



**Moving Maine Forward: Best Practices in College Access**

Kennebec Valley Community College, Harold Alfond Campus

May 21, 2019 8:00 AM - 3:20 PM

**AGENDA**

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Registration &amp; Coffee</b> - <i>Moody Chapel</i>
8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>Welcome from MaineCAN and Kennebec Valley Community College</b> - <i>Moody Chapel</i>  Kate Leveille, <i>Project Coordinator, MaineCAN</i> Karen Normandin, <i>Dean of Students, Kennebec Valley Community College</i>
8:45 AM - 9:05 AM	<b>Spotlight Achiever Awards Presentation</b> - <i>Moody Chapel</i>  Spotlighting individuals who have overcome significant barriers to accomplish their educational dreams for postsecondary success.

<b>SESSION ONE</b>  9:15 AM - 10:05 AM	<b>Room A207</b>	<b>Academic Coaching: Holistic Approaches to College Success at Any Age</b>  Uniquely positioned between academic advising and counseling, sits academic coaching. Coaching professionals act as guides, allowing learners to self-designate challenges in school and beyond. Together as a team, coach and student build a success path, meeting regularly to ensure progress. Learn about this rare but highly successful approach to student success and retention.  <i>Presenter: Colleen S. Coffey, Learning Success Coach, University of Maine at Augusta</i>
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<b>SESSION ONE</b>  9:15 AM - 10:05 AM	<b>Room 210</b>	<b>The Senior Enrollment Checklist: A Guide for a Successful Transition to College</b>  Senior year has many important details. The Senior Enrollment Checklist is a resource counselors can use with students to track their progress toward a successful transition. It can be adapted to meet the needs of the school. The Checklist can be completed in one meeting, or over time and can also include a summer follow-up targeted at summer melt.  <i>Presenter: Elyse Pratt-Ronco, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Upward Bound, University of Maine at Farmington</i>
	<b>Room 211</b>	<b>Best Practices: College Financing for Adults</b>  An overview of best practices for helping adults plan and pay for college. Topics to be discussed include applying for financial aid; scholarships for adult learners; approaches to aspirations when working with adults; as well as tools and resources to help.  <i>Presenter: Maria MacDougal, College Access Counselor, Finance Authority of Maine</i>
	<b>Room 221</b>	<b>Admission Partnership Programs between UM, UMA and UMF: They are a Win-Win</b>  In fall 2018, The University of Maine at Augusta partnered with The University of Maine to offer admission to students who were denied admission to UM. The students live on the UM campus, and will transfer in three semesters. This "foundations" program is now available at The University of Maine Farmington. Students gain access, and all three universities collaborate for student success, retention, and transfer.  <i>Presenters: Jonathan Henry, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing, University of Maine at Augusta          Brandy Finck, Ed.D., Associate Vice President for Admission and Student Financial Services, University of Maine at Augusta</i>



<b>SESSION ONE</b>  9:15 AM - 10:05 AM	<b>Room 227</b>	<b>The Importance of Trust for Impactful Youth Relationships</b>  You often hear about the importance of relationships in youth development, but for many of us it can be much harder to prioritize relationships over program activities. Building relationships with young adults requires empathy, effort and commitment on the part of caring adults. For youth that have their walls up and/or have experienced trauma and other adverse childhood experiences, relationship building is even more important and requires even more diligence. Together we will explore some of the latest research on why relationships are important, explore what it takes to earn trust with students, and focus on highly effective relationship building techniques. Authentic mentoring relationships built on trust raise aspirations and help young people set and achieve goals for their future.  <i>Presenter: Meredith Lynt, Training Institute Director, Trekkers Training Institute</i>
	<b>Room 229</b>	<b>Building a Financial Literacy Peer Education Program: Year One</b>  In 2018, The University of Maine Farmington received a grant to develop a Financial Literacy Peer Education program that by fall 2020 will be implemented at all seven University of Maine system campuses. Hear from the program coordinator and student peer educators how they have navigated the implementation process, grown their brand on campus, and plans to expand to the other campuses. Attendees will also have the opportunity to workshop their own ideas for building a financial literacy programs with feedback from the peer educators.  <i>Presenter: Sarah Hinman, Financial Literacy Peer Education Program Coordinator, University of Maine Farmington</i>
10:10 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Plenary Discussion on Early College- Moody Chapel</b>  <i>Panelists:</i> Mercedes Pour, <i>Director of College Access, Maine Community College System</i> Honorable Brian Langley, <i>Director, Bridge Academy</i> Clarissa Thompson, <i>Early College Campus Coordinator, University of Maine Farmington</i>  <i>Moderator: Lisa Hallen, Director of Guidance, Waterville Senior High School</i>	



11:10 AM - 12:10 PM	<b>Lunch</b> - <i>Alfond Center</i>
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12:20 PM - 1:20 PM	<p><b>Keynote Speaker</b> - <i>Moody Chapel</i></p> <p>In a powerful keynote, DEEP's President/Co-Founder Dr. Darnisa Amante will support participants in implicit bias and equity training. During the session, Dr. Amante will help participants to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Examine the conditions that must be present to engage in equity work.</li><li>2. Consider the personal and shared challenges of engaging in equity work.</li><li>3. Learn the foundational knowledge/language and concepts that support equity work.</li><li>4. Recognize and reflect upon personal bias.</li><li>5. Understand how biases impact educational settings and learning outcomes.</li><li>6. Build the capacity of participants to understand the nature of bias and develop skills for impactful practice.</li></ol> <p><i>Presenter: Dr. Darnisa Amante Ed.L.D, CEO &amp; Founder, Disruptive Equity Education Project</i></p>
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<b>SESSION TWO</b>  1:30 PM - 2:20 PM	<b>Room A207</b>	<p><b>Creating a Welcoming and Inclusive Learning Environment</b></p> <p>A growing body of research has linked students' sense of belonging on college campuses to a number of important learning outcomes (Chronicle, 2018). Unfortunately, the effects of structural racism and systemic poverty impact student success and access in higher education. As educators, it's important that we work together to reverse these damaging effects and change the culture. During this workshop, participants will learn about teaching and learning, course equity and student success. We will look at best practices from Amarillo Community College, Odessa Community College, and Pierce Community College to find ways that we can empower all members of the community to thrive and grow.</p> <p><i>Presenter: Margaret Brownlee, Director of Career Services, Southern Maine Community College</i></p>
	<b>Room 210</b>	<p><b>Helping to Curb Summer Melt: GEAR UP Maine's Aroostook Scholars Pilot Program and Maine Scholars Work</b></p> <p>GEAR UP Maine is in the middle of a three year research study to determine which practices best help students persist through the summer after graduation and the first semester of attendance. GEAR UP Maine, through a Scholars Coach, provides services which include summer one-on-one meetings with scholars, help navigating their portal, understanding their financial aid award, and connecting students with professionals and resources on campus to help answer important questions. GEAR UP Maine will use the Aroostook Scholars Pilot Study to guide its own Maine Scholars work in which GEAR UP Maine will take seniors from all of its 26 high schools and support them through the transition to college. This session will include research results as well as an activity that promotes attendees thinking about students in transition.</p> <p><i>Presenters: Christopher Young, Regional Facilitator, GEAR UP Maine, Aroostook Scholars Coach          Mary Freeman, Regional Facilitator, GEAR UP Maine, Maine Scholars Coaches Lead</i></p>



<b>SESSION TWO</b>  1:30 PM - 2:20 PM	<b>Room 211</b>	<b>Military Connected Education Benefits: An Alternative Approach to Funding Education</b>  Through discussion you will gain an understanding of federal, state, and scholarship opportunities for veterans and their dependents. You will be provided an overview of programs available for students who wish to serve in the military either before or after postsecondary education.  <i>Presenters: Aaron Dombroski, Program Coordinator, Veterans Upward Bound          Chris McGhee, Advisor, Veterans Upward Bound</i>
	<b>Room 221</b>	<b>Delving DEEPer and Examining Personal Biases</b>  After her keynote, participants are invited to use the time to ask questions of Dr. Amante that delve deeper into any of the content that was brought up during the keynote as well identify and inquire as to how their biases may be impacting their own work/locus of control.  <i>Presenter: Dr. Darnisa Amante Ed.L.D, CEO &amp; Founder, Disruptive Equity Education Project</i>
	<b>Room 227</b>	<b>Selecting an Affordable School – Info to Help Families and Students Make an Informed Financial Decision</b>  While there is certainly more to school selection than affordability, too often students are deciding to attend schools that make little sense financially. The end result is that many end up borrowing more than they should or having to transfer to a more affordable school. In this session we'll discuss concepts (like Net Price and ROI) and share information and tools that can help students and families have increased choices and be better prepared to make informed decisions.  <i>Presenter: Mila Tappan, Manager of College Access and Outreach, Finance Authority of Maine</i>



<b>SESSION THREE</b>  2:30 PM - 3:20 PM	<b>Room A207</b>	<b>Making The Transition from High School to Postsecondary Settings for Students With Documented Disabilities: Know The Difference</b>  Presentation will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Making the transition from high school to postsecondary for students with documented disabilities</li> <li>● The differences between high school, (IDEA), and postsecondary schools based on the American Disabilities Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act</li> <li>● Information for the student while in high school</li> <li>● Self-advocacy</li> <li>● What postsecondary institutions are NOT required to provide</li> <li>● Knowing your options</li> <li>● Questions and answers regarding the ADA, Section 504, and postsecondary education</li> <li>● Accepted . . . now what?</li> </ul> <p><i>Presenter: Gail Lincoln, Parental Advocacy Coach, Lincoln Associates</i></p>
	<b>Room 210</b>	<b>How do Colleges Really Choose Students?</b>  Colleges use a variety of criteria to evaluate applicants. This entertaining, informative, and interactive presentation illustrates the many and sometimes surprising factors college admissions officers consider when they evaluate students' application materials. Former college admissions officer (Bowdoin, 2000-2012), now independent college counselor Wendy Thompson, shares her expertise on college admissions and gives a behind the scenes perspective. <p><i>Presenter: Wendy Thompson, Westport Educational Consulting</i></p>



<b>SESSION THREE</b>  2:30 PM - 3:20 PM	<b>Room 211</b>	<b>New Mainer Resources</b>  A discussion of the paths to accessing higher education for New Mainers. Documents will be shared that have been developed for non-federal aid eligible students, as well as strategies to assist this population. Join us to learn more about opportunities available for New Mainers.  <i>Presenter: Floreka Malual, College Planning Advisor, Finance Authority of Maine</i>
	<b>Room 221</b>	<b>Delving DEEPer and Examining Personal Biases</b>  After her keynote, participants are invited to use the time to ask questions of Dr. Amante that delve deeper into any of the content that was brought up during the keynote as well identify and inquire as to how their biases may be impacting their own work/locus of control.  <i>Presenter: Dr. Darnisa Amante Ed.L.D, CEO &amp; Founder, Disruptive Equity Education Project</i>
	<b>Room 227</b>	<b>Financial Education Resources For Maine Students and Beyond</b>  Are you interested in learning about the latest statewide financial education resources and training available to Maine students, and the professionals that support them? Did you know that the Maine Learning Results were recently updated to enhance and strengthen personal finance and economics content at all grade levels? Join Mary Dyer, Financial Education Officer at the Finance Authority of Maine to learn about the latest financial education developments here in Maine, including tools and resources that you can utilize to support your students.  <i>Presenter: Mary Dyer, Financial Education Officer, Finance Authority of Maine</i>