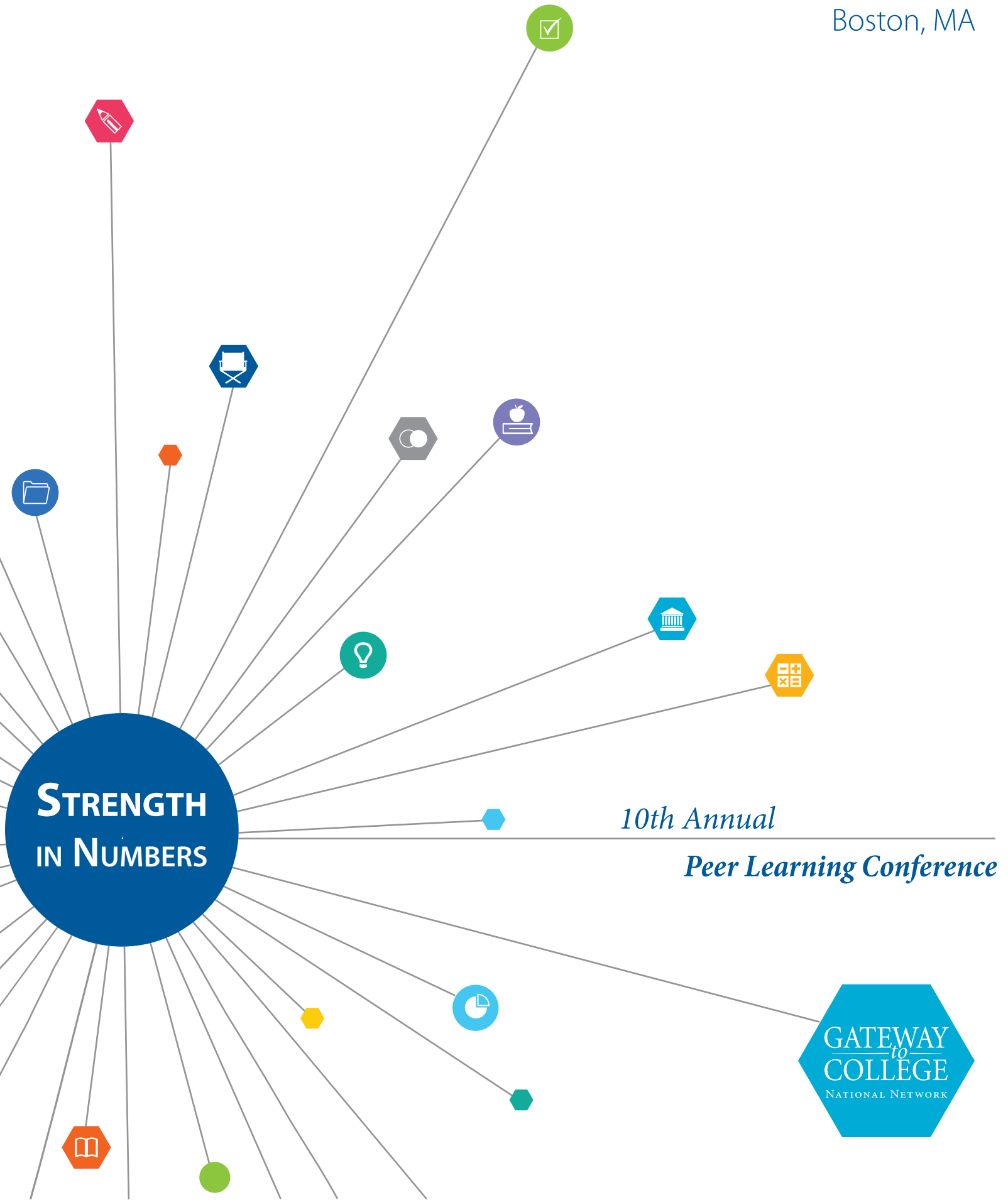


July 28-30, 2014
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Boston, MA



By the numbers

201

Attendees affiliated with
a Gateway to College
program

3
days



56
Resource
Specialists

30
Directors

18
Admin/Data
Liaisons

26
College &
K-12 Leads

25
Faculty
members



*Approximately **272,763 miles traveled** to reach the PLC*



WELCOME!

Welcome to Boston and the tenth annual Peer Learning Conference! Our conference theme is Strength in Numbers—an apt concept given our growing network and the many key program outcomes and countless student stories that illustrate our challenges and successes. Our extraordinary partnership with all of you now represents 40 colleges and more than 150 school districts in 22 states. Together, we served more than 4,200 young people last year and we will celebrate a record number of graduates in 2014! Thank you for the work that you do to change deserving young lives.

In 2013, we presented our latest Gateway to College National Network business plan and solicited your feedback. We are making great headway on the shifts described in the business plan, and look forward to the opportunity to share news of this progress and our upcoming plans. With the support of our many funders, GtCNN is making an unprecedented investment in the continuous improvement of our veteran partner sites so that we can work together to ensure that even more struggling students graduate from high school and achieve college success.

This year, we are celebrating a decade of working together to share learning, best practices, and inspiration. Our keynote speaker for the conference is Bertice Berry. Like many Gateway students, Bertice was told that she was not college material, but she proved her doubters wrong by earning a PhD, becoming a college professor and popular inspirational speaker for audiences across the nation. Bertice believes “when you walk with purpose, you collide with destiny,” and she is excited to share her story with us.

In addition to workshops, job-alikes, panel presentations, and networking opportunities offered at previous PLCs, we are eager to introduce several new features at this year’s conference, including full-day professional development tracks on day two, the participation of GtC alumni, and time for regional meetings.

We hope that you leave the Peer Learning Conference feeling invigorated and with the strength to return to your schools and communities eager to do everything you can to serve our students well. We’re delighted that you are here!

Laurel Dubichant

Richard Wilkins

Victor Matthews

Samuel

Debra Shank

Mary Brannan

Julio Perez

Kushnarian

Nicholas Quintus

Gregory

Lauren Johnson

Steve Marks

Julie Huff

Stephen Brannan

Justin

Anthony

Dani Pokorski

Thana Ebyan

Emily Rico

Proanne Mykhaili

Shakela Young

CONFERENCE SPONSORS



The Nellie Mae Education Foundation is working to reshape public education across New England to be more equitable and more effective so every student graduates from high school ready to succeed in college or the workplace and contribute to their communities as informed citizens. We help schools strengthen what is working and substantially update and improve policies and practices that are outdated.

www.nmefoundation.org

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AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING

O'Connor Davies, LLP, a full-service Certified Public Accounting and consulting firm with seven offices and more than 500 professionals, provides a complete range of accounting, auditing, tax and management advisory services. Our extensive education experience includes higher education institutions and many community colleges. We are pleased to sponsor the Peer Learning Conference and are proud to support Gateway's mission of enabling young students to succeed academically.

www.odpkf.com



Lisa M. Dietlin and Associates assists entrepreneurial individuals and nonprofit organizations in developing transformational philanthropic strategies. We support the change we want to see in our future generations, which is best done by providing access to education for the next group of leaders.

www.lmdietlin.com



Silicon Forest Electronics strives to make a positive and profound difference in the lives of our customers, employees, suppliers, stakeholders, and community. This goal includes ongoing support of STEM initiatives and participation at the regional and local levels – sharing with students how STEM concepts can be applied in the exciting world of high technology.

www.siliconforestelectronics.com



Massasoit Community College, our host for this year's PLC, has generously devoted numerous staff hours and funds to make this PLC a great one. Some of the contributions from Massasoit include A/V equipment, technical support at the conference, sponsorship for the cocktail reception, coordination of events and activities, and staff support for student leaders and the closing presentation.

www.massasoit.mass.edu

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JULY 27

4:00-6:00	Registration	Exeter Foyer
6:30-8:00	Student & Alumni Orientation	Cambridge

MONDAY, JULY 28

7:00-8:30	Registration	Exeter Foyer
7:30-8:30	Continental Breakfast	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:30-9:15	Conference Kick-Off	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
9:15-9:30	Break	
9:30-10:30	Keynote Speaker- Dr. Bertice Berry	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
10:30-11:45	Concurrent Sessions #1	(pages 6-7)
11:45-12:45	Lunch	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
12:45-1:45	Job Alikes	(page 7)
1:45-2:00	Break	
2:00-3:15	Concurrent Sessions #2	(page 7-8)
3:15-4:30	Regional Convenings	(page 8)
5:30-7:00	Reception	Georgian Ballroom

TUESDAY, JULY 29




7:00-8:00	Continental Breakfast	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:00-8:45	Day Two Opening	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
9:00-4:00	Student Outing	Exeter Foyer
9:00-12:00	Professional Development Tracks	(pages 9-10)
12:00-1:00	Lunch	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
12:00-1:00	Coast to Coast - CA & MA Teams	Stuart
1:00-4:00	Professional Development Tracks (continued)	(pages 9-10)
4:30-6:00	Guided Walking Tour of Boston	Hotel Lobby

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

7:00-8:00	Continental Breakfast	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:00-8:15	Day Three Opening	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:15-9:15	Job Alikes	(page 11)
9:15-9:30	Break	
9:30-10:30	Student Panel	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
10:30-11:45	Concurrent Sessions #3	(pages 11-12)
11:45-1:00	Conference Closing & Lunch	Imperial/Plaza Ballroom












KEY

Audiences

	Student Friendly: This workshop is open to student leaders, but not all of the content will be applicable.
	Student Centered: This workshop is directed towards student leaders and all of the content is applicable to students.
	Non-Student Focused: The content for this workshop will not be applicable to student leaders.

Audiences

These symbols, placed throughout this guide, represent the appropriate audiences for certain elements of the conference.

	Program Directors
	Administrative Support Staff/ Data Liaisons
	College Administrators
	Resource Specialists
	Completion Advisors /College Success/ Career Exploration Instructors
	Math Instructors
	English/Reading/Writing Instructors
	All Instructors
	K-12 Partners
	Outside Parties
	Location

Acronyms

BCC-MA	Bristol Community College
CCC-NJ	Camden County College
CH DORS	Christel House Dropout Recovery School
CCSF	City College of San Francisco
CCP	Community College of Philadelphia
CCC-CA	Contra Costa College
CCC-OH	Cuyahoga Community College
DMACC	Des Moines Area Community College
DC	Donnelly College
DTCC	Durham Technical Community College
EPCC	El Paso Community College
ECC	Essex County College
FRCC	Front Range Community College
GtC	Gateway to College
GCTC	Gateway Community & Technical College
GtCNN	Gateway to College National Network
HTC	Hennepin Technical College
HCC-WA	Highline College
HCC-MS	Hinds Community College
HCC-MA	Holyoke Community College
LC	Laney College
LACC	Los Angeles City College
MATC	Madison Area Technical College
MCC-MA	Massasoit Community College
MCC-NE	Metropolitan Community College
MCCC	Montgomery County Community College
MCC-MI	Mott Community College
MWCC	Mount Wachusett Community College
OCC	Owens Community College
PSC	Polk State College
PCC	Portland Community College
QCC	Quinsigamond Community College
RCC	Riverside City College
SRJC	Santa Rosa Junior College
SC-CA	Shasta College
STC-TX	South Texas College
SFCC	Spokane Falls Community College
STCC	Springfield Technical Community College
SLCC	St. Louis Community College

MONDAY

7:30-8:30 Continental Breakfast: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:30-9:15 Conference Kick-Off: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
9:15-9:30 Break
9:30-10:30 Keynote Speaker: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom

10:30-11:45 Concurrent Sessions #1

Equity and Diversity: Walk the Talk

Co-Presentors: Vivian Ostrowski, HCC-MA; Dr. Catherine Barnes; Gaylen Brannon-Trottier, GtCNN



Beacon Hill

Explore what it means to be culturally competent. In this workshop you will look at the foundations and characteristics of cultural competency and consider how these align with your approach to work and the practices of your program or institution.

Alumni Panel for Student Leaders

Facilitator: Faith Grant, CCC-NJ

Panelists: Gateway to College Student Alumni

Student Leaders only



Franklin

Gateway to College students leaders are invited to hear from a panel of recent Gateway to College graduates about their transition out of GtC and in to the traditional college environment. Students will learn about the support systems in place to help the transition and important tips on managing time and finances.

First Year Lessons: Our R.E.A.L. Experiences

Presenter: William Davis, CCC-OH

Co-Presenters: Aliyah Wilson, James Abrams, & Carrie Reeves, CCC-OH



Whittier

An interactive workshop for the sharing and communing of ideas and takeaways that will help increase your program's effectiveness for working with Gateway to College Scholars, Faculty, Community and Campus Resources. Based off the first year experience and configuration of the Cuyahoga Community College Gateway to College Program, this workshop will discuss this program's "R.E.A.L." Experience. "R.E.A.L." representing Realistic Expectations, Attitudes and Love.

Creating Thriving Alternative Education Ecosystems: City Government and Workforce Agencies as Partners in Youth Reengagement

Co-presenters: Andrew Moore, Senior Fellow, NLC-YEF Institute; Kathy Hamilton, Boston PIC



St. James

How do Gateway programs fit into the local education "ecosystem," and what are the implications for the program's success? Explore potential broader partnerships in this interactive session -- including with city governments, local workforce agencies, and dropout reengagement centers. Consider benefits, next steps, and ways to assemble data, all in the context of the characteristics of your local education "ecosystem."

Changing the Trajectory of Student Success through Intensive Courses

Presenter: Teresa Fernandes, MCC-MA

Co-Presenter: Jahath Harriott, MCC-MA



Stuart

A truly 'out of the box' instructional model that helps students to address the weaknesses in their math foundations on an accelerated schedule. Through this program, a peer mentor works in tandem with the instructor to create an intense and engaging classroom.

College/High School Collaborations Help Students Get Focused, and Stay Focused

Presenter: Diane Goncalves, Assistant Superintendent of Region One for Connecticut and Certified Trainer for the Get Focused...

Stay Focused Initiative, Academic Innovations



White Hill

Learn about the award winning Get Focused...Stay Focused program from Santa Barbara City College. You'll come away with strategies for a high school/college collaboration that assures students enter post-secondary with a chosen career path, informed major and a skills based education plan.

Concurrent Sessions #1 continued on next page

MONDAY

Concurrent Sessions #1 (continued)

Creative Ways for Students to Earn High School Credit

Presenter: Marci Skillings, QCC



Cambridge

This session will help you explore and discover new credit offerings for your program to serve off track high school students with the necessary high school course selections they need to graduate while reducing the barriers that stand in their way.

11:45-12:45 Lunch: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom

12:45-1:45 Job Alikes

Job Alike sessions are an opportunity to connect with and learn from colleagues who share similar roles (and who therefore also experience similar joys and challenges in this work) through facilitated dialogue and activities. Please choose the session most closely aligned with your role. If your work/job/role isn't represented by the sessions offered, please attend whichever session you think would be most valuable.

Job Type		Facilitators
	Cambridge	Ben Byers, Prentice Davis & David Johnson, GtCNN
	Whittier	Jeremy Asay, Kris Barnum & Jahsie Ault, GtCNN
	Beacon Hill	Gaylen Brannon & Jill Marks, GtCNN
	St. James	Nick Mathern, Devora Shamah & Lauren Johnson, GtCNN
	Stuart	Nick Quintus & Roxanne Myslewski, GtCNN
<i>Student Leaders only</i>	White Hill	Emily Rico, GtCNN

1:45-2:00 Break

2:00-3:15 Concurrent Sessions #2

Creating Excitement Through Industry Involvement

Presenter: Jay Schmidt, Vice President- Business Development, Silicon Forest Electronics



Cambridge

Silicon Forest Electronics recently received the "Inspire" award for STEM involvement. Silicon Forest Vice President Jay Schmidt will share how a small business like SFE can make a positive difference in student lives and create excitement through industry collaboration.

Hey Dreamkeepers-Fashion your Passion: The Five Steps from At-Risk to At-Promise

Presenter: Mark J Walters, GtC At-Risk Liaison, Montclair NJ School District



Franklin

Wish it--dream it plan it--do it--be it.....because the possibilities are endless! Participants learn the skills necessary to fashion the passion of their students.

Project-Based Learning Communities: Planning from the Big Picture to Students in the Classroom

Presenter: Carol Harrington, SFCC

Co-Presenter: Leslie Jones & Maggie Krug, SFCC



St. James

Do you want your students to be (re)engaged, empowered, and productive? Come learn from our experiences, plus some practical steps for implementing learning communities from initial plans to student work in class.

Who's Missing from Your Program? Recruitment Strategies

Presenter: David Thibault-Munoz, MWCC

Co-presenters: Sharmese Gunn, MWCC



Whittier

When you think of recruitment, what is the student profile that comes to mind? Who exactly is "at risk"? Come learn how to analyze different recruitment strategies and how to target specific sub-sectors of the "at risk" student population.

MONDAY

Don't Call Them Dropouts: Understanding the Experiences of Young People Who Leave High School Before Graduation

Co-Presenters: Devora Shamah & Nick Mathern, GtCNN; Jon Zaff, Senior Vice President of Research & Policy Development, Marissa Cole, Associate Director & Craig McClay, Lead Facilitator and Analyst, America's Promise Alliance



Beacon Hill

Join the Center for Promise research team to learn about and reflect with them on their compelling research study that focused on giving a voice to the young people who don't graduate in traditional ways. Gateway to College students participated in this study.

Alumni Panel for General Attendees

Facilitator: Faith Grant, CCC-NJ

Panelists: Gateway to College Student Alumni



White Hill

Attendees will get to hear from recent Gateway to College graduates about their transition into the traditional college environment, what some of the best practices are in supporting their transition and what some of the struggles are that they face. Attendees will have a chance to ask questions of the alumni at the end.

It Takes a Village-Purposeful Collaboration for Mutual Learning

Presenter: Keima Sheriff, MCCC

Co-presenters: Diane McDonald, Victoria Vetro, Lori Davidson & Esau Collins, MCCC

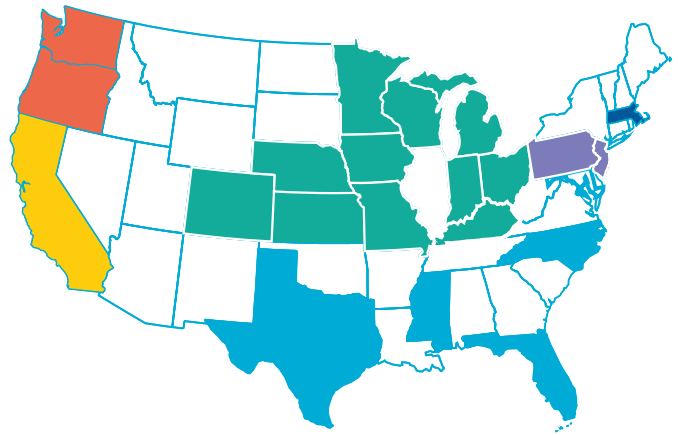


Stuart

Do you want to learn how to create meaningful relationships and collaborations on every level to ensure the sustainability of your program? We will give you the tools to seamlessly integrate your program into the college and community.

3:15-4:30 Regional Convenings

Regional Convenings provide an opportunity to discuss common issues and/or potential projects unique to particular areas of the country.



Region		Facilitator
Northwest: HCC-WA, PCC, SFCC	<i>St. James</i>	Slava Scott
California: CCC-CA, CCSF, LACC, LC, RCC, SC-CA, SRJC	<i>Beacon Hill</i>	Vanessa Luna-Shannon
Central: CCC-OH, CH-DORS, DC, DMACC, FRCC, GTC, HTC, MATC, MCC-NE, MCC-MI, OCC, SLCC	<i>White Hill</i>	Connie Eichhorn
Massachusetts: BCC-MA, HCC-MA, MCC-MA, MWCC, QCC, STCC	<i>Cambridge</i>	Deb Bibeau
Northeast: CCC-NJ, CCP, ECC, MCCC	<i>Franklin</i>	Irvin Sweeney
South: DTCC, EPCC, HCC-MS, PSC, STC-TX	<i>Stuart</i>	Sallie Brisbane

5:30-7:00 Reception

Georgian Ballroom

Open to all conference attendees

TUESDAY

7:00-8:00 Breakfast: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:00-8:45 Day Two Opening: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
9:00-4:00 Student Outing: Meet at Exeter Foyer

9:00-12:00 Professional Development Tracks

12:00-1:00 Lunch: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
12:00-1:00 Coast to Coast – A Conversation between California and Massachusetts Directors and Teams to Advance Statewide Communication and Community
Purpose: To share communication strategies and actions that develop statewide communities of practice. Specific topics will include strategies to implement state policy, structuring meetings to increase participation and sharing practices that work in other states with multiple Gateway to College programs.

1:00-4:00 Professional Development Tracks

4:30-6:00 Guided Walking tour of Boston: Meet in the Hotel Lobby

Professional Development Tracks

As a new feature of this year's conference we will be hosting professional development tracks. These sessions allow you to focus in a more concentrated way around a specific topic that aligns with your role at your organization or expands your toolset. Each track will result in a tangible outcome that you can take home with you and implement. Below is a list of five track options.

Please choose only one track to attend. These tracks will be filled on a first come, first serve basis unless you are pre-registered. To check and see if you are registered or to register for one, please see the staff at the registration desk.

1

GtC Stakeholder Partnership: Expanding the Reach and Benefits to All

Facilitators:
Kris Barnum,
Jeremy Asay &
Nick Mathern,
GtCNN

GtC programs start-up, are sustained and thrive because you and other people in your community work together toward shared and worthy goals. This work requires open and on-going communication and solution-finding skills that run wide and deep. The goal of this track is to help you take your stakeholder partnership work to the next level, expanding both reach and benefits for all involved.

The day will commence with a joint track keynote presented by partnership-relationship expert, Lisa Dietlin. Participants will then interact with GtC peer panelists including stakeholder partners from the hearty ranks of thriving GtC advisory councils and leadership teams. Moving from informative examples into action planning, participants will get a jump start on initiating new strategies to move the needle of their GtC partnership toward THRIVE!

 *Beacon Hill*

2

Equity & Diversity: Beyond the Conversation

Facilitator:
Gaylen Brannon-
Trottier, GtCNN

Conversation is an important component in addressing issues of equity and diversity, however, in this track we are moving beyond the conversation to meaningful action. The goal of this track is to increase awareness about the issues that diverse populations face and increase the capacity of network programs to better understand and serve students from these groups. This track will engage participants both in conversation and through interactions, and provide tangible tools and easily implemented strategies that can enrich the experience of every student.

 *White Hill*

TUESDAY

3

Supporting the Whole Student from Enrollment to Graduation and Beyond

Facilitator:
Prentice Davis,
GtCNN

Guiding Question: What are the practices, structures, and tools that best support student success that are specific to the phase of a student's GtC career?

Adequately supporting students for success throughout each phase of their experience in Gateway to College can be daunting. With the right resources, structures, and tools, that job becomes much easier. The Student Support Track is an opportunity to learn about established approaches to student support and tools in use within the network. Come share your own best student support strategies and tools and team up with other Gateway to College practitioners to develop tools that are most useful for serving students fully throughout their time in GtC and beyond.

The Student Support Track will have a three-part focus:

Phase I: Establishing Foundations for Success

Phase II: From Foundation to the Comprehensive Campus – College Readiness and Transition Strategies

Phase III: Graduation and Beyond – Strategies for Preparing GtC students for GtC completion, College Graduation, and Beyond



Whittier

4

Instruction - Leveraging Quality Instruction to Achieve Strong Outcomes

Facilitators:
Gaylen Brannon-
Trottier & Jill
Marks, GtCNN



Franklin

Participants will explore instructional practices that incorporate learning strategies and lesson design that increases student access to the content and engagement in the course. At the center of the Instructional Track are instructional design principles -- the analysis of learning needs and systematic development of instruction -- and integration of Common Core State Standards and assessments in our early college and college classrooms.

5

Beyond Enrollment: Best Practices for Funding the Extras in Your GtC Program

Facilitators:
Lauren Johnson,
David Johnson,
Roxanne
Myslewski, GtCNN

While the core of a GtC program budget will depend on the per-student funding from your school district partners, many programs seek to bolster student supports, professional development, technology upgrades, and other important components. Learning to articulate a compelling case to diverse stakeholders and building relationships with people who want to help is the core of this track.

We will be joined by master trainer, relationship maven, and fundraising consultant Lisa Dietlin who will set the stage for us and lead us through our work to build a compelling case for your needs. Lisa has worked with many community college boards, philanthropists, and foundations and will bring a wealth of good information and good cheer to the day.

Participants are asked to come prepared with a sketch of a project they would like to have funded. They will hear from GtC peers who have demonstrated successes at their sites; from the GtCNN fundraising team who work with foundations, companies and individuals; and from college foundation representatives who can provide perspectives of working effectively in the system. Participants will leave with their own case statement and worksheet of next steps toward making their project a reality.










Beacon Hill

WEDNESDAY

7:00-8:00 Continental Breakfast: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom
8:00-8:15 Day Three Opening: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom

8:15-9:15 Job Alikes

Job Type		Facilitators
	 Cambridge	Ben Byers & David Johnson, GtCNN
	Whittier	Jeremy Asay, Kris Barnum & Jahsie Ault, GtCNN
	Beacon Hill	Gaylen Brannon & Jill Marks, GtCNN
	St. James	Nick Mathern, Devora Shamah & Lauren Johnson, GtCNN
	Stuart	Nick Quintus & Roxanne Myslewski, GtCNN
 <i>Student Leaders only</i>	White Hill	Prentice Davis, GtCNN

9:15-9:30 Break
9:30-10:30 Student Panel

10:30-11:45 Concurrent Workshops #3

Multiple Measures of Success: State and Local Policy Opportunities to Maximize Positive Outcomes for Our Students

Co-Presenters: Pam Blumenthal, PCC-OR; Nick Mathern, GtCNN



  **Franklin**

The multiple pathways required to meet the diverse academic and social needs of disconnected youth require multiple indicators of success. Examine innovative programs, partnerships, and policies that have leveraged K12 resources to include GEDs, industry certificates, and other post-secondary options.

The Power of Intentionality

Presenter: Vivian Ostrowski, HCC-MA

Co-Presenters: Jada Waters & Julissa Colon, HCC-MA



  **Stuart**

What are your team's fundamental values, and what are you intentional about? How well do you communicate that intentionality to your students and your partners? Come explore these questions, knowing that our intentions have enormous power to shape the work.

K-12 Language 201: Conversations with a School District Liaison

Presenter: Deb Bibeau, MWCC

Co-Presenters: Sara Storm, Guidance Counselor, Ralph C. Mahar School District



  **St. James**

Like any marriage, the union between the school district and higher education partner requires mutual understanding and honest, open communication. This workshop is a continuation of last year's K-12 Language 101, hosted by a Gateway director and a District Guidance liaison.

STIM-Shifting the Instructional Model

Presenter: Dr. Marguerite Coke-Maxwell, PSC

Co-Presenters: Virginia Richard & Sallie Brisbane, PSC



  **Beacon Hill**

Participants will learn how a powerful communication protocol can be used to shift their instructional model to a higher level through blended/online learning that incorporates the 6 c's: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, administrator commitment, creativity to enhance teaching and the culture of learning.

WEDNESDAY

Strength in Numbers: Learning from Each Other's Results

Presenter: Ben Byers, GtCNN



 *Cambridge*

Many programs and regions are using their program results and GtCNN documents to advocate for sustainability, create common goals, and learn from each other. Join your peers to participate in this learning on a national scale, contribute to the conversation on "program quality" and help shape the future of the discussion on results transparency.

Communication Strategies/Messaging Matters: How do You Talk about Gateway to College?

Presenter: Jeremy Asay, GtCNN



 *White Hill*

How do you ensure stakeholder groups remember you and your program? How does your message to school districts differ from your message to community based organizations? Come prepared to collect and share creative and memorable ways to promote your program.

Our First Student Leadership Conference - NW Region

Co-Presenters: Jennifer Alt, SFCC; Slava Scott, PCC; Kris Barnum, GtCNN



 *Whittier*

Gateway students from four programs learned about being leaders through an action-packed real-life design challenge. Watch and listen to students' actual experiences and how they've stayed connected. Begin planning for your own local student conferences.

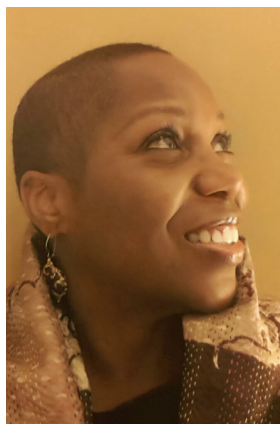
11:45-1:00 Lunch & Conference Closing: Imperial/Plaza Ballroom

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Bertice Berry

Growing up poor in Wilmington, Delaware, the sixth of seven children, Bertice was told by a high school teacher that she was “not college material”. Fortunately, there was another teacher who believed that she was destined for more.

Bertice not only graduated magna cum laude from Jacksonville University where she was awarded the President’s Cup for leadership, she subsequently earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from Kent State University at the age of 26. Dr. Berry taught sociology and statistics at Kent, and demonstrated that she knew a few things about humor, as well. She realized by using humor in her lectures to address such difficult subjects as racism and sexism she was making a more profound impact. Shortly thereafter, Berry left Kent to become an award-winning entertainer, lecturer and comedienne. From 1991 through 1994 she won the coveted national Comedian of the Year Award, and was also named Campus Lecturer of the Year and Campus Entertainer of the Year. She had created a niche as both a gifted speaker with a comic edge and a comic with a serious message.



Bertice was the host and co-executive producer of her own nationally syndicated talk show, “The Bertice Berry Show,” and hosted “USA Live,” a four-hour live interview and entertainment show on the USA Cable Network. She’s been featured on numerous other television programs, including appearances on “The Oprah Winfrey Show,” “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno,” ABC’s “20/20” and more recently on NPR’s “Tell Me More” with Michel Martin.

Amber Rose Johnson

Amber Rose Johnson is a poet, scholar, and educator who is committed to bringing truth wherever she is present. Dedicated to youth development primarily in black and brown communities, Amber Rose is currently a sixth grade English teacher and Spoken Word teaching artist for Boston Public Schools. In 2010 she became the Poetry Out Loud National Champion and during her title year, traveled across the country to perform and lead writing and performance workshops as well as recorded a poetry album with Ruby Dee, James Earl Jones and Meryl Streep under Universal Studios. Additionally, her work has recently been featured on the Melissa Harris Perry show. After her experience with recitation, Amber Rose fell in love with Spoken Word and has since competed in the Brave New Voices international slam competition as well as coached a high school team in Massachusetts. Amber Rose is a researcher with America’s Promise Alliance and has been focused on the Raise Up campaign centered around students who have left or were pushed out of the traditional school system. Her other national efforts include Start Strong with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women with the United States Department of Justice. She is a junior at Tufts University majoring in African American and American studies, but believes that her best work is done on the ground, in the many communities that she is a part of.



“I no longer feel lost.”

“Gateway helped me get my life on track.”

“I feel like I am finally on the right path in school and in life.”

“I feel like I actually have a direction I’m going towards in life instead of just drifting.”

“I feel that Gateway to College was exactly what I needed to help me move forward in my education.”

STUDENT LEADERS

Nicholas Chery

Mount Wachusett Community College.

Nicholas is 17 years old and first enrolled in Gateway to College in Spring 2014, coming in with 50 out of 115 credits completed towards his high diploma. He expects to graduate by May 2015. Last semester, Nick accrued 29 credits toward his diploma and 3 college credits towards his associate's degree. Nick plans to study criminal justice and to eventually become a police or corrections officer. He is also an excellent dancer and has a passion for working with young men in order to keep them out of trouble. Nick says, "Gateway provided me with the understanding that in order to be successful, I am going to need to work a lot harder than I did in the past and to have a more positive attitude toward my learning."

Martha Concepcion

Springfield Technical Community College.

Martha enrolled in Gateway in Fall 2013 at age 19 with 4.5 high school credits. Now 20, Martha has earned 10.5 additional high school credits and 9 college credits as a Gateway student. She earned an Achievement Award for Fall 2013 as well as Excellent Attendance and Spirit of Gateway Awards in May 2014. She expects to graduate next June and plans to study nursing. Martha says, "I push myself because I see my surroundings. Positive people around me help motivate me, but also people who are not doing so good - I don't want to be like them. I don't want to fail. I want to be better than how I used to be, better than how my parents are."

Emanuel Corbiel

Mount Wachusett Community College.

Emanuel entered Gateway to College when he was 16 and came in with 40 credits. He expects to graduate in December 2015 and his future career goal is environmental science. Since entering the program, he has received two Student of the Month awards for his high level of work. Emanuel says, "Gateway to College made me view myself and my future like it had more value and that I could really do anything I wanted. The opportunity in Gateway made a difference in me."

Norma "Belen" Correa

Spokane Falls Community College.

Belen is 19 years old and enrolled in Gateway in Fall 2012. She entered the program with 13.5 high school credits and expects to graduate June 2015. Since entering the program, she has earned 10.6 high school credits and 58 college credits. Her awards include Positive Attitude Award, Gateway Achiever, and the Vice-President's Honor Roll. When asked about what motivates her to persevere, Belen says, "I visualize myself and Adia (the sweetest daughter in the world) in a home that I'm able to provide for the both of us ...and music motivates me, too." She also says, "I view myself way better and have way

more self-respect now because of Gateway. My future isn't questionable anymore."

James Ingalls

Camden County College.

James has been with the Gateway program at Camden since its inception. James has endured many struggles in his life, such as battling with academic challenges, and suffering the loss of his mother who had been murdered when James was very young. But James never lost his hope to achieve his dreams. Luckily, he has always had the loving support of his aunt, grandmother, and father who have raised him. James has often struggled to achieve his dreams in a traditional high school setting, but at Gateway, he has taken on a unique role as the "big brother" for many of his classmates, who love and respect him. He received the award for the "Most Helpful Student" at graduation 2014. James loves music, football and basketball, and helping to raise his younger cousins, and his love for his family and his community motivates him to never give up on his dreams. He will enroll in college to study Media Communications Technology.

Evan Jackson

Community College of Philadelphia.

Evan Jackson is 21 years old. He started in Fall 2013 when he was 20 and had earned 13.5 credits. He has since earned 4 high school and 6 transferable college credits and is expected to graduate in the Spring 2015 semester. He aspires to be a computer engineer. Evan says, "My promises and commitment at the GTC orientation ceremony influenced a maxim that I remember at times to do whatever I need to succeed. My dream, my conviction."

Shanneasha Jackson

Donnelly College.

An 18 year old entrepreneur from Kansas City, Shanneasha entered Gateway in Fall 2013 with 15 high school credits; she acquired 2 high school credits during that semester. Shanneasha plans to complete her required courses by December 2014. She has been awarded multiple times for her outstanding growth and leadership skills and the ultimate honor for Shanneasha was being invited to participate in the PLC. Since entering the program, Shanneasha realized that she limits her own future; she is the only person who can alter her dreams and goals. After graduation, she plans to further her career in graphic design. She also plans to become a full time author and editor to support her family and secure her future.

Kaitlin Kennedy

Donnelly College.

Biography not available.

STUDENT LEADERS

Nichole “Nikky” Lawson

Spokane Falls Community College.

Nikky is 20 years old and entered the program Winter 2013 with 15 high school credits. Since entering the program, she has accrued 8.8 high school credits and 44 college credits. She has an interest in retail management and plans to finish her Associate's degree and possibly go to a 4-year college. During her time in the program, Nikky has received the Perfect Attendance Award and was previously named a Gateway Achiever. When asked what keeps her motivated to persevere, she said, “My daughter, because I want to give her a better life. I also want to do better for myself because I know I can.”

Jane Rodriguez

Springfield Technical Community College.

Jane enrolled in Gateway in Fall 2013 at age 18 and she had 12 high school credits. Now almost 19, Jane has earned 8 additional high school credits and 9 college credits as a Gateway student. She earned a Spirit of Gateway Award in May 2014 and expects to graduate this December. When she goes to college full time, she would like to study history and become a historian. Jane says that “Gateway motivates me by showing their interest in me and by not giving up, which helps me not give up on myself. I’m motivated to be better than my family members who have not graduated high school or gone to college. Gateway has taught me to be more responsible and mature.”

Fabian Sanchez

Front Range Community College.

Fabian did not like the crowd he got caught up in during high school, and he was also experiencing major family turmoil. He became unmotivated and dropped out of school in the 12th grade and was out for 2 years. Fabian decided he wanted to change his life for the better. “At my previous school I was drawn into trouble by my friends. I showed up for classes but just never did the work.” Since coming to Gateway, Fabian has changed his approach to friendships and he has emerged as a quiet leader. “I finally realized that I could be who I wanted to be and not what others expected me to be.” Fabian will graduate Summer 2014 and plans on continuing at FRCC and using his Gateway Scholarship after he graduates.

Luis Sanchez

Laney College.

Luis is 19 years old and is working towards his high school diploma and a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Laney College. He enrolled in the program in the fall of 2012 when he was 17 with 17.5 high school credits. Since then, he has accumulated 48 college credits and 158 high school credits. He is expected to graduate in December of 2014. Luis says, “My family helps keep me on the right path when I’m about to stray from it.”

Maya Valentine

Massasoit Community College.

Maya is 18 years old and entered the program in Spring 2013. When she entered Gateway, she had no high school credits because she was home schooled. In June 2014, Maya graduated with her high school diploma and 35 college credits. Her future goals include attending Northeastern University in the spring of 2015 to be a writer. She was the Vice President of the Creative Writing Club, published a short story in Massasoit Literary Journal, and published a poem in the Massasoit Newspaper. Because of her exceptional skills, Maya was offered an internship at Massasoit. In her own words, “I am not exaggerating when I say that Gateway has opened up a hundred doors that lead the way to a hundred opportunities and a hundred possibilities for me.”

Glorymar Vega

Massasoit Community College.

Glorymar was 16 years old and had 24 high school credits when she enrolled in the program in the fall of 2012. Now 18, Glory completed her high school diploma requirements in June 2014 with 41 college credits. Her future education and career goals include earning an associate's degree in Criminal Justice at Massasoit and becoming a Police Officer. Glory was an outstanding member of the Student Leadership Committee and received a certificate for successfully completing 45 hours of community service. She is motivated to become a better person in the community and inspire others to do the same. Glory says, “Gateway helped me make the difference in myself from someone who believed there was no hope for my future, to someone who realizes that the future is full of opportunities waiting for me to take on.”

Asia-Marie Wallace

Camden County College.

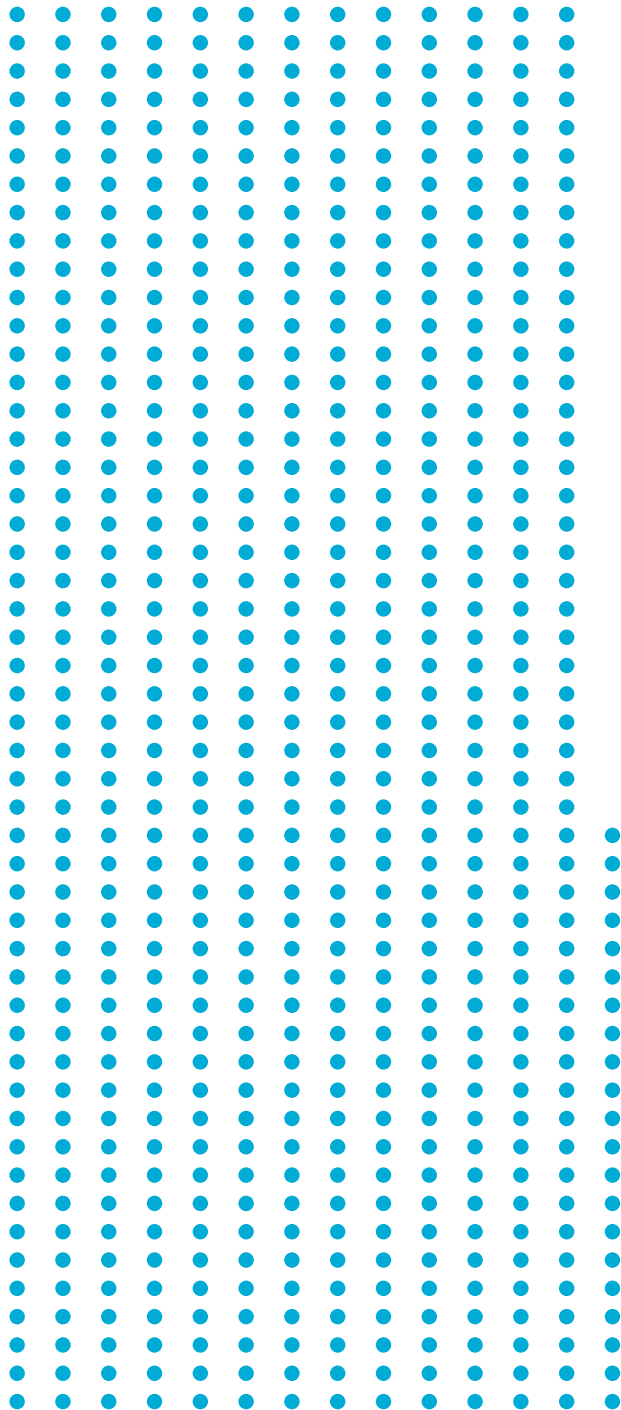
Asia-Marie Wallace has succeeded in her life, thus far, because of the hope she keeps and the potential her family and friends have always seen in her. Having problems in the past growing closer to her goals in the traditional high school setting which resulted in her past lack of self-confidence, Asia has since taken the “Real Second Chance” offered by Camden's Gateway program, maximizing it to the greatest extent. Asia has not only succeeded in fulfilling the requirements needed to earn her high school diploma; her time with Gateway has also been spent helping her peers to reach their goals. She was also voted to serve on the Camden Gateway Student Council by her fellow classmates. Asia is excited to attend a four-year college and, ultimately, help others with a career in the healthcare field.

STUDENT LEADERS

More than

670 STUDENTS

earned diplomas in 2012-2013



PARTNER PROGRAMS



NOTES

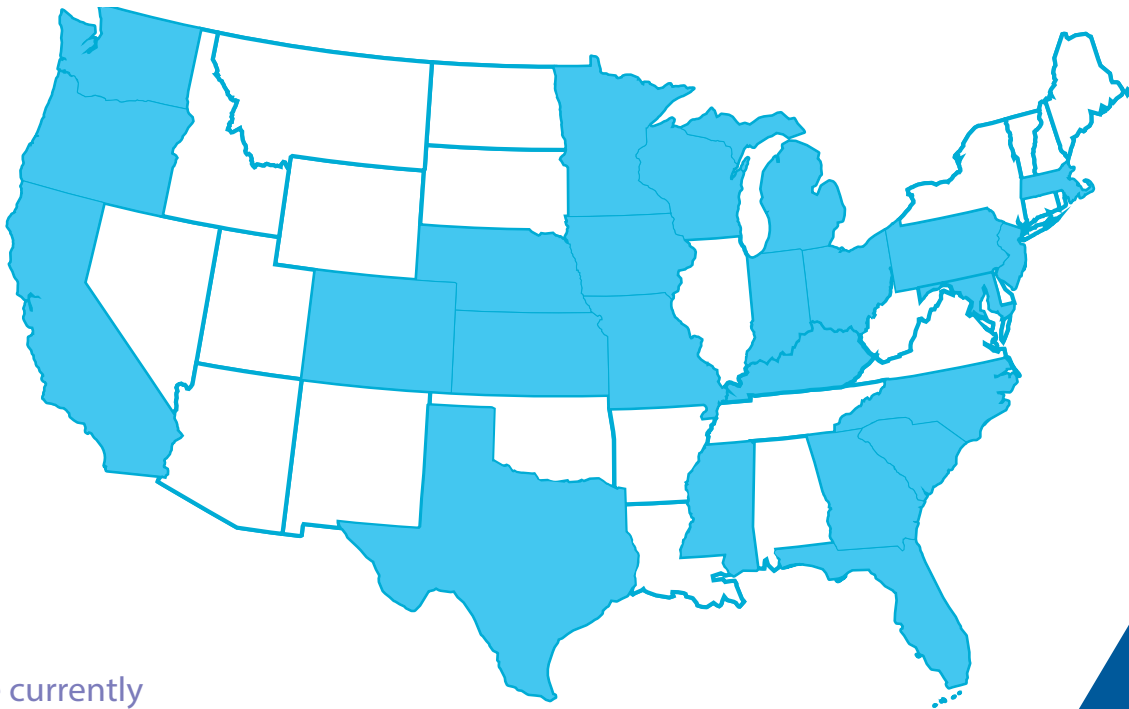
DID YOU KNOW?

Gateway to College National Network does much more than provide great professional development and networking opportunities. Our mission is to build the capacity of colleges, school districts, and states to revolutionize education for high school dropouts and underprepared college students so that all young people can achieve college credentials.

We are best known for creating and scaling the Gateway to College program, which helps high school dropouts (ages 16-21) and students on the verge of dropping out to earn a high school diploma while also earning college credits.

We also:

- Influence systems by developing change agents who are transforming instruction and student support practices from the inside out
- Conduct research and share what we know about successfully serving high school dropouts and academically underprepared college students
- Help effect policy and regulatory changes to ensure that Gateway to College and other alternative education models are available in every community that needs them
- Provide customized consulting services to colleges, school districts, state agencies, and other education service providers to implement new programs, test new practices, and analyze systems to better serve the students in their communities



There are currently

40 Gateway to College programs in
22 states

33 communities are served by
Gateway to College

OVER
150
SCHOOL
DISTRICT
PARTNERS



HOTEL INFORMATION

Conference Hotel

The Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers
50 Park Plaza
Main number: 617.426.2000

Registration

Exeter Foyer, Second Floor
Sunday, 4 – 6 pm
Monday, 7 – 8:30 am

Food and Drink

Breakfast and lunch will be provided
July 28, 29 & 30
If you have food allergies or need a
vegan option please see someone from
banquets.

Evaluations

Evaluations are available at registration
and will be collected when the
conference concludes on Wednesday

Reception

Monday, 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the Georgian
Ballroom, Second Floor
Light appetizers and no-host cash bar

Walking Tour

Tuesday, join us for a guided walking
tour of Boston! Tuesday, 7/29. Meet in
the hotel lobby at 4:30.

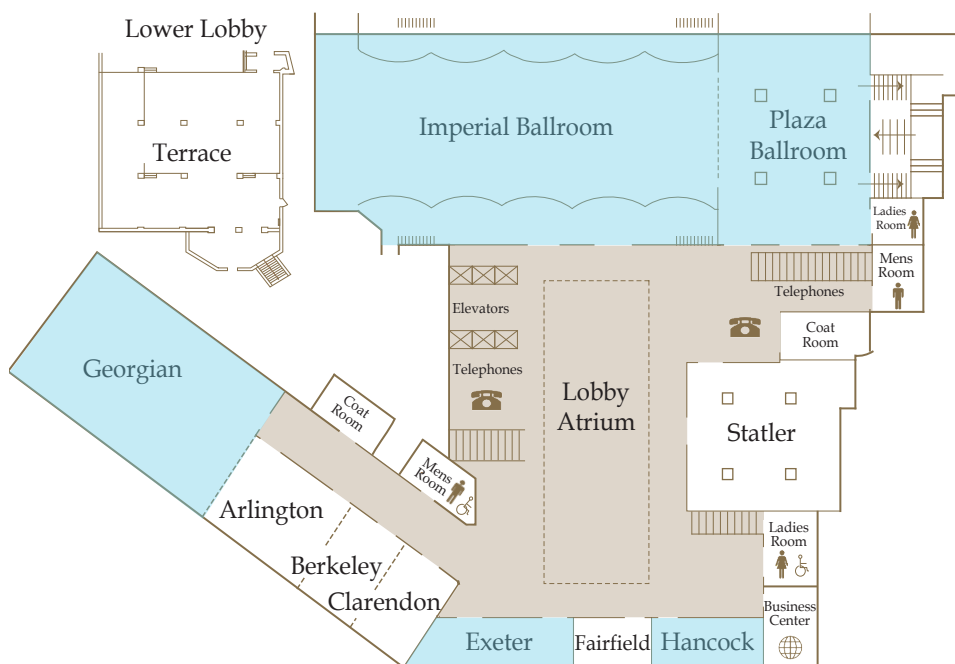
Things to do in Boston

Check out the maps and guidebooks
at registration for info on exploring
Boston!

Resource Tables

Resource tables are available at the
registration desk and near the breakout
rooms.

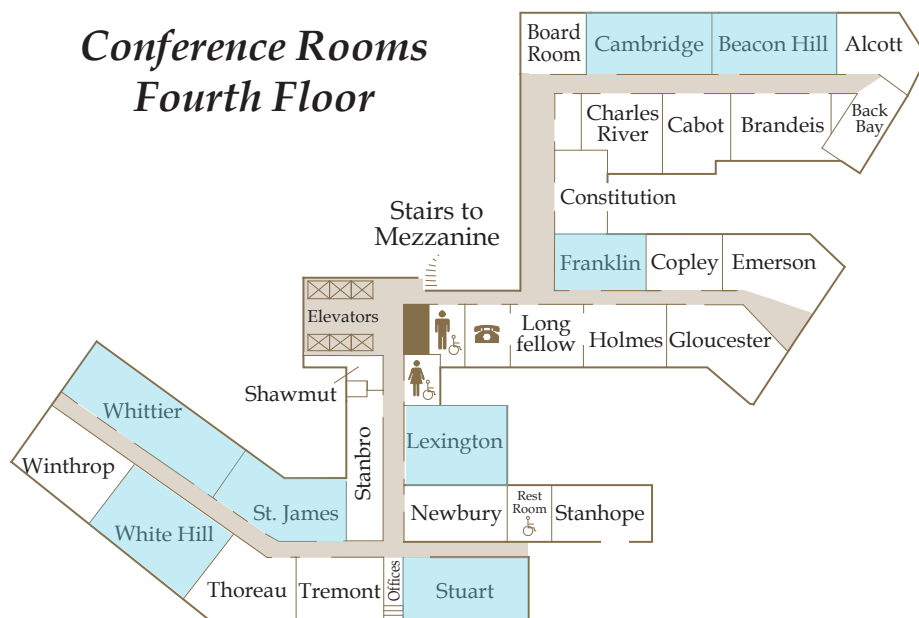
Second Floor



Registration is being held here

Board Meeting is being held here

Conference Rooms Fourth Floor



Men's Room



Ladies Room



Telephones



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