Disrupting: Uplifting Women’s Leadership in Times of Change
aceohiowomen.org

22ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 6, 2020
Union Institute & University is honored to host the 22nd Annual Statewide, first time virtual, Conference of the American Council on Education Women’s Network Ohio (ACE WNO). It is gratifying to be a part of a national program that is committed to serving women’s advancement in higher education. We are truly living in an unprecedented time and now, more than ever, it is important that we provide mentorship and mutual support in assisting those in pursuit of leadership opportunities in higher education.

The theme of this year’s conference: Disrupting: Uplifting Women’s Leadership in Times of Change speaks to the goals and mission of ACE. I am excited that you have joined today’s event and encourage each of you to actively participate in the conference’s empowering sessions. Take advantage of the knowledge and experiences of the presenters, and collaborate with ACE WNO Board Members. Enjoy today’s conference, and we look forward to your participation in future ACE WNO activities.

Thank you for attending the conference today. I look forward to the time when I can meet each of you in person.

Wishing you Continued Success! Stay well!

Dr. Karen Schuster Webb
President
Union Institute & University

Union Institute & University is a national university with international outreach, and is a private, non-profit university that has been a trailblazer in distance learning and limited residency programs for over 50 years. In 1964, Union was founded to provide exceptional higher education opportunities for adults nationwide, and is a pioneer in online instruction that is student-centered education with socially relevant learning outcomes. Although headquartered in Cincinnati, the university also has Centers in California and Florida, with cohorts of students and alumni from around the world. Union offers certificate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs. The university’s newest addition is The Institute for Social Justice.

Union Institute & University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and also has specialty program accreditations that include the Council on Social Work Education and the National Board of Certified Counselors.

Visit www.myunion.edu to learn more about degree and/or certificate programs!
The **ACE Women's Network Ohio** is a network of women administrators, faculty, and staff from colleges and universities across the state that is dedicated to the professional advancement of women. Through representatives, conferences, workshops, and other resources, we are committed to improving the status of women on our campuses and throughout higher education. In doing so, we support the mission of the Inclusive Excellence Group (IEG) and the American Council on Education (ACE).

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If there are technological issues that cause your concurrent session to completely shut down, or if you experience a personal technical issue, try re-logging into the session using the same link provided.

If you are having personal technological issues that are prohibiting you from accessing the conference, you can call or text IT help at (513) 322-2504 to speak with someone starting at 8:30 AM Eastern.
Welcome!

Welcome to our 22nd Annual American Council on Education Women’s Network-Ohio (ACE WNO) conference! It is our first ever virtual conference, and we are excited about this new platform to connect with womxn and allies across the country. Our theme this year is Disrupting: Uplifting Women’s Leadership in Times of Change. 2020 has been a year disrupted on many fronts, and we use the term “disruption” to bring attention to the changing lives of womxn while capturing the essence of empowerment.

Our platform may be different, but we intentionally wanted to create a virtual environment in which you feel our support regardless whether you are in the office or working at the dining room table. We cannot pretend that this year is not different with the economic crises, racial unrests, COVID-19, and an historic election, though racism, socioeconomic inequality, and health disparities are not new this year. We remain vigilant and confident that our work will reap abundant benefits, and that our work is important in addressing inequalities that women have faced in higher education.

Congratulations to all our award and scholarship recipients. We are proud to honor your hard work and achievements. This year, we distributed three Campus Conversation Grants and awarded an annual Excellence in Higher Education Leadership award. We mean business when we advocate and support womxn in higher education throughout the state.

ACE WNO had to pivot this year, and we would like to thank Union Institute & University President and ACE WNO Presidential Sponsor, Dr. Karen Schuster Webb, and the IT team for providing excellent support and superb guidance. The H.E.R.S. organization has kindly and graciously supported us for years, and we are more than ecstatic about our partnership.

We would like to recognize the commitment and time provided by this year’s incomparable higher education Presidents and Provosts: Dr. Mary Ann Gawelek of Lourdes University, Dr. Karen Schuster Webb of Union Institute & University, Dr. Karen Miller of Cuyahoga Community College, Dr. Doreen Larson of Edison State Community College, and Dr. Susan Edwards of Wright State University, who will enrich us with their skills, talents, and expertise. We would be remiss not to mention our presenters and volunteers; we sincerely appreciate you.

To our outstanding ACE WNO Executive Board and our 2020 Conference Planning Committee, you are the pillar which holds our organization together. Your willingness to step up during these highly demanding times is unmatched! To our Institutional Representatives, we continue to rely on your stewardship to help us maintain great relationships throughout the State. We are delighted that you have spent your valuable time with us.

We fervently hope you commit to partnering with a colleague to write a grant or an article or make a new friend, as we need each other more than ever. Stay safe, healthy, wear your mask, and as the late John Lewis told us, get in Good Trouble!

With grace,
ACE WNO State Co-Chairs

Carol Tonge Mack
Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
University of Cincinnati

Dr. Loleta B. Collins
Director, Student Services
Edison State Community College
ACE Women’s Network-Ohio Executive Board • 2020 - 2021

Carol Tonge Mack  
Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences  
*University of Cincinnati*

Dr. Loleta B. Collins  
Director, Student Services  
*Edison State Community College*

Dr. Holly Craider  
*Cuyahoga Community College*

Dr. Shanda Gore  
*Union Institute & University*

Dr. Elena Foulis  
*Ohio State University*

Dr. Danyelle Gregory  
*Muskingum University*

Dr. LaShonda Gurley  
*Bluffton University*

Viva McCarver  
*Bowling Green State University*

Dr. M. Geneva Murray  
*Ohio University*

Dr. Delia Pfister  
*Cuyahoga Community College*

Dr. Desiree Polk-Bland  
*Columbus State Community College*

Kristine Robbins  
*Otterbein University*

Amanda Watkins  
*Wright State University*

Dr. JoAnna Williamson  
*Franklin University*
ACE WNO 2020 AWARDS

The ACE Women’s Network-Ohio has created four state-wide professional awards designed to recognize the diverse groups who participate in the Network. Listed below are the distinct eligibility and criteria for each award. All awards value individuals who have contributed to the advancement of women colleagues by effectively implementing one or more of the “IDEALS” described by the ACE Inclusive Excellence Group:

- Identifying women leaders
- Developing their leadership abilities
- Encouraging the use of those abilities
- Advancing women’s careers
- Linking women leaders to other women and to mentors, and
- Supporting women as they pursue their professional aspirations

Excellence in Higher Education Leadership
This award recognizes an outstanding woman leader who has made significant contributions to higher education in Ohio. This is the Network’s highest external honor. The award winner should have served as a role model and leader to other women in the field of higher education through her demonstrated commitment to the leadership development and advancement of women on her campus and in the community.

Mrs. Tara Stopfel Warden  
*University of Cincinnati*

Professional Development Scholarships
In an effort to provide women from Ohio institutions of higher education with the opportunity to gain leadership expertise, the Network has established scholarships to support participation at conferences or workshops, membership in professional organizations, and other opportunities for professional development. The awards are to be used to reimburse registration and/or travel expenses.

We encourage you to submit your applications for the 2021 Conference.

Campus Conversation Grants
Each year ACE WNO allocates funding based on budget surplus to support women’s leadership development activities on campuses in Ohio that foster continued conversation and collaboration. The Executive board can award up to seven Campus Conversation grants that Institutional Representatives (IRs) can apply for to help reimburse costs for materials, marketing, refreshments, etc.

- **Dr. Ladorian Latin**  
  *Franklin University*

- **Dr. Crystal R. Clark**  
  *Columbus State Community College*

- **Dr. Nannette Smith**  
  *Rhodes State College*
Zoom Instructions

The ACE Women’s Network-Ohio 2020 Conference is being hosted via Zoom. The main conference room for the opening remarks, Presidential and Leadership Panel, awards and closing remarks will utilize Zoom Webinar. This webinar will be open throughout the conference. When there are no presentations, a page to the website will be posted with links to the concurrent sessions. You will join this event as an attendee and be in listen only mode. You will be able to interact via the chat feature.

Webinar Link: https://myunion.zoom.us/j/92157598660

The Concurrent Sessions will utilize Zoom Meetings. As a participant you will be set to mute and your video will be off upon entry. We ask that you only unmute yourself and utilize video for the question and answer portion of the session, or as directed by the presenters. The concurrent sessions will utilize the same link for each topic throughout the conference. The sessions will be closed and re-open according to the agenda.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Meeting ID Number</th>
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<td>Disrupting Normal:</td>
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How to Join

To join the Webinar or Meetings, simply click on the link provided or go to zoom.us and click Join a Meeting and enter the meeting ID. You will receive a pop up to Open/Zoom Meetings. If you don’t see the pop-up window, click Launch Meeting.

Once the meeting opens you will have the following options - Computer Audio, Phone Call or Call Me to connect the audio.
### Conference At-A-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10 AM</td>
<td><strong>Opening Remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mrs. Carol Tonge Mack, <em>ACE WNO State Co-Chair</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Loleta Collins, <em>ACE WNO State Co-Chair, Conference Co-Chair</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Karen Schuster Webb, <em>President Union Institute &amp; University</em></td>
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<td>9:10 - 9:15 AM</td>
<td><strong>Overview / Logistics for Online Conference / IT Help Desk</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mary Amos, Senior Instructional Technologist for Online Learning, Center for Teaching and Learning, Union Institute &amp; University</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 - 10:05 AM</td>
<td><strong>Plenary Session, A 30-Day Disruption Bootcamp (that Will Make You Feel and Do Better)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Raymonda Burgman, <em>H.E.R.S.</em>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Moderator:</strong> Dr. Dr. Holly Craider, <em>Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member</em></td>
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<td>10:05 - 10:10 AM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10 - 11:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Session I</strong>&lt;br&gt;Disrupting Normal - A Pedagogy of Care: Incorporating Trauma-Informed Care in Higher Education&lt;br&gt;Lifting Women Up - Cape On! Being the Uplifting Mentor to Colleagues, Peers, and Students&lt;br&gt;Setting Yourself Up for Success - Your Career GPS: Finding Your Path to Success*&lt;br&gt;*We encourage participants to complete the Sparketype assessment before the session at <a href="https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/">https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/</a>&lt;br&gt;Building Community - Lead from the Seat You’re In&lt;br&gt;Networking Session</td>
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<td>11:05 - 12:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Presidential and Leadership Panel</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Susan Edwards, <em>President, Wright State University</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Mary Ann Gawelek, <em>President, Lourdes University</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Doreen Larson, <em>President, Edison State Community College</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Karen Miller, <em>Provost, Cuyahoga Community College</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Karen Schuster Webb, <em>President, Union Institute &amp; University</em>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Moderator:</strong> Dr. Elizabeth Sayrs, <em>Executive Vice President &amp; Provost, Ohio University</em></td>
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<td>12:00 - 12:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>ACE WNO Awards Ceremony</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mrs. Carol Tonge Mack, <em>ACE WNO State Co-Chair</em>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Loleta Collins, <em>ACE WNO State Co-Chair</em></td>
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<td>12:15 – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch&lt;br&gt;Rest as Rebellion</td>
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1:05 - 1:55 PM  Concurrent Sessions II

- **Disrupting Normal** - Superwoman Syndrome and Women of Color: A Call to Empower Women in Higher Education*
- **Lifting Women Up** - Mentorship and Empowering Others Through an Intersectional Lens
- **Setting Yourself Up for Success** - Mindful Leadership: Building Strength and Resilience During Challenging Times
- **Building Community** - Women of Color Collective: Creating Environments for Women of Color to Thrive
- **Networking Session**

1:55 - 2:05 PM  Break

2:05 - 2:55 PM  Concurrent Sessions III

- **Disrupting Normal** - Learn by Doing During COVID-19: Experiential Learning Redefines Itself
- **Lifting Women Up** - Connect Present (and Future) BIPOC Women Leaders through Networking and Mentorship
- **Setting Yourself Up for Success** - Crushing Imposter Syndrome: Facing Your Failure
- **Building Community** - Silence as Space Making: Inclusive Leadership and Intentional Community*

*Dr. Bagar-Fraley is not able to be with us today. Her presentation; however, is available for you to view at Youtube (https://youtu.be/xcxBfaD9RqU). All are welcome and encouraged to watch.

- **Networking Session**

3:00 - 3:15 PM  Door Prizes and Closing Remarks

Mrs. Carol Tonge Mack, ACE WNO State Co-Chair
Dr. Loleta Collins, ACE WNO State Co-Chair

Dr. M. Geneva Murray will announcement the location of the ACE 2021 conference.

3:15 - 3:45 PM  ACE WNO IR Meet-Up – For Current and NEW IR Members

Dr. JoAnna Williamson, ACE WNO Executive Board Member

ACE WNO is proud of the community that we build among those who attend the conference each year, and we are excited to continue this legacy. You are welcome to utilize this space to network with one another or an ACE WNO board member during this time.
Session Descriptions

9:15 - 10:05 AM  Plenary Session, A 30-Day Disruption Bootcamp
(that Will Make You Feel and Do Better)

Presenter: Dr. Raymonda Burgman, H.E.R.S.
Moderator: Dr. Holly Craider, Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member

This online, interactive synchronous session — developed and delivered by a Black woman postsecondary leader — explores how we can transform our daily regimen to uplift and advance women’s leadership. The co-created learning space is for all, with the experiences of womxn foregrounded.

As a womxn leader, are you where you aspire to be, are you contributing in ways that give you joy, and are you living your why? The time we are in — the triple pandemic — is a disruption that has rocked the foundation of who we thought we were. Let’s pause, recognize the immense loss for us as individuals and the country, and then consider how we wish to honor this moment to manage the disruption better.

The keynote objectives are to: 1) detox from disruption fatigue; 2) develop techniques to include minoritized and marginalized communities in our leadership circles; and 3) encourage and empower yourself and other womxn leaders for how you and they contribute to the great good.
Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session I • 10:10 AM - 11:00 AM

**Disrupting Normal**  
A Pedagogy of Care: Incorporating Trauma-Informed Care in Higher Education

**Presenters:** Alyx McLuckie, Gene Dockery, Autumn Shuler  
**Moderator:** Dr. JoAnna Williams, *Franklin University, ACE Board Member*

Trauma-informed care is an approach to interaction with roots in social work that recognizes individuals and groups are affected by trauma, and this trauma impacts how they view and interact with the world. By incorporating trauma-informed care practices in classrooms and administrative offices across college campuses, institutions will become more accessible to students, employees, and visitors. This session will provide a brief history of trauma-informed care, followed by practical examples of its implementation across a variety of higher education contexts both inside and outside the classroom. The session will conclude with a Q&A for attendees to ask questions and foster conversation with the presenters and each other in order to clarify their understanding. Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to attend, as the frameworks provided are flexible and can be adapted to a variety of needs.

**Lifting Women Up**  
Cape On! Being the uplifting mentor to Colleagues, Peers, and Students

**Presenter:** Mychael Ihnat  
**Moderator:** Dr. M. Geneva Murray, *Ohio University, ACE Board Member*

Today’s society, shows us more than ever the importance of being a mentor. A mentor these days is not someone who just says, “Great Job” “You can do it,” but rather shows up in your spaces and leads you to your dreams and goals. Join this session today to find out more about the meaning of being a mentor, different methods of mentoring, and ways you can be the mentor to the women around you.

**Setting Yourself Up for Success**  
Your Career GPS: Finding Your Path to Success*

**Presenter:** Professor Christina Wright  
**Moderator:** Dr. Shanda Gore, *Union Institute & University, ACE State Co-Chair Emeritus*

*We encourage participants to complete the Sparketype assessment before the session at [https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/](https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/).

Have you ever thought that your career path is headed toward a meaningless, unengaged, or a purpose-free grind and wonder why? We all have the right to earn a living while doing things that inspire us. You don’t have to spend the rest of your life in a career that no longer serves you. Using the Good Life Project’s Sparketype framework, this workshop is your career GPS, giving you the turn-by-turn directions to find your path or recalculate your route toward the destination that gives you purpose, meaning and joy. Prior to this workshop, please complete the free, 10-minute Sparketype assessment at [https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/](https://www.goodlifeproject.com/sparketest/) so you can reference your results during the session.
Building Community
Lead from the Seat You’re In

**Presenter:** Nichelle Whitney

**Moderator:** Dr. Danyelle Gregory, *Muskingum University, ACE Board Member*

This session will explore a program and strategic partnership that in just three years grew from serving 11 girls to over 700. Meet Girls Coding Week — a partnership between a 4-year public institution, a 2-year community college, a quasi-government agency, and two community-based organizations. We’ll look at the power dynamics of the partnership, the responsibility that each partner plays in disrupting bureaucracy, and how a community-based, out of school program impacts the road to higher education. We’ll explore allyship, the battle for inclusion, and the overwhelming success that led to this community-based initiative being implemented in district curriculum.

Networking

**Moderator:** Viva McCarver, *Bowling Green State University, ACE Board Member*
Concurrent Session II • 1:05 PM - 1:55 PM

**Disrupting Normal**  
Superwoman Syndrome and Women of Color: A Call to Empower Women in Higher Education

**Presenters:** Dr. Crystal Clark, Dr. Sharmaine Pechac, Dr. Jennelle Pitt  
**Moderator:** Dr. Elena Foulis, *The Ohio State University, ACE Board Member*

From three different spaces of higher education professionalism and three different stages of familial care, the panel discusses work/family balance as women of color within the context of the COVID-19 and racial pandemics. Marjorie Hansen Shaevitz’s Superwoman Syndrome (1984) informs the discourse on the emerging “new norms” within institutional and personal locales. Through workshop format, the session will engage in honest conversation — identifying the scope of the superwoman cape and the need for customizing its fit — with the potential to generate recommendations toward better practices and implementation for continuing conversations in participants’ home institutions.

**Lifting Women Up**  
Mentorship and Empowering Others through an Intersectional Lens

**Presenters:** Bria Howard, MA, Angie Cook, MA  
**Moderator:** Dr. Delia Pfister, *Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member*

For generations, women have embraced the opportunity to mentor and empower other women. In this session, the presenters will take these traditional practices and challenge participants to see their mentoring responsibilities through an intersectional lens, paying careful attention to the individual identities and systems of power and privilege that can complicate the mentoring relationship. Attendees will learn the basics of Kimberlé Crenshaw’s theory of intersectionality (what it is, what it is not) and begin to apply intersectional considerations to the ways they mentor and empower younger women and women whose identities and life experiences may differ from their own. The ultimate goal is to see mentoring as a mutually beneficial learning relationship where all participants can gain knowledge, not just the mentee.

**Setting Yourself Up for Success**  
Mindful Leadership: Building Strength and Resilience during Challenging Times

**Presenter:** Dr. Diane Weinbrandt-Clouse  
**Moderator:** Dr. Desiree Polk-Bland, *Columbus State Community College, ACE Board Member*

As leaders in higher education, and given our current pandemic, we need to develop skills that cultivate strength and resilience to enhance self-care, avoid burnout for ourselves, and support the students we serve in doing the same. Research indicates Mindfulness can benefit many aspects of life including self, home, work and community. Additionally, recognizing our own strengths and helping others to do the same can be beneficial. This session will introduce practices that integrate Strong Mindfulness (i.e. using strengths to improve mindfulness) and Mindful Strengths use (i.e. using mindfulness to improve your strengths), known as Mindful Based Strengths Practice (Niemiec, 2014). Specific resources (i.e. websites, app, books, workshops) will be shared and participants will have the opportunity to engage in practices during the session and to identify ways they can embed practices in their daily lives.
Building Community
Women of Color Collective: Creating Environments for Women of Color to Thrive

**Presenters:** Alicia Robinson, Shana Lee, MA, Pamela Jones, MA
**Moderator:** Carol Tonge Mack, *University of Cincinnati, ACE Board Member*

Employee resource groups play an effective role in creating a culture of care in the workplace. They are key initiatives in developing and sustaining talent and building sectors of support. The Women of Color Collective (WoCC) provides a platform that fosters the professional development, mental wellness, networking, and personal growth of women-identifying faculty and staff of color at Kent State University and their allies. This interactive workshop will equip participants with the tools designed to develop similar initiatives that empower women of color on their campuses, assess their own areas of immunity/privilege, and become supportive allies.

Networking

**Moderator:** Viva McCarver, *Bowling Green State University, ACE Board Member*
**Disrupting Normal**

*Learn by Doing during COVID-19: Experiential Learning Redefines Itself*

**Presenters:** Professor Cindy Damschroder, Kim Burke, MA, Emily Flannery  
**Moderator:** Amanda Watkins, *Wright State University, ACE Board Member*

Beyond death and taxes, another thing is certain - the endurance of the co-op model at the University of Cincinnati. We invented co-op in 1908 and like a train delivering boxcars, this system is tested, reliable, and predictable. However, with the onset of COVID-19 and businesses closing, UC found its robust co-op pipeline decimated. With summer’s co-op search well underway, experiential learning had to redefine itself quickly, while working remotely ourselves and managing students being laid off from spring learning experiences. Maintaining a student-centric focus while in crisis-mode, offering subject matter expertise to our employer partners while many were struggling with an abrupt transition to remote work, and inventing flexible pathways for our students to continue to “learn by doing” during the summer semester was key. Join us to discuss how the UC Division of ELCE was able to deliver over 2,000 summer “experiential learning” placements during a pandemic.

**Lifting Women Up**

*Connect Present (and Future) BIPOC Women Leaders through Networking and Mentorship*

**Presenters:** Ramonda Kindle, Jacqueline Patrice Hudson  
**Moderator:** Dr. Elena Foulis, *The Ohio State University, ACE Board Member*

Networking and mentorship are two key aspects in creating a strong support system for women in the academic and professional fields and it is extremely important for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) women. The art of networking and mentoring possibly could lead to career opportunities, community building, and an increase in mental and emotional support. This two-part presentation explores how BIPOC faculty, staff, administrators and BIPOC graduate students can expand their outlook about networking with others and become a more effective mentor and mentee.

**Setting Yourself Up for Success**

*Crushing Imposter Syndrome: Facing Your Failure*

**Presenter:** MaryKathyrine Tran  
**Moderator:** Dr. Desiree Polk-Bland, *Columbus State Community College, ACE Board Member*

While Imposter syndrome impacts all genders within higher education (apparently most of us feel like Imposters!), this workshop will evaluate the syndrome from a gendered lens, highlighting the ways in which girls are socialized to perfection. Inspired by both Valerie Young’s iconic text Secret Thoughts of Successful Women and Reshme Saujani’s incisive text Brave, Not Perfect, we will confront our Imposter syndrome head-on with tangible tools to remind us of our value and worth.
**Building Community**
Silence as Space Making: Inclusive Leadership and Intentional Community*

**Presenter:** Dr. Brandy Bagar-Fraley  
**Moderator:** Dr. Holly Craider, Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member

*Dr. Bagar-Fraley is not able to be with us today. Her presentation; however, is available for you to view at Youtube ([https://youtu.be/xcxBfaD9RqU](https://youtu.be/xcxBfaD9RqU)). All are welcome and encouraged to watch.

“The appetite for silence,” the poet Emily Dickinson once wrote, “is seldom an acquired taste.” This is particularly true for women. Research has shown repeatedly over time that men benefit from both their real and perceived tendency to dominate workplace conversations, and, conversely, that women’s career advancement suffers from their lack of opportunity to do so. As a result, women have long been encouraged to dominate conversation in the workplace. But this justifiable, feminist emphasis on speech can crowd out those who already struggle to be seen and acknowledged, further perpetuating inequity. In envisioning inclusive leadership, women must recognize that radical silence is as vital to progress and women’s advancement as the ability to dominate and shape a conversation. As a form of space-making, radical silence — the intentional offering of speech and space to women who might otherwise remain unheard — uplifts women’s voices, fosters collaboration, and increases equity and inclusion.

**Networking**

**Moderator:** Viva McCarver, Bowling Green State University, ACE Board Member
Presidential and Leadership Panel

Dr. Susan Edwards, President
Wright State University

Edwards joined Wright State in 2018 as executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. She was drawn to Wright State because of the university’s core values and dedication to students. She is proud of how Wright State serves its students and the region and is honored and humbled to serve the university and its partners as president.

Edwards began her presidency January 2020 and has had a focus on recruitment, retention, and relationships. She is personally committed to student success, especially in terms of retention, experiential learning, and high-quality classroom education.

She is committed to fostering a welcome and inclusive campus for students, faculty and staff. She has also focused on strengthening relations with the community and being very vocal about telling the Wright State story.

Prior to coming to Wright State, Edwards served as vice provost for faculty affairs and professor of biology at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. She was responsible for overseeing all areas of faculty evaluation and development and served as the academic affairs liaison on all personnel matters.

In 2007, Edwards left her native Australia to join the Department of Biology at Appalachian State. She then took on a leadership role as assistant chair for three years before being appointed chair of the department in 2012.

Previously, she was a faculty member in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Molecular Sciences at James Cook University in Australia. She also served as a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern University.

She has taught numerous courses in 10 different degree programs including veterinary science, medicine, biology, pharmacy, biomedical science, aquaculture, medical laboratory science, physiotherapy, exercise science, education, and nursing. In addition, she has taught in university programs localized within indigenous communities in Victoria, Far North Queensland, and the Torres Strait Islands in Australia.

Edwards has published more than 30 research papers and two book chapters, co-edited the book Hagfish Biology, and served on the editorial board of Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology from 2006 to 2018. She is a former president of the Physiology Section of the American Fisheries Society. She also participated in the American Council on Education’s Spectrum Aspiring Leaders Program in 2016 and the BRIDGES Academic leadership for Women at the University of North Carolina in 2014.

Edwards received a Ph.D. in comparative physiology from Deakin University in Victoria, Australia, an M.S. in neuroscience from The University of Melbourne and a B.S. in biology from Deakin.
Dr. Mary Ann Gawelek, President  
*Lourdes University*

Mary Ann Gawelek began her term as Lourdes University President in July 2016. A strategic visionary, she has made a tremendous impact on the institution. Under her leadership, the institution achieved its 10-year accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission, has established several new undergraduate and graduate degree programs, and gained approval to offer online and competency-based education degree programs. Through the innovative competency-based education (CBE) approach, individuals can further their career through 100% online degree programs that are designed to fit each student’s schedule. The speed to degree completion through this modality is based on each student’s skills and schedule which can lead to accelerated degree completion at a significant cost savings.

Over the last few years, Lourdes has established many new undergraduate and graduate programs including the Online Doctor of Nursing Practice, the University’s first ever professional doctoral degree. New graduate programs include the Master of Education in Special Education, Online Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Educator CBE program. New undergraduate choices include bachelor’s degrees in Special Education, Craft Beverages, Digital & Media Studies, Exercise Science, and a Nursing RN to BSN competency-based education program.

In collegiate athletics, Lourdes made national and international news with the addition of women’s wrestling, eSports and the opening of a state-of-the-art gaming arena. An NAIA Gold Level 5-Star Institution, Lourdes Gray Wolves athletics teams have garnered several NAIA national tournament appearances and WHAC championships.

A proud Ohioan, Dr. Gawelek received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Sociology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, and Master and Doctor of Education in Counseling Psychology degrees from Boston University.

Prior to her tenure at Lourdes, Dr. Gawelek was the Chief Academic Officer and Professor of Psychology at Seton Hill (1996-2016).

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Dr. Doreen Larson, President  
*Edison State Community College*

Dr. Doreen Larson is the fifth President of Edison State Community College, located in Piqua, Ohio. She began her position at Edison on July 1, 2015 and is the first female president of the college. After spending 10 years gaining experience in Massachusetts and West Virginia, Dr. Larson is pleased to return to her home state of Ohio.

Doreen Larson grew up on the east side of Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. She holds a Ph.D. in Special Education from Kent State University, a M.A. in Education from John Carroll University, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Cleveland State University with a Bachelor’s in Special Education. In 2011,
she was inducted into the Mayfield High School Hall of Fame in recognition of her lifelong commitment to increasing access to education for minorities and people with disabilities. Dr. Larson Chaired the AACC National Commission on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from 2015 to 2018 and has also served on the Board of AACC.

Dr. Larson describes her role of President as “face, focus, and funding.” She works to promote the strengths of Edison State in the areas of faculty expertise in teaching and learning, innovative partnerships for “learn and earn” experiences and dedicated resources to the College Credit Plus initiative in Ohio. For the past four years, Edison State has had a steady increase in enrollment fueled by high rates of retention and completion and coupled with reforms in development education. Student services at the college are leaders in the state in implementing the Career Pathways model of student support.

Doreen is active in many community organizations including the United Way of Miami County, the Piqua Community Foundation, Dorothy Love Senior and Assisted Living Center, Wilson Health, and SOCHE. She is honored to be a Presidential Sponsor for the ACE Women’s Network of Ohio. The Larson’s reside in Sidney, OH with their oversized Goldendoodle, Kyle. Doreen Larson is proud to note that her three sons all began their higher education in a community college, as did her spouse, Leonard Larson.

Dr. Karen Miller, Provost
Cuyahoga Community College

Dr. Miller is the Executive Vice President and Provost of the Access, Learning & Success Division at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C). She previously served as the Vice President of Institutional Research and Enrollment Management, overseeing recruitment, enrollment, retention and completion initiatives for the College. She also managed the Evidence and Inquiry department, leading initiatives such as the Community College Survey of Student Engagement, IPEDS relationship and research, and data requests from throughout the College. Dr. Miller serves on several College-wide administrative leadership teams, and has contributed to the development and implementation the College’s strategic plan, the enrollment plan, and all of Tri-C’s student policies and procedures to enhance student success. She has led numerous College-wide initiatives, including the cross-functional team that developed the Strategic Enrollment Plan, College Credit Plus, and Veteran’s initiatives.

Dr. Miller is also a statewide and nationally recognized leader in higher education, and has presented at numerous conferences and conventions, including the American Association of Community Colleges Annual Convention, the Institute for Higher Education Policy & Lumina Foundation, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Strategic Enrollment Conference, and the National Noel Levitz Retention Conference. As a Chancellor appointed position, Dr. Miller served on the Ohio Transfer & Articulation Network (as well as the OTAN Oversight Board and she also serves on the National Enrollment Management Advisory Board for the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Offices. Dr. Miller is also a graduate of the League for Innovation in the Community College’s Executive Leadership Institute.

Karen has a Ph.D. from The University of Toledo in Higher Education, and also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Technical Education and a Master of Science Degree in Technical Education with a specialization in Guidance & Counseling from The University of Akron.
Dr. Karen Schuster Webb, President
Union Institute & University

Dr. Karen Schuster Webb is Union Institute & University’s sixth president. She is a visionary leader, internationally respected scholar, and a mentor to those aspiring to higher education leadership. She has dedicated her career to equity of access to educational excellence. Dr. Webb brought more than 25 years of successful executive leadership to Union, which is a university system based in Cincinnati and has Centers in California and Florida, with students from around the world. Prior to Union, Dr. Webb was President of Antioch University-Midwest Campus. Before Antioch, Webb served as an Associate Provost and Founding University Dean of the California School of Education at Alliant International University, overseeing programs in California, Mexico, the Far East, and online.

Dr. Webb serves on the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education (ACE); is a Presidential Sponsor for the ACE affiliated Women’s Network Ohio, and is past Chair of ACE’s Women’s Network Executive Council. She has received numerous honors and awards, among them the Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Education at Indiana University-Bloomington. She was also selected as one of the Top 25 Women in Higher Education and Beyond by Diverse Issues In Higher Education Magazine. Other Board memberships include the Advisory Board of William V. S. Tubman University Foundation in Harper, Liberia, Every Child Succeeds, Women Walking West in Cincinnati, the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education, and the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio.

Dr. Karen Schuster Webb holds three degrees from Indiana University-Bloomington, the Bachelor of Arts, Master of Science in Education, and the Doctor of Philosophy degree focused in Applied Linguistics. On a personal note, Dr. Webb is very proud of her daughter and son, Ramona, who resides in California and Wallace, III, who lives in Ohio.

Dr. Elizabeth Sayrs, Executive Vice President & Provost
Ohio University
Moderator for the Presidential & Leadership Panel

Dr. Elizabeth Sayrs is the Executive Vice President and Provost for Ohio University. She has previously served as the Dean of University College and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education as well as the Interim Dean of the College of Fine Arts. A faculty member in Music Theory, for which she received the Ohio University School of Music Distinguished Teaching Award in 2007, her research has appeared in articles and reviews in the College Music Symposium, the Journal of Schenkerian Studies, Music Theory Online, and Music Theory Spectrum. Her interactive e-text, MFun: Music Fundamentals was published in 2012, and she recently completed serving as the editor of the Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy.

Prior to her appointment at Ohio University, Dr. Sayrs served on the faculty at the University of California, Santa Barbara; Valparaiso University; Ohio State; and the University of Saskatchewan, where she was awarded the Dwaine Nelson Teaching Award. In 2007, she received the Ohio University School of Music Distinguished Teaching Award.
Presenters

Dr. Brandy Bagar-Fraley, *Franklin University*

Brandy currently serves as Manager, Faculty Development and Support at the Center for Teaching Excellence at Franklin University. She oversees the design and administration of Faculty Development courses and related programs and events, manages the Faculty Services team, and assists in overseeing instructional quality and support for external global partnerships. She is also a doctoral faculty member with fifteen years of previous higher education teaching experience at Ohio University, Ohio University Lancaster, and Marshall University. Dr. Bagar-Fraley earned her Ph.D. in English from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, in 2010.


Dr. Ray Burgman’s tenure at HERS is in its seventh year. Ray joined HERS as the Director of HERS Institute and now serves as the Director of Programs and Research. Ray has worked in public and independent higher education settings—community college, liberal arts college, and urban and metropolitan university. Her expertise in strategic leadership and program development fits well with her current responsibilities for program service development and delivery, admission, and research and assessment at HERS. Prior to joining HERS, Ray was the Associate Provost at New College of Florida and Associate Professor of Economics and Management and Special Advisor to the President for Strategic Faculty Initiatives at DePauw University. Ray has a PhD and MA in Economics from the University of Florida and a BA in Economics from New College of Florida.

Kim Burke, *University of Cincinnati*

Professor Burke is currently an Assistant Professor and Co-op Advisor for Architecture and Interior Design in the Division of Experience Based Learning and Career Education at the University of Cincinnati. Ms. Burke received her Master of Art Education from UC where she also earned a B.S. in Interior Design from the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP). Prior to her current position, she worked in industry and taught in the School of Architecture and Interior Design at the University of Cincinnati, Miami University, and served as Chair of the Interior Design Department at Mount St. Joseph University.

Dr. Crystal Clark, *Columbus State Community College*

Dr. Clark is a professor of English at Columbus State Community College. A Distinguished Teaching Award recipient and a Distinguished Full Professor Award recipient—Dr. Clark has taught writing courses and literature for more than twenty-five years and served in several faculty fellow roles. Dr. Clark holds a Master of Arts in English from The Ohio State University, a Master of Theological Studies from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and a PhD in Higher Education Administration from the University of Toledo.
Angie Cook, MA, University of Cincinnati

Angie is the Associate Director of Graduate Retention Services in the University of Cincinnati’s College of Nursing. She oversees retention projects to cultivate student belonging and connection, which is especially important with Nursing’s predominantly online and adult learner populations. Angie has worked as an academic advisor for 8 years with first-year students, transfer students, adult learners, and graduate students. Within her work hobbies, Angie has pursued opportunities to advance equity and inclusion efforts, particularly advocating for ongoing dialogue, staff/faculty professional development, affinity spaces, and empowering mentorship. Angie has her Master’s degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Miami University, Oxford Ohio.

Cindy Damschroder, University of Cincinnati

Cindy is currently a Senior Director of Academic Operations and Associate Professor at the University of the Cincinnati. She is a passionate advisor and educator that places students at the center of their educational goals. Striving to create an experiential environment that engages the student, helping them feel personally invested in their learning and thoughtfully advising, Cindy empowers those looking to define themselves within a large-scale university environment and career pathing explorations. In working with the Division of Experience-Based Learning and Career Education (ELCE), she is responsible for management of the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning co-op team.

Gene Dockery, LPC, Ohio University

Gene is currently both an instructor and doctoral student at Ohio University within the Department of Counseling and Higher Education. Gene is working towards a PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision. Gene’s research focuses on identity development in individuals who have multiple minority identities, addressing systems of oppression in higher education and in mental health care, and advocacy for marginalized groups. Additionally, they are Licensed Professional Counselors specializing in LGBTQ+ populations and complex trauma.

Emily Flannery, MDes, University of Cincinnati

Emily Flannery’s career weaves together the future of industry and academia with a decade in the creative industry as a trend forecaster and over 9-years in higher education for creative disciplines. She is driven to navigate uncertainty, illuminate the “why” behind our intentions, and chart a path toward a better future. As Assistant Professor - Assistant Director for the Division of Experience-based Learning and Career Education - College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning co-operative education team, Emily champions strategic partnerships, rigorous research, and student-centric teaching to bring the best of the industry together with the college’s emerging talent and experienced faculty.
Bria Howard, MA, *University of Cincinnati*

Bria is the Assistant Director/Honors Advisor in the University of Cincinnati’s Honors Program. She oversees the program’s first year student welcome retreat as well as coordinates a group of students called the Belong Ambassadors who work toward making the Honors program a more inclusive space to dwell. Bria has worked in Higher Education professionally for five years and is passionate about centering marginalized voices and communities. Bria has her Master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Miami University, Oxford Ohio.

Jacqueline Hudson, MA, *Bowling Green State University*

Jacqueline is a fourth-year doctoral student in the American Culture Studies program and has earned a graduate certificate in public history at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. She is currently a graduate assistant in the Ray Browne Pop Culture Library at BGSU. Her interests are black music studies, black popular culture and black feminism. Over the past two years, she has worked in collections management and as a curatorial intern. She is currently working on her dissertation entitled *I Am Every (Black) Woman: Negotiating Intersectionality in the Music Industry* and hoping to graduate next year.

Mychael Ihnat, MS, *Ohio University*

Mychael (Michael), (an unusual name for a woman) Ihnat (E-Not) is a professional in Student Affairs at Ohio University. Her story begins growing up on a family farm with learning strong work ethics, and being a social butterfly due to the varsity level sports, choir, band etc. Her love of Student Affairs began during her undergraduate career, studying photography, by becoming heavily involved in Residence Life and Housing. She experienced all elements of Student Affairs during her master’s educational experience and has been able to put that into practice in her current professional capacity.

Pamela Jones, *Kent State University*

Pamela enjoys her profession as a Success Coach at Kent State University where she has served on staff for 27-years. A Kent State University graduate earning both Master’s degree and Bachelor of Arts degree. Pamela earned coaching credentials from Newfield Network, Inc., and her Professional Certified Coach (PCC) from the International Coach Federation (ICF). Pamela engages students, and occasionally faculty and staff in reflective experiences to increase self-awareness and for self-discovery with the purpose to increase confident-intentional decision-making resulting in greater levels of achieving life desires and success! *Pamela desires for You … An EMPOWERED You. Being the BEST YOU!*
Ramonda Kindle, MA, Bowling Green State University

Ramonda is a doctoral candidate in Higher Education and Student Affairs at Bowling Green State University. Ramonda’s research interests include the development of student affairs practitioners, higher education leadership, law and policy, assessment, diversity, equity, and inclusion, bias protocol, crisis management and conduct, Title IX and violence prevention and response, underrepresented student development, student-athlete development, and development of academic support units. Currently, Ramonda is working on her dissertation titled, Leading While Black: A Narrative Inquiry Examining The Support And Development Of Black Women Leaders In Collegiate Athletics and she hopes to graduate in May 2021.

Shana M. Lee, MA, Kent State University

Shana serves as Assistant Dean of Students in the Office of the Dean of Students. In this role, she is responsible for developing and expanding parent and family engagement along with a host of advocacy efforts focused on the university’s varied student populations. Prior to her role as Assistant Dean of Students, Shana served as director for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Leadership, and director of Special Projects within the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Additionally, she served as director for the Student Multicultural Center for 17 years. In these roles, she advocated for the retention and graduation of students of color, oversaw pipeline initiatives, division scholarships and diversity awards, regional campus engagement, community involvement and engagement, and led division level special projects. Shana has been at Kent State for more than 26 years. She holds a Master of Arts in Cultural Foundations from Kent State and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from The Ohio State University.

Alyx McLuckie, MA, Ohio University

Alyx is a doctoral student at Ohio University within the School of Communication Studies. Their research interest predominantly revolves around interpersonal relationships, identity, community violence, and trauma-informed care as a means to recognize how to mitigate institutionalized forms of violence and how everyone, especially educators, can move towards fostering emancipatory and healing spaces within their work.

Dr. Sharmaine ‘Sharr’ Pechac, GreyPrint Consulting

Dr. Pechac is dedicated to improving lives through educational and employment opportunities. Sharr founded GreyPrint Consulting because she understands — from personal experience — the journey to and through higher education can be complicated and navigating career opportunities can be challenging (greyprint.org). Her professional profile includes strategic partnerships, talent management, program administration, organizational effectiveness, and instruction. Sharr earned her PhD in higher education from the University of Toledo. In addition, she is recognized by the Society for Human Resource Management as a Senior Certified Professional (SHRM - SCP). Sharr currently resides in Indiana. She is married with three adult sons.
Dr. Jenelle S. Pitt, California State University, Fresno

Dr. Pitt is a professor and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education and Rehabilitation at California State University, Fresno. Dr. Pitt holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Riverside, and a master's and doctoral degree from Michigan State University. Dr. Pitt has 21 years of experience working with individuals with disabilities and diverse communities and 11 years of leadership experience in higher education. Dr. Pitt has 17 publications and more than 45 national, state, local, and invited presentations. Dr. Pitt has received national recognition for her work in multicultural advocacy and civic engagement.

Alicia Robinson, MA, Kent State University

Alicia serves as the Assistant Director of the Women’s Center at Kent State University. In this role she is responsible for developing strategies and identifying resources for programs, services and advocacy to secure equity of experience and resources for women-identifying faculty, staff and students. She also coordinates and plans the centers’ planned programming, events, and services for students and employees throughout the University. Ms. Robinson holds a Master’s Degree in Human Development and Family Studies and a Bachelor’s Degree in Fashion Merchandising from Kent State University. Prior to her role as the Assistant Director, Alicia served as the Program Coordinator for the Women and Gender Centers and the Graduate Assistant of the Women’s Center at Kent State. Outside of her position at the women’s center, Ms. Robinson founded a Non-Profit Organization known as Limitless Ambition, which has a mission to change the way young women dream of their futures through enrichment programs and workshops.

Autumn Shuler, Gateway Community College

Autumn currently serves as part of the Development Team at Gateway and helps the college achieve its philanthropic goals. Her work involves securing grant funding, private gifts, and community partnerships to support college programs and student support services. Autumn has worked in the non-profit sector for nearly a decade, with most of her career taking place in higher education administration support. Autumn is particularly interested in drawing the various communities within college and university campuses together so that faculty, staff, and students can all have a voice in making their environment one of growth and learning for everyone.

MaryKathyrine Tran, MS, Ohio University

MaryKathyrine is the Assistant Director of the Ohio University Women’s Center. She oversees the Young Women Leaders Program, the ALAANA+ Women’s Leadership Cohort, and the annual International Women’s Art Installation. In conjunction with her duties at the Women’s Center, she teaches courses on mentoring and diversity studies. She serves as Co-Chair of the Women’s Centers Committee of the SOCHE. MaryKathyrine has a MS in Educational Leadership and Policy with certificates in Social Justice Leadership and Post-secondary, Technical, and Adult Education from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.
Dr. Diane Weinbrandt, *University of Cincinnati*

Diane is Director of Community Relations and Job Development for the Advancement and Transition Services in the School of Education at the University of Cincinnati (UC). She has more than 14 years of experience in the field of special education. Her research interests involve supporting transition age individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in improving employment outcomes and quality of life. In addition to her desire for helping young adults with disabilities, she is passionate about her mindfulness practice. She is a Mind Body facilitator for UC, and provides individual and small group consulting in both Mindfulness and Character Strengths practices.

Nichelle Whitney, *The Guarden, LLC*

Nichelle is the CEO and founder of The Guarden LLC. In The Guarden, Nichelle offers tailored diversity education experiences for institutions, agencies, and organizations. She serves as the Senior Assistant Director for Diversity Recruitment and Outreach for Indiana University, and in her spare time, you can find Nichelle serving as a women’s Commissioner for Monroe County (IN) where she works to address policy and legislation that impacts citizens. She is the chair for the Inclusion, Access, and Success Committee for the state of Indiana, and she is a Board Fellow for the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County.

Christina K. Wright, *Ohio University*

Christina is an Assistant Professor of Instruction, DSA Career Coach, COSMA Director, and Multicultural Faculty-in-Residence in the College of Business at Ohio University. A scholar practitioner, Christina teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate sports business courses including sport facility and event management and diversity and inclusion in sport. She leads multiple student experiential learning opportunities, as well as co-leads the Festivals, Events and Entertainment Management certificate program. Christina is an established national voice in sport diversity and inclusion having led more than 100 webinars, workshops, conference sessions, executive trainings and coaching, as an invited speaker and facilitator.
Moderators

Dr. Holly Craider, Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member
Dr. Elena Foulis, The Ohio State University, ACE Board Member
Dr. Shanda Gore, Union Institute & University, ACE State Co-Chair Emeritus
Dr. Danyelle Gregory, Muskingum University, ACE Board Member
Dr. LaShonda Gurley, Bluffton University, ACE Board Member
Viva McCarver, Bowling Green State University, ACE Board Member
Dr. M. Geneva Murray, Ohio University, ACE Board Member, Conference Co-Chair
Dr. Delia Pfister, Cuyahoga Community College, ACE Board Member
Dr. Desiree Polk-Bland, Columbus State Community College, ACE Board Member
Kristine King Robbins, Otterbein University, ACE Board Member
Dr. Elizabeth Sayrs, Executive Vice President & Provost, Ohio University
Amanda Watkins, Wright State University, ACE Board Member
Dr. JoAnna Williamson, Franklin University, ACE Board Member
Institutional Representatives

We encourage attendees to reach out to their institutional representatives to find out how to get more involved with ACE WNO!

**Northwest Region**

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<th>Institution</th>
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## Central Southeast Region

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