Educational Session

**2326 - The Power of Cross-Consortia Collaboration**
Partnerships and Collaboration, Leadership and Strategic Planning

The higher education consortium model is a strong model for cross-institutional collaboration, transfer mapping, and creating opportunities for shared innovation across member institutions. Cross-consortium collaboration multiplies the potential for shared innovation not only across institutions but across states and regions. This presentation features the cross-consortia collaboration between a time-tested consortium and a new consortium, and how their collaboration has unlocked new opportunities for innovation.

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The Power of Cross-Consortial Collaboration

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Session Overview

1. The higher education consortium model.
2. Consortia as a vehicle for cross-institutional collaboration, transfer mapping, and creating opportunities for shared innovation across member institutions.
3. Cross-consortial collaboration as a potential multiplier for shared innovation not only across institutions but across states and regions.
4. Case study of how a cross-consortial collaboration between a time-tested consortium (NTCCC) and a new consortium (THE Consortium) unlocks new opportunities for innovation.
Conversation Prompt 1

- What type of institution do you represent? (University, Community College, etc.)
- What is your role in the transfer space?
Consortia Across the Nation

A **consortium** is an **association of institutions** for the purpose of **improved and expanded collaboration** to achieve mutually beneficial goals.

- 60+ Higher Education Consortia nationwide in nearly every state
- NTCCC and THE Consortium is part of the Association for Collaborative Leadership (ACL)

Source: https://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/1881/Consortia-in-Higher-Education.html#ixzz70VLICG77
Function of Consortia Across the Nation

- Shared resource and development pursuits
- Shared professional development
- Shared facilities
- Shared faculty and/or staff
- Cross-institutional research & shared research facilities
- Shared/alternate teaching of low enrollment courses
- Alignment of academic calendars
- Cross-registration for online courses
- Jointly operate Academic Centers
- Spouse/partner hiring initiatives
- Shared or coordinated study abroad programs
- Shared ESL programs for orientation/preparation of international students
- Creative and performing arts
- Joint recognition of student and/or faculty excellence
Conversation Prompt 2

What are some creative cross-institutional or cross-consortial collaborative efforts that you have seen or participated in?

How does your institution engage in cross-institutional collaboration?
North Texas Community College Consortium

The 14 North Texas Community College Consortium member colleges span the north Texas region and represent over 30% of all Texas community, junior, and technical college enrollments.

**Mission:**
1. To provide high quality, low cost, easily accessible professional development opportunities
2. To promote excellence and innovation in teaching and learning
3. To support and develop educational pathways
4. To further institutional planning, institutional research, and institutional effectiveness
5. To further diversity, equity, and inclusion
6. To support dual credit and early college high school collaboration
7. To further college readiness and success
8. To promote best practices in human resources
9. To promote communication, cooperation, and collaboration

**Vision:**
A premier regional network enabling member institutions to achieve more, improve quality, and reduce costs through collaboration.

**Strategic Plan:**
1. Enhance professional development to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion
2. Promote communication, cooperation, and collaboration
3. Support stability and sustainability
Tulsa Higher Education Consortium Formation

Leadership from 7 Tulsa higher education institutions, business and industry, city, and non profit sectors formed a formal task force to develop a plan for a consortium structure to continue and expand on the TTP work.

July 2017- Tulsa Transfer Project

Goals:
1. Increase transfer to 4 year universities
2. Reduce course credit loss in transfer process
3. Increase bachelor attainment rates
4. Build a sustainable model for collaboration

January 2020- Tulsa Higher Education Task Force

Today: Tulsa Higher Education Consortium

The Tulsa Higher Education Consortium was launched in June 2021. Mission:
1. advance student learning
2. improve student success
3. achieve equity in outcomes
4. meet workforce needs
Tulsa Higher Education Consortium: Strategy

Convener
The Consortium serves as a neutral convener, bringing together cross-sector and cross-institutional groups to share ideas, engage in professional development, and solve problems collaboratively.

- Spring and Fall Convenings
- Communities of Practice (Cross-Institutional Collaborative Groups)

Communicator
The Consortium will develop its brand as a collaborating entity, amplifying the successes of higher education, and sharing relevant information with all of its members.

- Institutional News & Innovation
- Consortium Brand & Cross-Institutional Info Sharing

Connector
The Consortium connects member institutions and organizations with one another (internally) and with Tulsa-area stakeholders (externally).

- Institutional Role-Alike Groups
- Alumni Advisory & Faculty Corps Groups
Conversation Prompt 3

Considering your context, what are some benefits to cross-institutional collaboration? Potential challenges? How can the challenges be overcome?
The Power of Cross-Consortial Collaboration

“Historical foundation, innovative ideas for the future”

- We are engaged in similar work, just different contexts
- Shared learning
  - NTXCCC supported the formalization of THE Consortium
- Interpersonal Collaboration & Network
  - Empathy
  - Thought partnership
- Event collaboration
- Grant collaboration
- Support for neutral facilitation
Collaborative Examples

- Bylaws and policies
- Dues structure
- Branding and Communications
- Governance Structure

Transfer Collaborative

North Texas Community College Consortium

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2021 Instructional Innovation Conference
What are some takeaways related to cross-institutional and cross-consortial collaboration that you will take with you following this presentation?
Questions?

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