CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS SEMINAR - ABSTRACTS

PLENARY SESSIONS

Breaking the Box: A Systems Approach to Student Success
This opening session frees rather than grounds participants for the seminar. We often hear people talk about thinking or operating outside of the box. The problem is that innovative ideas created outside the box eventually must fit inside. Perhaps the box itself is the problem and higher education thought leaders may need to break the box and reconstruct it. The session engages participants in a design thinking exercise challenging current policies and practices and creating the ideal college/university that puts students at the center of their learning.

Enrollment Management: A Bridge or Boulder in Age Old Academic Affairs-Student Affairs Chasm?
Imagine a world where the number of first-year, transfer, continuing education and (fill in the blank) budgeted enroll. And they enroll generally in line with the program/degree options and faculty hired to teach them. Back to reality. Enrollment management is relatively new but has an increasingly critical role in higher education. Rather that adding another silo in the bureaucracy, enrollment management has the potential to bridge the historical barriers between academic affairs and student affairs. The session explores ways to build meaningful relationships across campus divisions and looks at how various leadership preferences can foster or stifle partnerships.

Empowering Peers to Help Their Fellow Students
Peer advising can be a great opportunity for assisting students in creating a sense of belonging in college. Peer advising is not a new addition to student success and there are multiple ways to effectively deliver peer advising. For example, pairing seniors with first-year students, group advising led by upper classmen, and the various applications are limitless. In this session we examine whether or not a peer program fits with your organization. Topics include the nuts and bolts of creating a peer advising program including creating infrastructure, hiring and training practices, and evaluation procedures.

Charlie and Josh between 2 Ferns: Engaging Faculty in Advising as Teaching
If you think Between Two Ferns with Zach Galifianakis is engaging, you haven’t seen nothing yet. Charlie Nutt and Josh Smith conduct a fire side chat on the ways in which college campuses work with faculty to improve advising and redefine advising as teaching. Charlie reflects on the good, bad, and the ugly based on years of campus visits around the world. Josh shares his view from the Dean role and discusses ways he encourages, cajoles, and tries to see the best in the intentions of faculty and chairs. Participants will pose questions as the session pivots toward a Socratic discussion on the way forward.

Interactive Panel: Creating and Sustaining Partnerships in Student Success
This session provides a spotlight into local leaders in higher education who are striving to work more collaboratively for the sake of their students. Members from local college and universities in a variety of positions share stories of success and failure working across divisions. They highlight the role of communication, sharing expectations, and celebrating what’s working.

Selected Presentations: Dazzle Us with New Ideas
Throughout the seminar participants will create a plan consisting of one or more tangible action steps that they can bring back to their campus community. Volunteers, individual or small groups, will engage participants in three-minute TedTalk-like presentations. Facilitators will ask one thought-provoking questions or comment to help push or extend the action steps toward success.