

TENTATIVE AGENDA

42ND ANNUAL SFARN CONFERENCE

July 10-11, 2025 | University of Maryland - College Park
Adele H. Stamp Student Union | 3972 Campus Drive College Park, MD 20742

SESSION: DAY 1 - PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM 1211 THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025

8:45 am - 9:15 am | Check-in & Registration

Coffee / Light Breakfast

9:15 am - 9:25 am | Welcome

Vice President of Research
The Pell Institute

9:25 am - 10:10 am | Special Panel 1

An Overview of NPSAS, BPS, and B&B in the Landscape of Financial Aid Research

Christopher Bennett, RTI International
Erin Dunlop Velez, RTI International

10:15 am - 10:35 am | Research Presentation 1

Race, Wealth, and Higher Education: A Study of How the Racial Wealth Gap is Related to College Access and Success

Marián Vargas, Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)
Kim Dancy, Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

10:40 am - 11:00 am | Research Presentation 2

Exploring College Student Food Insecurity

May Plumb, Trellis Strategies

11:00 am - 11:10 am

Break

SESSION: DAY 1 - PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM 1211 (cont.)

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025

11:10 am - 12:10 pm | Special Panel 2

Exploring Non-Federal Data for Higher Education Policymaking: National Student Clearinghouse, The Federal Reserve System, Trellis Strategies' Student Financial Wellness Survey, and FINRA Foundation's National Financial Capability Study

Moderator: Jeff Webster, Higher Education Consultant

Panelists:

Bryan Ashton, Trellis Strategies

Doug Shapiro, National Student Clearinghouse

Gary Mottola, FINRA Investor Education Foundation

Tanya Gardner, University of Kentucky

12:15 pm - 12:35 pm | Research Presentation 3

How Latinos Pay for College

Madelyn Lucas, Excelencia in Education

Lily Cuellarsola, Excelencia in Education

Emily Labandera, Excelencia in Education

12:40 pm - 1:00 pm | Research Presentation 4

Doing More with Less: An Analysis of HBCU Instructional Spending and Its ROI Implications

Joy Gorham Hervey, Genesis Ed Solutions

Denise A. Smith, Higher Ed Policy, The Century Foundation

Michael Bradley, Michael Bradley Consulting

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm | Lunch

Enjoy your meal!

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Special Panel 3

Economic Mobility for Community College Students: Non-Federal Data Sources

Moderator:

Abby Miller, ASA Research

Panelists:

John Fink, Community College Research Center (CCRC)

Konrad Mugglestone, Aspen Institute

Tia Caldwell, Postsecondary Education & Economics Research (PEER) Center

3:05 pm - 3:25 pm | Research Presentation 5

Universal FAFSA Completion: Understanding the State Policies and Impact

Sayda Martinez-Alvarado, EdTrust

SESSION: DAY 1 - PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM 1211 (cont.)

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025

3:30 pm - 3:50 pm | Research Presentation 6

A State Policy for Increased Enrollment and Completion at State-supported Colleges and Universities in Virginia: The Pell Initiative for Virginia (PIV), An Innovative State-funded Approach after its First Year

Barry Simmons Sr, Pell Initiative for Virginia, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

3:55 pm - 4:15 pm | Research Presentation 7

Meltdown of Higher Education, 2010 to Present

**Tom Mortenson, Pell Institute
Nicole Brunt, Pell Institute**

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Reception

****LOCATION* - MEET US IN CARROLL ROOM 2203K! (UPSTAIRS FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM.)***

SESSION: DAY 2 - PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM 1211

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

8:45 am - 9:15 am

Coffee / Light Breakfast

9:15 am - 9:20 am | Welcome Back

Vice President of Research
The Pell Institute

9:20 am - 10:20 am | Special Panel 4

State Data Sources

Moderator: Ellie Bruecker, the Institute of College Access and Success (TICAS)

Panelists:
Dana Brandt, Strada Education Foundation
Tod Masa, Virginia State Council of Higher Education
Carrie Klein, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)

10:25 am - 10:45 am | Research Presentation 8

Transforming Student Aid: A Research-Funder Collaboration on Wealth-Based Financial Aid

Christian Smith
Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia

Janai Raphael
Lumina Foundation

Ernest Ezeugo
Lumina Foundation

10:45 am - 10:55 am

Break

10:55 am - 11:55 am | Special Panel 5

The Future of Data Infrastructure for Higher Education Policymaking

Moderator: Jeff Webster, Higher Education Consultant

Presenters:
Robert Kelchen, University of Tennessee at Knoxville
Nicholas Hillman, University of Wisconsin at Madison and Director of SSTAR Lab
Dominique Baker, University of Delaware
Taylor Myers, Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

12:00 pm - 12:20 pm | Research Presentation 9

When the Bill Comes Due: Borrower Experiences with an Asynchronous Loan Repayment Course

Alyssa Stefanese Yates
Jonathan Lewis
Monica Chan, University of Massachusetts-Boston

SESSION: DAY 2 - PRINCE GEORGE'S ROOM 1211 (cont.)

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

12:25 pm - 12:45 pm | Research Presentation 10

College Affordability for Latino, and all, Students: Insights from Seal-Certified Institutions in Texas

Madelyn Lucas, Excelencia in Education
Lily Cuellarsola, Excelencia in Education
Emily Labandera, Excelencia in Education

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm | Lunch

Enjoy your meal!

1:45 pm - 2:25 pm | Symposium Talk

Budget Reconciliation 101: Unpacking Republicans' Proposals to Shape Higher Education and Student Financial Aid Policy

Moderator: Ben Cecil Third Way

Panelists:
Sarah Sattelmeyer, New America.
Kim Dancy, Institute of Higher Education Policy (IHEP)
Helen Faith, University of Virginia

2:30 pm - 2:50 pm | Research Presentation 11

How The College Athletics Landscape is Shaping Student Aid

Christian Collins, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

2:55 pm - 3:15 pm | Research Presentation 12

Financial Literacy Blind Spots and Financial Preparedness Among College Students

Venoo Kakar, San Francisco State University
Gerald Daniels, Howard University
Kelsey Brown, U.S. Census Bureau
Stanislav Shaposhnikov, San Francisco State University

3:20 pm - 3:40 pm | Research Presentation 13

Student Transfer in Illinois: The Role of Cost in Student Decision-Making and Success

Alejandra Villa-Moges, Partnership for College Completion
Giselle Palacios, Partnership for College Completion

3:45 pm - 4:05 pm | Research Presentation 14

What are they all working towards? – The Role of Philanthropy in Simplifying Federal Financial Aid

Pooja Patel, University of Pennsylvania

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