



"Articulating the Value and Managing the Culture of Liberal Education."  
**American Conference of Academic Deans 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Program**

Pre-conference Workshops  
Wednesday, January 25, 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

**Workshop 1: The Entrepreneurial Dean**

This workshop is designed to give deans at all levels the opportunity to examine their role as agents of change in their institutions. The concept of the workshop is based on the triangular relationship among the entrepreneurial dean, the entrepreneurial university, and entrepreneurship across the curriculum. Sessions will be organized around these three dynamic components. Partially funded by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, this workshop will introduce participants to the rewards and risks of building a culture of innovation and change in the "learning organization" (from Peter Senge's *The Fifth Discipline*). At a time when universities are challenged with regard to their resource base, it is imperative that universities develop the capacity to innovate and to "add value" (entrepreneurship) to their communities. The role of the dean as an agent of change is critical to the overall success of the university in developing this capacity. A culture of entrepreneurship fostered by deans can help institutionalize the capacity to initiate change and lead change efforts in a timely and effective manner. Participants will be asked to review the spring 2005 issue of *Peer Review* that focuses on Liberal Education and the Entrepreneurial Spirit. They will also be asked to bring examples of change processes/innovations they have been involved with at their institutions

Presenters: Samuel M. Hines, Jr., Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Charleston; Rew A. Godow, Dean, College of Charleston North Campus and Director of the Lowcountry Graduate Center.

**Workshop 2: Deans and Deans' Assistants: Enhancing a Strategic Partnership**

Designed for Deans *and* their (executive) assistants, this workshop will focus on defining and strengthening their strategic partnership. Special attention will be given to tasks and expectations, essential skills, boundaries, fostering trust and respect, and strategies for developing the overall effectiveness of this critical working relationship. Participants will be invited to discuss challenges and dilemmas that deans and their assistants face and models of successful working partnerships. Intended audience: Deans/CAOs/Executive Assistants.

Presenters: Deborah Neal, Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Dean of the College and Stephen Ainlay, Vice President and Dean of the College, College of the Holy Cross; Barbara

Sardy, Executive Assistant to the Dean of the College and Paul Armstrong, Dean of the College, Brown University.

Conference Sessions  
Thursday, January 26 – Saturday, January 28

**Thursday, January 26, 10:30-11:45 am**

**Knowledge in the Service of Society: Connecting Liberal Education, Research, and Civic Engagement**

Undergraduate deans at research universities must demonstrate to students, and to the larger society, that a liberal education is not an irrelevant luxury but a form of education that empowers students to make a positive difference in the world through the development of essential dispositions, ways of thinking, and skills. Deans can make the case by fostering educational experiences that link the university culture of research to civic engagement. In particular, field-based research and service learning opportunities provide students with the direct experience of learning to apply knowledge and process of inquiry and discovery to real life community problems. Panelists for the session will present several examples of civic engagement opportunities and outcomes developed at a public, land grant, university and a private research university. Participants will discuss similar opportunities at their institutions, how these were developed and implemented, and evidence of outcome in terms of student learning objectives and community-university relations.

Panelists: Robert J. Thompson, Jr., Dean of Trinity College of Arts and Sciences and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Duke University; Rita C. Kean, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Thursday, January 26, 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Realizing and Enhancing our Paideia: The Development, Implementation and Initial Assessment of a New Program to Enhance Liberal Education**

Paideia (ancient Greek) means the sum of one's educational experiences. Southwestern University's new Paideia Program seeks to instill a "paideia" approach to learning for all students - those in the Program and those who pursue its principles independently - through the metaphorical interweaving of five strands: academics, intercultural experiences, service-learning, leadership, and collaborative research. Students discuss, reflect, and develop e-portfolios in faculty-facilitated seminars, remaining within the same seminar cohort for three years. Seminars become increasingly student-guided, enhancing student intentionality and responsibility for building their own Paideia. This interactive session will focus on the development, implementation, and assessment of this transformational program and will explore what other campuses are doing to encourage students be more intentional about their education.

Panelists: Dr. Stephanie L. Fabritius, Associate Provost and Director of the Paideia Program; Professor of Biology and Dr. James W. Hunt, Provost and Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Education. Southwestern University.

**Thursday, January 26, 2:45-4:00 pm**

Articulating the Meaning(s) of Liberal Education

How do liberal educators understand their work? Since few have formal training in their profession's traditions or history, this question is central to valuing and fostering the culture of liberal education. This session recaps a workshop run for the last two years at Grinnell College in which faculty have engaged texts ranging from Seneca's letter on liberal education to Bill Reading's *The University in Ruins*. Panelists will explain the workshop's genesis and the unexpected ways in which it has engaged faculty in a dialogue on the meaning(s) of liberal education.

Panelists: Bradley Bateman, Associate Dean of the College, Professor of Economics; Daniel Reynolds, Associate Professor of German

**Thursday, January 26, 4:15-5:45**

Liberal Education: The Dean's Leadership Role

Academic leadership, as much as program design, is central to furthering an institutional commitment to liberal education. In this session, deans from three comprehensive private institutions will discuss their efforts to create a culture of liberal education across a range of academic offerings, from liberal arts to professional programs. They will also share strategies for ensuring that a commitment to liberal education informs the work of other areas on campus, such as Student Life, Admissions, and Marketing. The panel will lead an interactive exercise to help participants identify potential opportunities for academic leaders to articulate the goals of liberal education on their campuses and beyond.

Panelists: Susan Traverso, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Redlands; Charles Taylor, Dean of the College, Drury University; Valerie Martin, Dean, Arts, Humanities and Communications, Susquehanna University; Jim Pence, Provost, Pacific Lutheran University (Moderator)

**Friday, January 27, 8:45-10:15 am**

How, then, shall we live? Let the Liberal Arts Speak

The liberal arts offer a rich dialogue in answer to the classic question at the heart of education: how, then, shall we live? In small groups, participants will examine how the various disciplines—individually and together—can help students construct meaningful answers to this question and choose responsible ways of living. Using a case study, participants will explore how the leadership of a dean can support the faculty in engaging and responding to this timeless question in their teaching.

Panelists: William Craft, Vice President and Dean of the College, Luther College; Jane Jakoubek, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, Hanover College

**Friday, January 27, 10:30-11:45 am**

Science Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Are We Preparing our Students?

This session will focus on the shape of post-secondary science education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Data from a focus group of high school students specifically asked to rank the purposes of a college education with help set a context for the session. Using small discussion group technique session participants will focus on a set of questions initially posed by NSF as part of a 2005 national conversation on the theme, "What does it mean to be liberally educated in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?" Science education will be discussed in terms curriculum for non-science majors, i.e. the relevance of quantitative literacy as well as undergraduate science majors in the STEM areas. Participants will share 1) successful models for science education as a part of liberal learning at the undergraduate level and 2) strategies for increasing the numbers of students entering post-secondary study of science disciplines.

Panelists: Dr. Virginia M. Coombs, Provost; Dr. Terry Brown, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Brad Caskey, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of Psychology (All UW-River Falls); Dr. Debra Humphreys, AAC&U

**Friday, January 27, ACAD Luncheon.** Speaker: W. Robert Connor, President of the Teagle Foundation. Title: "Valuing our Values: Taking Liberal Education to the Next Level."

W. Robert Connor joined the Teagle Foundation in May of 2003. He retired from Princeton University in 1989 as the Andrew Fleming West Professor of Classics, emeritus. After leaving Princeton, he served as the President and Director of National Humanities Center in North Carolina, an independent center for advanced study in literature, history, philosophy, and all other humanistic fields. He is the author of many scholarly works. His books include: *Greek Orations* (University of Michigan Press, 1996); *Theopompus and Fifth Century Athens* (Harvard Press for the Center of Hellenic Studies, 1968); *The New Politicians of Fifth Century Athens* (Princeton University Press, 1971); and, *Thucydides* (Princeton University Press, 1984). He has received numerous awards and honors. The Teagle Foundation places a "special emphasis on seeing that today's students have a challenging, wide ranging and enriching college education (from the Teagle website)" and has worked effectively with institutions to maintain high standards while working with limited resources. Thus, Dr. Connor is especially well-placed to speak to the conference theme.

**Friday, January 27, 2:45-4:00 p.m.**

Can Value-Added Assessment Improve Liberal Arts Education?

The Teagle Foundation has granted \$2 million to 13 collaborative projects aimed at developing assessment programs tailored for liberal arts colleges. The goal of all the projects is to develop

authentic and effective assessment processes that will provide information primarily to strengthen traditional liberal learning but also to demonstrate the value of such an education to external constituencies. Deans from one of the Teagle groups will present a summary of the tools and processes for their grant, which deals with assessing writing, critical thinking, and civic engagement. This group of six colleges (Alma, Augustana, Gustavus Adolphus, Illinois Wesleyan, Luther, and Wittenberg) aims to bring faculty from each campus together to address the common challenges to assessment in a liberal arts environment. The session will divide into small groups in order to discuss challenges and successes that other campuses have faced and realized.

Panelists: Jeff Abernathy, Dean of Faculty, Augustana College; Janet McNew, Provost and Dean of the Faculty, Illinois Wesleyan University; William Craft, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, Luther College; Ross Miller, Director of Programs, Office of Education and Quality Initiatives, Association of American Colleges and Universities.

**Friday, January 27, 4:15-5:30 p.m.**

**Open Mic Session**

The "open mic" session provides a forum within which deans can bring their own dilemmas and receive counsel from a panel of deans as well as other audience members. This session features a trio of veteran deans from different types of schools sharing brief comments on key trouble spots for deanships, and then encouraging questions and comments from all in attendance, on these and any other themes attendees want to address.

Panelists: Len Clark, Provost and Academic Dean at Earlham College; Pearl Bartelt, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania; Robert Thompson, Dean of Trinity College and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education at Duke University.

**Saturday, January 28, 9:15-10:30 a.m.**

**Integrating Liberal Arts Skills in the General Curriculum: An Approach for Smaller Institutions**

A panel of faculty will present a case study of Hilbert College's revision of its general curriculum, which aimed to strengthen and more fully integrate the role of the liberal arts. Utilizing the principles of Liberal Learning, Hilbert College's revised curriculum is cumulative, holistic, and assessable. The new curriculum demonstrates to students how all courses contribute in some way toward six important liberal arts skills: 1) fostering Core Skills, 2) preparing students for living in a diverse and global society as informed and responsible citizens, 3) emphasizing and developing inquiry strategies in a variety of disciplines, 4) fostering advanced research skills, 5) promoting integrative learning, and 6) preparing students for the examined life and promoting lifelong learning. Panelists will report that the liberal arts skill receiving greatest emphasis, and thereby giving the curriculum its distinct character, is informed, responsible local and global citizenship.

Panelists: Michael Degnan, Academic Dean; Thea Harrington, Chair, Department of English; Christopher Holoman, Professor, Political Science (all Hilbert College)