

The Education Commission  
of the States presents the

# ECS National Forum on Education Policy



DENVER ☆ JULY 6-8, 2011



# Welcome to the



**Presiding:**  
**John Hickenlooper**  
Governor of Colorado and  
2011-13 ECS Chair



# Mile High City!

Dear ECS Commissioners and Other Distinguished Education Policymakers,

Welcome to Denver, the home of ECS and the 2011 National Forum on Education Policy.

2011 has seen major education policy reform in many states, and these changes have been ignited for two primary reasons: new money (Race to the Top) and no money (the deep recession and budget deficits).

Policymakers and practitioners are feeling the urgency to improve America's education system and ensure our students and country are not only able to compete but once again lead the world. The recession has magnified the close relationship between economic development and education.

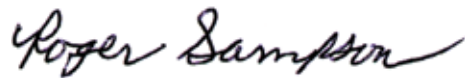
The ECS compact was designed and developed to provide a stimulus for state action. It promotes an interchange of information and ideas across state lines and regions that allow the acceleration of policy adoption. The power of teams of state policymakers who have the authority to move state education systems forward around proven successful practices that target state educational priorities is huge. ECS is able to support bringing teams of high-level policymakers from every state because of the generous support of our corporate partners: General Electric, Corinthian Colleges, State Farm and Pearson Foundation.

The 2011 National Forum is focused around three core areas: 1) increasing college completion, 2) aligning education and workforce needs, and 3) increasing the number of proficient readers leaving grade 3.

Collectively, you make the ECS National Forum on Education Policy the most powerful gathering of education policymakers in the country! Your participation adds depth and value to the many critical conversations and presentations that will occur this week. My goal is for this forum to provide you with critical insights and information that will allow you to return home inspired and equipped to move your state forward to meet the challenges of your states' education system.

I am excited for you to meet our new chair, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper. He brings a new level of commitment and enthusiasm to the leadership of ECS and Colorado.

Thank you for coming!



Roger Sampson  
President  
Education Commission of the States



# The Education Commission of the States is your Compact for Education

*"The Commission ... must stir up TROUBLE and make the body POLITIC begin to itch.  
It must be UNAFRAID.*

*It must be a BLUEPRINT of an ARCHITECT.*

*It must be RESPONSIVE to all good IDEAS.*

*It must take the PROBLEMS, assemble the best PEOPLE  
and seek the ANSWERS, whatever they might be."*

*~ Terry Sanford*

*65th Governor of North Carolina  
and first chair of ECS, 1965*

## EQUIPPING EDUCATION LEADERS, ADVANCING IDEAS

Education Commission of the States (ECS) is the only nationwide, interstate compact for education that brings together key leaders – governors, legislators, chief state school officers, higher education officials, business leaders and others – to work side by side to improve education.

### Table Of Contents

<i>Hotel Information &amp; Maps</i>	<i>4-7</i>
<i>Schedule at a Glance</i>	<i>8-9</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 6</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Thursday, July 7</i>	<i>12-17</i>
<i>Friday, July 8</i>	<i>18-20</i>
<i>Award Winners</i>	<i>22-25</i>
<i>Distinguished Speakers</i>	<i>26-36</i>
<i>ECS Staff in Attendance</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Corporate Partners/Sponsors</i>	<i>38-44</i>





# NATIONAL FORUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

*Special thanks and recognition go to the following ECS commissioners who served on the 2008-10 planning committee and helped plan this year's National Forum.*

**Hon. Norman Sakamoto**  
**Chair**

*Majority Floor Leader and Chair,  
Education and Housing Committee, Hawaii State Senate*

**Thomas Horgan**  
**Vice Chair**

*President & CEO  
New Hampshire College and University Council*

**John Bonaiuto**  
*Executive Director  
Nebraska Association of  
School Boards*

**Hon. Barbara Clark**  
*2008-10 ECS Vice Chair  
Assemblywoman and Member,  
Assembly Education Committee  
New York State Assembly*

**Caroline Novak**  
*President  
A+ Education Foundation  
Alabama*

**Greg Schuckman**  
*Southern Regional Chair  
Association of Community  
College Trustees  
Virginia*



**700 Broadway  
Suite 810  
Denver, CO  
80203-3442**

**[www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org)  
[ecs@ecs.org](mailto:ecs@ecs.org)**

**Education Commission  
of the States**

## SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN HOTEL

1550 Court Place  
 Denver, CO 80202  
 303-893-3333  
 800-325-3535

[www.sheratondenverdowntown.com](http://www.sheratondenverdowntown.com)

### HOTEL RESTAURANTS & LOUNGES

#### 15|FIFTY

Drop by 15|FIFTY, located in the hotel's lobby, for a new mix of classic American food with a fusion influence. A full menu and breakfast buffet served daily.

Daily, 6:00 am – 3:00 pm

#### Peet's Coffee & Tea

Peet's Coffee & Tea features freshly brewed and blended coffee or assorted teas, fresh hot doughnut holes, pastries, bagels, along with made-to-order salads, sandwiches and other items.

Daily, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### 16Mix

Experience a 16th Street Mall bar that invites you to come in and indulge yourself with a Mile High Manhattan, a Sheratini, an after dinner Grand Marnier – your choices are excessive!

Monday–Thursday, 2:00 pm – Close

Friday–Sunday, 11:00 pm – Close

Happy Hour: Monday–Friday, 3:00 pm – 7pm

#### The Yard House

A premium casual eatery known for its extensive menu, classic rock music and world's largest selection of draft beer.

Sunday–Thursday, 11:00 am – 12:00 am

Friday–Saturday, 11:00 am – 1:00 am

Happy Hour: Monday–Friday, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Sunday, 10pm – 12:00 am

#### Katie Mullen's

An inventive yet traditional mix of Irish and American cuisine that prides itself on quality food, drink and customer service.

Daily, 11:00 am – 1:30 am

Happy Hour: Monday–Friday, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Late Night Menu: Thursday–Saturday, 10:00 pm – 12:00 am

#### Room Service

For added convenience, guests can enjoy in-room private dining. In-room dining is available 24 hours a day.

### MEETING EVENTS

All National Forum sessions and events will take place at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel unless otherwise noted in this program. For assistance during the meeting, please stop by the ECS Registration Desk located in the South Convention Lobby, Tower Building, Second Level

### REGISTRATION DESK HOURS:

*Located in the South Convention Lobby, Tower Building, Second Level*

Wednesday, July 6 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 7 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, July 8 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### CYBER CAFÉ

*Located in the South Convention Lobby, Tower Building, Second Level – check your e-mail and see what's new on ECS' Web site.*

Wednesday, July 6 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 7 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, July 8 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### BADGES

Your name badge is required for admission to all sessions, meal functions and social events.

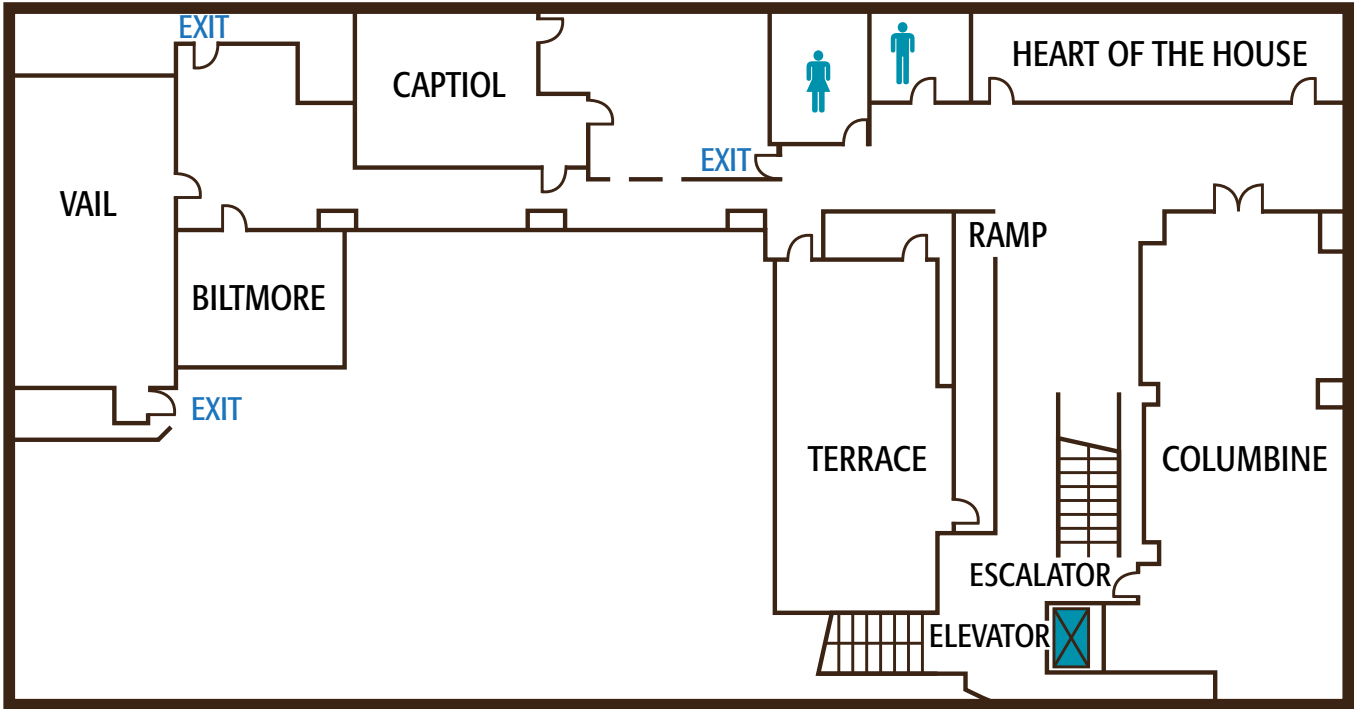
### SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

If you indicated on your registration form any special dietary needs such as vegetarian, diabetic, etc., you will receive a colored card in your registration materials. Please place this card on your plate at each meal to alert the wait staff to your special needs. They will do their best to accommodate you.

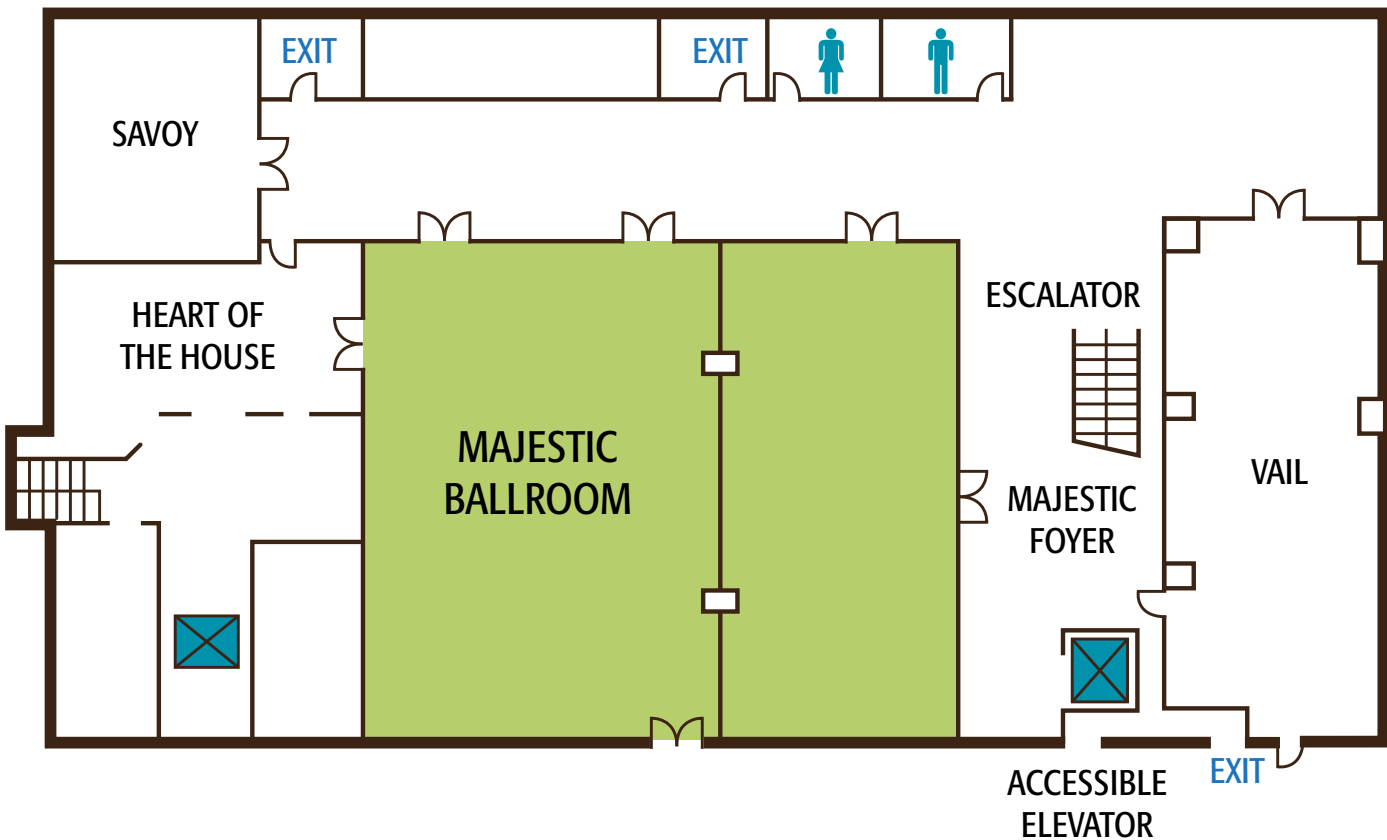
### SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is not permitted at any ECS function. This includes all meeting rooms and outside event locations involving sessions, workshops, banquets, luncheons and receptions.

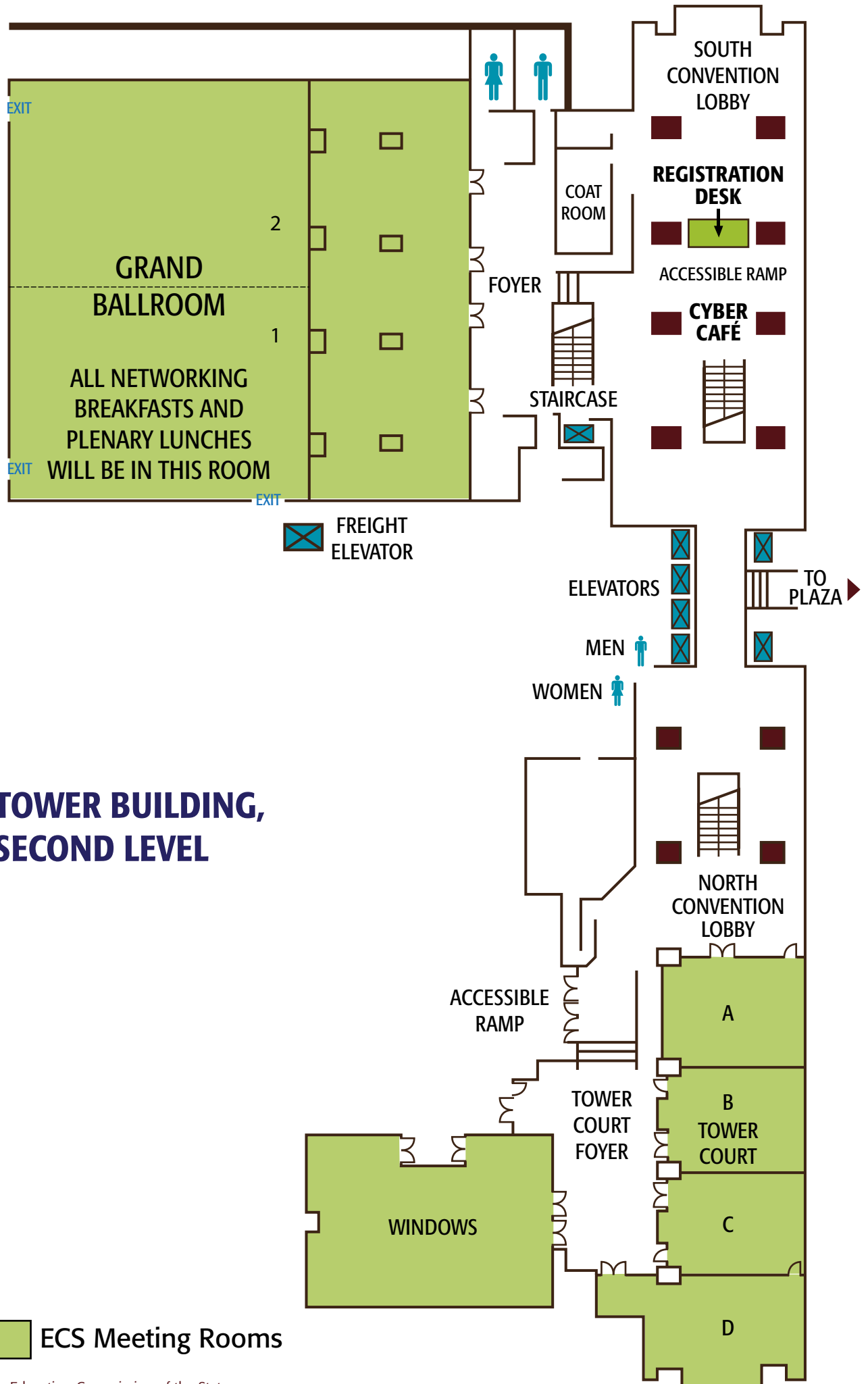
## TOWER BUILDING, TERRACE LEVEL (LOWER LEVEL 1)



## TOWER BUILDING, MAJESTIC LEVEL (LOWER LEVEL 2)

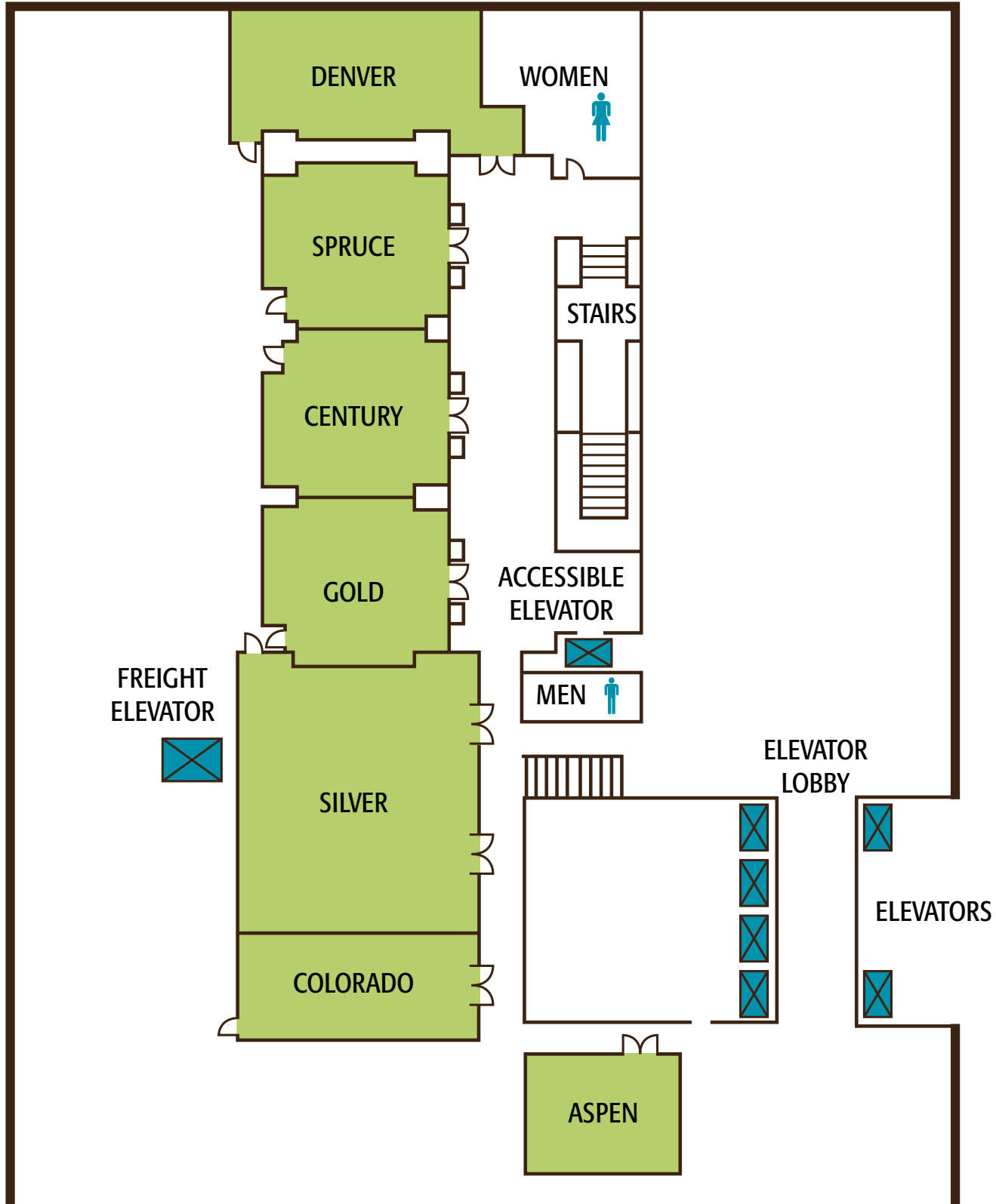


### TOWER BUILDING, SECOND LEVEL





# TOWER BUILDING, MEZZANINE LEVEL (THIRD LEVEL)



 ECS Meeting Rooms

HOTEL INFORMATION

# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

## WEDNESDAY, July 6

12:30 – 2:30 pm	Session #115: <i>Reaping Rewards from Readiness P-20</i>
2:30 – 3:45 pm	Session #116: <i>Building the Foundation</i>
2:30 – 3:35 pm	Session #117: <i>Movie Preview – The Finland Phenomenon: Inside the World’s Most Surprising School System</i>
3:45 – 4:45 pm	Session #145: <i>Commissioners’ Business Meeting</i>
4:00 – 2:00 pm	Session #110: <i>LESN Meeting (Invitation Only)</i>
6:00 – 7:30 pm	<i>Welcome Reception at Hotel</i>

## THURSDAY, July 7

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.	<i>Networking Buffet Breakfast</i>
8:00 – 8:15 am	Session #211: <i>Welcome from Governor Hickenlooper</i>
8:15 – 9:00 am	Session #213: <i>Committing to College Completion: A National Agenda to Improve Postsecondary Attainment and Workforce Readiness with Hilary Pennington</i>
9:00 – 9:30 am	Session #214: <i>The GE Foundation’s Foray into Urban School Improvement with Robert Corcoran</i>
9:30 – 9:50 am	Session #215: <i>Community Link Foundation – Higher Education Funding Idea with Irving Hamer</i>
10:00 – 10:45 am	Session #217: <i>How Thinking in Pictures Provides Perspective with Temple Grandin</i>
10:50 – 11:50 am	Session #225: <i>What is Holding Back Reading Achievement with E. D. Hirsch</i>
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Plenary Lunch : <i>Awards Presentation</i>
1:45 – 2:45 pm	Session #240: <i>More with E.D. Hirsch</i> Session #241: <i>School Finance: More Than Information. Solutions.</i> Session #243: <i>Ensuring a Return on Your Higher Education Investment</i> Session #244: <i>Workshop on Digital Learning (AKA Blended Learning; Hybrid Learning)</i> Session #245: <i>Putting It All together: 21st Century Skills, Common Core and Assessment</i>
3:00 – 3:45 pm <i>Concurrent Sessions</i>	Session #255: <i>Aligning Teacher Preparation to the Common Core</i> Session #256: <i>An Open-Mic Session with Chiefs for Change</i>
3:50 – 4:50 pm <i>Concurrent Sessions</i>	Session #265: <i>Certificates as a College Completion and Workforce Strategy</i> Session #266: <i>Teacher Leader Model Standards</i> Session #267: <i>The Importance of Physical Activity in Schools and What Leaders Can Do to Support It</i> Session #268: <i>No Waiting for Superman: Engaged Learning Within Reach of Every School!</i> Session #269: <i>The College Completion Renaissance</i>



# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

## THURSDAY, July 7 (cont.)

<p>5:00 – 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><i>Roundtable Sessions (concurrent)</i></p>	<p><i>Roundtable #1: Innovation-based Systemic Reform</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #2: Innovative and Cost Effective Strategies to Expand Learning Time</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #3: Race to the Top's Early Learning Challenge</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #4: Improving Student Transfer from Community Colleges to Four-Year Institutions</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #5: Workplace Readiness Assessment: Business Credible, High School Feasible</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #6: Improving Rural Schools Through the Use of Technology</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #7: Cross-State Sharing of Education and Workforce Data</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #8: How to Encourage Investment in Certificate and Diploma Programs</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #9: The Early Assessment Program: Bridging the Gap Between High School Preparation and College Readiness</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable #10: Increased College Completion</i></p>
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## FRIDAY, July 8

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	<i>Networking Buffet Breakfast</i>
8:00 – 8:05 am	Session #315: <i>Welcome from ECS President Roger Sampson</i>
8:05 – 8:20 am	Session #316: <i>Read for the Record with Mark Nieker</i>
8:20 – 9:05 am	Session #317: <i>Governors Panel with Governor John Hickenlooper</i>
9:05 – 9:55 am	Session #318: <i>Hess' Hot Button Issues and What He'd Like to See You Do About Them with Rick Hess</i>
10:05 – 11:05 am	Session #325: <i>Brain Rules and What They Mean for Education with John Medina</i>
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	<p>Session #330: <i>More with John Medina</i></p> <p>Session #331: <i>The Boulder Higher Education Brain Trust</i></p> <p>Session #333: <i>The Common Core: Out of the Chute and Into the Arena</i></p> <p>Session #334: <i>With All of Our High School Reforms, Why Are Kids Still Not Well-Prepared for College and Work?</i></p>
12:15 – 1:45 pm	Session #340: <i>Lunch</i>
2:00 – 6:00 pm	Session #345: <i>NCLC Board Meeting (Invitation Only)</i>
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Session #355: <i>Building the Next Generation of P-20 System Alignment</i>
2:00 – 5:00 pm	Session #350: <i>Leveraging State Investments in Remedial Education</i>
6:00 – 8:00 pm	Session #360: <i>NCLC Board Meeting Dinner (Invitation Only)</i>

12:00 – 7:00 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Registration Desk**

12:00 – 7:00 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Cyber Cafe**

12:30 – 2:30 pm Grand Ballroom 2, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Session #115**

**Reaping Rewards from Readiness P-20**

Please drop in – even if you won't arrive on time. This two-part workshop looks in depth at the "P" part of P-20. Learn from *The Colorado Story* and gain insights from leading experts into how policy can support ways to enhance deeper learning across P-3.

**PRESENTERS:**

**VIRGINIA MALONEY**

*Director, Marsico Institute for Early Learning and Literacy, University of Denver, Colorado*

**BARBARA O'BRIEN**

*Senior Fellow, The Piton Foundation, Colorado*

**DIANE PRICE**

*President & CEO, Early Connections Learning Centers, Colorado*

**GERRIT WESTERVELT**

*Executive Director, The BUILD Initiative, Colorado*

2:30 – 3:45 pm Grand Ballroom 2, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Session #116**

**Building the Foundation**

This session focuses on the importance of intellectual goals in the early years and puts them in the context of academic skills and the role of play in early development. Some examples of such practices will be shown.



**PARTICIPANTS:**

**LILIAN KATZ**

*Professor Emerita, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

**KAREN SCHIMKE**

*Program Manager, Early Learning, Education Commission of the States*

2:30 – 3:35 pm Grand Ballroom 1, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Session #117**

**Movie Preview – *The Finland Phenomenon: Inside the World's Most Surprising School System***

Finland's students are just like Americans, only smarter. Find out why by watching this fascinating movie, narrated by Tony Wagner, Harvard University.

3:45 – 4:45 pm Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building Majestic Level

**Session #145**

**Commissioners' Business Meeting (Commissioners only)**

ECS Commissioners are asked to join their colleagues and represent their state at the annual business meeting of the Commission.

**PRESIDING:**

**JOHN HICKENLOOPER**

*Governor, Colorado and 2011-13 ECS Chair*

**OTHER OFFICERS:**

**RAE ANN KELSCH**

*Chair, House Education Committee, North Dakota House of Representative; ECS Vice Chair*

**RICHARD RHODA**

*Executive Director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission; ECS Treasurer*

**ROGER SAMPSON**

*President, Education Commission of the States*

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

**session #110**

**LESN Meeting (Invitation Only)**

6:00 – 7:30 pm Grand Ballroom 1, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Welcome Reception at Hotel**



2010 Conant Award winner Linda Darling-Hammond



# Moments from the 2010 National Forum in Portland, Oregon



Supt. Jim Rex, Gov. Tim Pawlenty, Sen. Florence Shapiro and Rep. James Roebuck



ECS President Roger Sampson speaking at the 2010 Commissioners' Business Session



John Medina discussing *Brain Rules* at the 2010 ECS Forum



Texas State Senator Florence Shapiro with student presenters



7:00 am – 5:30 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Registration Desk**

7:00 am – 5:30 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Cyber Cafe**

7:00 – 8:00 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Buffet Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:15 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**session #211**

**Welcome from Governor Hickenlooper**

8:15 – 9:00 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #213**

**Committing to College Completion: A National Agenda to Improve Postsecondary Attainment and Workforce Readiness**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has set an ambitious goal to double the number of low-income adults who earn a college degree or a credential that meets job-market demands by age 26. They are investing in a wide range of strategies to achieve this goal to include the development of college completion models in states through the Completion by Design Initiative, state-level policy change through Complete College America and a partnership with ECS to work with state legislative leaders entitled Boosting College Completion. Pennington will make the case for a national goal to increase college completion and describe the Foundation’s transformational vision for achieving it.



**PRESENTER:**

**HILARY PENNINGTON**

*Director of Education, Postsecondary Success and Special Initiatives, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Washington*

9:00 – 9:30 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #214**

**The GE Foundation’s Foray into Urban School Improvement**

Bob Corcoran will talk about the tremendous resources that the GE Foundation has committed to education over the past several years and where efforts have been successful, fallen short and what lessons have been learned for future investments in education.



**PRESENTER:**

**ROBERT CORCORAN**

*President, GE Foundation, Connecticut*

9:30 – 9:50 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #215**

**Community Link Foundation – Higher Education Funding Idea**

Twelve years in the development and worth the wait – universal financial access to higher education is here! Introducing Community Link, an innovative program launching in Michigan and Tennessee, designed to provide free higher education and K-12 alignment services by pooling hidden resources within communities. It’s scalable, sustainable and available for all 50 states.

**PRESENTERS:**

**IRVING HAMER**

*Deputy Superintendent, Academic Operations, Technology & Innovation, Memphis City Schools, Tennessee*

9:50 – 10:00 am South Convention Lobby

**Break**



10:00 – 10:45 am Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building, Majestic Level

**Plenary Session #217**

**How Thinking in Pictures Provides Perspective**

Temple Grandin is the inspirational animal behavioral scientist and subject of the award-winning HBO film, *Temple Grandin*. An autism spectrum disorder has helped her deeply understand what it is to be smart, yet different. She is passionate about the power of education and will talk about her thoughts on what matters most to helping all kids succeed.



**PRESENTER:**

**TEMPLE GRANDIN**

*Associate Professor, Colorado State University*

10:50 – 11:50 am Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building, Majestic Level

**Plenary Session #225**

**What is Holding Back Reading Achievement**

E.D. Hirsch, education “icon” and author of insightful works, including *Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know*, *The Knowledge Deficit: Closing the Shocking Education Gap for American Children*, and *The Schools We Need: Why We Can’t Have Them*, will talk about reading – how we teach it, how we test it and why it is critical for education reform.



**PRESENTER:**

**E. D. HIRSCH, JR.**

*Professor Emeritus of Education and Humanities, University of Virginia*



11:50 am – 12:00 pm South Convention Lobby

Break



1:30 – 1:45 pm South Convention Lobby

Break



12:00 – 1:30 pm Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

## Plenary Lunch

### Awards Presentation

#### 2011 Frank Newman Award for State Innovation New England Secondary School Consortium

**ACCEPTING AWARD:**

**VIRGINIA BARRY**

*Commissioner of Education  
New Hampshire*

**ARMANDO VILASECA**

*Commissioner of Education  
Vermont*



#### 2011 ECS Corporate Award

**ACCEPTING AWARD:**

**LARRY HARLAN**

*Corporate Citizenship and  
Community Investments Manager, ExxonMobil*



#### 2011 LESN Recognition Award

**ACCEPTING AWARD:**

**FRANCES RAMIREZ-MAESTAS**

*Director, New Mexico Legislative Education Study Committee*

*The Legislative Education Staff Network (LESN) is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2011. Congratulations for a job well done!*

The Legislative Education Staff Network (LESN) is a joint partnership between the ECS and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). This group annually recognizes an education legislative staff member who has provided exemplary service to the legislative process and been active in LESN.

#### 2011 James Bryant Conant Award

**ACCEPTING AWARD:**

**TED KOLDERIE**

*Co-Founder, Education|Evolving, Minnesota*



1:45 – 2:45 pm Tower Court A, Tower Building, 2nd Level

#### Concurrent Session #240

##### More with E.D. Hirsch

This is your chance to question Dr. Hirsch more deeply about strategies to improve literacy – both early and adult.

**PRESENTERS:**

**E. D. HIRSCH, JR.**

*Professor Emeritus of Education and Humanities, University of Virginia*

1:45 – 2:45 pm Tower Court C, Tower Building, 2nd Level

#### Concurrent Session #241

##### School Finance: More Than Information. Solutions.

The past three years have seen unprecedented cuts to K-12 education budgets, creating a great strain on school districts throughout the country – but you already know that. This session's focus is on innovative solutions that can help you bridge the gap until the economy improves.



**PRESENTERS:**

**JENNIFER DAVIS**

*President & CEO, National Center on Time & Learning, Massachusetts*

**MICHAEL GRIFFITH**

*Senior Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States, Colorado*

**MICHELE MCNEIL**

*Federal Policy Reporter, Education Week, Maryland*

1:45 – 2:45 pm Tower Court D, Tower Building, 2nd Level

#### Concurrent Session #243

##### Ensuring a Return on Your Higher Education Investment

How can states ensure that their investments in higher education result in higher college completion and benefit the overall state economy? A panel of experts will discuss the cost of student attrition to states, as well as how new funding models and an emphasis on workforce and economic outcomes can help policymakers ensure they are getting the most for their higher education dollar.

**PRESENTERS:**

**PATRICK KELLY**

*Senior Associate, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, Colorado*

**RICHARD PETRICK**

*Senior Consultant, HCM Strategists, Ohio*

**MARK SCHNEIDER**

*Vice President, American Institutes for Research, District of Columbia*

1:45 – 2:45 pm Tower Court B, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #244**

**Workshop on Digital Learning (AKA Blended Learning; Hybrid Learning)**

What does digital learning actually look like? And how must policy change for it to reach its potential? This session hones in on how states can become very intentional in their support of this disruptive innovation. The presenters, Jonathan Bergmann and Aaron Sams, are high school science teachers who have used technology to turn the traditional classroom on its head. State leaders will respond to their illustrations by discussing how state policy can support this new vision of instruction.



**MODERATOR:**

**KATHY CHRISTIE**  
*Chief of Staff, Education Commission of the States*

**PRESENTERS:**

**JONATHAN BERGMANN**  
*Teacher, Woodland Park High School, Colorado*

**AARON SAMS**  
*Teacher, Woodland Park High School, Colorado*

1:45 – 2:45 pm Silver Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

**Concurrent Session #245**

**Putting It All together: 21st Century Skills, Common Core and Assessment**

This session will provide awareness that our country is competing in a global innovation economy and provide an overview of fusing the three "R"s with the four "C"s of 21st Century Partnership Skills, as aligned with the Common Core and utilization of New and Deeper Assessments to move education from a world of schooling to a world of learning. This session will share the work of the Pearson Foundation as they work with national and international partners to bring awareness of the concepts, share best practices, review the results of PISA and stretch participants to recognize that policy can serve as an effective catalyst for change.



**PRESENTERS:**

**KATHY HURLEY**  
*Senior Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, Pearson Education, Virginia*

**LILLIAN KELLOGG**  
*Vice President, Education Networks of America, Tennessee*

**KRISTIN KIPP**  
*SREB/iNACOL Online Teacher of the Year, Jeffco Public Schools, Colorado*

2:45 – 3:00 pm South Convention Lobby

**Break**



3:00 – 3:45 pm Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #255**

**Aligning Teacher Preparation to the Common Core**

These panelists will engage with audience members in a discussion on what types of changes need to take place in the areas of teacher preparation, certification and/or professional development for the successful implementation of the new Common Core State Standards.



**MODERATOR:**

**THOMAS HORGAN**  
*President and CEO of the New Hampshire College and University Council*

**PRESENTERS:**

**HOWARD GOBSTEIN**  
*Executive Officer & Vice President, Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU), District of Columbia*

**MICHAEL JOHNSTON**  
*Senator, Colorado State Senate*

**RICK MELMER**  
*Dean, University of South Dakota*

3:00 – 3:45 pm Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building, Majestic Level

**Concurrent Session #256**

**An Open-Mic Session with Chiefs for Change**

Get your wheels turning so you're ready to participate in this highly structured, fast-moving and hard-hitting question and answer opportunity.



**MODERATOR:**

**JOHN BONAIUTO**  
*Executive Director, Nebraska Association of School Boards*

**PRESENTERS:**

**TONY BENNETT**  
*Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indiana Department of Education*

**HANNA SKANDERA**  
*Secretary of Education, New Mexico Public Education Department*

3:45 – 3:50 pm South Convention Lobby

**Break**





3:50 – 4:50 pm Tower Court D, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #265**

### Certificates as a College Completion and Workforce Strategy

As states look to increase their college completion rates, many are looking to certificates offered by community and technical colleges and private proprietary career colleges as a critical strategy to prepare their residents for the workforce. This session will explore how states can rapidly meet their workforce needs and increase their college attainment rates through certificate programs in specific high-demand occupational fields.



**PRESENTERS:**

**RICHARD SIMPSON**

*SVP and Chief Academic Officer, Corinthian Colleges, Inc., California*

**JEFF TERP**

*Vice President, Program Analysis and Engagement, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana*

3:50 – 4:50 pm Tower Court B, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #266**

### Teacher Leader Model Standards

There is growing interest in the concept of teacher leadership as: a means for keeping good teachers in the classroom, yet providing them with leadership opportunities; a way of developing distributed leadership within schools; and a means for increasing student achievement through alternative staffing models. In this presentation, two members of the Teacher Leader Exploratory Consortium will present the newly released Teacher Leader Model Standards in an interactive session that will challenge you to envision these standards in practice.



**PRESENTERS:**

**KATHERINE BASSETT**

*Director of Educator Relations, Educational Testing Service, New Jersey*

**MARGUERITE IZZO**

*2007 New York State Teacher of the Year, Malverne School District*

3:50 – 4:50 pm Tower Court A, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #267**

### The Importance of Physical Activity in Schools and What Leaders Can Do to Support It

Getting children and youth to be more physically active can help prevent or reduce obesity and promote other positive health outcomes. But schools are facing cut-backs and increasing pressure to prioritize academics over physical education, recess and other opportunities for physical activity. This session will present evidence on why physical activity is important not only for addressing obesity, but also on how it can help improve academic and behavioral outcomes. A study of California school governance leaders will provide insight into the factors that lead to the successful adoption and implementation of programs and policies that support school-based physical activity.



**PRESENTERS:**

**MARTIN GONZALEZ**

*Deputy Executive Director, California School Boards Association*

**JAMES F. SALLIS**

*Director, Active Living Research and Professor, San Diego State University, California*

3:50 – 4:50 pm Tower Court C, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #268**

### No Waiting for Superman: Engaged Learning Within Reach of Every School!

Hands-on learning in which students have meaningful and consequential roles through service and leadership to their school and community has a long history. Supportive legislation, however, has not kept pace with dynamic new approaches and research that demonstrates these approaches' positive impact on academic and civic engagement, motivation and self-efficacy. There's no better time to bring service-learning, project-based, hands-on and related experiential approaches to scale as reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and policies at the state level are written in coming months. Come hear an exciting application at the local level in Montpelier, Vermont, from Principal Peter Evans, and be inspired by the growing Engaged Education Now (EEN) coalition from Jim Kielsmeier, Founder of the National Youth Leadership Council and Organizer of EEN. Leave the session with a network for support and ideas for how to bring engaged education to scale in your state.



**PRESENTERS:**

**PAUL BAUMANN**

*Project Leader, Education Commission of the States*

**PETER EVANS**

*Principal, Montpelier High School, Vermont*

**JIM KIELSMEIER**

*Adjunct Professor, University of Minnesota*

3:50 – 4:50 pm Silver Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

Concurrent Session #269

### The College Completion Renaissance

The national goal to significantly increase college completion at a time of limited public support for higher education has brought on an era of unprecedented innovation in higher education instruction and delivery. This session will feature some of the most promising, high-impact approaches to increasing student success.

**PRESENTERS:**

**JULIE BELL**

*Education Program Director, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), Colorado*

**ESTELA BENSIMON**

*Professor and Co-Director, University of Southern California*

**CHRISTEN POLLOCK**

*Vice President, Advocacy, The College Board, New York*

4:50 – 5:00 pm

South Convention Lobby

### Break



5:00 – 6:00 pm

Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

Session #270

### Roundtable Discussions

#### Roundtable #1: Innovation-based Systemic Reform

Ted Kolderie, recipient of the prestigious 2011 ECS James Bryant Conant Award, will lead a discussion that delves into what constitutes innovation-based systemic reform.

**MODERATOR:**

**TED KOLDERIE**

*Founding Partner, Education|Evolving, Minnesota*

#### Roundtable #2: Innovative and Cost Effective Strategies to Expand Learning Time

This session will focus on examples from around the country of how states, districts and schools are expanding time to support student achievement even during these challenging economic times.

**MODERATOR:**

**JENNIFER DAVIS**

*President & CEO, National Center on Time & Learning, Massachusetts*

#### Roundtable #3: Race to the Top's Early Learning Challenge

This session will discuss the Race to the Top early learning challenge as an opportunity to build P-3 into P-20.

**MODERATOR:**

**KAREN SCHIMKE,**

*Project Manager, Education Commission of the States*

#### Roundtable #4: Improving Student Transfer from Community Colleges to Four-Year Institutions

This roundtable session will present the findings from an ambitious year-long study of the transfer pathway from the perspective of the four-year institution. Roundtable participants will be engaged in a discussion about the policy instruments that may encourage more four-year colleges and universities to embrace community college students as an important part of their educational mission.

**MODERATOR:**

**STEPHEN J. HANDEL**

*Executive Director, Higher Education Relationship Development and Community College Initiatives, The College Board, California*

#### Roundtable #5: Workplace Readiness Assessment: Business Credible, High School Feasible

Learn and talk about current efforts to develop assessments that measure students' readiness for higher education or the workplace. Join the discussion that explains how these readiness skills can be measured – and how you can be involved.

**MODERATOR:**

**STANLEY RABINOWITZ**

*Director, Assessment & Standards Development Services, WestEd, California*

#### Roundtable #6: Improving Rural Schools Through the Use of Technology

This roundtable will focus on the effectiveness of specific technologies and programs that have the potential to positively impact student achievement in rural communities. These include sharing the successes and challenges of keeping students engaged and connected to real world experiences and exposed to advanced and diverse course work in rural communities, and how technology can help overcome traditional barriers to these dilemma.

**MODERATOR:**

**MARILYN REZNICK**

*Executive Director, AT&T Education Leadership, New York*

#### Roundtable #7: Cross-State Sharing of Education and Workforce Data

WICHE, through a grant from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is developing a multi-state data exchange that will be a model for the rest of the nation. Come here how the project is addressing the key challenges to sharing data across state borders to assess workforce outcomes for graduates.

**MODERATOR:**

**BRIAN PRESCOTT**

*Director of Policy Research, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), Colorado*



**Roundtable #8: How to Encourage Investment in Certificate and Diploma Programs**

Short-term, career-oriented programs are often the last to be funded and the first to be cut by cash-strapped post-secondary institutions. Yet these programs are essential to meeting employer demands and ensuring a healthy economy. This roundtable will explore ways to encourage investment in certificate and diploma programs, at both public and private sector institutions.

**MODERATOR:**

**RICHARD SIMPSON**

*Chief Academic Officer, Corinthian Colleges, Inc.*

**Roundtable #9: The Early Assessment Program: Bridging the Gap Between High School Preparation and College Readiness**

The Early Assessment Program (EAP) is a California initiative that formally brings together the K-12 and higher education communities to develop collaborative solutions that improve the learning experience for all students. This discussion will touch on a broad range of topics that emerged over the course of the development of the program. The discussion will include challenges and solutions to policy, technical, fiscal and organizational questions, as well as lessons learned.

**MODERATOR:**

**JOHN T. LAWRENCE,**

*Strategic Advisor, K-12, Educational Testing Service, New Jersey*

**Roundtable #10: Increased College Completion**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is launching an ambitious initiative to increase college completion in states. Come discuss how this research-based strategy has the potential to transform how institutions in your state can use data to help drive increased college completion.

**MODERATOR:**

**NAN POPPE**

*Executive Director, Completion by Design, Oregon*



Participants at the 2010 National Forum Roundtable discussions



Rick Hess, Dwight Jones, Former Governor Bob Wise and Governor Phil Bredesen



Attendees at the 2010 Forum in Portland, Oregon

7:00 am – 4:00 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Registration Desk**

7:00 am – 4:00 pm South Convention Lobby, Tower Bldg, 2nd Level

**Cyber Cafe**

7:00 – 8:00 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Buffet Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:05 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**session #315**

**Welcome from ECS President Roger Sampson**

8:05 – 8:20 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #316**

**Read for the Record**

Again this year, the Pearson Foundation is supporting Jumpstart's Read for the Record Campaign, the one-day literacy celebration that brings young people together with teachers, librarians and family members to read the same book on the same day. On October 6th, the Pearson Foundation aims to top last year's record-breaking effort – more than two million readers – and to draw attention to the important role reading has in shaping a child's lifetime of learning and success. This year's official Read for the Record book is *Llama Llama Red Pajama*. Again this year, record breakers can read the book for free via the Pearson Foundation's We Give Books digital literacy initiative. With each book read online during the campaign, the Pearson Foundation will donate a classic hardcover or paperback book to an underserved classroom across the United States. Mark will share details of the campaign and highlight ways in which local teachers and education leaders can quickly and easily take part.



**PRESENTER:**

**MARK NIEKER**

*President, Pearson Foundation, New York*

8:20 – 9:05 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #317**

**Governors Panel**

Rick Hess will dig deeply into the thoughts of Governor Hickenlooper and others on current educational issues facing policymakers in all states. You will hear candid and unscripted comments on what is working and what is not.

**MODERATOR:**

**FREDERICK HESS**

*Resident Scholar and Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, District of Columbia*

**PARTICIPANTS:**

**JOHN HICKENLOOPER**

*Governor, Colorado and 2011-13 ECS Chair*

9:05 – 9:55 am Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Plenary Session #318**

**Hess' Hot Button Issues and What He'd Like to See You Do About Them**

You asked for his return to the ECS National Forum on Education Policy. Here's Rick Hess to help fulfill the ECS goal to "make the body politic itch." He will tackle a few of the current education policy issues that we're all hearing and reading about daily, and take us in new directions on how we can or should look at these issues as real opportunities for educational change and reform.



**PRESENTER:**

**FREDERICK HESS**

*Resident Scholar and Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, District of Columbia*

9:55 – 10:05 am South Convention Lobby

**Break**



10:05 – 11:05 am Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building, Majestic Level

**Plenary Session #325**

**Brain Rules and What They Mean for Education**

At your request, John Medina is back! The highly entertaining, knowledgeable and engaging author of *Brain Rules* and *Brain Rules for Baby* will address the implications of the latest brain research for learning and for policy.



**PRESENTER:**

**JOHN MEDINA**

*Developmental Molecular Biologist, University of Washington School of Medicine*



11:05 – 11:15 am South Convention Lobby

**Break**



11:15 – 12:15 pm Tower Court D, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #334**

**With All of Our High School Reforms, Why Are Kids Still Not Well-Prepared for College and Work?**

Despite increasing graduation requirements and raising the bar on high school assessments, recent reports indicate that far too many students are ill-prepared for entry into college, work or the military. This session explores means by which states can potentially move the needle on college- and career-readiness for all students.



**PRESENTER:**

**ELAINE ALLENSWORTH**

*Co-director for Statistical Analysis, University of Chicago, Illinois*

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Tower Court A, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #330**

**More with John Medina**

This is your chance to question John Medina more deeply about the ways in which state policy could better build on his research. For a preview, see <http://brainrules.net>.



**PRESENTER:**

**JOHN MEDINA**

*Developmental Molecular Biologist, University of Washington School of Medicine*

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Tower Court B, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #331**

**The Boulder Higher Education Brain Trust**

Participate in a free-wheeling discussion with the leaders of WICHE, SHEEO and NCHEMS about the latest in higher education policy reform.



**PRESENTERS:**

**DENNIS JONES**

*President, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, Colorado*

**PAUL LINGENFELTER**

*President, State Higher Education Executive Officers, Colorado*

**DAVID LONGANECKER**

*President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Colorado*

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Windows, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**Concurrent Session #333**

**The Common Core: Out of the Chute and Into the Arena**

This session looks at critical considerations, next steps and advice from states "leading the ride" regarding the implementation of the Common Core State Standards.



**MODERATOR:**

**AMELIA HODGES**

*Associate Secretary for the College and Workforce Readiness Branch, Delaware Department of Education*

**PRESENTERS:**

**REBECCA GARLAND**

*Chief Academic Officer, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction*

**LINDA ROGERS**

*Associate Secretary for Teaching and Learning, Delaware Department of Education*

12:15 – 1:45 pm Grand Ballroom, Tower Building, 2nd Level

**session #340**

**Lunch**



Former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty presenting the ECS Chair's Award to Teach for America. The award was accepted by Eric Scroggins, Executive Vice President of Growth Strategy and Development, Teach for America.

FRIDAY

JULY

## POST FORUM SESSIONS:

2:00 – 6:00 pm Spruce Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

### Post Forum Session #345

#### NCLC Board Meeting (Invitation Only)



2:00 – 5:00 pm Silver Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

### Post Forum Session #350

#### Leveraging State Investments in Remedial Education

In a time of limited public resources, state policymakers continue to be concerned about the high cost and limited results of remedial education. If states are going to significantly improve the skills of their workforce, however, remedial education will need to be a critical strategy to ensure that the 42 million Americans between the ages of 18 and 64 who are not prepared for postsecondary education can earn a credential. Fortunately, a number of policies and strategies that states can support can significantly increase student success and save public resources. This workshop will showcase the best state and system strategies for leveraging state investments in remedial education to increase college success.



#### PRESENTERS:

##### TOM BAILEY

Director, Community College Research Center,  
Teachers College at Columbia University, New York

##### TREVA BERRYMAN

Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Tennessee Board of Regents

##### MICHAEL COLLINS

Program Director of Policy, Jobs for the Future, Massachusetts

##### JOSEPH GARCIA

Lieutenant Governor, Colorado

##### SHANNA SMITH JAGGARS

Senior Research Associate, Community College Research Center,  
Teachers College at Columbia University, New York

##### TARA PARKER

Center for Policy Research on Preparation, Access and Remedial  
Education, University of Massachusetts, Boston

##### GRETCHEN SCHMIDT

Assistant Vice Chancellor, Virginia Community College System

##### URI TREISMAN

Professor and Executive Director, Charles Dana Center,  
University of Texas at Austin

##### BRUCE VANDAL

Director of Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development,  
Education Commission of the States

##### JANE WELLMAN

Executive Director of The Delta Project and National Association of  
System Heads, District of Columbia

2:00 – 4:00 pm Tower Court D, Tower Building, 2nd Level

### Post Forum Session 355

#### Building the Next Generation of P-20 System Alignment



Getting agencies to work together is tough business, and state-level P-20 councils have been accused (rightly or wrongly) of window-dressing. This session will explore the following questions: What is a truly P-20 system? Is a change in state governance structure necessary? What issues do states with consolidated education governance structures address more easily, and what challenges do they face nonetheless? Is the creation of a P-20 council necessary? What are the key leverage points to make a genuine P-20 system a reality in your state?

#### MODERATOR:

##### JENNIFER DOUNAY ZINTH

Co-Director of ECS Information Clearinghouse and Senior Policy Analyst,  
Education Commission of the States

#### PRESENTERS:

##### MATT GIANNESCHI

Deputy Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education

##### MIKE RUSH

Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education

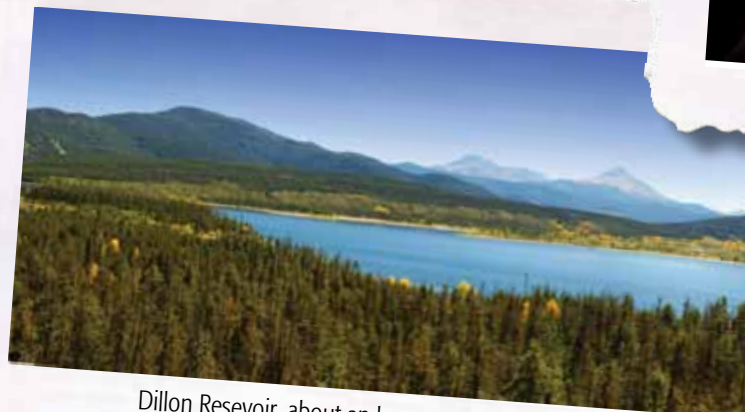
##### MICHAEL USDAN

Senior Fellow, The Institute for Educational Leadership,  
District of Columbia

6:00 – 8:00 pm Spruce Room, Tower Building, Mezzanine Level

### Session #360

#### NCLC Board Meeting Dinner (Invitation Only)

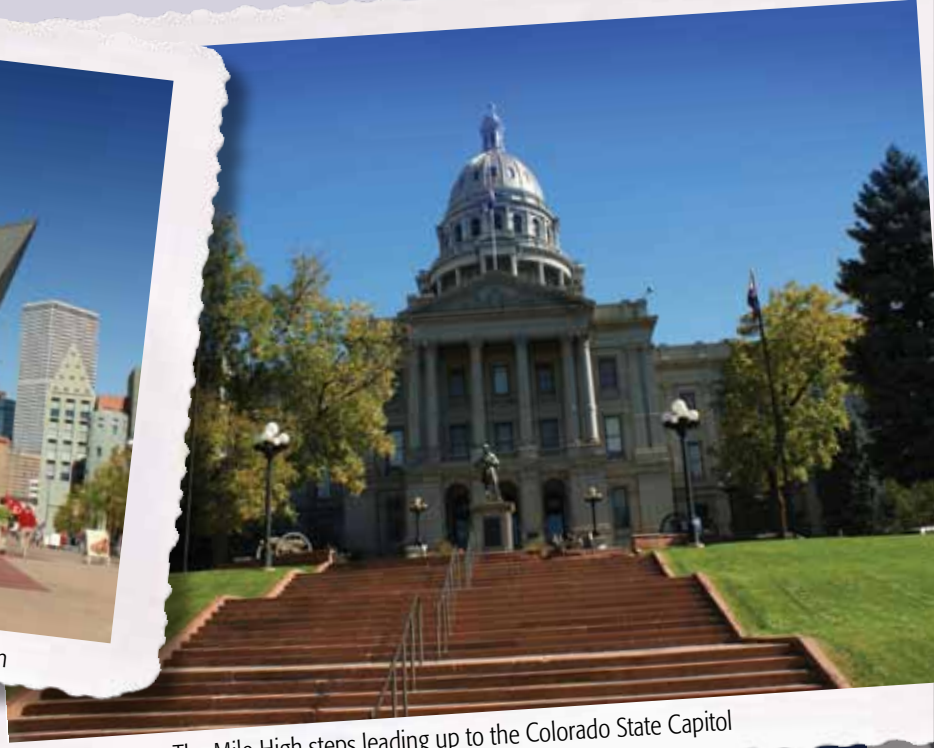


Dillon Reservoir, about an hour outside Denver





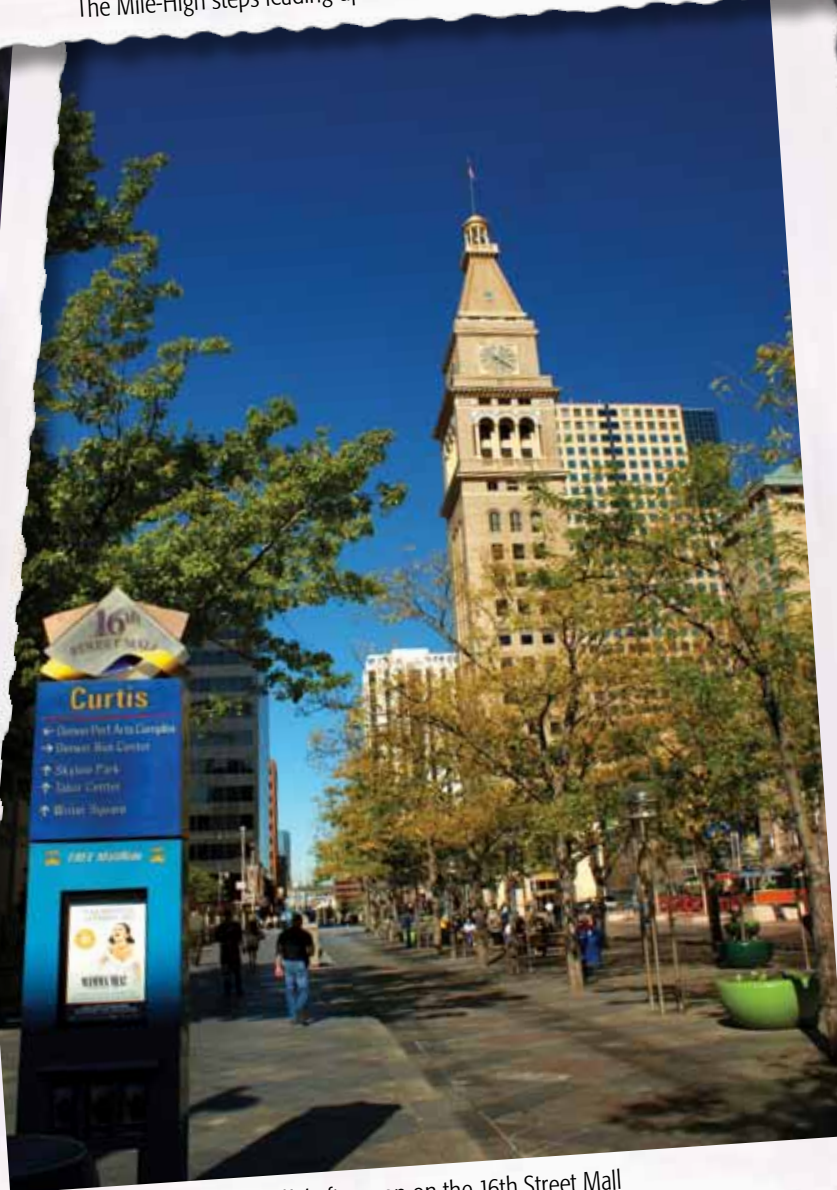
The new addition to the Denver Art Museum, designed by Daniel Libeskin



The Mile-High steps leading up to the Colorado State Capitol



The historic Paramount Theatre in downtown Denver



A beautiful afternoon on the 16th Street Mall





# James Bryant Conant Award

## Ted Kolderie

The Education Commission of the States (ECS) each year memorializes co-founder James Bryant Conant by honoring an individual for outstanding contributions to American education. This year, ECS is proud to recognize a leader for his work in developing and spreading the idea of a “chartered” sector in public education. The 2011 recipient of the ECS James Bryant Conant Award is Ted Kolderie, co-founder of Education|Evolving.

The Conant Award was established in 1997 by the ECS Steering Committee in honor of James Bryant Conant, who was a great educator, scientist and statesman. ECS presents it only to those individuals whose efforts and service have created a pronounced and lasting influence on American education. Previous award winners include Ron Wolk, Claiborne Pell, Theodore Sizer and Marian Wright Edelman, along with former Governors Gaston Caperton, Roy Romer, James Hunt Jr. and Richard Riley. ECS is proud to add Ted Kolderie to this esteemed list.

Kolderie is recognized nationally for his work on K-12 education policy and innovation since the early 1980s. In 1982, he was a member of Minnesota Governor Albert Quie’s task force on education policy and a member of Governor Rudy Perpich’s “Discussion Group” from 1985 to 1989.

He worked with the committee of the Citizens League that in late 1988 proposed “Chartered Schools,” then with legislators and Minnesota Commissioner of Education Tom Nelson on the design and implementation of the country’s first charter school law in 1991. A short paper he wrote in 1990, *The States Will Have To Withdraw the Exclusive*, though not the first publication about chartering, is regarded by many as the founding document of the contemporary charter movement. Through the early 1990s he worked with legislators and citizens on the design and improvement of charter legislation in more than 25 states, including California, Colorado, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Florida, New Jersey and Ohio.

In 2005, he published *Creating the Capacity for Change: How and Why Governors and Legislatures are Opening a New-Schools Sector in Public Education* to share what he had learned working with elected officials and education leaders on education reform in the previous 15 years. In 2004, he and Joe Graba co-founded Education|Evolving to be a nonpartisan policy group working in Minnesota and nationally on a strategy for change and improvement in K-12 education.

He has written for a variety of publications and has talked about the need for innovation in learning with organizations such as the National Education Association, the National School Boards Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the National Business Roundtable, the National Education Goals Panel, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Progressive Policy Institute.

Before entering education policy, Kolderie worked on urban and metropolitan affairs and on questions of system design in the public sector. He started his career as a reporter and editorial writer with the Minneapolis Star and Tribune. He was executive director of the Citizens League in the Twin Cities area and in the 1980s was a senior fellow at the University of Minnesota’s Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Kolderie graduated with a B.A. from Carleton College and a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs at Princeton University.



For Outstanding Contributions to American Education



# Frank Newman Award for State Innovation

This year, the Education Commission of the States honors the New England Secondary School Consortium as the recipient of the 2011 Frank Newman Award for State Innovation. The annual award recognizes the Consortium's bold example of collaboration, expertise exchange and resource sharing across states, as well as its commitment to prioritizing 21st century skills, reducing persistent achievement gaps, improving the quality of secondary education and graduating every student prepared for life.



NEW ENGLAND  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
CONSORTIUM

The Education Commission of the States has long recognized states and territories for innovation and excellence in education policy. In 2005, ECS named its State Innovation Award in honor of the late Frank Newman, who served as ECS president for 14 years. The Frank Newman Award recognizes education improvement efforts that are replicable and hold valuable lessons for other states; policies that are bold and courageous, including new policies designed for large-scale impact; and policies or programs that have bipartisan, broad-based support.

The New England Secondary School Consortium is a regional partnership that encompasses Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont ([www.newenglandssc.org](http://www.newenglandssc.org)). Since 2007, the partner states have developed a bold vision and shared goals designed to ensure that all public secondary students in the five member states receive an education that prepares them for success in the colleges, careers and communities of the 21st century. The states have committed to achieving the following objectives by 2016:

- ✦ Increase four-year, on-time graduation rates in each of the states to 90% or higher
- ✦ Decrease annual dropout rates to less than 1%
- ✦ Increase the percentage of students enrolling in two- and four-year college-degree programs, or pursuing accredited postsecondary credentials, to 80% or higher
- ✦ Reduce the number of students required to take remedial courses during their first year of college to 5% or less
- ✦ Forge a new partnership with higher education to dramatically increase college enrollment, persistence and degree-attainment rates.

With long-term sustainability in mind, the Consortium has spent the past three years establishing a broad-based leadership council composed of state education leaders and policymakers, developing an ambitious regional policy

agenda, refining common metrics for student attainment, and launching a variety of initiatives, including an educator-driven multistate support network, an annual conference for secondary educators, and a briefing series for state and school leaders. While each state has retained its individuality and continues to pursue its own customized secondary reform strategy, all five states are committed to pursuing common goals, sharing successes and setbacks, and working together regardless of leadership turnover, budget constraints or shifting political priorities.

The Consortium offers many lessons for other states looking to collaborate. Its flexible approach empowers the member states to achieve their own goals more effectively, while leveraging state, federal and foundation funding to increase coherence, alignment and momentum for secondary reforms with the potential to improve educational quality and outcomes for roughly 375,000 secondary students. The Consortium utilizes a “schoolhouse to statehouse” approach by working not only with state leaders, but also with districts, schools and educators. Finally, the Consortium develops research-based resources, such as its High Leverage Policy Framework and Global Best Practices self-assessment tool – to equip both policymakers and educators with practical, proven strategies as they undertake the complex work of education reform.

With coordination from the Great Schools Partnership ([greatschoolspartnership.org](http://greatschoolspartnership.org)), the New England Secondary School Consortium represents an efficient, high-impact, low-cost model for multistate collaboration that can achieve both local and state-level reforms at scale. ECS recognizes the chief state school officers and many other education leaders and educators in each of the five states who worked together to develop the Consortium. Their work honors the spirit of the late Frank Newman, and ECS is proud to recognize the five Consortium states with this award.

For Outstanding Innovations in State Education Policy

# Corporate Award

## ExxonMobil

The Education Commission of the States is pleased to recognize ExxonMobil as the 2011 recipient of the ECS Corporate Award. The tribute honors nonprofit organizations and for-profit corporations that have demonstrated a sustained commitment to, and investment in, improving public education, particularly efforts that reach those currently not well-served by the education system. The award was created under the leadership of former Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer, 1999-2000 ECS Chair.

At a time when not enough students are interested in and prepared for careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), ExxonMobil's involvement in designing, developing and funding national and grassroots efforts to close this gap is commendable. The company is involved in a wide range of activities, from supporting programs that encourage youth to take an active interest in STEM careers, to facilitating the professional development of highly qualified teachers, to promoting the involvement of women and minorities in STEM studies and careers.

ExxonMobil is a founding sponsor of the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI), launched in 2007 to prepare more students to succeed in STEM and prepare teachers to teach STEM effectively. The Initiative replicates programs that have shown quantifiable improvements, such as the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) and UTeach. The NMSI programs have produced impressive results in a short period of time. High schools participating in the APTIP for two years have produced a 97% increase in the number of passing scores on AP math, science and English exams. Furthermore, the achievement gap narrowed as African American and Hispanic students showed a 155% increase in exams passed. UTeach has been successfully implemented at 22 universities across the country, and enrollment has tripled. This program will produce a new generation of highly trained math and science teachers.

In 2005, ExxonMobil joined forces with golfer Phil Mickelson and his wife, Amy, to develop the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy. Each summer, 600 3rd-through 5th-grade teachers from around the country attend this free, five-day program that equips them with the skills to motivate students to pursue STEM careers. To date, more than 2,600 teachers have been trained.

Middle school students are the focus of the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp. Each year 1,250 underrepresented students attend one of 25 two-week camps held at college campuses around the country. The namesake of the program, Dr. Harris, was the first African American to walk in space. ExxonMobil is a major supporter of a number of organizations working to encourage minority students and women to study and pursue careers in STEM, including National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Society of Women Engineers and Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers.

ExxonMobil employees are also involved in the company's efforts. One example is the Science Ambassador Program, where more than 600 employees and retirees go into schools to serve as tutors, mentors and guest teachers. The company provides the volunteers with educational kits and a curriculum designed in collaboration with Scholastic. Finally, ExxonMobil has joined with over 100 CEOs and companies to form Change the Equation, an initiative launched in 2010 in response to President Obama's Educate to Innovate campaign.

ExxonMobil has taken a multi-faceted approach to tackling the problem that too few students are interested in or prepared for STEM careers. ECS applauds the commitment ExxonMobil has shown to improving American education and global competitiveness and is proud to honor them with the 2011 ECS Corporate Award.



# Past Award Winners

## James Bryant Conant Award

2010	LINDA DARLING-HAMMOND
2009	KATI HAYCOCK
2008	RON WOLK
2007	GASTON CAPERTON
2006	NANCY S. GRASMICK
2005	SHARON LYNN KAGAN
2004	THURGOOD MARSHALL AND JOHN H. STELLE
2003	ROY ROMER
2002	ROBERT P. MOSES
2001	FRED ROGERS
2000	JOHN GOODLAD
1999	FRANK NEWMAN
1998	ROBERT SLAVIN
1997	CLAIBORNE PELL
1996	JOHN W. GARDNER
1995	RICHARD W. RILEY
1994	ERNEST L. BOYER
1993	WILHELMINA DELCO
1992	THEODORE R. SIZER
1991	JAMES P. COMER
1990	NO AWARD GIVEN
1989	FRED M. HECHINGER
1988	LAMAR ALEXANDER
1987	MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN
1986	HAROLD HOWE II
1985	TERREL H. BELL AND DAVID P. GARDNER
1984	JAMES B. HUNT JR.
1983	CARL PERKINS
1982	JOHN BRADEMAS
1981	TERRY SANFORD
1980	RALPH TYLER
1979	FRANCIS KEPPEL
1978	JOAN GANZ COONEY
1977	BENJAMIN MAYS

## Frank Newman Award for State Innovation

2010	OHIO (FOR LEGISLATIVE REFORMS)
2009	TENNESSEE (FOR MULTIPLE INITIATIVES)
2008	NORTH DAKOTA (NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION ON EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT)
2007	ALASKA (FOR MULTIPLE INITIATIVES)
2006	KENTUCKY (KENTUCKY EDUCATION REFORM ACT OF 1990 AND OTHER INITIATIVES)
2005	FLORIDA AND UTAH (CO-WINNERS, FOR MULTIPLE INITIATIVES)
2004	NORTH CAROLINA (NC TEACH) AND SOUTH CAROLINA (THE CENTER FOR EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND ADVANCEMENT)
2003	MARYLAND (VISIONARY PANEL FOR BETTER SCHOOLS)
2002	ALABAMA (ALABAMA READING INITIATIVE) AND TEXAS (TEXAS READING INITIATIVE)
2001	GEORGIA (UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM)
2000	CONNECTICUT (BEGINNING EDUCATOR SUPPORT AND TRAINING (BEST) PROGRAM)
1999	NORTH CAROLINA (NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM)
1998	OREGON (STUDENTS RECYCLING USED TECHNOLOGY (STRUT))

## Corporate Award

2010	AT&T
2009	PROJECT LEAD THE WAY, INC.
2008	SIMON YOUTH FOUNDATION
2007	PEARSON
2006	PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE (PBS)
2005	HEWLETT-PACKARD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
2004	MBNA CORPORATION
2003	INTEL CORPORATION AND WASHINGTON MUTUAL
2002	STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES
2001	METLIFE AND THE METLIFE FOUNDATION

## Chair's Award

2010	TEACH FOR AMERICA
2009	NO AWARD GIVEN
2008	LUTHER OLSEN, WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR, AND RICHARD RHODA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
2007	FORD FOUNDATION, THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION, THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION, THE EWING MARING KAUFFMAN FOUNDATION AND THE WALLACE FOUNDATION
2006	NEIL PORTNOW, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS & SCIENCES
2005	PLACIDO DOMINGO
2004	CARL TAKAMURA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HAWAII BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE
2003	RON NEWCOMB, EDUCATION ASSISTANT TO FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR ROY E. BARNES
2002	MILES E. TURNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS
2001	ED FORD, KENTUCKY DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE EXECUTIVE CABINET
2000	TED STILWILL, IOWA DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
1999	ARDYCE L. BOHLKE, NEBRASKA STATE SENATOR
1998	DAVID H. STEELE, UTAH STATE SENATOR
1997	HOWARD P. "PETE" RAWLINGS, MARYLAND STATE REPRESENTATIVE
1996	JOHN HANSEN, IDAHO STATE SENATOR



### Elaine Allensworth

Elaine Allensworth is senior director and chief research officer at the Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago. She is known for her research on early indicators of high school graduation, college readiness and the transition from middle to high school. Currently, she is working on studies of high school curriculum and middle-grade predictors of college readiness. Allensworth holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and an M.A. in Urban Studies from Michigan State University, and was once a high school Spanish and science teacher.



### Thomas Bailey

Thomas Bailey is the George and Abby O'Neill Professor of Economics and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. He also is director of the Community College Research Center and the National Center for Postsecondary Research, both housed at Teachers College. An economist with a Ph.D. from MIT specializing in education, labor economics and econometrics, Bailey's recent work analyzes student access and success at community colleges, with a particular focus on the experiences of low-income and minority students. In June 2010, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan appointed Bailey chairperson of the Committee on Measures of Student Success, which will develop recommendations for community colleges to comply with completion rate disclosure requirements under the Higher Education Opportunity Act. Bailey also is director of the National Center for Postsecondary Research.



### Katherine Bassett

Katherine Bassett currently serves as director of the Educator Relations Group for the Educational Testing Service (ETS), working to support teachers and teacher preparation institutions and to build teacher-oriented partnerships with like-minded organizations. In addition, she is leading work of assessments of educator performance and has facilitated the work of a consortium to develop model standards for teacher leadership. While at ETS, Bassett has led the development of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certificates for Library Media and Literacy, co-developed the Take One! program booklet and led the revision of the Praxis test for Library Media Specialists. Bassett enjoyed a 26-year career as a library media specialist at the middle school level and served as New Jersey's State Teacher of the Year in 2000.



### Paul Baumann

Paul Baumann is a project leader in ECS' National Center for Learning and Citizenship (NCLC). Paul earned his Ph.D. in Education Policy from the University of Maryland (UMD) – College Park, where his research focused on issues of teacher quality, teacher education and teacher compensation. Prior to attending UMD, Baumann taught vocal music for 10 years at a private high school in suburban Maryland

and in the District of Columbia Public Schools. He was elected to two terms on the Board of Directors of the Organization of American Kodály Educators, a national professional association of music educators, and served as its secretary from 2002-07.



### Julie Davis Bell

Julie Davis Bell is the Education Program director for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). She has been with NCSL for 20 years and has directed the Education Program for 18 years. In that capacity, she oversees the 10-person Education Program staff and is responsible for setting Program priorities, responding to constituent needs and requests, developing new education projects and interfacing with other national education policy organizations. She also serves as the program policy specialist for higher education issues. She speaks and writes regularly about education and legislative issues. Bell received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California at Davis in 1986. Prior to joining NCSL, she was a policy associate with the Center for Policy Research in Denver and taught political science courses at the University of Colorado.



### Treva Berryman

Treva Berryman is associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Tennessee Board of Regents. Her key responsibilities include reviewing proposals for new academic programs and teaching sites, serving as liaison for Nursing and Allied Health and directing a statewide redesign of developmental studies. She has more than 30 years in higher education, having served as associate professor/chair of Hospitality Management, director of Auxiliary Administration and Student Alumni Center, staff assistant to the vice chancellor for Business and Finance, director of Food and Nutrition Services, and as adjunct faculty. Berryman received her Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Memphis and a B.S. and M.S. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



### Tony Bennett

Since he took office in 2009 as Indiana's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Bennett has relentlessly pushed for dramatic changes in Indiana's schools. He has dedicated his life to serving Indiana's students – as a science teacher, an administrator and a coach. During his time as state superintendent, he has tackled myriad issues to create a more student-focused system of schools. He has set high expectations for students and educators, encouraged competition and freedom, and enforced rigorous accountability to ensure children receive the top-notch instruction they deserve. Most recently, Bennett was the driving force behind the successful passage of the most comprehensive education reform agenda in the nation that positions Hoosier students for success in college and the global workforce.







### Estela Mara Bensimon

Estela Mara Bensimon is a professor of Higher Education and co-director of the Center for Urban Education at the USC Rossier School of Education. Bensimon's publications about equity, organizational learning, practitioner inquiry and change

include: *The Underestimated Significance of Practitioner Knowledge in the Scholarship on Student Success*; *Doing Research that Makes a Difference*; and *Closing the Achievement Gap in Higher Education: An Organizational Learning Perspective*. Bensimon held leadership positions in the Association for the Study of Higher Education and in the American Education Research Association-Division on Postsecondary Education. She served on the boards of the American Association for Higher Education and the Association of American Colleges and Universities. She earned her doctorate in Higher Education from Teachers College, Columbia University.



### Kathy Christie

Kathy Christie's primary responsibility is to serve as chief of staff for ECS. In addition, she co-directs the work of the ECS Clearinghouse, where staff collect and analyze research, track state and district reforms, and analyze the various reforms in the states. Clearinghouse

staff respond to policy and research requests from media, governor's offices, legislators and legislative staff, chief state school officers, state agencies and various other policymakers in the states; and work to make information broadly available at "point of need" through [www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org). Prior to working with ECS, Christie worked as a freelance writer, a secondary language arts teacher, juvenile detention center counselor and was employed with the National Conference of State Legislatures. She served three terms as a member of the board of directors, Englewood Schools, and one term on the board of directors for the Colorado Association of School Boards.



### Jonathan Bergmann

Jonathan Bergmann has been an educator for 25 years and holds a master's degree from the University of Colorado in Instructional Technology. He currently teaches science at Woodland Park High School in Woodland Park, Colorado. In 2002, he was awarded the

prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence for Math and Science Teaching. He is a national board certified teacher in Adolescent and Young Adult Science. In 2009, he was named a semi-finalist for Colorado Teacher of the Year.



### Robert L. Corcoran

Robert L. Corcoran is vice president of Corporate Citizenship, where he leads the CSR function globally for GE as well as serving as president and chairman of the GE Foundation. Prior to his current role, Corcoran

ran GE's Management Development Institute at Crotonville as chief learning officer; before that was vice president of Human Resources for the Global GE Healthcare business. In his 31-year career with GE, he has held other key HR leadership roles in GE's Medical, Aircraft, Lighting and Aerospace businesses. As an executive member of the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights, he helped establish standards for human rights practices in business and industry and create GE's Principles on Human Rights to guide the Company's operations and supply chain. Corcoran is a trustee of Sacred Heart University and is on the Board of Directors of Business for Social Responsibility. GE's Board of Directors elected him a corporate officer in 2000.



### John Bonaiuto

John A. Bonaiuto's teaching career began in Ralston, Nebraska as an elementary school teacher. After several years in the classroom, he became a principal, then a building administrator for a K-6 school and eventually

accepted the position of curriculum director for the Brookings School District in South Dakota. In the same district, he became assistant superintendent for Administration, responsible for curriculum and finances, and then superintendent of the Vermillion School District. His career path was forever changed when the governor of South Dakota appointed Bonaiuto to his Cabinet to head the state department of education, where he served for five years. As Chief State School Officer, he worked with the South Dakota Board of Education and the State's 178 school districts.



### Jennifer Davis

Jennifer David is co-founder and president of the National Center on Time and Learning. For the last 20 years, she has held numerous positions at the federal, state and local levels focused on improving educational opportunities for children across the United

States. David's previous positions have included U.S. Department of Education Deputy Assistant Secretary; special assistant to U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley; special assistant to the executive director of the National Governors Association; and working for Boston Mayor Thomas Menino. The National Center on Time & Learning (NCTL) is dedicated to expanding learning time to narrow the achievement gap and provide a well-rounded education for children in high-poverty schools. Through research, public policy and technical assistance to states, districts and schools, NCTL seeks to help children meet the demands of the 21st century.



### Michael Collins

Michael Collins is a program director on Jobs for the Future's Policy team. He develops and advocates for state policies through two national initiatives: Achieving the Dream; and the Early College High School Initiative. He leads a team that supports 16 state-level

efforts to develop and implement postsecondary policies that increase student completion. Prior to this, Collins served as assistant commissioner for Participation and Success at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.





### Peter Evans

Peter Evans is the principal of Montpelier High School in Montpelier, Vermont. He has been an educator for 32 years and has served as a teacher, assistant principal and principal at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

Evans is currently on the graduate faculty of Saint Michael's College and teaches classes on school leadership to aspiring principals. In addition, he has represented Vermont principals on several statewide projects and served as president of the Vermont Principals' Association. He was named Vermont Principal of the Year in 2008 and was a nominee for National Principal of the Year. Evans holds an Ed.D. from the College of Education and Social Services of the University of Vermont in Burlington. His dissertation, *Searching for Indicators of Student Success: The Stories of Engagement in Learning of One High School's Highest Achieving Students*, was nominated by the faculty of the University of Vermont for the National Morphet Dissertation Award.



### Joe Garcia

Joseph Garcia brings a passion for education and public service to the state Capitol. Before he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Colorado, he was president of Colorado State University - Pueblo. He also served as one of three Colorado commissioners on the Western

Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE), an organization he now chairs. Garcia also has been actively involved as a board member for many nonprofit agencies such as the YMCAs of Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver, Pikes Peak Legal Aid, the Colorado Springs and Pueblo Economic Development Agencies, The Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (where he served as board president), the Pikes Peak Child Nursery Centers Inc., the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and numerous other civil rights, educational and cultural organizations. He earned a business degree from the University of Colorado and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.



### Rebecca Garland

Rebecca Garland is the chief academic officer for the Department of Public Instruction. Before assuming this position, Garland served as the executive director of the NC State Board of Education. In her 30 plus years in education, she has also been a teacher in

the Harnett County School System, a DPI consultant in Content and Gifted Education, a director of middle schools, arts and gifted education for Alamance-Burlington Schools, and an associate superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for Orange County Schools. Garland holds a B.A. in History from UNC-G, a master's in Education from Campbell University, and a doctorate in Education Leadership from NC State University.



### Matt Gianneschi

Matt Gianneschi is the deputy executive director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE). Prior to joining CDHE, he was the vice president of Student Services and Enrollment Management at the Community College of Aurora. From 2007–09, Gianneschi

served as the senior advisor for education policy to Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, Jr. Previously, he served as the senior policy analyst for SHEEO, chief academic officer for CDHE and a director of the Daniels Fund. He received B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Denver and a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona.



### Howard Gobstein

Howard Gobstein initiated and co-directs the Science and Mathematics Teacher Imperative, which strives to stimulate member universities to prepare more, better and more diverse science and math teachers. Gobstein and his staff also are responsible for the APLU

Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education and the APLU Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Prosperity. Gobstein has been: associate VP, Michigan State University; senior policy analyst, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; and VP, Association of American Universities. He has a master's degree in Science, Technology and Public Policy from George Washington University and a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Engineering from Purdue University. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and was selected as outstanding alumni of Purdue's School of Engineering Education in 2010.



### Martin Gonzalez

Martin Gonzalez is the California School Boards Association's (CSBA) deputy executive director, financial and policy services. Martin has been instrumental in CSBA's past efforts to focus and raise awareness on the importance of student health and its impact on academic

achievement. He was instrumental in the development of the *Student Wellness: a Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide*, *Monitoring for Success: A Student Wellness Implementation Monitoring Report and Guide*, and *Building Healthy Communities: A School Leaders Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement*. Martin earned a J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law, an M.A. in History and a B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



### Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin is a professor of animal science at Colorado State University. She was a severely autistic child and has a successful career due to hard work and mentoring by her science teacher. Some of the topics that will be discussed in her talk are the need for hands-on

activities in the schools and the understanding that different children have different kinds of abilities. She will explain how she thinks in pictures. Grandin obtained her B.A. at Franklin Pierce College in 1970. In 1975 she earned her M.S. in Animal Science at Arizona State



University for her work on the behavior of cattle in different squeeze chutes. She was awarded her Ph.D. in Animal Science from the University of Illinois in 1989.



### Mike Griffith

Mike Griffith serves as the Senior K-12 and Higher Education School Finance Analyst for the Education Commission of the States (ECS). He has worked in the field of education finance policy for the past 14 years with ECS, the consulting firm of Augenblick & Myers, and the Michigan State Senate. Griffith is an expert resource to national news media and has been quoted more than 200 times by such outlets as: CNN, Education Week, The London Times, NBC Nightly News, National Public Radio, The New York Times, The News Hour with Jim Lehrer and USA Today. Griffith holds a B.A. from Michigan State University; an M.A. in Public Administration from The Ohio State University; and an M.A. in Education from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland.

### Irving Hamer

A native of Harlem, New York, Irving Hamer is one of the nation's foremost leaders and activists for education reform. During his 30-plus years as an educator, Hamer served as New York City Deputy Commissioner of Education, Board of Education member, school administrator, teacher and professor. Hamer received a B.A. in Sociology from Ottawa University, an M.Ed. in Administration and Ed.D. in Learning Environments and Social Policy from Harvard University, and spent three years as a senior research affiliate at Yale University Institute for Social and Policy Studies. In July 2008, he joined Memphis City Schools' family as deputy superintendent of Academic Operations, Technology and Innovation.



### Frederick M. Hess

Frederick M. Hess is resident scholar and director of education policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute. He has authored influential books on education including *The Same Thing Over and Over*, *Education Unbound*, *Common Sense School Reform*, *Revolution at the Margins*, and *Spinning Wheels*, and pens the Education Week blog "Rick Hess Straight Up." He has edited widely cited volumes on education philanthropy, stretching the education dollar, the impact of education research, education entrepreneurship and No Child Left Behind. A former high school social studies teacher, he has taught at the University of Virginia, the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, Rice University and Harvard University. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Government, as well as an M.Ed. in Teaching and Curriculum, from Harvard University.



### E.D. Hirsch, Jr.

E. D. Hirsch, Jr. is the founder and chairman of the Core Knowledge Foundation and professor emeritus of education and humanities at the University of Virginia. He is the author of several acclaimed books on education issues including the best-seller *Cultural Literacy*, as well as *The Schools We Need and Why We Don't Have Them*, *The Knowledge Deficit* and *The Making of Americans*. A highly regarded English professor and literary critic earlier in his career, Hirsch describes being "shocked into education reform" while doing research on written composition. Electrified by the insight gleaned from this research, he developed his groundbreaking concept of cultural literacy – the idea that reading comprehension requires not just formal decoding skills but also wide-ranging background knowledge. In 1986, he founded the Core Knowledge Foundation, and a year later, published *Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs To Know*. A surprise publishing phenomenon, the book remained at the top of the New York Times best-seller list for more than six months.



### John Hickenlooper

A geologist-turned brewpub pioneer who had never run for political office before running for Denver Mayor in 2003, Hickenlooper was elected Governor of Colorado on Nov. 2, 2010. In 2005, after serving only two years as mayor, Time Magazine placed him among the top five "big-city" mayors in the country. In 2008, Hickenlooper brought a new level of attention to the Mile High City, successfully marketing Denver as an ideal place to host the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Overall, his tireless efforts to improve the city of Denver paid off. Despite shrinking budgets and managing the city through two national recessions, a recent citizen survey found that Denver's overall community quality rating improved to 86% in 2010 from 78% in 2002. Hickenlooper ran for Governor of Colorado on a jobs creation and economic development platform. In using his experience as a jobs creator and consensus builder in government, he wants to increase opportunity for the people of Colorado. And perhaps most importantly, he has a track record of bringing people together to solve problems instead of stoking the same old partisan squabbles.



### Amelia Hodges

Amelia Hodges is the Delaware Department of Education's associate secretary for the College and Workforce Readiness Branch. A graduate of the University of Delaware, she completed her doctoral program in Educational Leadership with a concentration on Policy and Administration. She previously worked in the Christina and Smyrna School Districts and presently serves as an adjunct instructor at the University of Delaware. Hodges began working at the Department of Education in 2000 and has since served as education specialist for Data Management; education associate for Quality Assurance; education associate for Professional Development; and director for Career, Technical and Consolidated Programs.





### Thomas Horgan

Thomas Horgan is president and CEO of the New Hampshire College & University Council, (NHCUC), a consortium of the Granite State's public and private colleges and universities. Prior to joining the NHCUC in 1993, he served as president of the Nebraska Independent College Foundation. He also served as a state senator in the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. A recognized higher education and community leader, he serves on a number of boards including: the National Association for Consortium Leadership, Granite State Management and Resources, New Hampshire Health and Education Facilities Authority, Campus Compact for New Hampshire, New England Board of Higher Education, and as a commissioner for ECS, where he also serves as a member of the ECS Executive Committee. Horgan holds a B.S. from Morningside College in Iowa and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Nebraska. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Rivier College in 2007.



### Kathy Hurley

Kathy Hurley is a 35-year veteran of the education industry. She has served in senior executive positions with PLATO Learning, The Learning Company, Skillsbank and IBM. She works across Pearson with sales and marketing on major opportunities and the Pearson Foundation on education-related initiatives both domestic and international. In 2003, Hurley was inducted into the Association of Educational Publishers Hall of Fame for her achievements and service to the education publishing industry. Based in Washington, D.C., she works closely with education policy associations. Hurley currently serves on several industry and education advisory boards, including: the Partnership for 21st Century Skills Board, the National School Boards Foundation, the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training, the Software and Information Industry Association and the Consortium for School Networking Board.



### Marguerite Izzo

Marguerite Izzo is a full-time 5th-grade teacher, specializing in English Language Arts, at Howard T. Herber Middle School in Long Island, New York. Her teaching career spans more than 30 years. She also serves as an adjunct faculty member in the Adelphi literacy education program. In 2011, she was chosen to be the teacher representative for the U.S. delegation at the International Summit on the Teaching Profession. She is the 2007 New York State Teacher of the Year and has served on the NY Regents Standards Steering Committee and is a member of the NY State Teachers of the Year Council. As the co-director of the Malverne Teacher Center, Izzo provides professional development workshops and courses for the teachers. She holds a M.S. in Elementary Education from Adelphi University. She is a member of the ETS Teacher Leadership Standards Consortium, the Foundation Officer of the Adelphi PDK chapter, Adelphi University Alumni Association Board member and mentors novice teachers in her district.



### Shanna Smith Jaggars

Shanna Smith Jaggars is a senior research associate at the Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University. She co-directs a suite of studies funded under The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that focus on community college student success, with a particular focus on online learning and developmental education. In partnership with MDRC, she leads the quantitative portion of the evaluation of Achieving the Dream's Developmental Education Initiative, and with funding from the Kresge Foundation, she is working with a Detroit-area community college to measure the impacts of data-driven improvements in student support policies and processes.



### Mike Johnston

Mike Johnston represents northeast Denver in the Colorado State Senate. Johnston first entered education as a high school English teacher in Greenville, Mississippi, an experience that led him to write his acclaimed book, *In the Deep Heart's Core*. After leaving the Mississippi Delta, he co-founded New Leaders for New Schools, a national nonprofit that recruits and trains urban principals. Johnston started his own career as a principal, leading two alternative high schools serving Colorado students held in state custody or living in group homes and detention centers. Most recently, he was the co-founder and principal of MESA, a redesigned urban high school in Mapleton. Johnston holds degrees from Yale College, the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Yale Law School.



### Dennis P. Jones

Dennis P. Jones has more than 40 years of experience in research, development, technical assistance and administration in the field of higher education management and policymaking. A member of the NCHEMS staff since 1969, he assumed increasing levels of responsibility within the organization, becoming president in 1986. Jones is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and served as an administrator in business and institutional planning there for eight years prior to joining NCHEMS. He has served as an advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Education, Lumina Foundation for Education, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, and to numerous other associations, policy organizations and state agencies.



### Lilian Gonshaw Katz

Lilian Gonshaw Katz is Professor Emerita of Early Childhood Education at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and is currently co-director of the Clearinghouse on Early Education and Parenting (CEEP) at the University of Illinois. She is a past president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and the first president of the Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children. Katz is author of more than one hundred publications including articles, chapters, books and pamphlets, about early childhood education, teacher education, child development and



parenting of young children. Her most recent book (co-authored with J. H. Helm) is *Young Investigators: The Project Approach in the Early Years*. Katz is the recipient of many honors, including two Fulbright Awards (India & New Zealand), an honorary Doctor of Letters degree (DLitt.) from Whittier College, Whittier, California and an honorary Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Goteborg in Sweden.



### Lillian Kellogg

Lillian Kellogg has dedicated her career to education and has over 25 years of experience in the field of educational technology. She is a member of the board of directors for the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21) and is their incoming chairperson. She is also a board

member of the Consortium for School Networking and co-chairs their Empowering the 21st Century Superintendent initiative. Previously a board member of the Software and Information Industry Association (SIIA), Kellogg remains highly active in SIIA. As vice president of client services for ENA, she oversees marketing as well as strategic national partnerships.



### Rae Ann Kelsch

Rae Ann Kelsch has been elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives since 1990. She has served as chair of the House Education Committee since 1997 and is a member of the Higher Education Interim Committee. She has received several awards including

the NDAEYC Children's Champion Award and the Greater North Dakota Association State Community Award. She was chair of the Education Standing Committee and Overall Vice-Chair of Standing Committees for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), and is currently a member of the NCSL Executive Committee. Kelsch is the 2011-13 ECS vice chair and serves on the ECS Steering, Nominating and Executive Committees. She earned a B.S. in Business Management from the University of North Dakota and is currently working as a consultant. In that capacity, she develops strategies and policies specifically addressing Native American and at-risk populations in sparsely populated areas of the western United States.



### Patrick Kelly

Patrick Kelly is a senior associate at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). He also serves as director of the NCHEMS Information Center for State Higher Education Policymaking and Analysis and works on many projects applying

research and policy analysis to link higher education with the critical needs of states and their residents. He presents his work to a variety of audiences, including higher education researchers and policy analysts, State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEOs) and their staffs, and other state policymakers. Before joining NCHEMS in February 2002, Kelly worked for six years at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.



### James C. Kielsmeier

James C. Kielsmeier is the past president and CEO of the National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC), an organization he founded in 1983 through the University of Minnesota. NYLC has been at the center of community service and service-learning programs and policy

development since its inception. It annually convenes The National Service-Learning Conference, which includes representatives from all 50 states and 38 other countries. NYLC also produces *Growing to Greatness*, an ongoing national study of the state of K-12 service-learning; runs model programs; and develops service-learning materials. An adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota, he also founded the Center for Experiential Education and Service-Learning. He holds a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Colorado, a master's degree in International Relations from American University and a bachelor's degree from Wheaton College.



### Kristin Kipp

Kristin Kipp is the SREB/iNACOL National Online Teacher of the Year for 2011. She has been an English teacher for the last nine years and currently teaches 11th- and 12th-grade English full-time online for Jeffco's 21st Century Virtual Academy. In the past she has taught 8th

through 12th grades, both virtually and in a face-to-face classroom. She has a Master of Education in Secondary Education with a graduate minor in English from the University of North Texas.



### Ted Kolderie

Ted Kolderie was involved in Minnesota's 1991 chartering legislation and in the discussion about chartering in more than 25 states. He was a reporter and editorial writer for the Minneapolis Star and Tribune, executive

director of the Citizens League and a senior fellow at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. He graduated from Carleton College and has a master's from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs, Princeton University. He wrote *Creating the Capacity for Change: How and Why Governors and Legislatures Are Opening a New-Schools Sector in Public Education*, now published by Education Week Press.



### Paul E. Lingenfelter

Paul Lingenfelter's work as president of SHEEO has focused on successful participation in higher education, accountability and finance. Under his leadership, the SHEEO staff organized the National Commission on

Accountability in Higher Education, created the annual study *State Higher Education Finance* and published *More Student Success: A Systemic Solution*. He previously served as vice president of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He received an A.B. from Wheaton College in Literature, an M.A. from Michigan State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Higher Education. He currently serves on the boards of the National Student Clearinghouse and the New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability.





### David A. Longanecker

David A. Longanecker has served as the president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) in Boulder, Colorado, since 1999. Previously, Longanecker served for six years as the assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S.

Department of Education as well as the state higher education executive officer in Colorado and Minnesota. He was also the principal analyst for higher education for the Congressional Budget Office. Longanecker has served on numerous boards and commissions and has written extensively on a range of higher education issues. Longanecker holds an Ed.D. from Stanford University, an M.A. in Student Personnel Work from George Washington University and a B.A. in Sociology from Washington State University.



### Virginia Maloney

Virginia Maloney recently assumed the role as director of the Marsico Institute for Early Learning and Literacy, and clinical associate professor at the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver. She recently stepped down as dean of the

Morgridge College of Education after serving in this role for seven years. Previously, she was the executive director of the Sturm Family Foundation, a Denver-based philanthropic foundation with funding initiatives in the fields of K-12 education, higher education, affordable housing and Jewish life. Maloney received her B.A. from Yale University as a member of the first graduating class to include women. She has an M.A. in Education and Human Development and a Ph.D. in Administration from the School of Public and Business Management at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. As a doctoral student she focused her study and research on the development and implementation of public education policy.



### Michele McNeil

Michele McNeil is an assistant editor and federal policy reporter at Education Week, a national newspaper covering K-12 education issues based in Bethesda, Maryland. She covers the U.S. Department of Education, federal education policies and school

finance issues. She's also the creator of *Politics K-12*, a blog that tracks the intersection of education, policy and politics. Before she joined Education Week in 2006, McNeil worked for 10 years at The Indianapolis Star as an education reporter and a Statehouse reporter. A graduate of Franklin College in Indiana, McNeil now has her master's in Public Policy from the University of Maryland.



### John J. Medina

John J. Medina, a developmental molecular biologist, has a lifelong fascination with how the mind reacts to and organizes information. He is the author of the New York Times bestseller *Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and*

*School* – a provocative book that takes on the way our schools and work environments are designed. His latest book is a must-read for parents and early-childhood educators: *Brain Rules for Baby: How to Raise a Smart and Happy Child from Zero to Five*. Medina is an affiliate professor of Bioengineering at the University of Washington School of Medicine. He also is the director of the Brain Center for Applied Learning Research at Seattle Pacific University.



### Rick Melmer

Rick Melmer is the dean of the School of Education at the University of South Dakota. Melmer began his duties in November of 2008. Prior to his work as an education dean, he served as the Secretary of Education for the State of South Dakota from 2003–08.

He was a classroom teacher for five years, an elementary principal for seven years and worked as a school superintendent for 12 years. Melmer, a South Dakota native, holds a B.A. in Elementary Education and Psychology from Dakota Wesleyan University, an M.A. in Elementary Administration from South Dakota State University and an Ed.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Wyoming. Melmer has instructed several graduate courses at the University of Sioux Falls, Morningside College, the Iowa Area Education Agency, South Dakota State University and the University of South Dakota.



### Mark Nieker

Mark Nieker is president and chief executive officer of the Pearson Foundation, the nonprofit arm of Pearson that extends the international learning company's commitment to education in partnership with nonprofit and public interest organizations. Nieker

oversees Pearson's philanthropic activity worldwide, working with leading businesses and civic groups to support students and teachers, conduct and share research, and sponsor community-based education programs. In recent years, the Pearson Foundation has helped launch initiatives including We Give Books, the Million Voice Project and Jumpstart's Read for the Record. Earlier this year, the Pearson Foundation was honored with the NEA Foundation Award for Philanthropy in Public Education.





### Barbara O'Brien

Barbara O'Brien has been a leader in education policy for more than 25 years. As Colorado's lieutenant governor from 2007-11, her portfolio included serving as co-chair of the newly created P-20 Education Council, overseeing the Head Start State Collaboration

Office and chairing the advisory committee on early childhood education. Prior to becoming Lt. Governor, O'Brien spent 16 years as president of the Colorado Children's Campaign, a statewide public policy and advocacy organization. Since leaving office in January, O'Brien continues to promote education reform in Colorado as a Senior Policy Fellow at both the Piton Foundation and the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver. She also is a policy advisor to the Campaign for Grade Level Reading, a national initiative to increase the number of students who are reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.



### Tara Parker

Tara L. Parker is associate professor of Higher Education in the Department of Leadership in Education at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Parker's research agenda focuses on higher education policy related to access and equity for historically underrepresented groups,

particularly students of color. She is especially interested in the ways policies such as remedial and/or developmental education relate to postsecondary opportunities and outcomes. She has authored journal articles, book chapters and conference papers examining institutional responses to changes in state higher education policy. Parker earned her Ph.D. from the Steinhardt School of Education at New York University.



### Hilary Pennington

As director of Education, Postsecondary Success & Special Initiatives, Hilary Pennington leads The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's postsecondary education initiative as well as efforts around one-time opportunities to respond to unique challenges and

unanticipated events in the United States. Before joining the foundation, Pennington served as a senior fellow at the progressive think tank the Center for American Progress and as president and CEO of Jobs for the Future, a research and policy development organization she co-founded. She also served on President Clinton's transition team and as co-chair of President Clinton's Presidential Advisory Committee on Technology. Pennington is a graduate of the Yale School of Management and Yale College. She holds a graduate degree in Social Anthropology from Oxford University and was a fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in 2000.



### Richard Petrick

Richard Petrick is a senior consultant for HCM Strategists, a public policy strategy and advocacy organization in Washington D.C. He retired from the Ohio Board of Regents in 2010 as vice chancellor for Finance and Data Management. In the past 10 years, Petrick focused his work

on developing and implementing performance-based subsidies and financial-aid programs, improving efficiency and productivity, and raising revenue for agency and campus operations through grants and interagency and interstate initiatives. He is a frequent contributor to national, regional and state higher education conferences and initiatives.



### Christen Pollock

Christen Pollock is vice president of the College Board Advocacy & Policy Center. The Center is dedicated to increasing the proportion of Americans that hold a postsecondary degree, with a focus on underserved students. Prior to the creation of the Center, she served as

executive director of Advocacy in the Advocacy, Government Relations and Development Division, and worked in the College Board Research and Development unit as a strategic information analyst. Pollock earned her bachelor's degree in Communications Studies from UCLA and her M.A. in Applied Psychology from Fairfield University.



### Diane L. Price

Diane L. Price is president and CEO of Early Connections Learning Centers. Under her leadership, they have expanded services from three centers to nine sites, added care for infants and toddlers, implemented a literacy-focused curriculum, developed an innovative professional

development program, expanded family outreach and partnership programs, and created a family child care home support model. Price has an undergraduate degree from Western Illinois University in Early Care and Education and has completed master's-level work in the field of Early Education. Currently, she serves on the Early Childhood Leadership Commission; chairs the Colorado Defense Mission Coalition/Ft. Carson Regional Growth Plan – Child Development Partnership Group; sits on The Alliance for Kids – El Paso County Early Childhood Council; and serves on The Alliance for Kids Executive Committee.



### Richard G. Rhoda

Richard Rhoda is the executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, a post he has held since 1997. He previously served with the Tennessee Board of Regents in numerous staff capacities, including chief academic officer and acting chancellor. While

serving on the Regents staff, he also served as interim president of Nashville State Technical Community College and Austin Peay State University. He served earlier in the administration of Tennessee State University. Rhoda has taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Vanderbilt University where he continues as an adjunct professor. He currently serves as ECS treasurer.





**Linda B. Rogers**

With more than 30 years of educational experience, Linda B. Rogers serves as Associate Secretary for the Teaching and Learning Branch at the Delaware Department of Education. Rogers completed her doctoral program at the University of Delaware with a specialty in Educational Leadership. A reading specialist by background, she worked in the Caesar Rodney School District for 30 years. Working for six years as supervisor of instruction, her administrative background includes 11 years as an elementary principal and instructional leader. Rogers' work experience also includes five years working as an implementation coordinator/manager in large urban school districts such as Buffalo and New York.



**Mike Rush**

Mike Rush is the executive director of the Idaho State Board of Education. The State Board is responsible for governing all of Idaho's higher education institutions and has general supervision over all public education. Rush also has served as administrator for Professional-Technical Education and taught at the high school and university levels, including Virginia Tech and Penn State University. He received his doctorate from Virginia Tech. Rush has published research articles, written curriculum guides and has experience at both the state and national level in educational research and accountability.



**James F. Sallis**

James F. Sallis is Distinguished Professor of Psychology at San Diego State University and director of Active Living Research, a program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. His primary research interests are promoting physical activity and understanding policy and environmental influences on physical activity and nutrition. He is the author of over 500 scientific publications and was identified as one of the world's most cited authors in the social sciences. Time Magazine identified him as an "obesity warrior."



**Roger Sampson**

Roger Sampson is president of Education Commission of the States. He has wide experience as a classroom teacher, principal, district superintendent and chief state school officer. Sampson left his post as commissioner of education for the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development to become ECS' president in September 2007. Sampson's distinguished education career has earned him a reputation for quality, innovation and increased student achievement. As president, Sampson provides vision, direction and leadership for the ECS organization. In this role, he participates extensively in meetings with constituents, including governors, legislators, other policymakers and education leaders. He and the ECS staff identify current and emerging national education issues and integrate those issues in development of the ECS education agenda.



**Aaron Sams**

Aaron Sams has been an educator for 12 years. He currently teaches science at Woodland Park High School in Woodland Park, Colorado where his peers consider him to be an innovator in the implementation of technology in the classroom. He has taught many staff development courses, primarily in the area of technology integration. He was awarded the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence for Math and Science Teaching. Aaron recently served as co-chair of the Colorado State Science Standards Revision Committee.



**Karen Schimke**

Karen Schimke joined ECS in 2010 as Early Learning project manager after a long career in government and the nonprofit sector in New York State. Most recently, she was the president and CEO of the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, a well-respected policy organization with a long history of work to improve health and human services. While there, she spearheaded the creation of the early learning coalition, Winning Beginning, and was the convener of the statewide child advocacy coalition, New York Children's Action Network. Prior to that, she served in various executive capacities in state and local government including as executive deputy commissioner of the New York Department of Health and the New York Department of Social Services as well as commissioner of the Erie County Department of Social Services in Buffalo. A native of Nebraska, Schimke graduated from the University of Nebraska and received a master's degree in Social Work from Western Reserve University.

**Gretchen Schmidt**

Gretchen Schmidt serves as the assistant vice chancellor for Academic and Student Services for the Virginia Community College System (VCCS). She was the VCCS state policy lead for the Achieving the Dream initiative and currently serves as the state policy lead for the Developmental Education Initiative grant. Schmidt served as the director of Educational Policy for the VCCS before serving in her current role. Prior to her time at the VCCS, Schmidt spent six years as the statewide director of the articulation system in Arizona. She currently teaches for Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Teaching and Learning. Schmidt holds a doctorate in Higher Education Administration and a master's degree in Adult Education from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in International Finance from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.





### Mark Schneider

Mark Schneider is a vice president at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), based in Washington D.C. Previous to joining AIR, he served as the U.S. Commissioner of Education Statistics from 2005-08. He also is a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. He is the author of numerous articles and books on education policy. His most recent book, edited with Kevin Carey and entitled *Higher Education Accountability*, was published in 2010 and his previous book, *Charter Schools: Hope or Hype?*, was published in 2007. His current work focuses on accountability in higher education. Schneider has been working on increasing accountability by making data on college productivity more publicly available. To that end, he is one of the creators of a Web site, [www.collegemeasures.org](http://www.collegemeasures.org), that focuses on measures of college productivity and measures of student success.



### Richard Simpson

Richard Simpson has dedicated his entire career to changing students' lives through education. As senior vice president and chief academic officer for Corinthian Colleges, Inc. (CCI), Simpson fosters an environment where motivated students can succeed academically and go on to have fulfilling careers. Prior to joining CCI, Simpson was interim chief academic and operations officer for Colorado State University's (CSU) Global Campus. He moved to CSU from the University of Utah, where he had served as dean of Academic Outreach and Continuing Education. He also spent 20 years in University of Utah classrooms; first as an adjunct associate professor of Management, then as an adjunct associate professor of Political Science. In 2003 and 2007, Simpson co-authored the third and fourth editions of *Classic Readings in Organizational Behavior*, with J. Steven Ott and Sandra J. Parkes. In addition to his doctorate in Organizational Psychology from the University of Utah, Simpson holds a master's degree in Economics from the University of Utah and a bachelor's degree in Biology from Colorado College.



### Hanna Skandera

Before being nominated by New Mexico Governor Martinez to serve as Secretary of Education, Hanna Skandera served as CEO of Laying the Foundation, a national teacher training program for teachers of English, mathematics and science. She was Florida's Deputy Commissioner of Education, where advancement of middle and high school reforms instituted greater accountability, incentives for high performance and the end of social promotion resulting in narrowing the achievement gap for poor and minority students. Skandera served as a senior policy advisor and deputy chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Education, focusing on policy development and implementation, strategy and communications; and was California's Undersecretary for Education.



### Jeff Terp

Jeff Terp is vice president for Program Analysis and Engagement for Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. Prior to joining Ivy Tech, Terp was the president of The Milhous Group, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in public affairs, crisis management, development, market integration, public relations and strategic planning. He began his career in the political and development profession, managing and directing political campaigns for local, state and federal campaigns, and raising money for political parties and individual candidates. Professionally, he currently serves on the American Association of Community Colleges Voluntary Framework of Accountability Steering Committee, Lumina Making Opportunity Affordable and chairs the Achieving the Dream State Policy Committee. Terp received his undergraduate degree in Business from The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



### Philip "Uri" Treisman

Philip "Uri" Treisman is professor of mathematics and of public affairs at The University of Texas at Austin, where he is the founder and director of the Charles A. Dana Center. He is a senior partner at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, where he is working on new approaches to helping students succeed in community college mathematics courses. He is a senior advisor to the Aspen Institute's Urban Superintendents' Network and serves on the boards of the New Teacher Project, the AFT Innovation Fund and the Military Child Education Coalition. He recently served on the STEM working group of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and on the Carnegie Institute for Advanced Study Commission on Mathematics and Science Education. He was a founding member of the board of the National Center for Public Policy in Higher Education. Treisman was named a MacArthur Fellow in 1992 for his work on nurturing minority student high achievement in college mathematics and 2006 Scientist of the Year by the Harvard Foundation of Harvard University for his outstanding contributions to mathematics.



### Michael Usdan

Michael D. Usdan served as the president of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) from 1981 to 2001. In 2001, he became a senior fellow at the organization. Before joining IEL, he was Connecticut's Commissioner of Higher Education from 1978 to 1981. From 1974 through 1978, Usdan served as president of the Merrill-Palmer Institute in Detroit. He is currently a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Phi Delta Kappan magazine and serves as a senior fellow at the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education and the George Washington University. He received his master's and doctoral degrees from Columbia University.





### Bruce Vandal

Bruce Vandal coordinates research and policy work as director of the Postsecondary and Workforce Development Institute at ECS. Currently, he is the director of Getting Past Go, a three-year Lumina Foundation project to more effectively leverage investments in

remedial and developmental education to increase college attainment. He is also directing Boosting College Completion for a New Economy, a two-year project supported by The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to spur economic growth in states through increased college attainment rates. He was co-director of the Tennessee Developmental Studies Redesign Initiative, a partnership with the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) to reform developmental education courses at TBR institutions. Vandal earned his Ph.D. in Education Policy and Administration with an emphasis in Higher Education Administration from the University of Minnesota.



### Jane Wellman

Jane Wellman is the executive director of the Delta Project on Postsecondary Costs, Productivity and Accountability, an independent nonprofit research and policy organization focused on ways to improve public transparency in higher education

finance, including comparative data on cost metrics. Wellman is widely recognized for her work in public policy and higher education, at both the state and federal levels, with particular expertise in state fiscal policy; cost analysis; strategic planning; state and federal regulation of higher education; accountability metrics and performance reporting; and quality control including accreditation. She is the executive director of the National Association of System Heads, a member of the Association of Governing Boards Consulting Services, and is on the Board of Directors of the Association of American Colleges and Universities.



### Gerrit Westervelt

Gerrit Westervelt is executive director of the BUILD Initiative, a project created by the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative to help states create comprehensive early childhood systems. Prior to his tenure at Build, Westervelt spent six years leading Qualistar Early Learning,

providing quality ratings, improvement strategies and parental support for early childhood across Colorado. For nine years, he was director of State Relations for ECS. Gerrit has provided technical assistance and policy consulting services to governors, legislators, foundation executives, and other national, state and local leaders in a range of areas including strategy development and execution, fundraising, communications and branding, organizational development, and K-12 and early childhood policy development. Gerrit holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from Ithaca College, an M.A. in Political Science from the University at Albany, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Colorado.



### Jennifer Dounay Zinth

Jennifer Dounay Zinth joined the ECS staff in 1997. Since 2005, she has managed the ECS High School Policy Center, a project to provide state policy information, analysis and research findings on a number of high school reform issues, including graduation requirements and

high school assessments, graduation rates, P-16 and dual credit. She currently co-directs the work of the ECS Clearinghouse. She has been cited by numerous media outlets nationwide, including the New York Times, National Public Radio, Newsweek and the Washington Post, as well as by academic publications. A writer, Dounay Zinth has served as the "Stateline" columnist for Phi Delta Kappan magazine, and has been published in Education Digest and the State Education Leader. She contributed a chapter to the book *Promising Practices during High School*, and an article to The Council of State Governments' 2009 *Book of the States*, both released in 2009. A chapter on trends in high school graduation requirements and assessments is forthcoming in 2011.



**Paul Baumann**

*Project Leader, National Center for Learning and Citizenship*

**Melodye Bush**

*Researcher, Information Management, and ECS Clearinghouse*

**Kathy Christie**

*Chief of Staff and Co-director, Information Management and ECS Clearinghouse*

**Antionette Garcia**

*Office Manager and State Relations Specialist*

**Michael Griffith**

*Senior Policy Analyst, School Finance*

**Lisa Guilfoile**

*Project Leader, National Center for Learning and Citizenship*

**JoAnn Henderson**

*Executive Director, National Center for Learning and Citizenship*

**Karen Kepler**

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*Staff Associate, Governance and Committee Relations*

**Ann Rautio**

*Assistant Researcher, National Center for Learning and Citizenship*

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*President*

**Karen Schimke**

*Program Manager, Early Learning*

**Barbara Thompson**

*Director, Teaching Quality and Leadership and Director of State Relations*

**Bruce Vandal**

*Director, Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development Institute*

**Jennifer Dounay Zinth**

*Senior Policy Analyst and Co-director, Information Management and ECS Clearinghouse*

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