

## 2012 Liberty Mutual Insurance College Access, Leadership & Empowerment Conference

### Breakout Session Descriptions and Session Times (room postings will be in the conference brochure the day of the conference):

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>1 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Why College: Navigating the Admissions Process</b>
<b>Description</b>	<p>With over 3,600 colleges in the United States, every student can find several colleges that are right for them. Different colleges have different requirements and deadlines that vary depending on whether you enter as a freshman or as a transfer student. In this session we will discuss the typical college admission requirements - completion of certain high school subjects, standardized tests, essays and/or letters of recommendation that admission offices take into consideration.</p> <p>We will also discuss the factors students should consider when choosing the college that is a “right” fit such as location, size, Financial Aid, majors etc.</p> <p>**Session(s) available in Spanish upon request.</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>*How students apply and get accepted into college.          *Inform students of the factors to consider that would influence their choice of colleges to apply to.          *Help students and families understand the financial aid process.          *Students will understand the importance of higher education.</p>
<b>Presenters</b>	Admissions personnel: Sam Mahra, Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) <a href="mailto:W.Mahara@snhu.edu">W.Mahara@snhu.edu</a> ; Richard Haynes, UNH-Durham <a href="mailto:richard.haynes@unh.edu">richard.haynes@unh.edu</a> ; Donna Marceau, Nashua Community College <a href="mailto:dmarceau@ccsnh.edu">dmarceau@ccsnh.edu</a>

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>2 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:50 to 2:50</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Write Your Way to College: An Essay Writing Workshop</b>
<b>Description</b>	Come to this collaborative writing workshop to discover how a powerful piece of writing can move you closer to your educational goals. With creative, hands-on exercises and advice from a college admissions representative and published author, you’ll flesh out a beginning draft of your college essay, and acquire practical skills to help you write a polished piece.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>We will work on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to transform writer’s block into concrete ideas for your college essay</li> <li>• How to identify and match your skills to the colleges of your choice</li> <li>• What to look for in the revision process/How to polish your thoughts</li> <li>• How to convey a genuine and confident voice on the page</li> </ul>
<b>Presenters</b>	Diana Alvarez, MFA, Assistant Director of Admission at Mount Holyoke College, <a href="mailto:dalvarez@mtholyoke.edu">dalvarez@mtholyoke.edu</a> Natasha Payés, Assistant Director of Admission at Mount Holyoke College,

	<a href="mailto:payes20n@mtholyoke.edu">payes20n@mtholyoke.edu</a>

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>3 – Session Times: 1:50 to 2:50 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Impact of Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.</b>
<b>Description</b>	Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. is a national organization of women who direct their energy and efforts to supporting five pillars: Increasing Multicultural Awareness, Advancement of Women Through Higher Education, Community Service, Sisterhood, and Friendship. There are over twenty chapters of Delta Xi Phi located at colleges all across the United States where dedicated sisters work to spread multicultural awareness, serve their community, and provide academic support and professional development. Not only does Delta Xi Phi enrich the lives of hundreds of women through its sorority activities but it serves as an important multicultural organization that provides diverse programming and educational opportunities.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To provide an understanding of Delta Xi Phi and its values</li> <li>- Discuss the impact of being involved in organization on campus</li> <li>- Discuss the importance of multicultural organizations and their programming on college campuses</li> <li>- Examine the unique role of a sorority that functions as a multicultural organization</li> </ul>
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Nikita DeBarros, Sara Dillingham, Paige Mendenhall, Emily Elgert, Jill Hayes – UNH-Durham

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>4 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:50 to 2:50</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of White Privilege: What's Next?</b>
<b>Description</b>	Participates actively engage in small and large group discussions based on White Privilege. How have we come to recognize it, what do we do with the information and what are steps that can be taken in the future? Literature will be used to deepen the conversation including quotations from "Dreams from My Father" by Barack Obama and "Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" by Dr. Beverly Tatum.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain an understanding of white privilege is</li> <li>• Understand the implications of white privilege</li> <li>• Develop strategies to address impact of privilege</li> </ul>
<b>Presenter</b>	Rebecca Bolton – Keene State College

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<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>5 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Undergraduate Research: Transforming your Undergraduate Experience and Preparing for Graduate School and Beyond!</b>
<b>Description</b>	<p>This session will cover how the McNair Program prepares undergraduate students to select and engage in research topics they have a passion for, and how this impacts their intellectual and academic growth as undergraduates. In addition this session addresses how undergraduate research prepares to you be competitive in applying for and succeeding in graduate school(s), as well as how social justice issues often show up in the McNair students’ fields of research.</p> <p>Danelis Alejo an alumna from Nashua South will also briefly cover her ongoing research on: “Immigrant Interpretation and Translation, and Perceptions of Children Serving as Language Brokers for their Parents.”</p> <p>Jemmel Billingslea of Boston will also briefly cover his research on: “The Education of Black Males: The Voices of Black Males.”</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness of the value of undergraduate research in regard to intellectual and academic growth, as well as the value of faculty mentors.</li> <li>• The importance of undergraduate research when applying to graduate programs, and the ability to continue your undergraduate research topic area into your graduate program.</li> <li>• **Search out undergraduate research programs on your respective campuses.</li> </ul>
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Danelis Alejo and Jemmel Billingslea - UNH-Durham

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>6 – Session Times: 1:50 to 2:50 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Global Education in College: Diversity Opportunities and Experiences in Study Abroad</b>
<b>Description</b>	<p>Inclusive higher education goes beyond the classroom or the U.S. campus experience. In today’s global landscape, studying abroad while in college is an important component to developing one’s skills for the future. Living in and learning about another culture is also an incredible personal journey of discovery that every student should have the opportunity to experience.</p> <p>In this session you will learn about the trend to increase the diversity of students who study abroad, the opportunities for grants to support a study abroad experience, and you will hear from students of color who have studied abroad and what the experience has meant to them.</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness of study abroad grants and how to apply</li> <li>• Information about study abroad</li> <li>• Inspiring stories from students, covering the “where,” “how,” and “why” they did it.</li> </ul>
<b>Presenters</b>	Pamela Serota Cote with students panelists – Colby-Sawyer College

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>7 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:50 to 2:50</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Value of a Latino(a) Student Organization on Your Campus.</b>
<b>Description</b>	This discussion and interactive based workshop will look at the value and importance of creating Latino student organizations on our campuses. How such organizations can lead to self empowerment, community building, educational programming, challenging negative stereotypes, becoming stakeholders on our campuses, as well as succeeding academically. Part of this discussion will also focus on what current influences and/or trends impact the decisions Latinos make in high school, and colleges/universities? Interactive discussion and a short power point.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>**To focus on the value of Latino Student Organizations creating a sense of community that can positively impact student retention.</p> <p>**How Latino student organizations can challenge negative stereotyping and provide opportunities for students to create educational programs.</p> <p>**How all of this addresses the leadership development and empowerment of students involved.</p>
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Valeria Celaya, Chayanna Acevedo, Leo Ocampo – UNH-Durham

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>8 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Higher Education as a Path to Success: Learning from our Mentors</b>
<b>Description</b>	It is not all about being smart and getting good grades. To survive and succeed in college, you need to learn new skills for how to make connections and identify people who will help you thrive. Watch a short video featuring five New Hampshire professionals who identify as minority and learn about the decisions and connections they made as they attended high school and college in the United States. Discover what we can learn from these “virtual mentors,” and learn skills to identify role models in your own life like those in the video who will support you as you prepare to overcome challenges and achieve your dreams.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn from those who have gone before you</li> <li>• Identify the links between supportive networks and success</li> <li>• Discuss strategies to overcome challenges in higher education</li> <li>• Gain skills that will help you identify strong mentors, both virtually and in your high school and college settings</li> </ul>
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Rosanyi Rivera, Colleen Bolton – UNH-Manchester

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>9 – Session Times: 1:50 to 2:50 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
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<b>Title</b>	<b>Friendships and Dating for African-American Women at PWIs</b>
<b>Description</b>	This focus group will present the relationship issues that African-American college women face on predominantly white campuses, including dating and romantic barriers both within and across racial lines, and the challenge of forming female friendships across racial lines. Beyond the issues, panelists will discuss what can be done on campuses to address this.
<b>Objectives</b>	To empower young African-American women to voice their struggles with this issue and to raise awareness of the reality of this issue amongst others. To understand options of how to respond, cope, and address this issue while in college and beyond.
<b>Presenters</b>	African-American female students from Colby-Sawyer College (Taylor Thorpe, Angela Brown, Tiffany Ward) and facilitator Yemi Mahoney from St. Anselm College

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>10 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Learn how Social Justice Education can Positively Impact Your Life, create Empowerment, build Community and assist in developing Inclusive and Equitable Leadership skills.</b>
<b>Description</b>	The Martin Luther King Leadership Summit works with students over a two and a half day period to explore “social justice, anti-oppression work” through personal and institutional experiences in order to analyze: power and privilege, discrimination and prejudice, inclusion and equity through the multiple social identities of race, ethnicity, class, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, ability (physical and mental), religion and age. This process includes interactive/experiential activities and open, honest and at times difficult discussions that help participants deeply explore their minds and hearts and move toward action and empowerment.
<b>Objectives</b>	**To begin or continue the process of seeing how inequalities exist all around us. **To see that we too also carry not only conscious bias and stereotypes of people different from us, but also have many more unconscious bias and stereotypes that we need to discover, explore and unpack. **To build better and more inclusive and equitable lives for ourselves, better relationships with friends and family, better student organizations, become better peer mentors and student leaders, and to become better Active Stake Holders in our schools, colleges and universities. **To create your own social justice student developmental program and or to seek out established social justice programs and classes on your respective campuses.
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Noha Elmohands, Gabby Demarco, Patience Lekien – UNH-Durham

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>11 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:50 to 2:50</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tackling Racial Diversity on College Teams: minority athletes' involvement in sports at predominantly white institutions</b>
<b>Description</b>	This session will discuss the reasons for students to engage in sports, some possible difficulties minority students may face on predominantly white teams, and how/how not to tackle those problems. Stories from panelists' own experiences will be shared.
<b>Objectives</b>	Awareness of the issues that minority student athletes are facing on college teams; pointers on how issues might be addressed individually and institutionally;
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: Bernard Botchway, Nyok Malwal and facilitator Colber Prosper – Colby-Sawyer College

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>12 – Session Time: 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Claim/Combat/Canta! Your Poetic History: A Creative Writing Workshop</b>
<b>Description</b>	Come explore your many dimensions of identity through this collaborative writing- and discussion- based workshop. You will get to decide whether you want to claim, combat, or canta! (sing) your cultural, social, and creative narrative. We will review revolutionary work by contemporary creative writers, and utilize engaging, hands on creative writing exercises to help you delve deeply into your concepts of identity. This workshop is open to all levels of writing experience, and open to writers of poetry, prose, and beyond.
<b>Objectives</b>	We will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a common language for expressing identity</li> <li>• Learn how to utilize creative writing exercises to explore identity</li> <li>• Explore myths (stereotypes) about social identities through creative writing exercises</li> <li>• Explore the work of contemporary creative writers who have powerfully reclaimed their own stories</li> </ul> Create a final creative piece wherein we all reclaim our own stories on the page
<b>Presenter</b>	Diana Alvarez, MFA, Assistant Director of Admission at Mount Holyoke College, <a href="mailto:dalvarez@mtholyoke.edu">dalvarez@mtholyoke.edu</a>

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>13 – Session Times: 11:00 to 12:00 and 1:50 to 2:50</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Define Your Own Success: Dictate Your Future</b>

<b>Description</b>	<p>Far too often, young people live their lives striving to meet a ‘benchmark’ set by someone other than them. It is argued that success has become a superficial concept – and, until internalized and made real again, people will continue to strive for something that will only leave them yearning for more of the same thing – never discovering inner-peace or happiness.</p> <p>Through inspirational discourse, Ed Walker will empower audience members to define their own success and take back their futures. The dialogue will emphasize three salient practices, that if employed, will assist scholars on this journey of self-fulfillment: <i>Living with a Purpose, Stepping Outside of the Comfort Zone, and Embracing a Growing Mindset.</i></p>
<b>Objectives</b>	Self-defined success is the best success; Audience members will be able to conceptualize what it means to be successful from a more personal and individualized perspective.
<b>Presenter</b>	Edward Walker: Founder & President of Independent Consultants of Education, <a href="mailto:ewalker@consultantofedu.com">ewalker@consultantofedu.com</a>

<b>Breakout Number</b>	<b>14 – Session Times: 1:50 to 2:50 and 3:00 to 4:00</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Reality of Being a Student of Color and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and/or Transgender at a predominately white college or university.</b>
<b>Description</b>	What does it mean to be a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and/or Transgender student of Color at a predominately white college or university? How can we foster deep conversations and understanding about race, sexuality and gender? What does the synthesis of identities mean to students and how can their needs be met?
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>**Discuss a topic that is not readily addressed on most of our campuses in an open and honest fashion.</p> <p>**Address how racialized interactions, even when we are unconscious of this reality can keep students of color who are LGB and/or T from feeling comfortable and accepted in LGBTQ student organizations and spaces on our campuses.</p> <p>**Address how LGBTQ student organizations can become more aware of how racialized their campuses are, LGBTQ student organizations and spaces can be, and what can be done to transform and ally with students of Color (and people of Color in general) who are LGB and/or T.</p>
<b>Presenters</b>	Students: AliciaAlec Dufield, Alexa Procaccianti, Nyomi Guzman – UNH-Durham