

# – 2013 Access & Equity Conference

May 22—23, 2013

Columbia, SC



## *A New Look at Access & Equity*

Traditional views of educational disparities in South Carolina have focused primarily on African American access to education. As the projected number of high school graduates decline, more non-traditional scholars are finding their way into the classroom. Increasingly veterans are coming home from defending our country and making the transition from soldier to student. Given the increase and variety of cultural diversity on college campuses, SC PAAE encourages higher education professionals to take *A New Look at Access and Equity*. During this conference, attendees are encouraged to ask themselves how their institutions can prepare for and support students who represent an expanded vision of diversity in the pursuit of access and equity in education.

# Conference Schedule

## ■ WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013 / REGISTRATION 11:00 AM TO 12:30 PM (LOCATION: PALM ROOM)

1:00 pm Conference Opening and Welcome (Location: Palm Room)

1:30 pm Session I: The Changing Face of Enrollment (Location: Palm Room)

*Michael Brown, Director, Planning and Access, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE)*

Discussions of improving postsecondary outcomes and increasing educational attainment frequently refer to the changing character of the student body. It is easy to visualize "college students" as those who graduate from high school, enroll full-time, and earn a college degree in the prescribed time frame. But many students – and a disproportionate number of those who never make it through – are non-traditional, enroll part-time, have dependents, attend two-year colleges. Join us for the opening presentation and roundtable discussion on the Changing Face of Enrollment. Michael Brown will present in-depth statistical information on the changing trends in high school and higher education enrollment and graduation rates over the last 20 years. What impact on access and equity does CHE predict will result from this data? Be a part of the discussion as this question and others are addressed in the opening of the 2013 SC PAAE Access and Equity Conference.

3:00 pm Session II: Making Education Accessible Using Innovative College Transfer Programs That Work  
(Location: Palm Room)

*Dr. Susan S. Whorton, Director of Bridge to Clemson, Clemson University; Jenni Evans Creamer, Director of Bridge and Educational Partnerships, Tri-County Technical College; Drew Newton, Coordinator for the Gamecock Gateway, University of South Carolina; Susan Vinson, Advisor/Retention Advocate, Midlands Technical College, Dustin Etheridge, Coordinator for the Gamecock Gateway, Midlands Technical College*

Panel representatives will discuss the decisions which led to the development of each academic transfer program, the importance of program design, successes and challenges, and tips for institutions that may be interested in developing their own program.

6:00 pm Scholarship Banquet and Recognition Dinner (Location: Salon D)

## ■ THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2013

8:00 am Session III: SC PAAE Breakfast Panel (Location: Camellia Room)

Enjoy breakfast and dialogue on SC PAAE's history and ongoing mission.

10:00 am Session IV: A New Look at Funding Access and Equity Initiatives (Location: Palm Room)

*Dr. Carl Wells, M.Div., Assistant Director, Office of Equal Opportunity Programs, University of South Carolina*

When funding sources decrease, new approaches to funding must be sought. Learn successful methods to seek and obtain new funding sources.

11:00 am Session V : The Impact of Poverty on Educational Access (Location: Palm Room)

*Amber Lange, Site Director, Emerging Scholars Program, Clemson University*

Does where you're born effect your chances of going to college? Does going to college effect other opportunities you have in life? If you look at the poverty index, achievement gap, college attendance level and earning potential of students around the state it would be hard to say otherwise. We will take a look at all these numbers and see how poverty effects the opportunities that children across South Carolina have and how this will continue to hold back our progress as a state. Who is responsible for making changes in our school system and what can we do in higher education? What is already being done that is making a difference?

12:00 pm Luncheon: From Veteran to Student (Location: Camellia Room)

*Frank G. Myers, Jr., Assistant Director of Student Services Division, SC Commission on Higher Education*

As greater numbers of veterans return from service and transition to students, new considerations to ensure veterans' access to higher education must be considered. Enjoy lunch and receive information on this topic.

2:00 pm Session VI: Realizing the Dream: The Dream Act (Location: Palm Room)

*Michael Cullinan, LLC, Attorney at Law*

An understanding of what The Dream Act is, what are the most important components of this Act that we (educators) need to be aware of, how has it or will this Act impact SC educational systems, and how can higher education institutions prepare and support students who are seeking access to education through the Dream Act.

4:00 p.m. SC PAAE Board Meeting