



Office Synergy Summit Schedule of Events

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| 12:00-12:10 P.M. ET | <p>President’s Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Dr. Marshall Greenleaf, Director of Student & Family Support Services University of Massachusetts Lowell Lexie Elliott, Assistant Director, First-Year Orientation & Family Engagement Carnegie Mellon University</p> |
| 12:10-12:50 P.M. ET | <p style="text-align: center;">Maximize Your Volunteers and Stakeholders</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Facilitator: Lexie Elliott, Assistant Director, First-Year Orientation and Family Engagement Carnegie Mellon University</i></p> <p>The success of family programming often rests on the shoulders of those beyond our immediate offices. This session explores strategic frameworks for managing, training, and supporting the volunteers and campus partners who drive our programmatic goals forward. Join a panel of higher education experts as they share actionable insights on moving from "transactional help" to "transformative advocacy." Learn how to streamline volunteer onboarding, cultivate high-impact campus synergies, and build a sustainable support network that amplifies your department’s mission and enhances the family experience.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lindsay Bray, Director, Office of Parent and Family Programs Cornell University Jamie Lundergreen, Director of Parent and Family Giving Boise State University Judd Norris, Executive Director, Jayhawk Community Partners University of Kansas Mary Ann Schrum, Director, Office of Parent and Family Engagement Rutgers University</p> |
| 12:50-1:30 P.M. ET | <p style="text-align: center;">Strength Supervision for a Thriving Team</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Steven Johnson Jr., Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement University of Illinois Springfield</p> <p>Explore practical, people-centered supervision and managing-up strategies that build trust, sharpen communication, and empower teams to excel.</p> |
| 1:30-1:45 P.M. ET | <p style="text-align: center;">Building Community Across Office Sizes</p> <p>Whether you are a "department of one" or lead a large, multi-functional team, your staffing model dictates how you approach family engagement. This networking session offers a dedicated space to connect with peers who share your specific operational scale and resource landscape. Breakout rooms will be organized by office size, allowing you to exchange high-impact insights, troubleshoot shared challenges, and discover creative approaches to thriving within your unique organizational structure. Join us to build a niche community of colleagues who truly understand the daily "ins and outs" of your professional world.</p> |
| 1:45-2:00 P.M. ET | Break |

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| <p>2:00-2:40 P.M. ET</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Elevating Your Impact: Career Progressional Panel <i>Facilitator: Dr. Marshall Greenleaf, Director of Student & Family Support Services University of Massachusetts Lowell</i></p> <p>How do you translate a passion for family engagement into a trajectory for executive leadership? Join a distinguished panel of VPSAs and Deans of Students as they offer expert guidance on navigating the climb from functional area specialist to senior administrator. This session focuses on the strategic pivots and professional branding necessary to transform your current role into a springboard for institutional advancement. Participants will gain a roadmap for elevating their professional profile while effectively communicating the high-level value of family programming to cabinet-level leadership.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lady Cox, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Auburn University Ryan Lovell, Associate Vice President for Holistic Student Support and Well-being and Dean of Student The Ohio State University Joel A. McCarthy, Associate Dean of Student Affairs University of Massachusetts Lowell Elizabeth Massengale, Assistant Vice Provost Texas Tech University</p> |
| <p>2:40-3:20 P.M. ET</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Advocating for Your Office Needs</p> <p>Securing the staff, budget, and structural support necessary for a high-impact family engagement office requires a shift from "asking" to "strategic advocacy." This session provides a roadmap for aligning your department's needs with institutional priorities to build a compelling case for investment. You will learn how to leverage data, impact storytelling, and cross-campus alliances to demonstrate that supporting your office is a direct win for student retention and institutional success. Join us to gain the tactical tools and confidence needed to champion your resource requests and ensure your program has the foundation it deserves to thrive.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">You are not Alone: Advocating for your Magical Moment James Wright, Jr., Assistant Director of Educational Opportunity Fund Stockton University</p> <p>This session aligns with AHEPPP's values of empowerment, inclusivity, and collaboration by providing attendees with actionable tools to enhance workplace equity, advocate for professional development, and contribute to a culture of mutual respect within higher education. By fostering self-advocacy skills, professionals can better support both themselves and the students and families they serve. Attendees will leave with a personalized self-advocacy action plan and practical strategies that can be implemented at their own institutions. Whether navigating career advancement, work-life balance, or institutional challenges, this session provides a roadmap for success that can be adapted across various higher education settings.</p> |
| <p>3:20-3:55 P.M. ET</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Student Supporting Family Engagement</p> <p>Join this interactive breakout session to explore how we can better empower the student staff and volunteers who serve as the heartbeat of our family engagement strategies. Participants will choose between three dedicated rooms: Supervising Graduate Students, Managing Undergraduate Staff, or Utilizing Student Volunteers. Each space will focus on aligning student roles with your specific programmatic and communication goals, ensuring your team is both a resource for families and a pipeline for future professionals.</p> |
| <p>3:55-4:00 P.M. ET</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</p> |