Renewal Through Innovation & Talent Development

October 20-22 • Atlanta, Georgia
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COMBASE President Welcome

Welcome to the COMBASE 2022 Annual Conference

The Future of Work continues to shape policy and strategic planning. Welcome to COMBASE 2022! My colleagues and I are very excited about this conference, “Renewal through Innovation and Talent Development.” Presenters will share new and innovative programs and procedures implemented post-COVID that are moving the needle in student success and personnel growth. This is our first in-person conference in two years. To highlight that return, COMBASE is collaborating with the National Career Pathways Network in sharing conference opportunities. Your registration allows you to attend both COMBASE and NCPN sessions.

COMBASE is an organization where President-to-President or professional to professional discussions are greatly valued for sharing of experiences and the building of friendships. This is a session not to miss, as are the keynotes and many forums.

It is not often that one finds oneself experiencing both enthusiasm and sorrow for an event. As we begin our Conference with enthusiasm, we remember our colleague Dr. Anthony Parker. Dr. Parker, President of Albany Technical College and President of COMBASE, died June 6, 2022. We greatly miss Anthony, a man who spoke with a soft voice, wisdom and knowledge and whose heart was big with love and the desire of success for his students, his community, and his nation. It is our honor to dedicate this conference to the remembrance of the life, friendship and work of Dr. Anthony Parker.

In conclusion and perhaps as Dr. Parker might say, “Come on down to Atlanta, we have an excellent program planned for you and a lot of new friends to meet.”

Dr. Janet F. Smith,
President COMBASE
Pre-Conference Day
Thursday, October 20, 2022

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.  Forum and Tour  Atlanta Technical College

1:30 p.m.  Bus Boards  Front of Hotel

2:00 p.m.  Tour of Aviation Center and Industrial Engineering Manufacturing Centers  Aviation & Manufacturing Centers


Dr. Sonya McCoy-Wilson, Associate Vice President, Learning, Atlanta Technical College (GA)

Dr. Nathalie Dames, Curriculum Program Specialist, Technical College System of Georgia (GA)

Robert Leach, Academic Dean, Business and Public Service Technologies, Atlanta Technical College (GA)

Kathy Griffin, Department Chair, Mathematics and Physics, Atlanta Technical College (GA)

Peggy Goodson-Williams, FYES Instructor, Atlanta Technical College (GA)

Christopher Colvin, English and Humanities Instructor, Atlanta Technical College (GA)

The theme, **Back to the Future: Our New Normal** was inspired by our new reality. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were challenged to develop innovative ways to continue to operate and to continue optimal service to students. Now that COVID-19 will be with us for possibly a lifetime, we are charged with evaluating and re-evaluating how higher education will be impacted. In the process, we are making new meaning and new realities in the higher education space.

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.  Bus to Hotel  Academic Complex Auditorium Roadway

[Images of presenters]
Conference Day 1  
Friday, October 21, 2022

7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  **On-Site Registration for General Conference**  
Marquis Ballroom  

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  **NCPN Exhibits Open**  
Imperial Ballroom  

7:30 – 8:15 a.m.  **Continental Breakfast**  
Imperial Ballroom  

8:15 – 9:00 a.m.  **COMBASE Forum #1 – Innovation and Workforce Development at AI4OPT**  
Room: L401  

Dr. Pascal Van Hentenryck, Director, NSF AI Institute for Advances in Optimization, H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology

The AI Institute for Advances in Optimization (AI4OPT) is dedicated to use-inspired research at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Mathematical Optimization and to democratize access to AI education and the AI workforce. This talk will review these initiatives and present the longitudinal activities of AI4OPT in research, high-school education, and its partnership with HBCUs and MSIs.

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.  **NCPN Snack Break**  
Exhibit Hall  

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.  **NCPN Opening General Session: Awards/Keynote**  
Marquis Ballroom  

From Pathways to Highways: The Focus of Being Relevant and Responsive

Dr. Bill Pink, Former President, Grand Rapids Community College (MI); President, Ferris State College (MI)

Dr. Pink was recently named the president of Ferris State College and formerly was the 10th president of Grand Rapids Community College. He was the first African American appointed to the presidency of Grand Rapids in the institution’s 100-plus years. With more than 30 years as an educator and leader at the national and local level, Dr. Pink is focused on building on service to all students by positioning his work toward college’s being relevant and responsive to its community. Prior to coming to Michigan, Dr. Pink served as vice president for academic affairs at Oklahoma State University.

11:00 a.m. – Noon  **COMBASE Presidents/Chancellors and IR Roundtables**  
Rooms: L401/403  

As an annual event at COMBASE conferences, the CEOs – Presidents and Chancellors and the Institutional Representatives will convene in separate rooms to discuss trends, challenges, innovations, and future plans at their respective colleges. Notes will be taken in each gathering and shared with all COMBASE attendees.
Noon – 1:00 p.m.  **COMBASE Member Lunch and Annual Meeting**  Room: L405/406

COMBASE members will meet together for lunch and the COMBASE officers will hold a brief annual meeting to update the membership on COMBASE initiatives.

1:15 – 2:00 p.m.  Forum #2 – Campus Ready – Returning to In-Person Learning  Room: L401

Marciano Perez, Jr., Vice President, Student Services, San Diego City College (CA)

Cesar Gumapas, Public Information Officer, Communications Office, San Diego City College (CA)

After quickly moving to remote learning two years ago due to a pandemic, it’s time to get back on campus. Learning about strategies, outreach, and communication efforts and lessons learned on how one of the oldest community colleges in California became campus-ready as we welcomed students and employees back on campus.

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.  **Forum #3 - Advanced Manufacturing Career Exploration with Augmented and Virtual Reality**  Room: L401

Tyler Ashton, Co-Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation Project – Next Gen-Industry 4.0; Advanced Manufacturing Faculty, Owensboro Community & Technical College, Owensboro (KY)

Michael Carbenia, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education, Zspace

Discover how an NSF supported initiative is using augmented and virtual reality (AR/VR) to prepare college and post-secondary students for advanced manufacturing careers.

Students can earn certifications by mastering the fundamentals of real-world integrated systems (safety, robotics, pneumatics, hydraulics, and lubrication) and components/sub-systems through immersive AR/VR.

Through a partnership with The Advanced Manufacturing Technical Education Collaborative (AMTEC) and zSpace, an education leader in AR/VR technology, students are introduced to the fundamentals of real-world integrated systems (safety, robotics, pneumatics, hydraulics, and
lubrication) and components/sub-systems through an immersive, three-dimensional, computer-generated environment for realistic explorative and interactive learning for students.

At the completion of this forum session, attendees will understand the AR/VR landscape and which solutions are aligned to CTE curriculum and industry certifications; site clinical evidence supporting learning gains through learning with AR/VR; and identify funding sources for new technology to support evidence-based learning.

3:15 – 3:45 p.m.  **NCPN Beverage Break**  
Imperial Ballroom

3:45 – 4:30 p.m.  **Forum #4 – Leading Outward in Crisis: Not Your Typical Pandemic Recovery Story**  
Room: L401

Dr. William Wainwright, Chancellor, Northshore Technical Community College (LA)

In times of crisis, it is common to look inward to protect and preserve the college. College leaders today are challenged to lead outward in times of crisis ensuring college and community resilience. “Leading Outward in Crisis: Not Your Typical Pandemic Recovery Story” will provide participants insights into innovative collaborations driven by college mission and centered on student success. Dr. William Wainwright, Chancellor of Northshore Technical College and one of Louisiana’s veteran Chancellors will share examples of workforce innovation, unprecedented external investment, the power of rural campuses, and the role of colleges as centers of community resilience in times of crisis. Challenges associated with serving disadvantaged adult learners further exacerbated by the pandemic will be presented in an open discussion with attendees identifying both challenges and opportunities for future success.
Conference Day 2
Saturday, October 22, 2022

7:30 – 11:00 a.m.  
NCPN Exhibits Open  
Imperial Ballroom

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.  
NCPN Continental Breakfast  
Imperial Ballroom

8:15 – 9:00 a.m.  
Forum #5 – On-boarding: The Change – The Effectiveness  
Room: L401

Dr. Janet F. Smith, President, Columbia State Community College (TN)

Tammy Borren, VP Finance and Administration, Columbia State Community College (TN)

One-on-one advising was a successful platform for COVID times. Calling campaigns, mailings, special Zoom and tutoring sessions supplemented and aided student communications. In post-COVID, these touchpoints along with organizational transitions led to a renewal and expansion in processes in enrollment and business services, communications, student support functions, and retention initiatives. This session will discuss student on-boarding processes, the changes, and the effectiveness.

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.  
Forum #6 – Preparing Employees for the "new normal workplace" through Enhanced On-boarding and Talent Development Programs  
Room: L401

Dr. Ricky Shabazz, President, San Diego City College (CA)

Dr. Matilda Chavez, Vice President of Instruction, San Diego City College (CA)

Robbi L. Ewell, Dean, Information and Learning Technology, San Diego City College (CA)

As San Diego City College transitioned to a new normal/post COVID workplace, the institution’s professional Development unit was leveraged to effectively share operational changes and insights on an evolving workplace culture through enhanced on-boarding and talent development programs. The presentation will highlight the on-boarding efforts of the college's 2021-2022 New Hires Institute and the impact on a new job shadowing initiative.
Conference Day 2 Continued

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.  NCPN Snack Break  Imperial Ballroom

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.  NCPN Closing Session: Keynote / Leadership  Development Academy Graduation / Free Trip Giveaway  
Marquis Ballroom  B&C

Shannon Cox, Superintendent, Montgomery County (OH) Education Service Center

Shannon Cox is the twelfth superintendent in the organization's history and the first female to hold that position. Her role includes working directly with and advocating for all 16 public school districts in Montgomery County. As the educational leader for the county, she works with leaders in city and county government and other public sectors. She was featured as a TEDxDayton speaker, where she gave her TED Talk on “Future Self.” Cox has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Dayton, where she taught workshop classes and Educational Leadership courses.

Conference End
About COMBASE

COMBASE, an abbreviation for COMMUNITY BASED, is a consortium of many leading community and technical colleges in the nation dedicated to sharing innovative solutions to meet the challenges of our nation’s rapidly changing economy.

In 1974, when COMBASE was established, a high school education was enough for most Americans to obtain a middle-class job. Today, everyone recognizes the importance of education and training beyond high school to be college and career ready and ultimately attain a good job and a living wage. America has turned to its community colleges to deliver what both students and employees need with new and innovative programs that leverage partnerships throughout the community and the nation.

See You at

COMBASE 2023

Watch the COMBASE website, www.combase.org and the COMBASE Constant Contact emails for conference notices, resources, and the COMBASE Collaborator.

COMBASE wishes to thank the Columbia State Communications Department for their excellent work in designing this program.
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