

## Session Descriptions

The sessions are listed in alphabetical order.

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
"We Get You, We Got You": Becoming an Institution of Advocacy and Support for First-Generation College Students	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Today, nearly one-third of college students in the United States are considered first-generation college students. First-generation college students are more likely to attend a community college versus a four-year institution. As a First-Gen Forward Institution, Pitt Community College (PCC) is committed to the success of first-generation college students. This interactive session will present strategies to develop a culture of advocacy for first-generation college students. An emphasis on the awareness and sensitivity to the needs of first-generation college students will be highlighted throughout the session, with the ultimate goal of increasing advocacy and support.
A Balancing Act: Faculty, Staff and the First-Generation Student Experience	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Identifying as first-generation when becoming a member of faculty or staff adds a contextual layer to the higher education journey. As a First-gen Forward Institution, Pitt Community College (PCC) is conscious of building sustainable relationships with their student population. In this session, PCC first-generation leaders will share personal narratives about how their intersecting identities, personal backgrounds and life experiences inform their pedagogy and student development approaches. The panel will highlight how identifying as first-generation continues to influence their academic identities. Discussion will also focus on the experiences of navigating the professoriate, underscoring the ways in which academic boardlands have influenced their lives.
A College Re-defines Excellence	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Across the United States, hundreds of community college presidents of the baby boomer generation are retiring or are planning to retire soon. Many of these presidents are leaving after tenures of more than a decade; some more than two decades. The end of long presidencies can lead to challenging transitions for colleges, their new presidents and their boards of trustees. The multi-faceted approach taken by Central Piedmont Community College could offer colleges a blueprint for building support for a new president, engaging faculty and staff across multiple campuses, and gaining buy-in for a new strategic plan focused on student success.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
A Grant Writer and a Professor Walked into a Bar: A Journey to Program Improvement Told Through GIFs and Memes	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Learn how a dedicated team of grant professionals and community college faculty blended their vastly different skill sets and knowledge to craft a grant proposal that resulted in a National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education (NSF ATE) award that is expanding Wake Tech's Simulation and Game Development (SGD) Associate of Applied Science degree program. The grant will enable the SGD program to develop two new certificates and four new courses, outfit a lab with highly specialized equipment, provide externships and internships for faculty and students, and increase diversity in the exciting and evolving field of game development.
A Mile in Their Shoes - System Conference Session - March 1 - 1:00 p.m.	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	<p>Many faculty and staff members across the North Carolina Community College System started their journey or received training along the way at a community college. This session will celebrate the success of former community college students who have applied their knowledge and experience by serving today's students and colleges. It will also engage audience members in considering how to tap their or colleagues' past experiences as community college students to connect with students and have greater overall impact in their work.</p> <p>The session will involve a panel including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chreatha Alston, HR Director, Pitt Community College</li> <li>• Dr. Mary Olvera, Career and Technical Education Coordinator, NCCCS</li> <li>• Dr. Frank Scuiletti, Senior Program Administrator, NCCCS</li> </ul> <p>The session will be moderated by Anne Bacon, Director of Strategic Planning and Policy, NCCCS.</p>
Accounting and Finance Program-2020 Updates Learning	Teaching and Learning	Roundtable Discussion	This session will cover the implementation, status and updates of the Accounting and Finance (A25800) program. Discussion will include curriculum revisions, new and revised courses, course "equate" function, new trends, job opportunities, industry certifications and professional development ideas. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, communicate with other faculty and provide feedback on pressing topics.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Addressing changes and challenges to institutional communication at Montgomery Community College			<p>Over the past five years, Montgomery Community College has experienced extensive organizational change. There has been dramatic growth in the number of curriculum programs, continuing education offerings have expanded, the college has implemented numerous technological improvements, and there has been an increase in the number of new employees at the college.</p> <p>As a result of these changes there has been a fundamental shift in the organizational structure and the culture of the institution. MCC's environment has transformed from a close knit community of long term employees to one where new individuals are constantly joining the college and where processes and procedures are becoming more formalized.</p> <p>With the retirement of long term employees and the addition of new individuals, the college experienced a loss of institutional history and the loss of the informal communication structure that existed. The result was a need to formalize communication processes and adapt to changes in communication methods so appropriate communication could flow throughout the institution.</p> <p>In 2020, Dr. Chad Bledsoe, MCC's President, reached out to Andrew Billingsley, Manager of Customized and Contractual Education at NC State, for assistance in addressing communication challenges at the college. Together, they developed a curriculum to provide professional development for mid and upper level managers in communication strategies. Areas of focus included generational communication, diversity, feedback, branding, transparency, and creation of a culture of communication.</p> <p>The goal of this roundtable discussion is to share best practices developed during this process and discuss ways in which institutions can prepare employees for the challenges of changing communication styles.</p>

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Addressing Equity Gaps with Scaleable Auxiliary Learning Objects in Your LMS	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Are you struggling to provide access to college-wide learning objects related to academic honesty, critical thinking or college resources? Are you interested in moving your ACA class to a more consistent model for all your students? Are you ready to dip your toes into the waters of OER? Learn how Central Carolina Community College's Distance Education department partnered with the library to do all of this without having to hire a single new employee.
Addressing Food Insecurity on Your Campus	Equity	Concurrent Session	Join Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) for a session on best practices for starting and maintaining a food bank on your college campus. Discussion will begin with how CCCC started a food pantry, including how they worked with administration to secure space and funding. A facilitated roundtable discussion will give you the opportunity to share your college's challenges, successes and best practices. The session will end with a discussion of policies, procedures, handbooks and promotional materials, where you can share your materials with other colleges. Together, we can ensure no student goes hungry.
Advancing Racial Equity to Support Student Success	Equity	Concurrent Session	The disparities in educational outcomes for Black and Latino students must be addressed from an equity-minded perspective to impact student success. In this session, you will learn actionable strategies to identify and break down barriers to racial equity. Helping students of color achieve equitable outcomes is the responsibility of everyone at the institution, not just a select few. Learn best practices on how to meaningfully approach racial equity regardless of position within the college.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
All Things TABE: News, Updates, Testing Formats	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will review news and updates to TABE 11/12, including remote testing options. Discussion will also cover updates to the adult ESL assessment, TABE CLAS-E, which is widely used throughout the NC Community College System. Presenters will review the score report information and focus on ways to improve scores between pre- and post-tests. You will have the opportunity to ask questions pertaining to your programs, and receive updated resources and information on training opportunities.
Amplifying Transfer Student Voices	Student Access and Success	Roundtable Discussion	As highlighted by myFutureNC, the goal of reaching two million North Carolinians with degrees and high-quality credentials by 2030 will require community college students to transfer successfully to public and private universities in North Carolina. In this session, scholars from UNC Charlotte and Mitchell Community College will seek input from attendees on a proposed large-scale qualitative study to capture the voices of community college transfer students in North Carolina, both before and after transfer. The study is intended to include pre-transfer AA/AS and AAS students from CCs and post-transfer students from UNC System and NCICU institutions.
Apple Develop in Swift	Pathways	Concurrent Session	Creating apps in Swift gives students a way to think about using code to make an impact in the world. The Develop in Swift curriculum is great for teaching students new to coding, as well as advancing skills for students with previous experience. Apple provides free curriculum and resources for teachers and students. You will learn about updates to Apple's curriculum and certification, as well as how CSC 118 and CSC 218 are courses can be available to all students.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Aspiring Leaders: Created BY Community College Leaders FOR Aspiring Community College Leaders WITH University Partnership	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	The Aspiring Leaders: Community College Leadership Summit initiative is a partnership between Craven, Lenoir and Nash Community Colleges, along with the UNCW/3C Collaborative of the Watson College of Education. Aspiring Leaders is designed to support the cultivation and development of current and future educational leaders, and professionals already working in community colleges who aspire and desire to pursue a career path to administrative roles. The target population for this initiative is faculty and staff employed at rural community colleges within the southeastern region of North Carolina—colleges with limited resources and ongoing challenges with talent management.
Assessing (and improving!) Advising at Your Institution	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	While being called one of the most important student experiences in higher education, many institutions struggle to deliver high quality advising. Most institutions (and many students) are dissatisfied with their advising programs. After 50 years of modern advising in higher education, key factors necessary for advising success have been identified. What are they? This session will give you the opportunity to assess advising at your own institution and leave with resources to help you bring about advising enhancements at your own school.
Barriers, Through the Lens of a Health Sciences Student	Student Access and Success	Roundtable Discussion	During this roundtable discussion, you will hear directly from students as to what barriers exist in the community college setting. Vance-Granville Community College has six Health Sciences programs: Histotechnology, Human Services, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Pharmacy and Radiography. Challenges related to these programs include competitive admissions processes and a demanding schedule once in a program. You will leave this session with a better understanding of the barriers these students face so that strategies to support them can be developed. This session supports goals 1.3 and 2.2 of the NCCCS Strategic Plan.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Beware of Assumptions	Equity	Concurrent Session	It is no secret that bias is a part of our everyday lives. While our biases may be conscious or unconscious, they influence our judgment and behavior. Learning to recognize and combat unconscious assumptions is important in treating all students with equity. Microaggressions, while often unintentional, have a negative impact on students. This session will define implicit bias and microaggressions, identify types of microaggressions, discuss implications of microaggressions and explain how to respond to microaggressions.
BLET Program Basics: Best Practices for Success	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	This session is designed to give deans and other senior managers an overview of the logistics and standards that must be considered when establishing, supporting and evaluating a curriculum or continuing education Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program. Topics will include employer engagement; staff and faculty selection; cadet admissions requirements; facilities and equipment; compliance with Criminal Justice and Sheriffs' standards; state certification exams; and performance measures. Come learn what it takes to be part of the state's police academy on your campus, and how our System helps meet the workforce training needs of North Carolina's law enforcement agencies.
Breaking or Faking - News Literacy as a Means to Engage Students and Develop Critical Thinking	Teaching and Learning	Roundtable Discussion	Learn ways to engage students in analyzing and evaluating what is labeled as "news" through mediums such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter, as well as conventional news sources. Major news stories will be observed through beginning searches on Google and Wikipedia, then through major news outlets. You will follow how that translates to social media and your individual feeds. The results in students' news feeds will be considered. You should bring your mobile device(s) to the session.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Building a Brain: Integrating Machine Learning with Teaching and Learning in the North Carolina Community College System	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Explore the integration of machine learning and learning management systems to go beyond where teaching and learning has gone before. Discover the path the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) traveled to train a machine learning brain specifically on NCCCS content. You will hear about the journey to lead their instructors, administrators and college leadership to embrace AI as a means to map, curate and connect people to knowledge resources using Blackboard Learn and Open LMS systems. You will also see a demonstration of Virtual Learning Community (VLC) courses powered by learning object repository resources to achieve new heights of student engagement.
Business-Related Programs—2020 Updates	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will cover the implementation, status and updates of the Business Administration (A25120), Entrepreneurship (A25490), Supply Chain Management (A25620) and Project Management Technology (A25390) programs. Discussion will include curriculum revisions, new and revised courses, course "equate" function, new trends, job opportunities, industry certifications and professional development ideas. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, communicate with other faculty and provide feedback on pressing topics.
Career and College Promise and Pre-Apprenticeship—Engaging Economically Disadvantaged Youth in CTE	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This session will showcase how Career and College Promise (CCP) and youth apprenticeship have provided an avenue to entry into the career and technical field of construction for economically disadvantaged students. The ROC is a North Carolina state-certified youth apprenticeship program whose mission is to educate and mentor high school students for technical education and employment opportunities in the construction industry. ROC students are currently selected from four high-poverty west-side high schools. The ROC's main partner is Central Piedmont Community College, who provides all teacher instruction via the CCP pathway, which allows ROC students to earn dual college and high school credits. During the summer, ROC students participate in one of North Carolina's only "under 18" youth construction pre-apprenticeships with local commercial contractors, homebuilders and/or their subcontractors.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Career and College Promise Updates	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will provide general updates about the Career and College Promise (CCP) program. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, receive answers and share best practices with one another. Compliance Services will be on hand to take part in the session as well. Join in the discussion to learn what is new in the world of CCP.
Career and Technical Education Student Outcomes: Dashboards and Insights	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This session will provide an overview of how the North Carolina Community College System Office collects and reports data insights and trends related to Career and Technical Education (CTE). The team from Research and Performance Management will share new interactive dashboards and reporting tools designed to help CTE leaders and educators explore student enrollment, progress and success patterns in CTE courses and career pathways. You will also learn how the new NCCCS dashboards can be used to support local planning and evaluation efforts under Perkins V.
CCP and CTE: Building 9-14 Pathways	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Collaborating with your local secondary school system is an integral part of facilitating Perkins V on your campus, especially in providing opportunities for secondary students to participate in dual enrollment to prepare them to enter the workforce. This session will showcase data around CCP CTE student enrollment as a springboard to understanding the importance of developing and communicating 9-14 pathways for CCP CTE students. You will learn the key steps to building 9-14 pathways using early childhood education as an example. You will walk away with tangible examples of 9-14 pathways to help grow CCP CTE enrollment on your campus.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
<p>Combatting the Difficulties Encountered by Enlisted Army and Marine Corps Veterans When Entering Community College After Separation from the Military</p>	<p>Student Access and Success</p>	<p>Concurrent Session</p>	<p>A majority of military veterans will enter community college after separation from the military, yet there is little research focused on this transition. A Q methodological study was undertaken to ascertain and understand the viewpoints of enlisted Army and Marine Corps veterans towards this transitional process. The findings of this study illuminated what common practices may be developed to ease this transition from the military into higher education, and combat the difficulties discovered. These difficulties and practices will be the focus of this presentation. Implications for policy, retention and graduation, and the need for future research will also be discussed.</p>
<p>Community Partnerships to Support Underserved Populations</p>	<p>Equity</p>	<p>Concurrent Session</p>	<p>In this session, you will explore collective action promising practices for forming relationships with community partners to support underserved populations; the following questions will guide the discussion: What strategies can community colleges use to identify community needs and potential partnerships? How is trust built with community partners? What successfully encourages the sustainability of new partnerships? The partnership between Pitt Community College and the Pitt County Detention Center for general education, adult high school proficiency, life skills, resume writing and job readiness will be discussed by the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research and leaders from Pitt Community College.</p>
<p>Compliance Services - Partners in Accountability</p>	<p>Workforce Connections</p>	<p>Concurrent Session</p>	<p>This session will address updates to the compliance review process and how Compliance Services can provide support and resources to colleges. Specific risk areas found during recent compliance reviews will also be shared and discussed.</p>

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Connecting Students to Success Resources Works	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Wake Technical Community College has used tutorial services to help students succeed since the 1980s. This impact study of the college's Individualized Learning Center (ILC) used both a quasi-experimental study design and a randomized controlled trial (RCT) to show that students who used the tutorial services performed much better in their classes than those who did not, especially at-risk students.
Connecting the Dots: Matching Content Standards with Automotive Detailing	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This presentation will introduce you to the Automotive Detailing Career Pathway for students in the lower levels of College and Career Readiness. You will be shown how applicable content standards are matched with the objectives of an automotive detailing course. Hands-on activities will demonstrate how students were engaged in the learning process and able to reach the career pathway's objectives. The presenters will demonstrate how they were able to create a pathway that meets the needs of students with diverse disabilities, as well as students without disabilities.
Cooking Up Course Success in the Data Kitchen	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	One of College of The Albemarle's strategic plan initiatives, "persistence," had a goal of increasing fall-to-fall retention rates by five percentage points over three years. To support this goal, an intermediate goal was established to increase successful course completion rates in gateway general education courses by five percentage points over three years. This session will present the cost-effective methods by which the goals were exceeded in just two years: using data analytics to guide delivery mode decisions, redesigning face-to-face general education courses using Gateway to Completion principles, and redesigning online general education courses to meet Quality Matters standards.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Creating a Student Intake Form: An Inclusive Approach to Student Support	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	In spring 2019, a team of faculty and staff at Central Carolina Community College (CCC) started the process of creating a student intake form. In this session, you will learn about CCC's experience of creating a form focused on learning about individual student needs prior to enrollment, including their early successes and lessons learned, and the impact an intake form can have on student success. You will be able to review and take away a copy of their student intake form, and review their outreach process, examples of outreach, and early impacts. Their goal is to meet each student where they are and ensure individual student support.
Creating and Managing Pathways to Bachelors Programs - Exploring Benefits for Both Students and Colleges	Pathways	Concurrent Session	Community colleges often provide the initial step towards careers and further higher education. Many students will continue in higher education; however, preparing for and managing the steps after graduation can be perilous and difficult. This session will explore ever-changing college partnerships and how they benefit both the students and the college. Dr. Bauer will describe his journey, and the important partnerships between higher education at all levels; he will explore the pitfalls and benefits of partnerships, dual enrollment, 2+2, and 3+1, as well as the first steps towards building program-specific and mutually-beneficial agreements.
Creative, Effective and Cheap Professional Development	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	With cuts in funding and a bigger reliance on web-based training, is there still a place for face-to-face professional development in adult literacy programs? Can face-to-face training be done effectively both in content and budget? This presentation will explain why a consortium of 20 community colleges believed that face-to-face interaction and collaboration were necessary and helpful in developing, innovating, and improving effective teaching strategies and teacher understanding and knowledge of WIOA in their Adult Basic Education Programs, while still limiting costs and travel expenses.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Cybersecurity Regional Ecosystem...What's New?	Pathways	Roundtable Discussion	This presentation will discuss new initiatives with cybersecurity pathways in North Carolina, including K-12 pathways in cybersecurity. Discussion will also address becoming a Center of Academic Excellence (CAE), resources to assist you, changes to the CAE program and System Office initiatives.
Destiny One—Workforce Continuing Education's Business Solution	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	Colleges are looking into best practices for continuing education to engage with students and employers. This session will provide an overview of the short-term workforce development business solution, Destiny One, including the product features and the implementation status. You will have an opportunity to see the functionality of the Destiny One product within the NC Community College System, and the potential impact for continuing education programs as they work with students, staff and corporate partners.
Developing a Global Workforce	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	North Carolina already is global. In this session, you will learn how you can help your students build their capacity to thrive in an interconnected world and global economy. You will explore opportunities to globalize your curriculum, develop your own and your students' ability to communicate across cultures, and capitalize on your diverse classroom.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Developing NSF-Funded Courses for Simulation and Game Development Through Externships	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Wake Tech's Simulation and Game Development department has been awarded funding for DCTAPTA by the National Science Foundation for equipment, recruitment, externships and development of four new courses and two new certificates. These new courses focus on 3D motion capture, photogrammetry, technical art and advanced animation. In this session, faculty will discuss how, following their externships, they have applied their newfound knowledge in the development of new technical art and technical animation courses.
Different Mascots, Same Team: Coordinating Equity Initiatives at One Urban and One Rural Community College	Equity	Concurrent Session	One urban and one rural community college will divulge how they enabled faculty, staff and administration to evolve from being deficit minded to becoming more equity minded. Both institutions will share the similarities and differences in using change models when creating systemic transformations to create more equitable outcomes. Both organizations will disclose how they intertwined equity efforts with current student success endeavors by using data, rewriting policies and procedures, offering campus-wide professional development, and building crucial partnerships with the state system office.
Do Your Students Think Your Labs Suck? How to Start Redesigning Your Labs	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will review the decision to redesign BIO 111 and 112 labs to be inquiry-based labs. Discussion will cover the initiation of the redesign, the formation of the committee (selection of faculty to assist with the redesign), the specific labs chosen for redesign, and the selection of experiments to facilitate the redesign. You will review survey data from students who were in the redesigned labs compared to students who were not in the redesigned labs, learn about challenges encountered in the development of the redesigned labs and execution of the labs, and hear suggestions as to how others can initiate the redesign of biology-based labs.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Dual to Degree: Creating a Pathway to Student Success	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will showcase data from the NC Community College System dashboards on the increasing number of CCP students enrolled on campuses. How do you keep those students on campus post-high school to complete credentials to enter the workforce and/or transfer? Discussion will provide you with promising practices you can employ to assist with increasing the matriculation of CCP students to your campus after high school, supporting the System strategic plan theme for clear and supported pathways for student progress and success. Learn how to move your students from dual to degree.
Educational Pathway for Your Industrial or Technical AAS Graduates	Pathways	Concurrent Session	The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree was once considered a terminal degree. However, the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology (BSIT) has changed that narrative. The BSIT is a degree completion program designed for students who have been awarded a qualified industrial or technical AAS degree. ECU awards almost half of the four-year degree credits for a student's AAS degree; students can then finish their Bachelor of Science degree face-to-face or totally online. With the online option, it gives working professionals the opportunity to earn their Bachelor of Science degree while maintaining their employment and income.
Employability Skills Alignment Project (ESAP) Update	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	This session will cover the status of the Employability Skills Alignment Project (ESAP). Discussion will include the new revisions and updates of ESAP modules, the process of requesting and accessing the ESAP modules, assessments and collecting data. A demonstration of the modules will be provided. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on pressing topics.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
EMS Program Basics: Best Practices for Success	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	This session will give deans and other senior managers an overview of the logistics and standards that must be considered when establishing, supporting and evaluating a curriculum or continuing education Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program. Emphasis will be placed on selecting and supporting the college's EMS program director as the college's designee to the NC Office of EMS responsible for program compliance and success. Come learn about best practices in EMS program management and program support. This is a companion session to "NC Office of EMS Update" and "EMS Program Basics: System Office Update."
EMS Program Basics: System Office Update	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	Join System Office staff for a discussion on EMS education and training topics ranging from staffing; admissions requirements; facilities and equipment; didactic, clinical, and field requirements; clinical competency assessment; and credit for prior learning models. Questions from participants will be encouraged. This is a companion session to "NC Office of EMS Update" and "EMS Program Basics: Best Practices for Success."
Engaging Your Students at Home with Online Science Lab Kits	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Can we provide the same experience for online students and traditional students? In this session, you will hear a current faculty member who is doing it! Learn how to actively engage online students and provide safe, hands-on experiments that students conduct at home.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Equity in the Classroom: Dashboards and Insights	Equity	Concurrent Session	This session will provide an overview of how the North Carolina Community College System Office collects and reports data insights and trends related to equity in academic outcomes. Rates of access and academic progress differ across student population subgroups, which can negatively impact the educational outcomes and social and economic mobility of students. The team from Research and Performance Management will share interactive dashboards and reporting tools designed to help leaders and educators identify gaps in enrollment and academic progress across demographic populations, specifically race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status.
Espresso Yourself! Celebrate Student Success by Publishing Reflective Student Essays in a Unique Coffee House Setting	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Davidson County Community College (DCCC) has discovered a way to publish their Transition Center's students' English essays in a safe, yet inspiring platform. Once per semester, they turn one of our classrooms into a throwback 1960s coffee house. The DCCC Coffee House includes low lighting, coffee or other seasonal beverages, simple snacks and a microphoned stage setting. They have found that even their once shy and introverted students love getting up to share their personal essays reflecting their life journeys in this intimate setting! Works of art, singing and playing instruments are also encouraged.
Establishing Targeted Support Plans for Students	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Successful collaboration between Financial Aid and Student Support Services has increased the retention and success of students on financial aid probation. A better analysis of where students are struggling facilitates implementation of supportive structures that enable students to successfully complete future semesters. A-B Tech has seen a success rate of students on financial aid probation increase from 10% to 67%. In this session, you will learn the process of establishing a targeted support plan and tracking methods; scenarios will also be discussed to provide further problem solving analysis.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Evaluating the Career and College Promise Program	Student Access and Success	Pre-Conference Meeting	In this session, you will learn about access (student enrollment by demographics) and success (student outcomes such as course grades, transfer rates, and completion rates) in the Career and College Promise (CCP) program, as well as how to use NCCCS Office dashboards displaying this data. You will also learn about a research project led by the UNC-Greensboro SERVE Center to examine the implementation, impact, and cost of all components of CCP. The presenters will share preliminary results and future directions for the research study.
Experiential Learning Projects and You: Creating a Living Classroom	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Johnston Community College (JCC) piloted its first Experiential Learning Project (ELP) in fall 2019; with stunning success and exceeded expectations, they expanded from one ELP course and section in the fall, to three distinct ELP-driven courses in spring 2020. Learn how to build, cultivate and maintain a successful, ELP-rich living classroom, as JCC walks you through the steps—from concept to stakeholder and partner procurement, then onto creation, implementation and execution—highlighting real-world experiential learning projects, and hearing from students who stepped into this real-world learning venue.
Exploring Strategies for Hispanic/Latinx Student Acceso y Exito in Post-Secondary Education	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	The aspirations for post-secondary education continues to be at the forefront for Hispanic/Latinx students in North Carolina. However, students face many challenges in making their dreams a reality. In this session, you will explore the three common challenges that Hispanic/Latinx students face when applying to college: admissions, financial aid and residency. Discussion will address strategies and best practices while working with Hispanic/Latinx students of all backgrounds, including DACA and undocumented students, and how to minimize overall cost to attend college. You will have a series of tools and resources, provided by CFNC, to support Hispanic/Latinx access and success.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Festo Didactic - NC3 Industry 4.0 Certification Program	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	This session will present the learning pathway for students looking to become proficient in modern Industry 4.0 concepts. Festo Didactic has partnered with NC3 to provide a third-party credential system that allows students to take credentialing tests that are stackable in both horizontal and vertical directions, at no cost to students. Together with program administrators and industry representatives, NC3 evaluates NC3 members' classrooms, labs, training systems, program goals, and local labor market demands to recommend the ideal educational workspace, with the goal of modernizing effective training centers that will attract and produce the highest caliber of student.
Finish First NC for Student Success and Completion	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	More than half of North Carolina's community colleges are using Finish First NC (FFNC) to identify students within striking distance of completing credentials and students who may have already completed credentials. This powerful tool, developed by Wake Technical Community College, equips colleges with the ability to evaluate student records and identify these students in just a matter of minutes. And it's free to all North Carolina community colleges! In this session, FFNC project staff will introduce you to Finish First NC and discuss how to begin implementing it at your college.
First-Generation Student Success: A Landscape Analysis of Programs and Services at Two-Year Institutions	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Join Pitt Community College, a First-Gen Forward Institution, to learn more about findings and recommendations from the national landscape analysis of first-generation student success programs at two-year institutions. The landscape report, using insight from college leaders/practitioners, association professionals and students, considers priorities, current approaches and limitations, resources, and key collaborations for supporting first-generation student success. This session will explore the intersectionality of first-generation student identity and approaches two-year institutions are taking to better understand this population and scale supports.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Flexible Enrollment in Transition Math and English Courses to Support Transition to Postsecondary Education	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	The session will focus on the benefits of providing flexible course offerings for Transition Math and Transition English courses. You will be able to engage in discussions about enrollment, course schedules and course facilitation as they pertain to the requirements of College and Career Readiness (CCR). Join in a great conversation about postsecondary transition through CCR.
Flipped Classrooms - Two Sides of the Coin	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Dr. Barker will share basic research and pedagogy surrounding the Flipped Classroom format. Discussion will involve effectively flipping classrooms from both the instructor and student perspective. She will provide ideas and experiences from functioning as an instructor and curriculum/program developer in multiple disciplines, including science, math, CTE, psychology, and criminal justice. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in question and answer sessions regarding "L.E.A.R.N" from the instructor's perspective: Liberate, Earmark, Abridge, Review, Nurture/Naturalize and the students' perspectives: Look/Listen, Engage, Ask/Assist, Reflect, Naturalize/Nurture. Student work, classroom activities, and feedback will be offered, encouraging open conversation to address participant questions regarding pros and cons, as well as application of this teaching modality across multiple classroom formats and reflecting on recent logistical challenges.
From the White Board to the Light Board, New Instructional Technology to Enhance Online Classes	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Take your online course to the next level! Join Johnston Community College as it showcases its exciting Lightboard Technology. Learn how faculty can increase their "presence" in online courses by creating engaging and interactive Lightboard videos that include you and your content! Using the Lightboard can transform online instruction by providing video lectures and interactions that are closer to the seated classroom experience. Participants will also learn about all of the components of JCC's Lightboard studio!

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Guide-Plan-Succeed: A Departmental Effort to Onboard Students	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	In an effort to simplify and streamline the onboarding process for students, the staff in the Office of Student Services at Surry Community College (SCC) developed a departmental onboarding process, which has been termed Guide-Plan-Succeed (GPS). GPS provides assistance to students with career exploration, individual proactive advising sessions, financial aid and planning and registration. This session will provide you with solutions for a synergetic and streamlined onboarding process for all student populations.
Helping Students Plan Their Perfect Career, Finding Labor Market Information, Searching for the First Job - A New Tool in NC Will be Doing All That and More This Fall	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Several state agencies got together to help students of all ages get on track towards their perfect career. This new tool at NCCareers.org—which will link to CFNC, NCWorksonline and more—will help students discover career interests, find occupations that match, and learn about salaries, education requirements and regional demand. Not only will users get to explore occupations, they will also get help visualizing a career pathway that leads to an exciting career they will always enjoy. This will be the place to go to for North Carolinians who want to discover and plan for their perfect career.
HRD Pre-/Post- COVID-19: New Normal, New Challenges, New Failures and New Opportunities	Teaching and Learning	Pre-Conference Meeting	Johnny is not paying attention...on that cell phone again. Cindy is acting like she is paying attention, but her mind is somewhere else. I wonder if she even ate this morning. Someone in this classroom smells like they just finished smoking weed! Steve looks a lot better today since our little talk. Who is ready to stand up and respond to "Tell me a little about yourself"? These observational learns are key teaching and learning mechanisms for HRD educators. How do we move forward with HRD pre-/post- COVID-19 with online teaching, without compromising accountability and quality?

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
I Belong Too: Mentoring the 1st Generation Student	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	As a First-gen Forward institution, Pitt Community College (PCC) developed the 1st Gen Fellows mentoring program aimed at creating a sense of belonging for first-generation students. In an effort to enhance the college experience, PCC partnered first-generation college students with first-generation faculty and staff members, with the purpose of enhancing academic, social, and professional endeavors of its participants. This session will highlight implementation and design strategies of 1st Gen Fellows, share best practices in mentoring, and showcase recent data to support the need of such programs.
I'm Not a Regular Advisor. I'm a "Cool Advisor": Using Pop Culture to Develop an Advising Philosophy and Practice.	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	If we look closely, we can find models of effective advising and mentoring practice all around us. It's in movies such as Rocky, Men in Black, Star Wars, and other films and TV shows. In this interactive presentation, you will hear how an advisor at Central Carolina Community College fashioned their advising philosophy and practice based on lessons learned in the movie Bull Durham. Inspired by NACADA, and the work of U of IL Urbana-Champaign's Kimberly Powers, this model will be discussed in the lens of all the changes that have occurred since the presenter joined the community college system in 1992.
Identifying At-Risk Students for Early Intervention Through Predictive Analytics	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Wake Tech has developed a predictive analytics model to improve student success through early intervention. The model considers risk factors supported by research, including student characteristics and behaviors, and uses a logistical regression approach to achieve an accuracy of 90 percent. Knowing which students are at risk allows the college to act early to ensure that proven student success strategies reach students who need them most.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Impacts of Success Coaching on Student Retention and Completion at 10 NC Community Colleges	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will discuss the impact of proactive, data-informed success coaching on students' postsecondary attainment at 10 North Carolina community colleges. Final evaluation results of a four-year randomized controlled trial (RCT) involving over 14,000 students will be shared, along with observations of key institutional drivers of successful implementation. Learn how personalized, proactive, sustained support can increase outcomes for at-risk students, as well as key implementation factors that can support student success and promote transformative change.
Increase Enrollment and Community Engagement	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will feature two highly successful community college events that make it easy to transform your campus into a premier STEM community resource. You will have the opportunity to try some of their activities and will be able to see firsthand how much fun an event like this can be for your students and guests. BioNetwork's ready-to-go programs are free, easy to implement, and sure to impress your community stakeholders, upper administration and board of trustees. Events like these are guaranteed to bring positive press to your campus.
Information Technology-Related Programs—2020 Updates	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will cover the implementation, status and updates of the Information Technology (A25590), Simulation and Game Development (A25450) and Digital Media Technology (A25210) programs. Discussion will include curriculum revisions, new and revised courses, course "equate" function, industry certifications, new trends, job opportunities and professional development ideas. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, communicate with other faculty and provide feedback on pressing topics.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Instructional Coach	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Instructional coaches at Fayetteville Technical Community College, observe faculty members with the intention of providing effective feedback to enhance their instruction and student engagement; facilitate faculty work groups to develop talent and leadership among the faculty; and lead professional development sessions based on faculty feedback and input. This is a novel program at the college, and their presence is integral to developing and retaining talented instructors, which in turn positively affects student success. Presenters will share their process and journey.
It's Getting HOTT in Here: Developing an In-House Hybrid and Online Teacher Training Course	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	When teachers are confident and adequately prepared to teach online and hybrid courses, everyone benefits. To better prepare faculty to teach online/hybrid courses, to increase the consistent quality of online courses, and to model best practices for instructors, Craven Community College developed its own Hybrid and Online Teacher Training course, HOTT! In this session, you will learn about the development process for HOTT. Discussion will hone in on why and how the course was implemented, what it entails, the benefits of offering an in-house, customized online/hybrid teacher preparation course, and lessons learned along the way in the process.
Launching the NCCCS OER Platform	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	In 2020, the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) launched an open educational resource repository (OER), in partnership with the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME), to benefit teaching and learning in all its 58 institutions. This new OER platform contains resources and collections for its current North Carolina Learning Object Repository (NCLOR), as well as curated materials from the Open Education North Carolina Initiative and OER Commons. In this session, you will explore the creative and collaborative research, discovery and design that went into development of the NCCCS OER Library.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Learn, Serve and Inspire: Transitioning Your Role Towards Leadership	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	NC State University hosts the premier program in the United States for community college faculty and staff who have the desire to earn a doctorate degree in community college leadership. A team of faculty from NC State and doctorate students will share the Ed.D. program's focused format designed for working professionals, partnerships, and practice-driven approach. Through partnerships with the Aspen Institute, the League for Innovation and the American Association of Community Colleges, community college educators will gain an understanding of how to advance their careers through this leadership development program.
Let Those University Reps Come to Class! Enhancing University Transfer	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	College access is ever changing for the prospective transfer student. Universities annually review and adjust their college admissions requirements, preferences, and courses needed on what will make a student competitive for admissions to a university. This happens with both public and private schools. The ACA-122 course, Early College, and Middle College programs have proven to be quite successful for transfer students in the North Community college system. In this session, you will hear ideas to get university reps into classrooms to make our community college students the most competitive applicants they can be.
Leveraging Latinx Parents' Cultural Wealth: Platicas with Parents About Their Involvement in Post-Secondary Educational Spaces in Western North Carolina	Equity	Concurrent Session	Decades of well-documented research confirm parental engagement as a "key contributor to student success." However, as students advance in the educational pipeline, the role of Hispanic/Latinx parents and families is often undervalued and underutilized. In this session, CFNC State Representative for Spanish Services will discuss how parents leverage cultural wealth in post-secondary educational spaces in the region of western North Carolina, and how their involvement diverges from dominant discourse in educational attainment. The presentation will promote pragmatic solidarity for innovation and transformation by thinking with Hispanic/Latinx families and parents as crucial participants in the educational experience.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Leveraging NCCCS Dashboards for Insights and Decisions in Workforce CE and Basic Skills	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will provide an overview of how the North Carolina Community College System Success Office collects and reports data insights and trends related to Basic Skills and Workforce and Continuing Education. The team from Research and Performance Management will share new interactive dashboards and reporting tools designed to help Workforce and Continuing Education leaders explore insights related to FTE and student enrollment, progress and success patterns over time.
Meeting the Needs of Student Veterans	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Over the past 15 years, more veterans have been going to college than ever before. With the Success creation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, veterans have more options and more incentive to go to college. Since 2001, nearly three million men and women have served in the military, many of them seeing long deployments, fighting and a very high operational tempo. Following their service obligation, many turn to college campuses to gain skills and education to better posture themselves for a career as a civilian. How colleges react/support student veterans contributes directly to their success or failure.
Mentoring Matters!!!	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Mentoring is an effective practice that provides guidance and support to students. Vance-Granville Community College Men's Achievement Academy provides mentors to all of its members and enrichment activities that empower members to become successful in accomplishing their academic and career goals. This interactive session will give you the opportunity to learn about the Men's Achievement Academy program, the training provided for mentors, and how this program has affected the lives of the students.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Mindfulness and the Role of Contemplative Pedagogy	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will identify the role of mindfulness and contemplative pedagogy for faculty members. Mindfulness and contemplative pedagogy can assist an individual in raising their own self-awareness, and this holistic method can help curb the stressors that an individual may face in an overstimulated society. Discussion will map respective theoretical foundations, outline potential activities for both students and faculty members, and provide a brainstorm session for faculty to develop their own mindfulness and contemplative pedagogical practices.
Moving "IamFirstGen" Forward	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	As a result of Pitt Community College's (PCC) "IamFirstGen" campaign, the existence ofTRiO programs, and a conglomerate of programs and services, PCC was designated a First-Gen Forward Institution by NASPA and the Center for First-generation Student Success. The designation recognizes institutions that are committed to improving experiences/advancing outcomes of first-generation college students. Learn what makes PCC a First-Gen Forward institution. This session will highlight the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic year goals, share new and emerging strategies for first-generation student success, highlight local and national data trends, and identify avenues in which campus stakeholders can become First-Gen Forward advocates.
Multiple Intelligences to Promote Metacognition in the Online Learning Environment	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This presentation is based on research conducted by the presenter in fulfillment of his doctoral dissertation at Fayetteville Technical Community College. The presenter will outline the research and explore practical applications of the Theory of Multiple Intelligences in online learning. Topics that will be addressed include nontraditional students, digital immigrants and digital natives, qualitative research methodology, metacognition, self-efficacy, and student success. You will become familiar with the perspective that learning style is a form of diversity, necessitating the planning of lessons and evaluations to address a variety of intelligence types.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
NC Office of EMS Update	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	This session will provide deans and senior managers an overview of changes impacting Emergency Medical Services (EMS) programs. Discussion will include compliance issues identified by the NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NC OEMS) as high-risk areas. NC OEMS is overseeing a comprehensive rules-revision process and a forward-thinking review of EMS education. Through the EMS Education Steering Committee, NC OEMS is reviewing curriculum content, program requirements and clinical competency needed now and into the future. Join this discussion of how North Carolina is working to do what is right for the patient, provider and student, while moving the EMS profession forward. This is a companion session to "EMS Program Basics: Panel Discussion" and "EMS Program Basics: Best Practices for Success."
NC Transfer Research Panel	Pathways	Concurrent Session	In this session, researchers from NC State's Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research and the University of North Carolina-Charlotte will engage in a panel discussion about current transfer-related research projects. The goal of this session is to engage with session attendees about what critical issues you believe transfer-related research should focus on in order to improve practice. You will have the opportunity to engage with researchers and provide critical feedback on the direction of future projects.
New Faculty Academy	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	In this session, you will learn about Cleveland Community College's New Faculty Academy (NFA)—an onboarding process that orients new faculty members to the culture of the college and to different aspects of teaching. Each new faculty member meets with the New Faculty Guide once a month for the first year; emails, texts and "informal check-ins" occur each month as well. College culture and policies are discussed as well as teaching ideas. Department mentors are assigned in the second year. The LMS is used to enhance this onboarding process. Discover why the NFA, now in its sixth year, has had great reviews by the new faculty.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
New Prior Learning Policy and Procedures	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	What is the state of the NCCCS Credit for Prior learning Initiative, and how will it affect students, staff, policies, programs, colleges and university transfer? This session will focus on these important questions...and will engage the audience for questions. The System Office has spent a long time in the development of the policy and procedures, involving staff and faculty from more than 45 colleges, and there is much to be learned as the colleges implement the policy during a year of coaching.
Offering Work-Based Learning Opportunities to English Language Learners	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	This session will focus on the implementation of work-based learning opportunities for English Language Learners. The College and Career Readiness Department at Wilkes Community College has created a strong partnership with Tyson Foods, Inc. You will be provided with information regarding initial implementation of work-based learning to advanced partnership development with employers.
Office and Healthcare Administration-Related Programs 2020 Updates	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will cover the implementation, status and updates of the Office Administration (A25370), Medical Office Administration (A25310), Healthcare Management Technology (A25200) and Healthcare Business Informatics (A25510) programs. Discussion will include curriculum revisions, new and revised courses, course "equate" function, new trends, job opportunities, industry certifications and professional development ideas. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, communicate with other faculty and provide feedback on pressing topics.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Our Students: Our Heroes	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Some of the oldest stories the world over are hero stories, but what do they really mean? In this session, the presenter will outline Joseph Campbell's hero formula, demonstrating how such stories illustrate the rites of passage all humans experience. Special emphasis will be placed on the correlation between the hero's struggle and the experiences of the community college student from the moment they enroll in college to graduation. Discussion will provide a fresh perspective on and appreciation of the challenges faced by our students during the college journey and the roles we play, positive or negative.
Partnering for Student Success	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	The National Initiative for Leadership and Institutional Effectiveness, along with leadership from Edgecombe Community College and Vance-Granville Community College, will co-present on their partnerships to assess campus climate through the PACE Climate Survey for Community Colleges. In this session, you will learn about the value of gathering campus climate data and providing college leadership with critical information for strategic decision making and focusing on student needs; how Edgecombe and Vance-Granville leadership interpreted and prioritized PACE data to effect institutional change towards student success; and the goals and actions that leadership developed based on the results of their PACE survey.
Partners in Opportunity	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This presentation will highlight processes and strategies for engaging partners and associated networking, outcomes, benefits, and lessons learned. Partnerships have enhanced the services provided to the community and opened doors for collaborative projects such as Certified Career Pathways, an employment skills lesson plan resource, and a collaborative brochure for reaching high school dropouts, as well as the inaugural Networking Redesigned event for Pitt County in 2019. You will also be provided with information and strategies related to how this event and interaction were expanded to an online virtual event in 2020 in light of the COVID crisis, bringing in new partners, and further enhancing existing relationships.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Pathways to Align Credentials with Jobs in Demand by 2025	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This session will focus on the evolving role of community colleges as hubs for economic opportunity. Discussion will focus on emerging solutions in the areas of pathways and job matching, including how community colleges and employers can expand credential pathways so that young people can develop skills that are in demand, and how community colleges can harness data from labor markets to shorten the feedback loop between employers and education providers. The session will be hosted by Catalyst 2025, an initiative that works with partners across North Carolina to accelerate partnerships for inclusive growth.
Pathways to Employment	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This presentation will introduce you to 12 Pathway to Employment courses; these courses are designed to provide instruction on fundamental employment core skillsets required to effectively enter the workforce and/or a registered apprenticeship, and may also serve as a component of a pre-apprenticeship. An ACA transition course was developed to help transfer students to effectively transfer into the UNC system. CTE students who expect to transition into the workforce deserve the same consideration. Upon the conclusion of the session, you should be able to identify Pathway to Employment course objectives and understand the significance of properly preparing individuals for work.
Pathways To Purpose - Revitalizing Trades Education Along the Coast	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	Hear from Brunswick Community College leadership as they provide an overview of the strategies, progress and partnerships that have resulted from the Pathways To Purpose project, funded through NC Commerce in collaboration with the Cape Fear Workforce Development Board. The overview will include the motivation for writing the proposal, AccessNC data, unexpected success, questions, answers and positive idea sharing.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Political, Professional or Personal Growth: Which Topics Should We Encourage Students to Write on in ENG 111?	Student Access and Success	Roundtable Discussion	English composition courses, specifically ENG 111, can benefit students most by integrating personal growth topics into the curriculum. Encouraging students to explore topics such as mental/personal health, cultural issues and family issues helps students see community college as a place to find answers to hard questions. English composition has often been a place where the professional and political topics take priority over personal growth. In this session you will learn how to integrate topics into ENG 111 related to personal growth which can help improve the community's view of the college as a place of holistic learning.
Postsecondary Participation in SkillsUSA	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Research on participation in SkillsUSA, a career and technical student organization, indicated that students and alumni gained additional benefits beyond learning more about their programs of study. This session will share findings from a qualitative case study exploring student, alumni and advisor participation in SkillsUSA at two community colleges in North Carolina. You will learn what you can do to promote participation in SkillsUSA on your campus.
Proactive Advising with CCP and Early College Students: A Strong High School and Community College Partnership	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Nearly half of Surry Community College's (SCC) population consists of high school students enrolled through the Career and College Promise (CCP) and Early College (EC) programs. A collaboration with the high school partners has proven essential to the success of this population. This session will look at the proactive measures used at SCC to monitor and improve the success of each high school student. You will understand what it takes to implement successful collaboration between SCC and high school partners, advising tools used—including Aviso Engage—and specific initiatives that exist between the school systems and the community college.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Professional Development to Support Student Success	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Receive an overview of the collaborative work of the Student Success Center and the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research. Discussion will address their efforts to develop state-wide, high-quality professional development for faculty, as well as an online, onboarding course for new faculty and staff to support student success. You will learn about the content areas that faculty are most interested in, based on focus groups with over 100 faculty and a survey of 200 faculty members, and the current work to develop online modules in those content areas.
Promoting Critical Thinking Using Maslow's Focused Simulation	Teaching and Learning	Poster Session	As the Next Generation NCLEX looms in the near future, nursing instructors are looking for new, innovative ways to enhance clinical judgement and improve critical thinking skills. The nursing students at Central Carolina Community College participated in a live simulation lab where NCLEX style questions and answers related to Maslow's Hierarchy demonstrated real-time simulated consequences. This allowed students to see the consequences of their decision making played out in real-time simulation. Conclusions drawn from this project help to promote critical thinking by allowing students to make more sense of how their decisions affect patient outcomes.
Public Safety Administration: A New Way to Leverage Credentials and Pathways	Pathways	Concurrent Session	The new Public Safety Administration AAS degree is designed to promote pathways and credit for prior learning opportunities for students with backgrounds in law enforcement, corrections, EMS, fire and rescue, and related fields. In addition to the flexibility of various tracks, it includes new Public Safety Training (PST) courses. These courses offer a specific mechanism for awarding prior-learning credit for industry-recognized training and/or credentials; they may also be used also in Criminal Justice Technology, Fire Protection Technology, and Emergency Management programs. In this session, you will hear innovative ways that colleges are promoting pathways and credit for prior learning for public safety students.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Quest Academy	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	In this session, you will learn about Wayne Community College's Transitional Programs for College and Career's Quest Academy. Quest Academy, a finalist for the Bellwether Award in 2020, is designed to recruit higher-level English Language Acquisition students to increase their English skills, while also integrating a range of occupational programs that help them earn certifications or obtain academic skills.
Question: Do Organizational Models and Charts Really Matter When It Comes to Leading Student Access and Success?	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	There are a number of traditional models that reflect what is typically called a student services department. This presentation will provide insight about whether or not new organizational models play a significant part in student access and success work. The presenters will share their new organizational design at Vance-Granville Community College, and how it has enhanced student access, support, retention and success work at the institution. You will learn how the new structure has fostered additional strategic goal setting and obtainment. The leadership team within student engagement and success will also share their success and lessons learned while working in a new model.
Raising Awareness of the NSF Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Grant Program	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	The Advanced Technological Education (ATE) grant program, administered by the National Science Foundation, provides community colleges with opportunities to fund innovative technician education programs by supporting curriculum development and laboratory enhancement. This presentation will provide in-depth information about North Carolina's active ATE projects, focusing on requirements for developing a competitive proposal; these include the Mentor Connect program that assists institutions pursuing ATEs, best practices that successful NC applicants have previously utilized, and other critical ATE details. Having served as PI for one ATE project and evaluator for six others, the presenter possesses an informed background on ATE funding.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Reducing Student Debt and Default Rates Using a Completion by Design Framework	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Responding to SACSCOC standard 12.6 (Student Debt) and results from institutional financial wellness surveys, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College (A-B Tech) implemented a comprehensive student financial literacy programming model using a Completion-by-Design framework. This session will show how embedding strategic and integrated services, lessons, and support mechanisms at each stage of the student life-cycle—both inside and outside of the classroom—helps students stay in school and better manage cost of attendance and debt; this, in turn, results in lower dependence on loans, increased financial literacy, facilitation of student loan repayment and progress towards degree completion.
Resurrecting a College Archives on a Narrow Budget: How SCC Is Preserving the History of the Oldest Comprehensive Community College	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	The history of NCCCS colleges has over 58 chapters—one for each school. Chartered in 1963, Sandhills (SCC) is the oldest comprehensive community college in the system with only two presidents to have served. In 2019, SCC began a concerted effort to revitalize its archiving efforts. This presentation will explore the support systems available through the NC Digital Heritage Center and NC Community College Archives Association. These organizations and some key workshops have paved the way for the 2020-2022 SCC Archives Project. Learn the steps you can take to preserve your college history.
RISE(ing) for Student Success	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This session will share quantitative statewide data for all 2019 RISE colleges, as well as qualitative data of promising practices that many of the institutions are utilizing and how those practices are influencing student success. You will leave with an understanding of the data, its impact on increased student success and next steps for RISE.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Shifting the Focus of Academic Advising	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	As academic advising models vary among the great 58, this session will take a deep dive into the perspectives of front-line advisors. Research conducted to collect viewpoints of advisors will provide you with an overview of the differing perspectives of faculty advisors. You will hear about the roles advisors play in the bigger picture within the organization, particularly in service to students. The intention of this session is to promote conversation surrounding the needs of advisors, ultimately leading to student access, success and completion.
Signals of Success (SOS): A Homegrown Early Alert System	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	In summer 2017, Dr. Jenny Billings and Melissa Reid were tasked with creating an early alert system for Rowan-Cabarrus students. The ask was that the system be user-friendly for faculty, be created in-house at the college, and use color-coded indicators to signal a student's current success in their course. During the year of development, Chairs Billings and Reid worked with IT to develop "Signals of Success," or "SOS." SOS was first piloted in fall 2018 and has been used consistently ever since. Since rolling out, SOS has increased efforts in communication, documentation, participation and student success.
Simulation and Game Development (SGD) Course Title Updates	Student Access and Success	Roundtable Discussion	This roundtable discussion will focus on standardization of SGD course titles. Over the years, courses have been added to the combined course library (CCL) using "SG" instead of "SGD"; second-level courses have been added with a "II" designation, while the 100-level courses have no "I" designation; and there is even one course in the library that is misspelled! It is the hope that following this roundtable, a set of title changes can be submitted and approved by the System Office.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Simulation Escape Room: Escaping the Room of Errors	Teaching and Learning	Poster Session	Simulation and gamification were combined to create an innovative learning experience for nursing students that encompassed the concepts of professional behaviors, communication, collaboration and safety. The creation of an escape room simulation, designed as a room of errors, was guided by Kolb's experiential learning theory and cognitivism. Debriefing, self-reflection and Socratic questioning following simulation served as a formative assessment model to evaluate learning outcomes. Through active participation in simulation and debriefing, students developed skills necessary to work as a team, recognize immediate and subtle patient safety concerns, problem solve, and practice effective communication.
Solving Issues with Electronic Document Management Solutions	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	In this session, Edgecombe Community College's CIO will speak on the college's information management system initiatives. Hear how Edgecombe Community College (ECC), in partnership with TEAM ia, was able to solve their challenges with electronic document management, e-forms and workflow automation. The college serves 8,000 individuals annually, so access to information is critical. TEAM ia is working in conjunction with ECC to deploy their new generation of document management solutions, with direct colleague integration. You will learn the benefit of document management and how this leads to a greater student experience, student success and both inner workforce connections.
Strategic Commitments to Student Success Across North Carolina	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Understanding how strategic plans invoke a collegewide commitment to change is critical to transformation in practice. This session will report out on research efforts examining community college strategic plans, and will identify how plans signal progress across completion/transfer, labor market, equity, and teaching and learning outcomes. Presenters will review the role strategic plans have in activating student success by articulating who is involved and the intended goals. President Cox will share the strategic planning process at Wilkes Community College and how a student success framework informed the final plan. You will have an opportunity to review your own strategic plan.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Strategies for Managing a Large Advising Caseload	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Whether you have a centralized advising office, rely on faculty advisors, or a combination of both, an advising caseload can be overwhelming. Advisors must be able to identify strategies to build connections with their advisees, and must be able to do so in a genuine, yet efficient manner. To provide targeted support services that promote student success, Surry Community College has strategized their outreach and proactive advising through a streamlined entry process and Aviso, an early alert system. You will learn how to manage your advising caseload using techniques to assist students both virtually and face-to-face.
Strategies for Teaching Online Classes for Beginner ESL Students	Teaching and Learning	Roundtable Discussion	Join fellow ESL instructors in a roundtable discussion on best practices for teaching low-level learners in an online format. During this session, you will share ideas on building and fostering community in online classes, discuss how to create and use class websites, discuss how to scaffold the use of apps and other technology for students with limited technology know-how, and share online resources for low-level English lessons. You will discuss what is working and what is challenging in instructing in this new format. Bring your questions and ideas to share.
Student-Focused Learning for the 21st Century	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This presentation will discuss the impact of 21st century technologies on community colleges and the teaching methods needed to successfully grapple with them. Student-focused, professor-guided instructional methods will be needed for the benefit of the graduates working in an exponential, digital era. Discussion will address nine teaching methods, including concept-based education, project-based education, online education, flipped classroom education, gaming education, YouTube education, Google education, MOOC education and virtual reality education; each of these will be briefly described and discussed as to how they might be used successfully as a teaching method.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Successful Community College Branding Strategies That Will Increase Student Access and Success	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Community colleges must embrace successful branding strategies in order to increase student access and success. This is especially important for colleges with multiple service districts. By creating a premier image through successful branding strategies, community colleges can present themselves as the key provider of academic and continuing education programs, along with workforce development opportunities and community-enrichment activities. In this session, you will learn about successful internal branding strategies within an educational institution; successful branding strategies that will build an investment from parents, potential students and stakeholders; and successful branding strategies that will increase workforce development partnerships.
Supporting Under-Prepared Students for Success in Co-Requisite Courses	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	This presentation will include information on how to help all students to succeed in RISE courses in both developmental reading and English and developmental math. The importance of campus cultural changes to support First Generation, students of color, and other returning students will be included. You will also receive recommendations on building campus connections between departments and how to help under-prepared students from varied backgrounds in becoming a part of your college campus community.
Sustaining Course Delivery in Times of Transition	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	North Carolina community college faculty and staff are some of the most dedicated and resourceful educators within the higher education setting. This session, led by university faculty and a community college leader, will explore a project that developed overnight to help support community college educators and students. In times of transition, it was important to design the project by connecting community college educators with resources that would lead to continuous teaching and learning during Covid-19. You will be provided with resources and access to support for online teaching.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Teaching and Learning in NC: Responding to the Call to Action	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	The 2018 Dallas Herring lecture was an appeal for community colleges to center transformation around developing a culture of teaching and learning excellence. Three organizing principles for transformation were identified: inclusive evidence-based instructional strategies, engaged student learning, and institutional culture that supports learning. Developed to conduct and disseminate research that addresses current and emerging student success challenges, NC State's Belk Center will share findings from the comprehensive evaluative case study that explored existing teaching and learning initiatives across seven diverse community colleges. You will also learn about initiatives for faculty development, as well as standout teaching and learning centers across the country.
The CCR PDF Network Presents Innovative Ideas for Local Professional Development	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	In this session, members of the PDF Network will share some of the many innovative professional development ideas and practices they have implemented at their colleges during the 2020 PDF Network Grant. The grant period coincided with the outbreak of the pandemic, resulting in incredible innovation in local online professional development.
The Creation of a College Promise Program	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) started the Central Carolina Promise program in Lee County in fall 2018 as a local scholarship that provides free tuition to all qualifying students. Central Carolina expanded to all counties within the service region one year later. Join the CCCC team as they share their journey, the many success stories and the many lessons learned along the way.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
The Evolution of Advising at a Community College: Promoting Personalized Advising to Enhance the Student Experience	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	How do you begin to make changes to your advising program? What steps should you take to ensure that your students are on the right pathway to success? This session will explore the evolution of advising at the community college level, from the previous advising model to current advising processes created for "My Academic Pathway," Central Carolina Community College's enhanced advising initiative. You will explore the process from identifying advising changes, methods of testing them for effectiveness, and developing new evaluation metrics. This presentation is aimed at administrators, advisors working with first-year students and individuals interested in integration of advising assessment.
The Impact of ACA 122 on Student Success Across the State	Pathways	Concurrent Session	ACA 122: College Transfer Success is the first-year experience course for preparing community college students to be successful in college, and to create a plan for transferring to a four-year institution. How effectively are we preparing our students? In this presentation, you will examine student data on the NC Community College System level, as well as the local community college level. You will also look into variances in course delivery, ACA faculty and faculty trainings. You will be able to share your own experiences and successes with the course, and discuss possible support needs on the local and system levels.
The Impact of Communications and Connections on Student Success	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Federal financial aid is utilized by many students to finance their college education, and the federal Pell Grant Fund is the largest source of grant funding for community college students. However, many students fail to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards necessary to remain Pell eligible. What is the impact of a negative SAP status on student success? Can proactive team support assist students with improving their SAP statuses? In this session, you will learn how Southeastern Community College improved the progression of students with a negative SAP status through use of effective communication and a team support system.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
The Importance of a Second Language in Community Colleges	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	The importance of learning another language has been overlooked for many years. Research has shown there are many benefits to doing so—it delays mental disorders, enhances memory, increases cognitive skills and helps increase employability. In addition, learning a foreign language motivates interest for other cultures, opening minds to diversity and cultural awareness. This session will make students and faculty aware of these benefits and their application in the labor market. According to the New American Economy, demand for bilingual workers (English/Spanish) has more than doubled in the last five years. It is therefore crucial to offer high-quality instructional programs that give students skills for today's labor market.
The Next Generation of CFNC is Here	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	In this timely session, you will learn more about the new CFNC.org. College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) is the North Carolina collaboration providing resources to assist your students with career exploration, college admissions, financial aid and financial literacy. The presentation will provide you with a comprehensive look at the new and updated features on CFNC.org, including new career tools designed with NC Commerce, refreshed college search tools, and an updated Paying for College section. Discussion topics in this vital session will boost student interest and access on your campuses.
The Promise of Free College: Results from Research on Career & College Promise	Pathways	Concurrent Session	This session will present a theory of change for how Career & College Promise (CCP) increases postsecondary attainment; you will hear about the methodologies used to examine outcomes, as well as results and implications for policy and practice. The results of this study contribute to the larger question, "What is the relationship between CCP and postsecondary attainment?" You will learn the demographics of who is participating in CCP, compared to the larger North Carolina and national populations; how CCP is benefiting students and for whom it is benefiting; and the policy and practice implications of participation trends and benefits.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
The S.O.A.R. Program	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	In late 2018, CaroMont approached Gaston College with a need to train 100 of their Certified Nurse Aide I's to become Certified Nurse Aid II's. Working with ApprenticeshipNC, Gaston College became the first CNAII Apprenticeship program in the state when their cohort started in February 2019. They are now on their third cohort, with a fourth targeted for fall 2020. In addition to CNAII, Gaston College has been asked to begin a CNAI Apprenticeship and research a Medical Assisting and Coding pathways. Apprenticeship 321 also started their first Paramedic Medicine Apprenticeship and Youth Apprenticeship program in August 2019.
The State of Transfer in North Carolina: Updates and an Open Forum with the Transfer Advisory Committee	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	With a statewide attainment goal of two million 25- to 44-year-olds with a high-quality credential or college degree by 2030, transfer from community colleges to senior institutions is more relevant than ever. The Transfer Advisory Committee (TAC), the eight-member committee that interprets and enforces the 2014 Comprehensive Articulation Agreement, will share highlights from its <i>2020 Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee</i> and site visits to UNC partner institutions, as well as resources available to assist in advising transfer students. TAC members will respond to questions about UGETC courses, baccalaureate degree plans, ACA 122 and other transfer-related topics.
The Virtual Leadership "Hokey Pokey"	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Even before our world so quickly shifted due to COVID-19, guiding our teams to meet the needs of students and supporting academic programs took strong leaders. Now more than ever, the plethora of leadership skills needed to "put in" to your team and "pull out" of your team, requires more intentional and transformational actions. This session will review how Rowan-Cabarrus Community College's Career and Academic Advising Leadership established processes as recommended by NACADA and EAB, and moved their teams fluidly between virtual and on-campus environments, where they could "shake it all about."

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
The Workforce Link	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	VGCC uses a multi-pronged attack to address workforce shortages in our service area. The Workforce Link portal is a new tool in our arsenal designed to provide employers with qualified job candidates. Participants will learn how industry partners and students link virtually to explore employment and employee availability to make qualified employment matches. Participants will learn the evolution of the Workforce Link portal, the promotion and approval processes for industry partners accessing the site, the career development and preparation processes for students accessing the site, and the ways our workforce development partners support our efforts to produce work-ready students.
They Can Succeed: Success Strategies for African American Males Enrolled in a Community College	Equity	Concurrent Session	The persistence of African American males enrolled at a community college is critical to the achievement of their academic and career goals. However, African American males are one of the lowest performing subgroups at many community colleges. This interactive session will give you the opportunity to discover practices and resources that engage and support this population from national and local perspectives. You will learn about common practices for supporting this population, as well as how to engage faculty concerning their success in the classroom.
THIS is How You Have a Successful QEP!	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Featured at the SACSCOC Annual Conference, Central Carolina's QEP, which includes advising and onboarding, is an example of a QEP focused on holistic student success. The QEP is not just an accreditation requirement—it is supposed to impact student learning and success and "move the needle." How is that done? How is buy-in created? In this session, you will get an inside look at how to do a great QEP, and receive a guide to ensure that your QEP is focused on the SACSCOC standards for success.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
TikTok, Flipgrid, YouTube, Instagram—Entertaining Students to Help Them Learn	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will explore the use of visual media and video creation as a tool to help students connect to the material, demonstrate understanding of it and enjoy the process. With so many colleges migrating classes to Zoom and other video conferencing platforms due to the pandemic, this session will show you how to bring the students into the production of the course. Students' interests guide the learning and they participate more than simply sitting at a desk or existing in a Zoom window.
Tools for Complying with the Uniform Grant Guidance	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Grant funding can enable colleges to launch innovative programs and address critical student needs. With these funds come compliance requirements and project management demands that can be overwhelming. With an eye on building a lean, mean, grants compliance machine, this session will share Wake Tech's efforts to build pre-and-post award processes and procedures to support grants compliance. You will gain an understanding of simple and low-cost tools to effectively organize, develop and monitor grant proposals, and active projects to maximize positive impacts on student success.
Transfer: Effective Practices and Student Experiences in North Carolina	Credentials Attainment	Concurrent Session	This session will review the work of three researchers who collaborated on a mixed methods study to identify community college and university partnerships in North Carolina with higher than expected baccalaureate attainment rates. The study examined the extent to which these pairs employ transfer and partnership practices that make them more effective than others in helping students attain bachelor's degrees. They also interviewed sub-groups of students—dual enrollment students and Pell-eligible students—at the institutions that were identified as high-performing, to explore their transfer-related experiences.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Trauma-Informed Practices for Faculty	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	This session will cover a collaborative effort between the Center for Child and Family Health and the NC Community College Early Childhood faculty. The content will highlight previous trainings implemented, future initiatives for embedding trauma-informed content into curriculum, and developing/facilitating a train-the-trainer workshop to ensure sustainability and continued practices. Topics will include defining/recognizing trauma exposure and stress, the impact of trauma exposure, secondary trauma, self-care/wellness, emotional regulation, psychologically-safe learning environments, resiliency, and developing policies and procedures to address the impact in learning environments. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, communicate with other faculty and professionals, and provide feedback.
VidGrid: An Engaging and Accessible Video Tool for the Online Classroom Environment	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Learn how to engage online students through both instruction and assessment using VidGrid, an interactive video platform that integrates with most learning management systems. This tool is simple to use and offers options to record screen, voice, or face for video lessons, complete with machine or professional captioning to meet ADA requirements. VidGrid offers student recording assignments, which can enhance student engagement in an online environment. Discussion will highlight Wake Tech's spring 2020 pilot experience using VidGrid, including how this tool enabled them to transition some traditional courses to distance learning during the Coronavirus outbreak.
Why OER is the RIGHT Choice for Your Biology-Based Courses	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	The OER initiative in life sciences is well underway. Four courses (BIO 110, BIO 111, BIO 112 and BIO 163) adopted OpenStax textbooks in fall 2019. This session will review the decision to transition to OpenStax textbooks for these courses, how the transition began, the challenges encountered with this process, and student feedback since using OER and OpenStax textbooks. You will walk away with information on the benefits of adopting OER, how to begin this transition in science courses, and suggestions to make the transition smooth and successful.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Words Matter! Emphasizing Positive Communication Throughout the Onboarding Process Leads to Greater Student Engagement and Retention	Student Access and Success	Concurrent Session	Reframing student conversations about RISE assessments, as well as focusing on immediate enrollment, have proven successful during the onboarding process. Deliberate shifts in positive communication and engagement have stimulated enrollment and reduced student loss. In this session, you will learn about policies and practices to implement to immediately connect students to the academic process. You will also learn strategies to reduce test anxiety, improve vocabulary associated with academic placement and improve student retention. This session will focus on strategies to reevaluate how to effectively communicate with students to support their goals. You will also hear student stories of how college culture impacts students' experiences.
Work-Study and Paid Internship Collaboration—Career Development and Financial Aid	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	In 2017, the financial aid office and the career development offices at Davidson County Community College collaborated to improve the federal work-study program and developed a paid internship program for students through Job Location and Development. This partnership has been successful in growing the number of student workers participating in the program each year, as well as networking with employers to facilitate student opportunities to participate in paid internships while in college—several of these have resulted in job offers for these students.
Workforce Continuing Education—Impacts Across Short-Term Training Programs	Workforce Connections	Concurrent Session	This session will provide an overview of issues and topics impacting the North Carolina Community College - Workforce Education Programs in the past year and consider future opportunities. You will engage in a conversation on shifts in code, current initiatives and workforce impacts. Discussion will also address what has been learned in the past year, as well as policies and initiatives in efforts to move forward in supporting our communities through short-term training programs.

## Session Descriptions

Session Title	Theme / Track	Presentation Type	Description
Working Smart Essential Skills Virtual Instruction	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Working Smart: Soft Skills for Workplace Success training teaches participants soft skills that will help them be successful and productive in the workplace. The program was developed based on feedback from local employers about essential soft skills that they want employees to have. The training consists of 16 lessons across five modules: self-awareness, self-management, work ethic, communication skills, and problem-solving skills. Due to the pandemic, there was a need to shift quickly to a virtual learning model. In this session, you will see current virtual instruction and receive updates about next steps to improve content delivery to students and job seekers.
You Are Not Alone: The Importance of Social Presence and Increased Engagement in Online Classes	Teaching and Learning	Concurrent Session	Research suggests that students continue to struggle with feeling disconnected in online courses. This session will take on the mindset of students and consider what they see on the first day "walking" into an online classroom. Discussion will address the importance of human connection and creating a classroom community, even when students never see one another. Tips and best practices will be looked at, and you will be provided with several easy-to-implement strategies to enhance social presence in your online course.