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COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

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Please join us next **Thursday, October 30th, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. (PDT)**, for the next webinar of the fall 2025 series: ***Listening to Lead: Amplifying the Student Story Through Focus Groups.***

ACCJC's webinars are designed for college leaders, faculty, and staff seeking practical tools and fresh perspectives to support students' academic and professional journeys. Details and registration information for each fall 2025 webinar are available below and on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/webinar/>.



Listening to Lead: Amplifying the Student Story Through Focus Groups

Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025**Time:** 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. (PDT)**Register:** https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Mlr0KWWRRWSyZhSpv9K1g

Join ACCJC and expert facilitators Michelle Fowles and Rebecca Stein for a follow-up webinar summarizing key takeaways from the "Conducting Focus Groups to Better Understand and Relay the Student Story" training. This session will highlight how colleges are using focus groups to amplify student voices and enhance institutional storytelling, with reflections from expert facilitators and peers.

Presenters:

- **Dr. Michelle Fowles**, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Academic Affairs at Los Angeles Valley College

- **Rebecca Stein**, Department Chair of Anthropology at Los Angeles Valley College

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Angeles College

- **Pakunihanich Martin**, Student Development Advisor for the Native American Student Support & Success Program at College of the Redwoods

Future Events - Save the Dates

Webinar

Bridging the Gap: Helping Students Translate Competencies into Career Success

Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (PST)

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_55SvH53ySPyxAntaFZWNkQ

While community colleges offer a variety of curricular and co-curricular opportunities to learn, the National Association for Colleges and Employers (NACE) career competencies research shows that students often struggle to articulate what they have learned or to connect this learning to the workplace. In fact, there is a gap in the competencies employers are looking for in their early hires and students' ability to demonstrate proficiency in these competencies. In this session, we will share research on how the NACE Competency Assessment Tool strengthens professional networks and improves employment outcomes, especially for first-generation and underserved students. NACE partner, Career Launch, will share how their digital NACE Career Readiness Inventory tool assists practitioners in measuring students growth in their competencies and skills in real-time.



Presenters:

- **Dr. Niesha Taylor**, Director of Career Readiness at National Association of Colleges and Employers
- **Marieli Rubio**, Partner & Vice President of Impact at Career Launch
- Community College Partner

Transparency, Storytelling, and Value Literacy Project Regional Convenings

ACCJC will host four convenings in 2026, bringing together diverse campus teams for a workshop led by representatives from **Southwest Wisconsin Technical College**, winner of the 2025 Aspen Prize, **showcasing how ROI data can be embedded into planning**

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We invite college administrators, faculty, staff, students, and trustees to participate in the conversations and encourage institutions to send a cross-section of institutional representatives for diverse perspective and maximum impact. Space can accommodate up to seven attendees from each member institution at a designated regional convening, and the cost of attendance for participants will be subsidized (details below).

Dates & Locations

- January 12, 2026 – Kapi’olani Community College (HI)
- April 13, 2026 – Long Beach City College (CA)
- April 15, 2026 – Skyline College (CA)
- April 16, 2026 – Sacramento City College (CA)

Thanks to the generous support of the **College Futures Foundation** (California Public Community Colleges) and an internal grant from ACCJC (all other ACCJC member institutions), the Commission is able to reimburse a limited number of participants. Invitations with registration information will be sent to member institution ALOs, CEOs, Chancellors, and Board of Trustee Presidents ahead of each convening so institutions can coordinate who they would like to have attend.

More information about the workshop and each institution’s convening location is available at the following webpage: <https://accjc.org/transparency-storytelling-and-value-literacy-project/>.

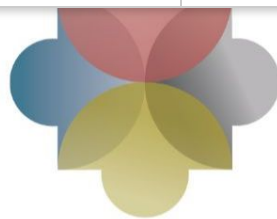


2026 ACCJC Conference

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ACCJC CONFERENCE

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November 17-18, 2026
Riverside Convention Center
Riverside, California

Join us for a gathering of regional and national visionaries celebrating and sharing bold ideas, breakthrough gains in student success, and the powerful impact of our member institutions.

**More information will be available in the fall,
for now, please save the dates!**



Please Forward ACCJC Connect to Your Colleagues

Please spread the word by forwarding *ACCJC Connect*. [Use this link to forward the email](#) to colleagues, members of the public, and students to help ACCJC keep member institution personnel and other interested parties apprised of our news and updates. If you have any questions or comments about this communication, please email communications@accjc.org. Thank you!

In an effort to ensure wide distribution of this information ACCJC is utilizing multiple means of communication, we apologize if you receive this as a duplicate.

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