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## **Pathways to Results News**

**February 2016**

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## **The Pathways to Results Institute Welcomes Michelle Asha Cooper as this Year's Keynote Speaker**

OCCRL is pleased to announce that Dr. Michelle Asha Cooper, President of the Institute for Higher Education Policy and a champion for advancing educational equity, will be the keynote speaker at the Pathways to Results Innovation Institute on April 5 & 6, 2016.

Dr. Cooper will address the 2016 Pathways to Results Teams during their time together at the Innovation Institute. The Institute is an opportunity for both Year One and Year Two Teams to learn together and advance evidence-based efforts in selected pathways to close equity gaps and transform opportunities for student success.

Michelle Asha Cooper is the president of IHEP. As a results-oriented, decisive leader with significant experience in the postsecondary education field, Cooper is recognized as a well-respected practitioner, researcher, and policy advocate helping to reaffirm IHEP's role of ensuring equal educational opportunities for all students. Cooper is responsible for leading the organization's rich history of addressing the educational needs of today's students, particularly underserved students. Cooper also oversees the organization's expansive research portfolio and analytic expertise to inform and shape national, state, local, and institutional policy reform. Prior to joining IHEP, Cooper held various leadership positions at the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance at the U.S. DOE, Association of American Colleges and Universities, Council for Independent Colleges, and King's College.

OCCRL would like to thank the Illinois Community College Board for their continued support of the Pathways to Results initiative and the opportunity to host Dr. Cooper.

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# Announcing the 2016 Pathways to Results: Partnership and Planning for Student Success Teams



OCCRL has accepted fourteen Illinois teams to participate in this year's [Pathways to Results: Partnership and Planning for Student Success project](#). The significant interest in participation in this year's project, even in a challenging climate, is an incredible testament to the commitment to improving student outcomes in Illinois!

We look forward to providing updates about these diverse projects focusing on improvements for community college students in pathways including early childhood education, criminal justice, fire science, nursing, business, mathematics, and more. The 2016 selected institutions include:

Black Hawk College  
College of DuPage  
Elgin Community College (two projects)  
Illinois Central College  
Kankakee Community College  
Kishwaukee College  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Prairie State College  
Rend Lake College  
Richland Community College  
Sauk Valley Community College  
Shawnee Community College  
Triton College

This year's cohort includes partnerships focusing on improving deficient Perkins performance measures, program review processes, transfer pathways, and secondary to postsecondary transitions, all with a distinct focus on disaggregating student data to better serve the most underserved students.

Questions about Pathways to Results? Contact Heather McCambly at [mccambly@illinois.edu](mailto:mccambly@illinois.edu).

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Pathway Principle	Design Element	Evidence on Population Need/Strength	Promising Practices
<p><b>Leadership, Organization, and Support</b></p> <p>Problem: Men of color are experiencing disparate outcomes at critical milestones and completion compared to other subgroups.</p> <p>Problem: Women are less likely to participate or be retained in a STEM pathway and seem to be less aware of the opportunities in the field.</p> <p>Problem: Single parents are experiencing difficulty persisting through developmental education and are not persisting to any marketable credential.</p> <p>Problem: Low income students are dropping out mid-semester from entry courses at mid/high rates than their peers.</p>	<p><b>Access, Equity, and Opportunity:</b> All students have access to educational opportunities at multiple entry points and receive support services that lead to equitable outcomes.</p> <p><b>Alignment and Transition:</b> Curriculum, programs, and credentials are aligned to facilitate student preparation, progression, and success.</p> <p><b>Curriculum and Instruction:</b> Curriculum and pedagogy offer relevant instruction that enables students to master competencies that align with industry-recognized standards and credentials.</p> <p><b>Professional Preparation and Development:</b> Comprehensive and continuous professional development is delivered to enhance the recruitment, preparation, and retention of qualified instructional support and administrative personnel.</p>	<p><b>Men of color:</b> culturally relevant academic and social engagement efforts.</p> <p><b>Women in STEM:</b> need support that reduces stigma and increases a sense of belonging and awareness of career opportunities.</p> <p><b>Single student parents:</b> need flexibility and may find value in stackable credentials.</p> <p><b>Low-income and first-generation students:</b> need guidance, a sense of belonging and validation, and adequate financial and crisis support.</p>	<p><b>Proactive support services:</b> Early Alert, intrusive Advising, Enhanced first-year experiences.</p> <p><b>Bridge programs:</b> Faculty and industry partner mentoring; internships.</p> <p><b>Accelerated development of education:</b> Stackable credentials with increased earning opportunities.</p> <p><b>Faculty development on financial and crisis support services, and on mentorship and providing validation to students.</b></p>

# Webinar: Transforming pathway performance: Leveraging key knowledge of pathways principles, populations, and practices

On February 18th, OCCRL conducted a webinar that presented a new facilitation tool for improving pathways. For practitioners, administrators, and other educational leader striving to improve career pathways, this short webinar introduced a systematic way of using research and resources to support conversations about meaningful and equitable changes to student pathways. Participants

learned about a framework that connects critical principles for career pathway design, with evidence on individual student populations and best practice, and were introduced to an array of resources on these topics from OCCRL, including the newly released brief [Exploring the Role of First-Year Experiences in Enhancing Equity & Outcomes](#). Below are links to the presentation materials.

[Download the presentation slides](#)

[Click here for the webinar recording](#)

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