intended to represent exit and entry points designed to maximize skill acquisition, employability, and seamless transition to careers. The Toolkit will be discussed in the presentation.



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## Is This Thing On or Am I Wasting my Time? Using Faculty Development and Employer Engagement to Improve CTE Program Design and Assessment

Redbird B

*Patty Zuccarello, Joliet Junior College*

This spring, JJC piloted a course to develop program design skills of CTE faculty. Using principles of human performance technology and backward course design, faculty completed this course with a revised CTE curriculum: program and course level objectives, course assessment instruments, and a marketing plan. A key feature of the design is using employer feedback to develop program level objectives tied to market demands. This session will provide an overview of human performance technology, backward course design, and the faculty development course components that integrated these elements.



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## Technical Math at Illinois Community Colleges: Status and Recommendations

Redbird E

*Kathleen Almy, Northern Illinois University*

In 2017, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) initiated a scan of technical math courses at Illinois community colleges. A representative sample of community colleges was chosen and colleges were interviewed to learn more about current practices, successes, and challenges. Based on the interviews, trends and practices that effectively serve students and employers were identified. The results of this scan, along with recommendations for effective curricular models, will be provided at this session.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

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## Scaling Pathways to Results: A New Approach

Redbird F

*Amanda Smith, Rock Valley College*

*Lisa Mehlig, Rock Valley College*

*Heather Snider, Rock Valley College*

Seeking to create more meaningful Program Reviews in all Career & Technical Education programs, Rock Valley College has developed a process to include the principles of Pathways to Results (PTR) in the Program Review process. Having focused on the process of Equity and Pathways in the first year, we will discuss the five year cycle and how it will include PTR. We will also share the elements that worked well, along with the areas which need improvement.



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## The Twilight Drone: Partnering within Your Own College to Enhance Curriculum

Redbird G

*Chris Edwards, Rend Lake College*

*Gabriele Farner, Rend Lake College*

Learn how Rend Lake College has created a new drone dimension with its Unmanned Aircraft System program. It is a dimension offering opportunities and creative solutions. Discover how this newer technology is being offered in stand-alone curriculum, incorporated in several other programs across campus, and being offered as customized training for local business and industry. This technology leads to the dimension of imagination. It is an area which we call the Twilight Drone.



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## Answering WIOA: See What's New in Career Exploration and Soft Skills

Beaufort

*Brandi Cardwell, BurlingtonEnglish*

*Robert Breitbard, BurlingtonEnglish*

What is Prep and Support for Integrated Education and Training (IET)? Prep and Support for Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE)? Not only is the BurlingtonEnglish program closely aligned with CASAS, but now our NEW Career Exploration and Soft Skills can help prepare your students to explore their career options, gain workplace skills, learn about educational and training opportunities, and develop vital digital literacy skills. Even when in IETs and IELCEs, the program supports them every step of the way. Including videos, an online portfolio, and corresponding teacher-led, projectable in-class lessons, the program gives you everything you need.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

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## Making i-Pathways Math Meaningful

Fell A

*Lisa Liltchfield, Center for the Application of Information Technologies (CAIT)*

*Kathy Tracey, i-Pathways*

Are you using i-Pathways to teach math? Are you looking for strategies to use with struggling learners? We will provide ideas that you can use immediately in your classroom that will help you feel confident that you are reaching learners who are having a difficult time making connections. Join our interactive discussion where we will share our ideas for making math meaningful for your students.



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## Building CTE Programs Through Partnerships

Fell B

*Mark Bosworth, Southwestern Illinois College*

*Brad Sparks, Southwestern Illinois College*

Presenters will share their experiences in successfully transforming outdated technical programs into state-of-the-art centers of excellence to meet the needs of employers in high tech manufacturing environments. Emphasis will be given to the importance of building partnerships with secondary school systems, industry, civic leaders, and college administrators. The presenters will share proactive actions taken to recruit students through relationships with high school teachers, students, parents, and programs such as dual-credit enrollments.



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## From Programs of Study to Career Pathways: The Nuts and Bolts

Fell C

*Fred Stanley, Illinois Community College Board*

*Mary Werries, Illinois Community College Board*

Programs of Study (POS) are an essential element of a career pathway which better aligns high school and postsecondary education with the demands of the ever changing labor market. POS, a requirement of the current Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act and the new Perkins Reauthorization Act, offer students the ability to explore careers, earn industry-recognized credentials, and participate in dual credit opportunities, which may potentially shorten the time to earn a degree. This presentation explores the components of POS, how they fit within a Career Pathway system, and what Perkins reauthorization has in store for the two.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

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## **ICAPS and Business Technology: Planning, Collaborating, and Graduating Students for Success**

Broadway

*Khrystyna Sanborn, Heartland Community College*

*Linda Lambert, Heartland Community College*

Join us as we discuss how you can use programs already available in your college to successfully implement ICAPS programs for students to gain skills and knowledge needed to enter the workforce. We will walk you through the process of setting up a partnership between Adult Education and STEM/Business. Learn how an open learning environment can help your current students as well as non-traditional students gain skills and knowledge working within their own time frames.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**

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## Demystifying Math Practices

Redbird A

*Amber Fornaciari, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center*

*Dawn Hughes, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center*

Of the eight Math Practices, four seem to mystify instructors. In this session we will work together to not only define the math practices but dig a little deeper into what we call "The Elusive Four." Join us to not only learn about what the Math Practices are, but how to identify them in our instruction and in our students' work, and how to integrate them into our course plans.



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## Employment 101: Tools to Reach Training and Employment Goals

Redbird B

*Natasha Telger, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale*

*LaToya McRae, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale*

Employment 101 provides a complete set of tools and steps your students will need to get started in developing a roadmap to reach their training and employment goals. This session will provide an overview of Employment 101 and the Illinois workNet Customer Support Center that is used to view saved student results and plans.



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## PWR Act and Transitional Math: Updates on Implementation

Redbird E

*Jon Furr, Education Systems Center at Northern Illinois University*

*Kathleen Almy, Northern Illinois University*

The Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act (PWR) implements strategies to better align the transition from high school into college and careers. This session will provide an overview of the Act, and an update on implementation activities that are underway. Participants will also get an in-depth look at one of the elements of the Act, which involves offering transitional math during the senior year of high school to ensure that high school students place into credit-bearing math at the community college level. Implementation and curricular updates will be provided.





**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**

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## Emphasizing the E (Education) in Your Welding Program

Redbird F

*Merri Johnson, Realityworks*

*Diane Ross, Realityworks*

Whether you are considering or currently offering welding in your district, how do you know that your students are getting the most out of the program? How are students building skills? How deep is their understanding of the true mechanics of welding? Why do these skills translate into good jobs? In this session, participants will evaluate hands on learning tools and curriculum designed to improve any welding program and help teachers to focus their time where it is needed most. We will give you ideas that translate to saving money on materials and increasing the rigor and relevance of your welding program.



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## Using Pivot Tables in DAISI

Redbird G

*Benjamin McDaniel, Illinois Community College Board*

The purpose of this session is to provide an overview of data reports available now in DAISI. We will look specifically at the PENTAHO drillable report and the Transition and Performance (T&P) report available through DAISI's static report center. Additionally, we will use the T&P report to create a pivot-table in Excel and examine ways to use data in the decision making process.



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## ETS HiSET Program Updates: Tools and Resources Available Now!

Beaufort

*Douglas Garcia, ETS HiSET*

In this session, the presenter will provide an overview and facilitate discussion on all program updates and teaching resources. Participants will be introduced to any new initiatives and research projects, as well as an update on the marketing materials available, and the successful efforts taken as part of the test-taker outreach campaign. Information about partnerships with preparation providers will also be highlighted. Participants will also be able to ask questions regarding the exam and converse with a HiSET program director.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**

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## Industry Partnerships: Making the Connections

Fell A

*Don Sykora, Morton College*

The Morton College Automotive Technology Program has made a strong effort to solidify its relationships with industry partners over the past few years. This process is seen in collaborations ranging from local businesses to well-known names such as, the Ford Motor Company and SnapOn Tools. These partnerships have resulted in embedded credentials throughout the automotive curriculum and increased opportunities that prepare students for the workplace, while increasing the visibility of Morton College. Examples of partnerships that lead to student success will be presented.



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## Exploring Resources for Students with Autism

Fell B

*Nikki Michalak, Illinois Center for Specilized Professional Support*

Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) represent a consistently growing population; it is, therefore, important to understand their needs and how to support them in their postsecondary academic endeavors. There are no clear statistics on college enrollment of students with ASD, but it is estimated that they comprise 0.7% to 1.9% of the college population with an 80% incompleation rate. It is anticipated that these numbers will continue to increase and will make the need for understanding individuals with ASD even more imperative. The Autism Training and Technical Assistance project was created to develop resources and materials focused on the transition needs of individuals with ASD from high school into postsecondary education and workforce. In this presentation, you will learn what a student with ASD might need in a college classroom or college setting and explore strategies to help students be successful.



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## Math Activities for ESL/ELL Students

Fell C

*Michael Matos, Albany Park Community Center*  
**IACEA Sponsored Session**

Participants emerge into a curriculum integrating mathematics and English vocabulary with hands-on and collaborative activities using manipulatives. We will give ESL/ELL students alternate ways to participate in whole-class discussions and respond to questions: think/pair/share, flashcards to raise overhead, hand and/or body movements, and individual chalkboards for solving computations. Participants are engaged with numeracy lessons that balance between skill building and functional needs. Examples contextualize math instruction, motivate and engage by providing real or concrete meaning, and create a rewarding balance for instruction. ESL/ELL students accomplish two goals: mathematical understanding and English proficiency.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**

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## **i-Pathways 3.0: What's New?**

Broadway

*Kathy Tracey, i-Pathways*

You asked...we listened. Discover the features released in i-Pathways 3.0. Do you team teach? Now, i-Pathways is set up for easy sharing of students. Do you want to reorder lessons? We now have custom learning pathways. Do you want to print pages? We now have print friendly lessons. Join us to discuss the newly designed i-Pathways and sign up to transition your program to i-Pathways 3.0. Learn how to use these features to improve student outcomes.



# BREAKOUT SESSION VI

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

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## WIOA Innovations for Adult Education and Their Partners

Redbird A

*Jamil Steele, Illinois Community College Board*

*Stephen Alderson, Instituto del Progreso*

*Dan Deasy, College of DuPage*

*Christina Hutcheson, Rend Lake College*

*Reni Mitkova, Township High School District 113*

*Maggie Wolf, Kankakee Community College*

Rising to meet the challenge of WIOA means innovating to find new partnerships and new opportunities to meet the needs of those we serve. Join Senior Director for Adult Education at ICCB, Jamil Steele, as he facilitates a panel discussion of innovative adult education leaders from around the state.



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## New Tech City: The Growing Demand for Industrial Maintenance Technology

Redbird B

*Marc Battista, Elgin Community College*

*George Rosa, Elgin Community College*

This presentation will focus on the growing demand for maintenance technicians and Elgin Community College's response to that demand. It will include steps taken to address curricular development/modification, human capital investments, equipment investments, and aligning to industry recognized credentials.



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## Why is CTE Academic Integration So Difficult?

Redbird E

*Melissa Andrews, Illinois Community College Board*

The main principle behind curriculum integration involves both the integration of 'content' (what is being learned about) and 'process' (how and with whom this learning is taking place). Perkins law requires that academics be integrated into CTE programs, and programs with successful integration have proven to greatly benefit student learning. There are, unfortunately, many systemic challenges that make integration a difficult process for educators. This presentation identifies some of these challenges, why academic and CTE integration is important, and core success factors. Strategies and models for implementation are discussed by examining best practices and local success stories. Attendees should leave with a better sense of what will help make curriculum integration a success in their programming.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

## A Hidden Pathway to Higher Education

Redbird F

*Mindy Diaz, Joliet Junior College*

*Libby Budd, Joliet Junior College*

The partnership between Disability Services and Adult Education at Joliet Junior College has improved the experience of students with disabilities who are enrolled in Adult Education by helping them transition seamlessly to post-secondary and/or Workforce Development programs. Students with disabilities become confident in using accommodations within the supported Adult Education environment. The collaborative team is able to get to know the students and their strengths which helps in meeting their advising needs as they transition. This collaboration creates a pathway to success that is not always obvious, but absolutely necessary.



## Illinois College2Career: A New State Web Tool for Connecting Illinois College Graduate Data with Employment Outcomes

Redbird G

*Jay Brooks, Illinois Community College Board*

College2Career is a new web tool recently launched within Illinois. College2Career is the result of a collaboration between the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and it is designed to serve two functions. First, it provides a public facing tool to inform high school students and parents about post-secondary options by connecting workforce data to college and university graduate data. Additionally, the tool includes a portal for college institutional research staff to assist them in examining employment patterns and outcomes of their graduates. This session will provide an overview of this new tool with an emphasis placed on the public facing access point.



## All Students, All Pathways

Beaufort

*Lisa Kardish, Xello, formerly Career Cruising*

*Jarrod Hann, Xello, formerly Career Cruising*

Every student can be future ready. But in a world where there are multiple pathways to achieve future success, how can you help students build a plan that's tailored to them and, at the same time, meet universal CCRI and PaCE requirements? Join Lisa Kardish from Xello, formerly Career Cruising, for an informative workshop where you'll learn how to: increase student engagement in college and career planning, help students build vital skills for workplace readiness, better support student transitions from middle to high school, and easily report on progress toward state readiness requirements.



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

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## Close Reading Strategies for College and Career Readiness in ABE/ASE and ESL Classes

Fell A

*Laura Sherwood, Adult Learning Resource Center*

*Laurie Martin, Adult Learning Resource Center*

Close Reading Strategies are required to meet the goals of the CCRS and are assessed by the new TABE 11/12. Students need to be able to understand a text's key ideas and details, examine how the craft and structure of a text supports the author's message and purpose, and evaluate/critique arguments and claims made in a text. This session will provide an overview of three close reading strategies that can be used in all content areas and how to begin implementing them in ABE/ASE and ESL classrooms.

ae

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## Learning on the Go

Fell B

*Kathy Tracey, i-Pathways*

Do you listen to podcasts? How can you incorporate podcasts into your teaching? Discover how beneficial these resources can be to build a student's background knowledge and teach ideas in science, social studies, and even reading. Walk away with a list of great podcasts for adult learners and discover a fun and meaningful way to integrate technology into the teaching and learning process.

ae

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## Strategies for Teaching and Applying Digital Literacy Skills

Fell C

*Jennifer Maddrell, Designers for Learning*

*Jeff Goumas, CrowdEd Learning*

A recent large-scale study of adult skills and life experiences focusing on critical cognitive and workplace skills revealed a staggering 64% of adults in the U.S. performed at or below the test's lowest proficiency level in problem-solving in technology-rich environments. While most adults have smartphones, many lack the digital skills needed to acquire and evaluate information, communicate with others, and perform practical tasks. We'll share and compare teaching strategies to integrate technology in ways that help facilitate day-to-day instruction while helping our learners overcome this digital literacy skills gap.

ae



**Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

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## Senate Bill 2838: Impact on the Illinois Dual Credit Quality Act

Broadway

*Dave Naze, ILACEP*

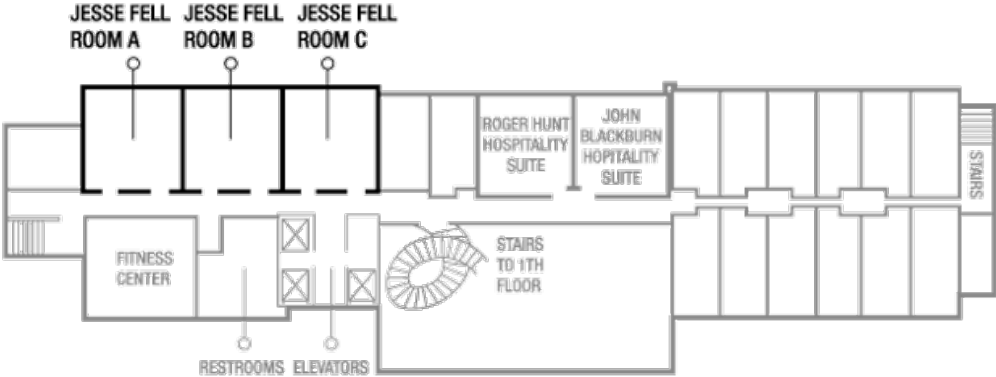
The Illinois Senate Bill 2838, effective January 2019, is an amendment to the Illinois Dual Credit Quality Act. This session will provide an overview of this legislation, including a discussion on the pros and cons. Because this will impact all levels of education in Illinois, including high school, community college, and universities, an open discussion about the implications of this bill will be provided.



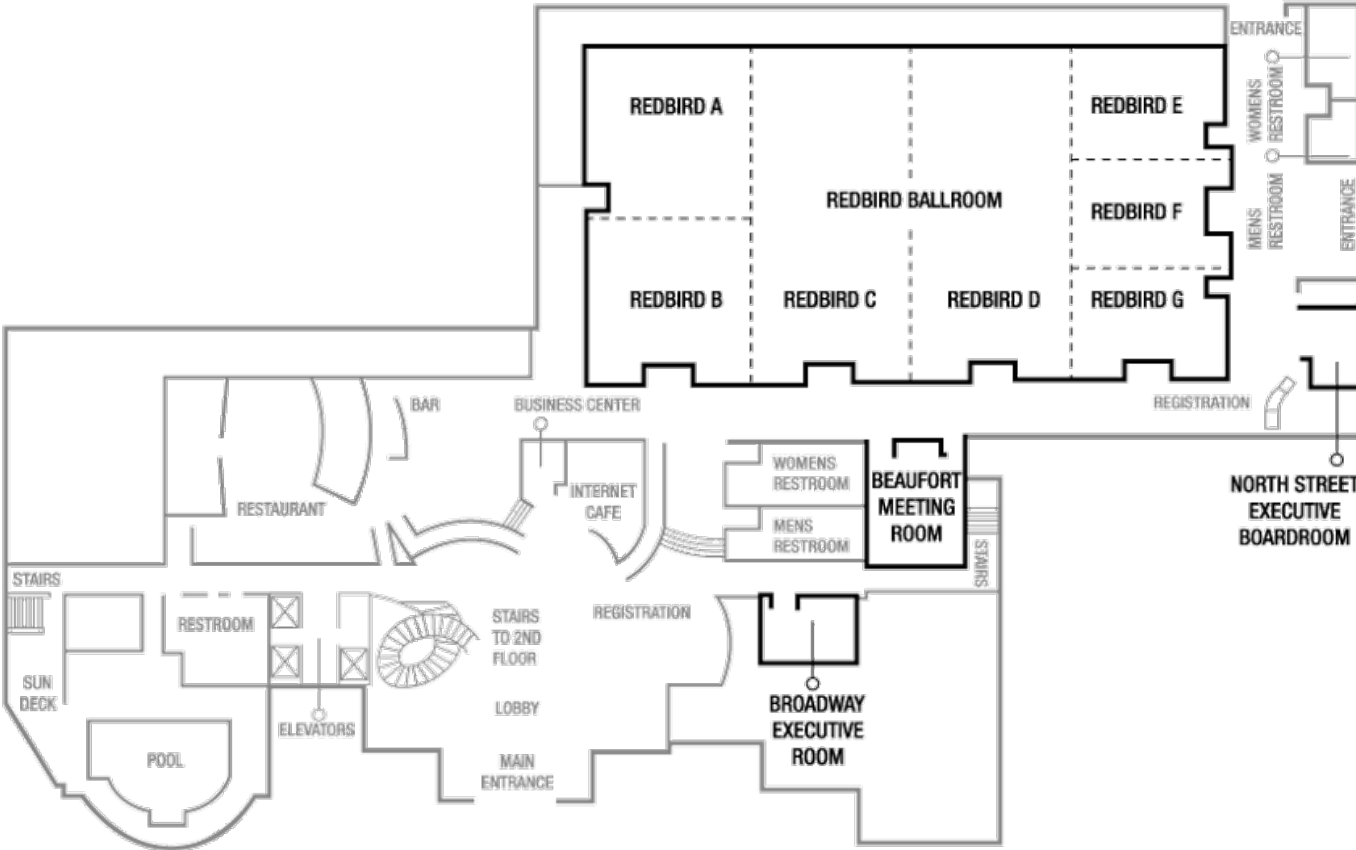


# HOTEL MAP

## SECOND FLOOR



## FIRST FLOOR





The Illinois Community College Board would like to thank all of the Forum for Excellence presenters and everyone who submitted a proposal. Your expertise and willingness to share the innovation occurring in your programs is what makes this conference a success. In addition, we would like to thank our professional development partners, including the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center, the Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center, and the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support; without their effort and expertise this event would not be possible.

*Presentations and materials will be available at [icsps.illinoisstate.edu/pd/forum-for-excellence/](https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/pd/forum-for-excellence/) following the conference.*