The Pathways to College Network and EducationCounsel LLC

The Role of Student Learning Outcomes in College Completion
EducationCounsel LLC
101 Constitution Avenue NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C.

December 13th, 2010
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Overarching Objectives: With the goal of promoting sound policy development designed to advance student postsecondary success, this convening will address key issues associated with student learning outcomes in the postsecondary setting. Topics for discussion will include the distinctions between uses of student assessment data for diagnostic purposes and as benchmarks of accountability (principally in a systemic, public reporting context); building stakeholder understanding regarding accountability-oriented aims; and strategies that may be pursued to advance efforts to improve student postsecondary outcomes.

8:30 a.m. Networking Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. Welcome
Michelle Asha Cooper, President, Institute for Higher Education Policy

9:10 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. “Mapping the Big Picture”
Art Coleman, Managing Partner, EducationCounsel, LLC

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Panel: Where We Stand: Student Learning Outcomes
Panel Objective: Articulate national activity over the past 5 years on the role of student learning outcomes assessments – including the tension between using outcomes to inform internal improvements and serving as benchmarks for external comparisons and accountability measures.

David Paris, Executive Director, New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability
Carol Geary Schneider, President, Association of American Colleges and Universities
Bernice Johnson, Dean, University College, North Carolina Central University
Moderator: Lorelle Espinosa, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, IHEP

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Small Group Discussion: Bridging the Gap between Improvement and Accountability
Objective: Discuss the tension between using student learning outcomes for internal improvement and external reporting, innovative approaches to mitigate the tension between the two – and subsequent implications for research, policy and practice.
Pathways partners will serve as table facilitators

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Reflections from the Department of Education
Eduardo Ochoa, Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education
11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Facilitated Discussion:** Bridging the Gap between Improvement and Accountability

**Objective:** Articulate innovative approaches to mitigate the tension between using outcomes for improvement and using outcomes for “accountability” at a broader level

*Facilitators:* Art Coleman, *Managing Partner,* EducationCounsel, LLC and Dewayne Matthews, *Vice President for Policy and Strategy,* Lumina Foundation for Education

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Pathways to College Network Networking Lunch**
At 1:00pm we will be joined by Cliff Adelman, *Senior Associate,* IHEP for a lunchtime chat

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Pathways to College Network Update**
Lorelle Espinosa, *Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives,* IHEP
Anne Bowles, *Policy and Outreach Associate,* IHEP

2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Small Group Discussion**

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Share out – Agenda Setting**
**Adjourn**