



## **2018 CASCO Conference - Agenda**

### **June 18-20, 2018**

#### **Monday, June 18, 2018**

**2:30-5:30 pm** - Arrival & Registration, Burton-Little (Admissions Building)

**6:00-8:00 pm** - Keynote Speaker & Dinner, Main Lounge in Moulton Union  
Note: The keynote will begin at 7:00pm

#### ***Overview***

- The dinner and keynote provide a frame for CASCO and underscore the importance and connection of the work done by champions of underrepresented students from high schools, CBOs, colleges, and beyond.

#### ***Facilitators***

- Angel Pérez, Vice President, Enrollment and Student Success, Trinity College, CT
- Whitney Soule, Dean of Admissions & Student Aid, Bowdoin College, ME
- Justin Fahey, Associate Dean of Admissions, Bowdoin College, ME

#### **Tuesday, June 19, 2018**

**7:00-8:30 am** - Breakfast, Thorne Hall

**9:00-10:30 am** - Thematic Groups, Searles 113, 115, 213, 313, & 314

#### ***Overview***

- Attendees are randomly assigned to one of the five thematic groups for the morning session to discuss how the area affects our work. After the morning snack break, attendees will split off into their area of specialization (i.e. high school, CBO, admissions, financial aid, or student affairs) and talk about how all of the thematic topics play out in their own work.
  - The morning session's randomized assignments are in the registration folders.
- With ~15 attendees/breakout, these sessions are meant to be intimate gatherings for individuals to share their professional experiences, ideas, successes, and fears as they relate to the breakout topic.
- Even if you have little familiarity with the breakout topic, you are still an expert in the field of underrepresented students and it is possible to ask incisive questions and offer thoughtful ideas.



- Each breakout is lead by a facilitator chosen for their depth of knowledge in the thematic topic.

**Breakouts**

**1. Discipline Gap, Searles 113**

*Facilitator* - Jennifer Baszile, Dean of Student Success and Center for Career Development, Trinity College, CT

- *Essential Question:* How do we adjudicate on college campuses in an accessible and equitable way?

**2. Financial Aid Counseling, Searles 115**

*Facilitator* - Mike Bartini, Director of Student Aid, Bowdoin College, ME

- *Essential Question:* Outside of tuition and room/board costs, how can colleges position themselves to account for often overlooked costs associated with pursuing a degree?

**3. Mental Health, Searles 213**

*Facilitator* - Janet Lohmann, Dean of Students, Bowdoin College, ME

- *Essential Question:* What strategies can and should be used to ensure underrepresented students' mental health issues are appropriately addressed?

**4. High School to College “Handoff,” Searles 313**

*Facilitator* - Laurie Brown, KIPP Through College Director, KIPP Delta Collegiate High School, AR

- *Essential Question:* What are the three most substantial trouble spots as students transition from high school to college?

**5. Political Climate Shifts, Searles 314**

*Facilitator* - Art Rodriguez, Dean of Admission & Financial Aid, Vassar College, NY

- *Essential Question:* How has the shift in the political climate over the past two years impacted underrepresented students as they transition to - and through - college?
- *Pre-Reading:* [“The Student Experience During the Trump Era”](#)

**10:30-10:45 am** - Snack Break, Searles

**10:45 am-12:00 pm** - Focus Groups, Searles 113, 115, 213, 313, & 314



**Breakouts**

**1. High Schools, Searles 113**

*Facilitator* - Abby Friedman, Family and College Resource Center Director, Coliseum College Prep Academy, CA

**2. CBOs, Searles 115**

*Facilitator* - Lindsay Buntman Kafitz, Director of College Counseling, Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, IL

**3. Admissions, Searles 213**

*Facilitator* - Sarah Miller, Associate Director of Admission, Centre College, KY

**4. Financial Aid, Searles 313**

*Facilitator* - Andrea Cross, Senior Associate Director of Student Aid, Bowdoin College, ME

**5. Student Affairs, Searles 314**

*Facilitator* - Luis Inoa, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Skidmore College, NY

- *Pre-Reading:* [For these college students, the most difficult test may be basic survival; A Letter to the Faculty and Staff of White Serving Institutions](#)

**12:00-1:00 pm** - Lunch, Thorne Hall

**1:00-3:00 pm** - Individual Choice Breakouts, Searles 113, 115, 213, & 313

**Breakouts**

**1. Leveraging CBOs to support high school students, Searles 113**

*Facilitator* - Robin Levi, College Outreach Manager, Students Rising Above, CA

- *Essential Question:* What are three viable ways for CBOs working with high school students to effectively transfer their knowledge of their students to the appropriate college staff member(s)?

**2. Non-traditional paths from high school to liberal arts colleges, Searles 115**

*Facilitator* - Sharon Cravanas, Director of College Admissions Guidance, Global Citizen Year, CA

- *Essential Question 1:* How can non-traditional paths to college (e.g. gap years) be viewed as viable, reputable, and financially feasible options for underrepresented students?
- *Essential Question 2:* What are the hurdles in place vis-a-vis the transition from high school to community college to a liberal arts college?

**3. Analyzing financial aid packages, Searles 213**

*Facilitator* - Alia Georges, Assistant Director of Admission & Financial Aid Counselor, Olin College of Engineering, MA

- *Essential Question:* How is it possible for financial aid offices - irrespective of their institutions' financial means/funding - to produce clear, concise, and digestible financial aid packages?



- *Pre-Reading:* [Financial Aid Letters](#)

#### 4. Career undermatching, Searles 313

*Facilitator* - Katherine Shoemaker, VP - New Site Development, Braven, NJ

- *Essential Question:* What strategies can be employed to position underrepresented students to be more comfortable finding employment that matches their abilities and ambitions upon graduating from a liberal arts college?
- *Pre-Reading:* [It's a Decent Bet That Our Children Will Be Professors Too](#); [The subtle ways colleges discriminate against poor students, explained with a cartoon](#)

**3:00-3:30 pm** - Snack Break, Searles

**3:30-5:30 pm** - Individual Choice Breakouts, Searles 113, 115, & 213

### **Breakouts**

#### 1. Distance anxiety, Searles 113

*Facilitator* - Kimberly Gannett, Counselor, Peak to Peak Charter School, CO

- *Essential Question:* What strategies exist to relieve stresses (financial, social, emotional, and otherwise) for underrepresented students enrolling at liberal arts colleges hundreds or thousands of miles from home?

#### 2. Rural students, Searles 115

*Facilitator* - Dustin Lynn, Director of College Counseling, Battle Ground Academy, KY

- *Essential Question:* Outside of QuestBridge, what strategies for outreach to high-achieving rural students exist and have proven successful?
- *Pre-Reading:* [Rural Matters Podcast](#); [Colleges Discover the Rural Student](#); [The Rural Higher-Education Crisis](#)

#### 3. Alternative application formats/platforms, Searles 213

*Facilitator* - Erika Blauth, Senior Assistant Director, Colorado College, CO

- *Essential Question 1:* How do we message alternative application formats/platforms (e.g. Coalition and QuestBridge) to underrepresented students?
- *Essential Question 2:* Without explicitly advocating for a specific application platform, how can messaging be improved to ensure high school students, counselors, and families are able to make informed choices as they look to start the application process.

**6:00-8:00 pm** - Dinner, Main Lounge in Moulton Union

### **Overview**

- This is purely a social/networking time and will be a lobster bake (other food options available)!



**Wednesday, June 20, 2018**

**7:00-8:30 am** - Breakfast, Thorne Hall

**9:00-10:30 am** - Whole Group - What's Next?, Searles 315

***Overview***

- The last sessions will be an examination of the next steps all attendees will take based on their experiences at CASCO. Furthermore, the final sessions will explore the power and viability of continued collaboration.

***Facilitators***

- Claudia Marroquin, Director of Admissions, Bowdoin College, ME
- Justin Fahey, Associate Dean of Admissions, Bowdoin College, ME

**10:30-10:45 am** - Snack Break, Searles

**10:45 am-12:00 pm** - Whole Group - What's Next?, Searles 315

***Overview***

- The last sessions will be an examination of the next steps all attendees will take based on their experiences at CASCO. Furthermore, the final sessions will explore the power and viability of continued collaboration.
- A short, 15-minute survey will be given electronically during the last session.

***Facilitators***

- Claudia Marroquin, Director of Admissions, Bowdoin College, ME
- Justin Fahey, Associate Dean of Admissions, Bowdoin College, ME

**12:00-1:00 pm** - Lunch & Departure, Thorne Hall & Burton-Little (Admissions Building)