



The Commission on
INDEPENDENT
Colleges & Universities
in New York

69TH ANNUAL MEETING

March 10 & 11, 2025

DAY 1 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025 | ALBANY CAPITAL CENTER | 55 EAGLE ST | ALBANY 12207

BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

8:30am – 9:30am

1st Floor, Lobby, Registration

2nd Floor Ballroom, Continental Breakfast Buffet

WELCOME

9:45am – 10:00am

Capital Center, 2nd Floor Ballroom

Opening Remarks, Lola W. Brabham, CICU President

BOARD MEETING (CICU PRESIDENTS ONLY)

10:00am – 11:30am

Capital Center, 1st Floor, Rooms 2A & 2C

Sponsors:

- Hogan Marren Babbo and Rose
- TIAA

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MEETING

10:00am – 11:30am

Capital Center, 1st Floor, Room 1A

LUNCH PROGRAM WITH KEYNOTE

12:00pm – 1:30pm

Capital Center, 2nd Floor Ballroom

Sponsors:

- Alera Group
- Bond Schoeneck & King

Plated Lunch Service

Keynote Speaker Wil Del Pilar, Senior Vice President, Ed Trust

Featured Guest Barbara Mistick, President, NAICU

Special Guests Dr. Guillermo Linares, President, HESC & Maria Fernandez, Deputy Secretary for Education, Office of the Governor

Recognition of Student Ambassadors

APACS President Dr. Renaldo Alba, Fordham University

HEOP Director, Aaron Ray, Hamilton College

PLENARY SESSION

1:45pm – 3:15pm

Capital Center, 2nd Floor, C2

2025 FEDERAL & STATE HIGHER EDUCATION LANDSCAPE

With Panel Experts:

- **Barbara Mistick, President, NAICU**
- **Kirsten Keefe, The Institute for College Access & Success**
- **Martha Snyder, HCM Strategists**
- **Jon Fansmith, American Council on Education**
- **Michael DiSiena, Cullen & Dykman LLC**

Facilitated by Dr. Courtney Francis, State Policy Director, The Lumina Foundation

AFTERNOON BREAK

3:15pm – 3:30pm

Capital Center, 1st Floor, Lobby

Light Refreshments

Sponsorship Showcase

CONCURRENT SESSIONS A & B

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Capital Center, 1st Floor, Room A or B

SESSION A: STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

3:30pm in Room 1A

Presented by Jen Carnig and Michael Crawford, Spiffire Strategies

SESSION B: INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

3:30pm in Room 1B

With Panel Experts:

- Dr. Lydiah Bosire, CEO and Founder, 8B Education Investment Fund
- Kseniya Premo, Member, Bond, Schoeneck & King
- Joann Ng Hartmann, Senior Impact Officer, NAFSA

Facilitated by Taryn Rackmyer, Director of Education Policy, CICU

INTERMISSION

4:30pm – 5:15pm

Relax, refresh, and restore

EVENING PROGRAM

WELCOME RECEPTION

5:15pm – 5:45pm

Capital Center, 2nd Floor Ballroom

Refreshments & Passed Hors d'oeuvres

With Special Musical Guest Timothy Nigro, Siena College

EVENING PROGRAM & DINNER

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Capital Center, 2nd Floor Ballroom

Opening Remarks, CICU President Lola W. Brabham

Plated Dinner Service

Distinction in Service Award Presentations

Honoree Introduction, Chancellor Lester Young, New York State Board of Regents

Distinction in Service Awardee, Commissioner Betty A. Rosa, New York State Education Department

Dessert with Coffee Service



DAY 2 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025 | RENAISSANCE HOTEL | 144 STATE ST | ALBANY
12207

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

9:00am – 10:30am

Renaissance Hotel Ballroom

Continental Breakfast Buffet

Opening Remarks, Lola W. Brabham, CICU President

Remarks from Special Guests:

- **Alicia L. Hyndman, Assembly Member and Higher Ed Committee Co-Chair**
- **Toby A. Stavisky, Senator and Higher Ed Committee Co-Chair**
- **Robert Rodriguez, President, DASNY**

ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

10:30am – 10:45am

Renaissance Hotel Ballroom

Presented by CICU Government Affairs Director Tom Schnurr & CICU Education Policy Director Taryn Rackmyer

ADJOURN TO LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS

11:00am – 3:00pm

Legislative Office Building | 198 State Street Albany, NY 12210

Pre-determined Meetings with Legislative Contacts