



ST. LOUIS GRADUATES

St. Louis Graduates Professional Development Institute
***Finding the Right Postsecondary Fit -
Social, Emotional and Cultural Considerations***

Friday, December 2, 2016

St. Louis Community College – Forest Park Campus

Café West, Student Center Cafeteria

AGENDA

7:45 Sign-In, Coffee & Conversation

8:00 - 8:30 Welcome, Introductions & Session Overview

Allison Williams, Senior Vice President, Wyman Center and Co-chair, St. Louis Graduates

Rebecca Emerson, Executive Director K-12 Initiatives, St. Louis Community College

Collecting the Wisdom in the Room

- What do you want to learn?
- What do you do well that you can share with others?

8:30 – 9:15 **Theoretical Framework:** The brain science around youth social/emotional development
Introducing the My Fit Checklist, an asset-based approach to finding a best-fit college

Christina Thayer, MEd, PLPC, Counselor, College of Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis

9:15 – 9:45 **Supporting Students with Complex Life Situations: Foster Youth**

Shenekia Weeks, Member Services & Professional Development, CharacterPlus, EducationPlus

Students with complex life situations may be particularly challenged finding a supportive postsecondary environment and necessary community resources. Discussion will focus on connecting youth in the foster care system to resources in the community to support postsecondary education.

9:45 – 10:15 **Connecting Students with Complex Life Situations to On-Campus Resources**

Claire Martin, M.Ed., M.A., NCC, Student Assistance Specialist/Manager, Student Assistance Program-Counseling Department, St. Louis Community College – Meramec

How can higher education institutions connect students with complex life situations to resources they need? St. Louis Community College-Meramec has developed a one-stop-shop for students in need.

10:15 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:00 **Student Perspectives on Finding the Right Fit**

Debbie Greenberg, Director of Counseling, College Bound – Moderator
Panel of Three Current College Students

How do students view “fit” and what do they wish we as counselors knew? Debbie Greenberg will facilitate a conversation with three current college students to shape our knowledge of what works - and what doesn’t - in helping students identify a best fit college.

- Which “fit” on the My Fit Scorecard was most important to you when looking at colleges?
- Which “fit” is most important to you now? Why?
- What advice would you give to high school students making postsecondary plans?

11:00 – 11:45 **Building a Campus and Community Culture that Supports All Students through Courageous Conversations**

Dr. Lyle Foster, Professor of Sociology, Missouri State University

Recent events are examples of diversity challenges on college campuses in our state and across the U.S. Dialogue to promote cultural understanding and respect is more important than ever, but how does a school or community foster courageous conversations? How can counselors and advisors help students feel safe, respected and valued?

11:45 – 12:20 **Lunch and Roundtable Conversation** – how to have “courageous conversations” on your campus, in your school, in your organization?

How can we foster courageous conversations in our schools, organizations and communities? What can we do to keep students safe and able to learn? Over lunch, we will have a facilitated conversation on putting Dr. Foster’s approach to work for our students. Participants will be asked to join a group based on the kind of institution

in which the work with students - middle school, high school, community-based or higher education

12:20 - 12:30 **Evaluations, Final Remarks & Closing**

12:30 PM Adjourn

Thank you to:

Norman J. Stupp Foundation, Commerce Bank trustee,
for support of St. Louis Graduates' Professional Development Institute

EducationPlus,
partner in presenting the Professional Development Institute

St. Louis Community College,

for hosting us today at the Forest Park campus

St. Louis Graduates Professional Development Committee for this Workshop

- Beth Bender, Assistant Superintendent of College and Career Readiness, St. Louis Public Schools, chair
- Alan Byrd, Jr., Dean of Enrollment Services, University of Missouri-St. Louis and Co-chair, St. Louis Graduates
- Melissa Findley, Manager of Foundation and Outreach Strategies, Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation
- Brian Hutchison, Associate Professor, College of Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis
- Katy-Jane Johnson, Counselor, University City High School
- Meredith Rauscher, Recruiter II, Enrollment Services, St. Louis Community College
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- Shenekia Weeks, Member Services & Professional Development, CharacterPlus, EducationPlus