



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
**STATEWIDE PARTNERS CONFERENCE**

Concurrent Session Descriptions

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Tuesday, October 23, 2018

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

**USG Momentum Year Elements and Relevance for K-12 College Preparation**

*Jonathan Hull, University System of Georgia (USG)*

**Session Description:** The participants will receive an overview of USG Momentum Year Elements to include purposeful choice of programs of study, productive mindset and sequenced program maps. Presenter will detail why the adaptation of campus supports will increase GEAR UP high school student's likelihood of success when entering a post-secondary program of study.

**The Scholarship Academy Workshops and Virtual Scholarship Center Training-Part I**

*Jessica Johnson, The Scholarship Academy*

**Session Description:** The facilitator will provide Coordinators with a thorough overview of The Scholarship Academy resources provided for GEAR UP Georgia students. Programming will include Financial Aid Quiz Bowls, Scholarship Toolkits with Guides, Customized Virtual Scholarship Center Subscriptions, Webinar Courses for Coordinators, Scholarship Sessions/Power Hours, Scholarship Mobile experiences and Virtual Office Hours for Priority Students (Part I of two sessions).

**National GEAR UP State and Local Sustainability Efforts**

*Kisha Tolbert Simmons, Student Success Agency/GEAR UP Alabama (Formerly)*

**Session Description:** The presenter will share practical strategies and models of success to develop partnerships and collaborations that can aid in sustainability of GEAR UP programs and services. Participants will leave inspired and motivated to create new opportunities to expand college and career programming for students and parents/guardians.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**GEAR UP Grant Management Strategic Planning**

*Dawn Cooper, University System of Georgia*

**Session Description:** National GEAR UP best practices will be discussed to assist in the implementation and sustainability of compliant grant management. Additionally, GEAR UP contract partners will be encouraged to share questions or concerns to assist with strategic planning efforts and improve the impact of GEAR UP funding and services.

**The Scholarship Academy Workshops and Virtual Scholarship Center Training-Part II**

*Jessica Johnson, The Scholarship Academy*

**Session Description:** Part II of two sessions.

## **Wells Fargo Community Outreach, Grants & Team Volunteer Efforts for K-12 Support**

*David White, Wells Fargo*

**Session Description:** In this presentation, participants will walk away with a thorough knowledge of Wells Fargo Community Outreach resources to provide college and career support for Georgia high school students and families. Wells Fargo partners with various organizations to provide scholarships and programming that specifically benefit students from lower- and middle-income backgrounds and those who are first-generation college attendees.

**4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.**

## **Developing an Academic Growth Mindset in K-12 Students**

*Chris Hulleman, Motivate Lab*

**Session Description:** The Motivate Lab is driven to improve people's lives through rigorous motivation research. The facilitator will share how academic and growth mindsets can remove barriers and encourage postsecondary success for GEAR UP high school students.

## **Summer Melt: Helping Students Overcome the Hidden Obstacles To Enrollment**

*Romina Torres-Aranda, Georgia State University*

**Session Description:** Georgia State staff will address the strategies implemented to reduce the number of students who are accepted to the institution but do not enroll. Additionally, attendees will receive best practices for colleges, high schools and other college access partners to support students before successfully matriculate to their first year of college.

## **State & Community Resources/Partnerships for College/Career Success - Savannah BC**

*Kelly Smith, On Purpose Nonprofit Consulting/United Way-Greater Atlanta (Formerly)*

**Session Description:** This session will provide insight around the services provided to students, parents and guardians by CCYA. It will also share what resources are available to contribute to college and career success for our GEAR UP students with an emphasis on our Priority Population.

## **Wednesday, October 24, 2018**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

## **Maximizing Princeton Review One-On-One Tutoring and Test Prep Resources**

*Evan O'Toole & Eric Bell, Princeton Review*

**Session Description:** This is a practical session in which the presenters will review and discuss Princeton Review resources available for GEAR UP students. Strategies will be identified to best implement promotion, training and increased student usage as well as utilization of school and district-level reports.

## **FAFSA Completion Challenge Initiative**

*Melissa Gattuso, USG; Kim McGuire & Kim Jackson-Allen, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System*

**Session Description:** Workshop attendees will receive an overview of the FAFSA Completion Challenge Initiative as well as a roadmap for schools, agencies and community organizations to design, implement and evaluate an effective and measurable FAFSA completion strategy. national award-winning best practices in FAFSA Completion.

### **Integrated Campus Support Efforts for GEAR UP Programs and Services**

*Randalette Williams & Lisa Shaw, Columbus State University*

**Session Description:** Participants will learn how Columbus State University provides campus support for GEAR UP programming and services. Facilitators will share how they partner with different faculty, staff, students, partners and community organizations in order to implement required GEAR UP services.

### **Local Program Coordinators Signal Vine Texting Strategy Session**

*Alia Degen, Signal Vine*

**Session Description:** Signal Vine utilizes higher education's most impactful two-way text messaging platform to improve student outcomes. The presenter will provide a brief overview for our GEAR UP Program Coordinators on how to effectively engage GEAR UP students using the service including reminders, information sharing and nudging.

**11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

### **Maximizing STEM Professional Development for GEAR UP Teachers**

*Robert Mayes, Georgia Southern University & David Wells, USG*

**Session Description:** The goal of Georgia Southern University's GEAR UP STEM professional development was to empower teachers to implement strategies that can improve student engagement and learning in STEM. This session will provide an overview, status and projected outcomes for GEAR UP teachers and students.

### **Dual Enrollment Strategies for Success**

*Dawn Cooper, USG; Stacey Prescott & Mark Peevy, Technical College System of Georgia; Jelanie Liddell, Clayton State University; Michelle Thomas, Georgia Piedmont Technical College*

**Session Description:** Georgia's Dual Enrollment Program allows qualified high school students a number of opportunities to earn college credit early, enrich their high school experience and reduce time to college completion and career readiness. Presenters will provide specific examples and updates of USG and TCSG both local and statewide criteria, procedures and updates around Dual Enrollment.

### **Local Coordinating Council Best Practices Engaging Community Partners**

*Ron Stebenne, Education Instructor - The Center for Children & Young Adults (CCYA)*

**Session Description:** The facilitator will briefly discuss their previous role as a GEAR UP Local Coordinating Council member, share insights on developing partnerships with various organizations and provide tangible examples of how local and state partners can access resources across the state to improve college and career success for GEAR UP students.