CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS FOR THE 95th
AACC ANNUAL CONVENTION

April 18–21, 2015—Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center—San Antonio, TX

Submission Deadline: 10/6/14 11:59 pm PST (10/7/14 2:59 am EST)

Thank you for your interest in speaking or hosting an event at the 95th AACC Convention in San Antonio, TX. Presentations must be submitted electronically via the AACC website.

Characteristics of a Successful Proposal

Successful proposal will exhibit the following characteristics:
• Contain new and innovative ideas
• Stimulate and provoke discussion
• Use multimedia to enhance the presentation (audio, video, instant feedback through Twitter or other technologies)
• Deliver promising practices in an informative and engaging way
• Contain a diverse array of presenters (if appropriate for the meeting format), including presenters of different levels of experience and from different institutional and organization types

Theme

The Next Big Things
The 21st-Century Initiative calls for unprecedented transformation in community colleges across the country. Change at this scope requires collaborative efforts and a strong sense of urgency, coupled with long-term commitments to work that is intellectually and politically complex.

This Implementation Guide gives colleges ideas, examples, and resources to support early and important steps. However, not all of the work can be quickly accomplished, nor effectively undertaken by community colleges alone. In fact, certain large-scale, substantive changes will require a concerted national effort to address critical systemic and policy issues. These are The Next Big Things.

They include leading an intensified commitment to college completion, strengthening accountability, supporting work to design and implement student pathways, hosting a national working summit on college readiness and developmental education redesign,
creating a seamless education and career system, and building stackable credentials and a national credentialing system.

These tasks are big, urgent, and therefore expensive. They certainly will require extensive collaboration across education sectors, philanthropy, federal and state agencies, and the national community college/higher education organizations.

But they also are worth the investment of these dollars and hours because they are the key to transforming colleges so they better serve students and the nation.

**Curriculum Tracks**

**THE NEXT BIG THINGS**

- **Track 1: College Completion**—A commitment to helping more students complete credentials with value in the workplace has gained significant traction at both national and institutional levels. What strategies are colleges deploying to achieve this challenging goal and how can their methods help other colleges build success by the numbers?

- **Track 2: Community College Accountability**—What metrics equate to student and institutional success, and how do we measure knowledge? Community colleges have long been evaluated by one-size-fits-all measures that many believe are ill-suited to their broad and diverse mission. As policymakers increasingly focus on transparent and measurable outcomes—often as a condition of funding—community colleges are striving to meet growing assessment requirements while also defining their own “brand” of success.

- **Track 3: Pathways**—Expanding on the bold work of national leadership, is your organization or institution designing new educational pathways? These new design principles offer opportunities for clarity, structure, and coherence significantly increasing student certificates and degrees.

- **Track 4: College Readiness and Developmental Education Redesign**—Far too many students arrive at the community college open door ill-prepared to succeed in college level coursework. Many colleges are confronting this trend through creative partnerships with K–12 institutions and innovative approaches that give students a leg up—both before and after they arrive.

- **Track 5: Seamless Education and Career Systems**—Unemployment is persistently high at a time when key employers say they cannot hire enough qualified, domestic workers to keep their businesses competitive. What role are responsive community colleges playing in finding solutions that match student aspirations to a continually evolving workplace?

- **Track 6: Stackable Credentials**—Beyond the definition of competencies is the accelerated development of stackable credentials—a coherent system of increasingly advanced and carefully aligned learning in specific fields of study that allows and encourages Americans to augment their learning, and thus their career advancement and earning power, over time. Clarity about requisite knowledge and
skills at each level of learning must be complemented with common systems for
documenting student competencies, providing credentials with portability for
students, and assuring quality for education providers.

**Presentation Formats**

**Forum**
A forum is a panel presentation delivered by at least two, but no more than four,
presenters. It should allow for some audience participation, but the emphasis is on the
information delivered by the presenters. Use of audiovisual equipment is expected.

AACC has implemented a new timeline for forum presentations, to allow attendees more
time to move between sessions, and time to network with colleagues and forum
presenters.

A forum is 1 hour in length. The timeline should be as follows:

- Presentation: 40–45 minutes
- Question and Answer: 5–10 minutes
- Networking time for audience: 10 minutes

*Note: Forum presentations require a minimum of two panelists and
corporate/vendor presenters must include a community college partner on the
panel.*

**Lightning Round**
Lightning Rounds are an opportunity for a single presenter to briefly share their
experience and knowledge on a particular subject while engaging in meaningful
discussions with their colleagues. Six discussions will take place in a single room, with
one presenter per table. Each discussion will consist of 10 minutes of presentation and
15 minutes for Q&A and group discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion,
participants will rotate to the next table. No A/V equipment or electricity will be provided,
but presenters are welcome to utilize their laptops as part of their presentation. Wi-Fi will
be available.

**Poster Session**
A poster session is an opportunity for one or several presenters to share information
about a research problem, project, or study by developing a display on a set of poster
boards (4’ x 8’). Several posters are available at one time with the presenter(s) available
to talk informally about the project with interested participants. The poster may include
printed materials, graphics, and additional handouts. Presenters remain close to their
displays for questions and discussion. Use of audiovisual equipment is not permitted.

**Innovations Theatre**
The Innovations Theatre is an opportunity to present information that puts the emphasis
on fresh thinking and innovation. The Theatre will include a select number of 30-minute,
interactive video/internet presentations that spotlight innovation at community college
campuses. Presentations will be 10–12 minutes long, followed by a 15-minute audience
Q&A. The Innovations Theatre presentations will be presented in a special sponsored
theater to be constructed as part of the AACC Exhibit Hall.
Presentation Submission and Preparation Guidelines

Please read all of the instructional information before beginning.

The Review Committee suggests you prepare all of your information ahead of time in a Word document, then transfer it into the electronic application form. *This requires you to think through your program in its entirety before you begin the application process.* Incomplete proposals cannot be considered.

Prepare the following information for the online presentation form.

1. **Select a Curriculum Track**: Select the curriculum track that is most appropriate. Some presentations could fall into more than one track, but select only one. The Review Committee may change the selection, but track selection is not key to approval for a presentation.

2. **Title of Presentation**: Enter the presentation title. Try to keep the title succinct but meaty. The title should indicate what the presentation is about and it does not have to be wordy to be effective.

3. **Submitter’s E-mail**: Enter the e-mail address of the person submitting the proposal. The system will assign and send the submitter a user ID and password for the proposal.

4. **Forums and Innovation Theatre ONLY**
   - **Internet Usage**: Select Yes or No to indicate if the presentation will require Internet access. Live Internet usage is seldom required for a presentation because most information can be presented in a demonstration format. *Be sure you actually require live usage before you say yes.* Live Internet hook-ups will not be added later, so select carefully. Because of the cost, planners can only reserve a limited number of rooms for live hook-ups.

5. **Audiovisual Equipment Usage**
   - **Forums ONLY**
     Forum rooms will be equipped with the following A/V equipment: LCD projector/screen, speakers, 2 tabletop microphones, 1 podium microphone, DVD player. If additional equipment is required, please state needs on the submission form.
   - **Innovations Theatre**
     The Innovations Theatre will be equipped with the following A/V equipment: LCD projector/screen, speakers, 1 wireless microphone at the podium, DVD player. If additional equipment is required, please state needs on the submission form.
   - **Poster and Lightning Round Sessions** are not permitted use of audiovisual equipment.

6. **Computer Type**: indicate what computer hardware will be used to give your presentation. If using a Mac or an iPad, provide the model number.
7. **Program Description**: Provide a brief, marketing-oriented descriptor that reflects the most important points you will cover in the session. Keep it upbeat and snappy. You want to use it to draw interested attendees to your session. Description should be about 100 words.

8. **Learning Objectives**: Provide two learning objectives of the presentation.

9. **Relevance**: Explain how your presentation is innovative and relevant.

10. **Program Goals and Time Sequence**: Provide a complete review of the material you will cover; why this material is important to the program; and an outline of how you will present the material (speaker order; who will cover what topics; how long each will speak; and amount of time for Q & A). Please limit your response to about 250 to 300 words.

11. **Council Affiliation**: If session is being submitted on behalf of an AACC Affiliated Council, provide Council name. If the session is not being submitted on behalf of an AACC Affiliated Council, leave this field blank.

12. **Key Contact and Panelists**: For each person on the panel, provide the name, job title, college/organization, complete address, phone/fax/e-mail. Do not submit incomplete information. It is the key contact's responsibility to convey all information pertaining to the session to the other panelists. AACC will only communicate with the key contact.

13. Be sure to complete the submission form through step 5. If you do not reach the confirmation page, your proposal will not be submitted.

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### Acceptance

**Notification of acceptance/non-acceptance**

Notifications will be sent via e-mail in early January. Please add the e-mail addresses aaccconvention@aacc.nche.edu and aacc@aacc.nche.edu to your accepted e-mail address list, or your notification may land in your junk mail folder.

**Registration**

All panelists are required to register for the AACC Convention. Day rates are available. Registration rates can be found on the registration page, once available. All travel and lodging, convention registration, materials development and duplication fees are the responsibility of the panelist.

**Questions?** Contact Sarah Cale scale@aacc.nche.edu. For more information, visit the Call for Convention Events website at www.aacc.nche.edu/convention.