An Enduring Mission

Standards for a Strong Foundation

100 YEARS DEAC

2026 Fall Workshop

Location Key: BB Bernardo Ballroom · GR Granada · A1 Andalucia 1 · A2 Andalucia 2 · CW Catalina West · P Patio

Sunday, October 18

2:00 - 4:00 pm	**Early Workshop Check-In & Name Badge Pickup** *Note: Hotel check-in time is 4:00 pm*	BB
6:00 - 8:00 pm	**Welcome Reception** + Workshop Check-In & Name Badge Pickup	P BB

Monday, October 19

7:30 – 9:00 am	**Breakfast** + Workshop Check-In & Name Badge Pickup			P BB
8:00 – 9:00 am	**Mentor & Mentee Breakfast Meetup**			CW
9:00 – 10:45 am	**General Session** **Keynote | Connection as Curriculum: Expanding the Lens on Future-Ready Skills** Dr. Michelle Pacansky-Brock (California Community College Chancellor's Office) **& Whose Mission Is It Anyway?** Susan Chiaramonte (Educred Services)			BB
11:00 – 11:45 am	**Institutional Effectiveness & Mission Achievement Essentials** *for new practitioners* Dr. Ray Rodriguez (DEAC Staff) & Dr. Caulyne Barron (Dunlap-Stone University)		**Case Closed? Evaluating Evidence to Drive Institutional Improvement** *for experienced practitioners* Dr. Marcia Ditmyer & Amanda Harrison (DEAC Commission Chair & Vice-Chair)	GR BB
11:45am - 1:00 pm	**Lunch**			P
1:00 - 1:45 pm	**Initial Applicant Track: Understanding Applications & Readiness Overview** Dr. Leslie Urofsky & Kate Sudarsan (DEAC Staff), Dr. Bill Kakish (DEAC Evaluation Team Chair)	**Institutional Effectiveness Part II: Addressing Red Flags & Telling the Continuous Improvement Story** Dr. Marcia Ditmyer & Amanda Harrison (DEAC Commissioners)	**Effectively Using Boards & Program Advisory Committees** Dr. Niccole Kopit (Laurus University)	**Affinity Group: DEAC Evaluators**
	GR	BB	A1	CW
2:00 – 2:45 pm	**Initial Applicant Track: Preparing for SER Success + Navigating Readiness Reviews, Outcomes, and Common Challenges** Drs. Urofsky & Kakish	**Maintaining & Demonstrating Financial Stability** Jim Killin (Sonoran Desert Institute)	**Faculty Qualification & Development: Building Sustainable Evidence** Dr. Tim Mott (DEAC Staff)	**Curriculum & Program Design** Ebony Lawrence (DEAC Commissioner)
	GR	BB	A1	A2



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2:45 – 3:15 pm	**Break: Afternoon Coffee, Tea, and Treats** (P)			
3:15 - 4:00 pm *Pick two. (★repeats @ 3:15, 3:40)*	**Initial Applicant Track: Preparing for the Site Visit** (3:15 – 3:35) Amanda Harrison (DEAC Commissioner) **Responding to Chair Reports** (3:40 – 4:00) with Commissioner panel (BB)	★ **General Education Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees** Dr. Marcia Ditmyer (DEAC Commission Chair) (GR)	★ **Program Comparison: Where we Start & How We Keep it Up** Dr. Cheryl Hayek Green (Lumnitek) (A1)	★ **Engaging Qualified Instructional Designers in Curriculum Development & Faculty Training** Ebony Lawrence (DEAC Commissioner) (A2)
4:15 - 5:00 pm	**Initial Applicant Track: Readiness Roundtables** Bring your questions for small group discussion with DEAC Evaluation Team Chairs & DEAC Staff (GR)	**Legislative Update: AIM Regulations plus Arizona SB1210** Dr. Leah Matthews (DEAC) & Susan Ciardullo (APSA) (BB)	**Encouraging Student Progression & Persistence:** *featuring DEAC Innovation Award winning RedoU* Dr. Alban Urbanas (DEAC Commissioner), Jenette Buffum & Sarah Beth Stooksberry (Lionel U.) (A1)	

Tuesday, October 20

7:30 – 9:00 am	**Breakfast** (P) + Workshop Check-In & Name Badge Pickup (BB)			
9:00 – 11:00 am	**General Session** **Keynote | The Human Story in the Data: Graduate Outcomes and Economic Mobility** Carlo Salerno (Burning Glass Institute) **& Authentic Assessment: Student Achievement in the AI Age** Dr. Tiffany Rodriguez (American College of Healthcare Sciences) & Sonny Calderon (New York Film Academy) (BB)			
11:15 am - 12:00 pm ***Pick 1-2*** *(★repeats @ 11:15, 11:40)*	**Substantive Changes to Programs & Curricula** Lissette Hubbard & Dr. Leslie Urofsky (DEAC Staff) (GR)	★ **Enrollment Agreements Unveiled: Common Checklist Issues and their Consumer Protection Context** (Christine Galdston, DEAC Business Evaluator) (BB)	★ **Offering Scholarships & Discounts** Dr. Bill Kakish (DEAC Evaluation Team Chair) (A1)	**Affinity Group: Institutions Operating in Spanish** (CW)
12: 00 - 1:00 pm	**Lunch** (P)			
1:00 – 1:45 pm ***Pick 1-2*** *(★repeats @ 1:00, 1:25)*	**Faith-Based Financial Sustainability & the Next Five Years** Jim Killin (Sonoran Desert Institute) (GR)	★ **Transfer Credits, Articulation Agreements, and Contracting for Educational Delivery** Dr. Debra Woods (DEAC Staff) (BB)	★ **Offering Programs in Languages Other Than English** Dr. Maria Richardson (DEAC Educational Standards Evaluator) (A1)	★ **Problem-Based Learning: AI as an Academic Delivery Tool, not a Teacher** Dr. Myk Garn (DEAC Commissioner) (A2)
1:45 - 2:15 pm	**Break: Afternoon Coffee, Tea, and Treats**			
2:15 – 3:00 pm ***Pick 1-2*** *(★ sessions repeat @ 2:15 & 2:40)*	**Engaging in International Activities** Dr. Maria Richardson (DEAC Educational Standards Evaluator) & DEAC Staff (GR)	★ **Withdrawals, Refunds, and Subscription Models** Janet Perry Quintana (DEAC Commissioner) (BB)	★ **Integrating Librarians, Learning Resources & Research Support:** Diane McGiffen, MILS (New Western University) (A1)	**Affinity Group: Faith-Based Institutions** (CW)
3:15 - 4:00 pm	**Closing General Session** **Keynote | Leading Without the Mask: Authentic Leadership Through Uncertainty in Higher Education** Dr. Julie Basler (Strong Teams) (BB)			

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