



2024

**NJ COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
OPPORTUNITY SUMMIT**

# **Building Pathways**

to Equity & Economic Prosperity

**June 11-13, 2024**

**Bally's Atlantic City Hotel & Casino**

# Welcome

On behalf of **New Jersey's 18 Community Colleges** and their 230,000 students, we welcome you to the **New Jersey Community College Opportunity Summit** and the **New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit**.

We are joined by Community College trustees, Presidents, staff, and faculty, as well as partners from high schools, four-year colleges and universities, employers, unions, community-based organizations, the public workforce system, state and local government, and others with a commitment to the shared goals of equity and economic prosperity.

This past month, we released **New Jersey's Opportunity Agenda: Building Pathways to Equity and Economic Prosperity**, which sets out an ambitious vision for the future of our state. Grounded in equity, collaboration, opportunity, and innovative efforts underway at each of the **18 Community Colleges**, the **Opportunity Agenda** identifies 14 specific strategies to address urgent equity concerns and meet our core mission in a world of social, economic, demographic, technological, and climate changes.

The first day is the **Opportunity Summit**. During the **Opportunity Summit**, we will learn more about the **Opportunity Agenda** and will hear from state and national experts who have unique insights to help us all navigate our rapidly changing world. We will also celebrate the contributions of innovative individuals and organizations to the work of our Community Colleges at our **Awards Dinner**.

The second day is our **NJ Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit**. The **NJ Pathways To Career Opportunity Initiative**, a partnership with the **New Jersey Business and Industry Association** that has been supported by significant investments from the Governor and Legislature, has brought together over 1,800 education, industry, union and government partners to build

# Welcome (Cont.)

stackable education and training opportunities and to ensure that employers have access an innovative skilled workforce.

The third day will highlight the **Community to Opportunity Initiative** that is working, with the generous support of **The Tepper Foundation**, to ensure that more Community College students have access to holistic supports that address food insecurity, homelessness, childcare issues, and mental health and wellness.

We will also have a track devoted to **Promising Practices** underway at **NJ's Community Colleges**.

We hope you will leave Atlantic City with new inspiration, new ideas, new partners, and with a renewed commitment to working together to build a more equitable and prosperous New Jersey.

**Dr. Sheetal Ranjan,**

Chair of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges  
and Trustee of Bergen Community College

**Dr. Aaron Fichtner,**

President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges



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**Join us! We are currently accepting  
applications for Fall 2024!**



## EAB Support for New Jersey's Community Colleges

- Best Practices Research and Process Consulting
- Recruitment and Retention Technologies
- Data Management and Analytics

**JOIN OUR SESSION**

**Reckoning with  
Relevance: 2024 Higher Ed  
State of the Sector**

**June 12 • 8:00 a.m. ET**



Learn more at [eab.com](https://eab.com)



# June 11

## New Jersey's Community College Opportunity Summit: Building Pathways to Equity and Economic Prosperity

- 10:00 AM**    **Registration for Quarterly Council Meeting**  
*Rotunda*
- 11:00 AM**    **Council Meeting**  
*Berkshire & Tivoli*
- 11:00 AM**    **Conference Registration & Networking**  
*Rotunda*
- 12:00 PM**    **Lunch/Welcome**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Aaron Fichtner**, President, New Jersey Council of  
County Colleges
- Dr. Barbara Gaba**, President, Atlantic Cape Community  
College
- Dr. Michael Gorman**, President, Salem Community  
College and Chair of NJ Community College Presidents
- Dr. Sheetal Ranjan**, Chair, New Jersey Council of County  
Colleges and Trustee, Bergen Community College
- 12:15 PM**    **Greetings from the Murphy Administration**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Robert Asaro-Angelo**, Commissioner, New Jersey  
Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- 12:30 PM**    **Summit Themes: The Four Pillars of the Opportunity Agenda**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Aaron Fichtner**, President, New Jersey Council of  
County Colleges
- 12:45 PM**    **Amid AI Revolution: Opportunities for Community College  
Innovation**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dave Cole**, Chief Innovation Officer, State of New Jersey
- 1:15 PM**    **Developing Community College AI Programs: Lessons from  
an AI Pioneer on Equity, Academics, Industry Partnerships,  
and Degrees**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Madeline Burillo-Hopkins**, Vice Chancellor  
Workforce Instruction and President Southwest College,  
Houston Community College

# June 11 (Cont.)

## New Jersey's Community College Opportunity Summit: Building Pathways to Equity and Economic Prosperity

- 1:45 PM**     **Break**  
*Rotunda*
- 2:00 PM**     **Opportunity Agenda: Building Pathways to Equity and Economic Prosperity (Partner Insights on the Four Pillars)**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Carin Berkowitz**, Executive Director, NJ Council for the Humanities
- Althea D. Ford**, Vice President, Government Affairs, New Jersey Business and Industry Association
- Kiran Handa Gaudio**, CEO, United Way of Northern New Jersey
- Dr. Laura A. Sullivan**, Director, Economic Justice Program, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
- Daniela Velez**, Entrepreneurial Programs Coordinator, Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey
- Maria Heidkamp (Moderator)**, Chief Innovation and Policy Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges
- 3:15 PM**     **Networking/Visits with Summit Sponsors**  
*Rotunda*
- 3:45 PM**     **Pillar 2: Fostering Student Success and Completion in Postsecondary Education and Training**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Constance Barnes**, Director, CUNY ASAP|ACE National Replication Collaborative, The City University of New York, Office of Academic Affairs
- Dr. Margaret M. McMenamin**, President, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ
- Dr. Christopher M. Reber**, President, Hudson County Community College
- Dr. Jessica Rowland Williams**, Senior Director of Client Service Delivery, National Institute for Student Success at Georgia State University

# June 11 (Cont.)

## New Jersey's Community College Opportunity Summit: Building Pathways to Equity and Economic Prosperity

**Maria Heidkamp (Moderator)**, Chief Innovation and  
Policy Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

5:00 PM    **Break**

6:15 PM    **Awards Dinner**  
*Traymore A*

## June 12 - Breakfast Session

8:00 AM    **Bonus Session (Open to All)**  
**Reckoning with Relevance: 2024 State of the Sector**  
*Dennis*  
**Dr. Tara Zirkel**, Director, Strategic Research, EAB

## NEW JERSEY'S OPPORTUNITY AGENDA: BUILDING PATHWAYS TO EQUITY AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

### PILLAR 1

Helping All  
High School  
Students  
Access  
Pathways to  
Postsecondary  
and Career  
Success

### PILLAR 2

Fostering  
Student  
Success and  
Completion in  
Postsecondary  
Education and  
Training

### PILLAR 3

Building  
Transparent,  
Seamless, and  
Stackable  
Pathways  
That Respond  
to the  
Changing  
Economy

### PILLAR 4

Building  
Transparent,  
Seamless, and  
Stackable  
Pathways That  
Respond to the  
Changing  
Economy



DOWNLOAD OUR  
OPPORTUNITY AGENDA  
BOOKLET AND LEARN MORE

# June 12

## New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit: Expanding Innovative Education and Workforce Partnerships

- 7:30 AM**     **Registration**  
*Rotunda*
- 7:45 AM**     **Breakfast Buffet**  
*Atrium*
- 9:00 AM**     **Introductions and Opening Remarks**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Catherine Starghill, Esq.**, Vice President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges and Executive Director, New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development
- Christopher Emigholz**, Chief Government Affairs Officer, New Jersey Business and Industry Association
- Dr. Brian Bridges**, Secretary of Higher Education, New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education
- 9:20 AM**     **The Success of the New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Initiative**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Michael McDonough**, President, Raritan Valley Community College
- Catherine Starghill, Esq.**, Vice President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges and Executive Director, New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development
- 10:00 AM**     **Pathways: Equity and Access to High Quality Industry Credentials and Associate Degrees**  
*Traymore B/C*
- Dr. Chauncy Lennon**, Vice President for Learning and Work and Senior Strategy Advisor, Lumina Foundation
- 10:45 AM**     **Break**  
*Rotunda*
- 11:00 AM**     **Credential Transparency for Competencies and Skills: The Benefits to Students, Jobseekers, and Employers**  
*Traymore*
- Scott Cheney**, CEO, Credential Engine

# June 12 (Cont.)

## New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit: Expanding Innovative Education and Workforce Partnerships

**Ken Sauer**, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer, Indiana Commission for Higher Education

**Catherine Starghill, Esq. (Moderator)**, Vice President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges and Executive Director, New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce & Economic Development

**11:45 AM**    **Networking Break**  
*Rotunda*

**12:00 PM**    **Lunch**  
*Traymore B/C*

**12:15 PM**    **Education Pathways and The Future of Work**  
*Traymore B/C*

**Charlotte Cahill**, Associate Vice President, Education, Jobs for the Future

**1:15 PM**    **Industry and Pathways: The Intersection of Education and Workforce Development**  
*Traymore B/C*

**Amanda Winters**, Program Director, Post-Secondary Education, National Governors Association

**Keith Witham**, Vice President of Education Philanthropy, Ascendium Education

**Paul Fain (Moderator)**, Journalist, Work Shift and The Job, and The Cusp Podcast (former reporter & editor for Inside Higher Ed)

**2:15 PM**    **Break**  
*Rotunda*

**2:30 PM**    **New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities: Centers of Workforce Innovation Highlights**  
*Traymore B/C*

**Aseptic Processing and Biomanufacturing**

**Conrad Mercurius**, Executive Director, Workforce Development, Raritan Valley Community College

# June 12 (Cont.)

## New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit: Expanding Innovative Education and Workforce Partnerships

**Zainab Alali, Director**, Workforce Development,  
Biotechnology & Aseptic Manufacturing, Raritan  
Valley Community College

**Chrissy Buteas**, President and CEO, HealthCare  
Institute of New Jersey

### Film and Television Production

**Dr. David Stout**, President, Brookdale Community  
College

**Joan Scocco**, Chief Officer Strategic Initiatives and  
Innovation, Brookdale Community College

**Diane Raver**, Director, New Jersey Film Academy,  
Brookdale Community College

### Esports Production Content Creation Hub

**David Bruno**, Associate Dean, Educational  
Programming and External Relations, Camden  
County College

### Robotics and Automation

**Thomas Roskop, Jr.**, Chairperson, Associate  
Professor, Department of Engineering Science/  
Engineering Technologies, County College of Morris

4:00 PM    **Break**  
*Rotunda*

4:30 PM    **New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities: The Path  
Forward**  
*Traymore B/C*

**Catherine Starghill, Esq.**, Vice President, New Jersey  
Council of County Colleges and Executive Director,  
New Jersey Community College Consortium for  
Workforce and Economic Development

4:45 PM    **Closing Remarks**  
*Traymore B/C*

**Dr. Aaron Fichtner**, President, New Jersey Council of  
County Colleges



# June 12 (Cont.)

New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Summit:  
Expanding Innovative Education and Workforce Partnerships

5:00 PM After Summit Break

6:00 PM Pathways Reception  
*VIP Lounge*



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# June 13

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

- 7:00 AM**     **Registration**  
*Rotunda*
- 7:45 AM**     **Main Breakfast**  
*Rotunda Buffet – General Attendees Dine in Traymore A*
- 8:00 AM**     **Affinity Group Breakfasts**  
*Various Meeting Rooms*  
**Academic Affairs Affinity Group**, Longwood  
**Institutional Advancement Affinity Group**, Imperial  
**Senior Continuing Education Officers Affinity Group**, Berkshire  
**Student Services Affinity Group**, Tivoli

### (9:00 AM) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports - Opening Session *Traymore B/C*

#### Welcoming Remarks

**Mark Dinglasan**, New Jersey Food Security Advocate

**Dr. Medha Havnurkar**, Director of Workforce Development, New Jersey Department of Health

#### Community to Opportunity: Strengthening Community to Build Opportunity

**Rose Rodriguez**, Portfolio Manager, The Tepper Foundation

**Stephanie Baker**, Senior Manager, Higher Education, Benefits Data Trust

**Jacqueline Tenuto**, Associate Dean of Students/Deputy Title IX and 504 Coordinator, Camden County College

**Dr. Keith Kirkland**, Dean of Students, Essex County College

**Katherine Morales, LSW**, Director, Hudson Helps, Hudson County Community College

**Dr. Cory Homer**, Vice President of Student Success and Institutional Effectiveness, Sussex County Community College

**Jacob C. Farbman, Ed.D., APR (Moderator)**, Executive Director, Economic Mobility Initiatives, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

#### (9:15 AM) Track 2: Promising Practices – Concurrent Sessions

##### Enhancing Institutional Access and Inclusivity through the Lens of an Online Learner

*Imperial*

**Dr. Shelley Kurland**, Dean, Virtual Campus, County College of Morris

**Josh Piddington**, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Rowan College of South Jersey

##### Gateway to Innovation: Transforming the Local Workforce Ecosystem

*Berkshire*

**Lori Margolin**, Associate Vice President, School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development, Hudson County Community College

**Anita Belle**, Director of Workforce Pathways, Hudson County Community College

##### Driving Strategic Priorities with Flexible Work Arrangements

*Longwood*

**Anna Krupitskiy**, Vice President, Human Resources, Hudson County Community College

**Dr. Lisa Dougherty**, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment, Hudson County Community College

**Joseph Morgan**, Executive Director of Human Resources, Middlesex College

**10:30 AM Break** (Rotunda)

#### (10:45 AM) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports – Concurrent Sessions

##### The Caroline Huber Holistic Wellness Center

*Tivoli*

**Dr. Anita Voogt**, Associate Vice President of Strategic Partnerships, Brookdale Community College

# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

#### (10:45 AM Cont.) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports – Concurrent Sessions

**Summer Deaver**, Director, Wellness Center, Brookdale Community College

**Strategic Initiatives That Strengthen Graduation: Removing Barriers to Student Degree Conferral and How Data and Analytics Moved the Needle in Meeting Student Success Goals**

*Fairmount*

**Robyn Inez Berenato**, Registrar, Atlantic Cape Community College

**Duane Reid**, Assistant Dean of Students, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

**Revolutionizing Advising for Student Success**

*Monticello*

**Ryan Brady**, Academic Counselor, Hudson County Community College

**Shaheeda Johnson**, Academic Counselor, Hudson County Community College

**Shuang DeJesus**, Academic Counselor, Hudson County Community College

#### (10:45 AM Cont.) Track 2: Promising Practices – Concurrent Sessions

**AI in Teaching**

*Longwood*

**Kweli Snowden**, Director of Learning Resources, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

**Shahrazad Heidary**, Associate Professor of Chemistry, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

**Dr. Mandana Ahsani**, Senior Professor of Psychology and Sociology, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

#### (10:45 AM Cont.) Track 2: Promising Practices – Concurrent Sessions

**Ingrid Ahlgren**, Director of Union Honors, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

#### Filling a Direct Support Professional (DSP) Workforce Need by Working in Collaboration with Various New Jersey Partners *Berkshire*

**Cinzia D'Iorio**, Vice President, Continuing Education and Workforce Development, Bergen Community College

**Yeon Su Kil**, Program Supervisor, Bergen Community College

**Deborah Rabottino**, Director of Career Preparation and Experiential Learning, Rowan College of South Jersey

#### Enhancing Grant Compliance: Integrating Grants Offices into Finance and Procurement *Imperial*

**Yamillet Febo-Gomez**, Director of Grants, Middlesex College

**Madeline Caterinicchio**, Director of Purchasing, Middlesex College

**Alicja Zalewski**, Acting Controller, Middlesex College

12:00 PM **Lunch**  
*Traymore B/C*

12:15 PM **Serving New Jersey's Justice-Impacted Individuals**  
*Traymore B/C*

**The Honorable James McGreevey**, Executive Director, New Jersey Reentry Corporation

**Honorable Judge (Ret.) Mark Sandson, J.S.C.**, Judiciary Opportunities for Success, JOBS Program

**Lori Margolin**, Associate Vice President, Continuing Education and Workforce Development, and Director, Programs for Justice Involved Individuals, Hudson County Community College

# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

**Dr. Alexandra Fields**, Professor of English and Academic Director, Center for Justice-Impacted Students, Middlesex College

**Genevieve Van Doren**, Director of Returning and Incarcerated Student Education (RISE) Program, Raritan Valley Community College

**Dr. David Stout (Moderator)**, President, Brookdale Community College

**Dr. Aaron Fichtner (Closing Remarks)**, President, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

## (1:45 PM) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports – Concurrent Sessions

### Partnerships to Meet Community College Students' Basic Needs *Tivoli*

**Dr. Stafford Barton**, Personal Counselor, Bergen Community College

**Annie Echeverry**, Bergen Cares Coordinator, Bergen Community College

**Dr. Jennifer Migliorino-Diaz**, Assistant Vice President, Bergen Community College

**Lisa Pitz**, Executive Director, Hunger Free New Jersey

### Integrated Approach to Retention *Fairmount*

**Dr. Kathleen Mohr**, Director of Enrollment and Retention Services, Ocean County College

**Dr. Gerald Racioppi**, Vice President of Student Affairs, Ocean County College

**Dr. Sheenah Hartigan**, Executive Director of Enrollment Services, Ocean County College



# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

#### (1:45 PM Cont.) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports – Concurrent Sessions

##### Pipeline Programs That Empower Student Success: A College Promise Program, College for a Day, and Enabling Youth Pre-College Access *Monticello*

**Dr. Pamela Marcenaro**, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management, County College of Morris

**Nicholas Uster**, Coordinator of Pipeline Initiatives, Rowan College at Burlington County

**Kelly Otis**, Director of Outreach and Admissions, Rowan College at Burlington County

**Dr. Jennifer Migliorino-Reyes**, Assistant Vice President, Bergen Community College

**Angelo Abreu**, Director, Perth Amboy Center, Middlesex College

#### (1:45 PM) Track 2: Promising Practices – Concurrent Sessions

##### Social Justice Education: A Pathway for Inclusion *Longwood*

**Dr. Paula Roberson**, Director, Center for Teaching, Learning and Innovation, Hudson County Community College

**Sharon Daughtry**, Instructor, Business, Hudson County Community College

##### Best Practices in Strategic Course Scheduling for Student Success *Berkshire*

**Dr. A.J. Trump**, Vice President of Student Affairs, Bergen Community College

**Dr. Andrew Tomko**, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Bergen Community College

**Emily Peck**, Regional Vice President, Northeast, Ad Astra

# June 13 (Cont.)

## Holistic Student Supports Convening

### Promising Practices: Community College Innovations to Support Equity and Economic Prosperity

#### (2:45 PM) Track 1: Holistic Student Supports – Closing Session

*Traymore A*

#### Emerging Resources to Support Students: SNAP Employment and Training (E&T)

**Linda L. Rhoads, M.S.**, Project Associate, Center for Policy and Practice, Association of Community College Trustees

**Laura Clark**, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Success and Professional Development, Virginia's Community Colleges

**Jacob C. Farbman, Ed.D., APR (Moderator)**, Executive Director, Economic Mobility Initiatives, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

#### (2:45 PM) Track 2: Promising Practices Closing Session – Supporting Adult Learners

*Traymore B/C*

#### Improving Economic Mobility for Adult Learners Initiative (with Achieving the Dream and Jobs for the Future)

**Dr. Vanessa O'Brien-McMasters**, Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness and Chief Strategy Officer, Atlantic Cape Community College

**Dr. Lisa Dougherty**, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment, Hudson County Community College

**Jasmine Jilus**, Director of Career Services, UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ

#### OSHE's Credit for Prior Learning Technical Assistance Initiative

**Lauren Collier**, Senior Consultant, VantagePoint

**Maria Heidkamp (Moderator)**, Chief Innovation and Policy Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

**Dr. Linda Scherr (Moderator)**, Chief Academic Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

Conference Concludes

# Meet Our Summit Speakers

During the **New Jersey Community College Opportunity Summit** and the **Holistic Student Supports Convening**, national and state thought leaders are sharing their perspectives on key issues facing higher education.

National speakers at the **NJ Pathways Summit** are speaking on how New Jersey can emerge with an education infrastructure that ensures all students and workers are prepared to thrive in an innovative economy because **ALL EDUCATION IS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT!**

**New Jersey's Community Colleges** are sharing **Promising Practices** designed to transform our state's education and training sectors to support our students and our economy.

## FULL SPEAKER LINE-UP



[NJCommunityColleges.org](https://NJCommunityColleges.org)





New Jersey  
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