

NISTS 2023

BE A CONNECTOR FOR TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS

Virtual • February 1-3 | Portland, OR • February 22-24

The following presentation was given at the 21st Annual Conference for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. Please cite responsibly and direct questions to the original presenter(s).

Educational Session

2799 - Creating a Consortium to Support Transfer Student Success

Partnerships and Collaboration, Credits and Degree Pathways

Launching a higher education consortium is complex work. This presentation provides a reflective look at the formation of one regional higher education consortium (comprised of seven institutions) to create seamless transfer pathways for students. Presenters will share the origins of a transfer-focused, cross-institutional program, the development of cross-institutional transfer maps, the role of a citywide task force in forming the consortium, the investment from the local philanthropic community, and key learnings from the Consortium's development.

Laura Latta, *Executive Director*

Sarah Wyatt, *Director of Strategy and Operations*

Tulsa Higher Education Consortium

Robin Ploeger, *Vice President for Business Continuity and Sustainability*

University of Tulsa

Tulsa Higher Education Consortium

Creating a Consortium to Support Transfer Student Success



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Laura Latta, Ph.D., Robin Ploeger, Ed.D., Sarah Wyatt, Ed.D.

Presenters



Laura Latta, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Tulsa Higher Education Consortium



Sarah Wyatt, Ed.D.

Director of Strategy & Operations

Tulsa Higher Education
Consortium



Robin Ploeger, EdD

Vice President for Business Continuity and
Sustainability

Chair, Transfer Student Success Committee

University of Tulsa

Tulsa Higher Education Consortium Members



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Topics Covered



- **Setting the Stage for THE Consortium's Formation: the Tulsa Transfer Project**
- **Ingredients for successful Consortium Formation**
 - Establishing shared interest and buy-in from key stakeholders
 - Institutional commitments to improving campus-based transfer processes
 - Funding and sustainability
 - Effective cross-institutional, cross-sector communication



Tulsa's Higher Education Ecosystem

- 1,004,145 residents in the Tulsa MSA
 - Population (25+) with a Bachelor's Degree = 31.8%
- Tulsa-area Higher Education Institutions:
 - Langston- The only HBCU in the state of Oklahoma
 - Tulsa Community College
 - Primary provider of lower-division coursework
 - 2019-2020 Enrollment: 22,569 credit students
 - 2 research institutions (OSU-Tulsa, OU-Tulsa)
 - 2 public 4-year regional universities in Claremore (RSU) & Tahlequah (NSU)
 - 2 Private Universities (University of Tulsa, SNU-Tulsa)





Key Factors

- Shared interest in increasing bachelor's degree attainment in the region
- TCC's central role
- Transfer students are an enrollment driver
- Poor outcomes among transfer students

Transfer Project Goals

1. Increase the number of transfer students from TCC to 4-year universities in the region.
2. Reduce loss of credits.
3. Increase bachelor's degree attainment of TCC transfer students at receiving universities.



Phase 1: The Tulsa Transfer Project (2018-19)



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- Partnered with the John N. Gardner Institute
- Each institution completed a Foundations of Excellence self-study on their campus
- Organized Dimension Committees - faculty, staff, students
- Self-study process -
 - ▷ Conducted surveys
 - ▷ Reviewed campus data, documents, policies, processes, outcomes, etc.
 - ▷ Conducted focus groups



University Self-Study Results - Common Themes



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Embed Transfer Culture in Strategic Plan	Disseminate Transfer Philosophy	Strengthen communication across institutions
Create Transfer Teams	Plan and Strengthen Transfer Orientation Process	Distinguish services between first-year and transfer student orientations
Improve Transfer Page on Institutional Website	Strengthen transfer advising	Develop a system for timely, fair, and equitable transfer evaluation



- **“What surprised me the most was that the colleges do not talk.** I cannot ask an advisor at one school to tell me how to go through the whole process, I had to run back and forth trying to gather the information I or the other school needed.
- “They could have told me it was nothing like they make it out to be. It is a lot of independent work. They could be more clear of what a student’s expectations are. **Sometimes I just had to figure it out.**”
- **“I am concerned about the cost** (of a bachelor’s degree program) because I do not qualify for Financial Aid.



- Classes Online vs. Traditional
- Required classes
- Cost, credit transfer
- Finances
- Cost and program acceptance
- Application process
- Is this the right choice?
- How do I transfer?
- Scholarships
- Financial Aid
- Location
- How do I get started?
- Admission Requirements
- Dorms
- Student organizations
- What courses will I take at the university?
- How can I afford it if I am paying out of pocket?
- Contacts for employment
- Time
- Transferability
- Research opportunities
- Accommodations
- Testing



THE YOUR 4-YEAR PLAN STARTS HERE SCHOLARSHIP

TULSA ACHIEVES
Your Plan A Scholarship

Your Journey Begins at Tulsa Community College

TCC2UNIVERSITY

Tulsa

LANGSTON

TULSA

Earn Your Bachelor's Degree On-Time and On-Budget

YOUR PATHWAY TO A 4-YEAR DEGREE STARTS HERE

GET MORE FOR YOUR 4

TC TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Transfer Tuesdays

Helping students
take their next
steps in
transferring



OKLAHOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY

TCC2UNIVERSITY

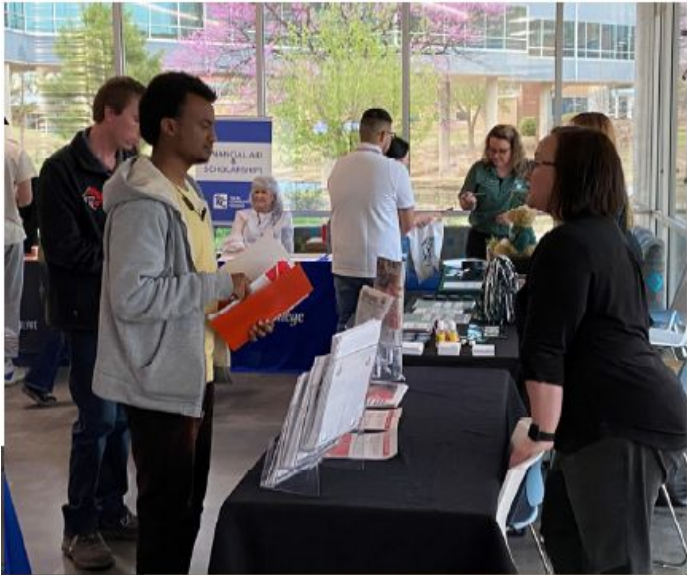


Collage of Collaboration



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<https://www.tulsacc.edu/programs-courses/university-transfer/partners>



Tulsa Higher Education Consortium Partners



Tulsa's Higher Education (THE) Consortium members share a mission to help you get the degree you need for the job you want. TCC and THE Consortium partners collaborate to create a seamless transfer student experience.



[OSU Transfer Programs](#)



[NSU Transfer Programs](#)



[LU Transfer Programs](#)



[OU Transfer Programs](#)



[RSU Transfer Programs](#)



[TU Transfer Programs](#)



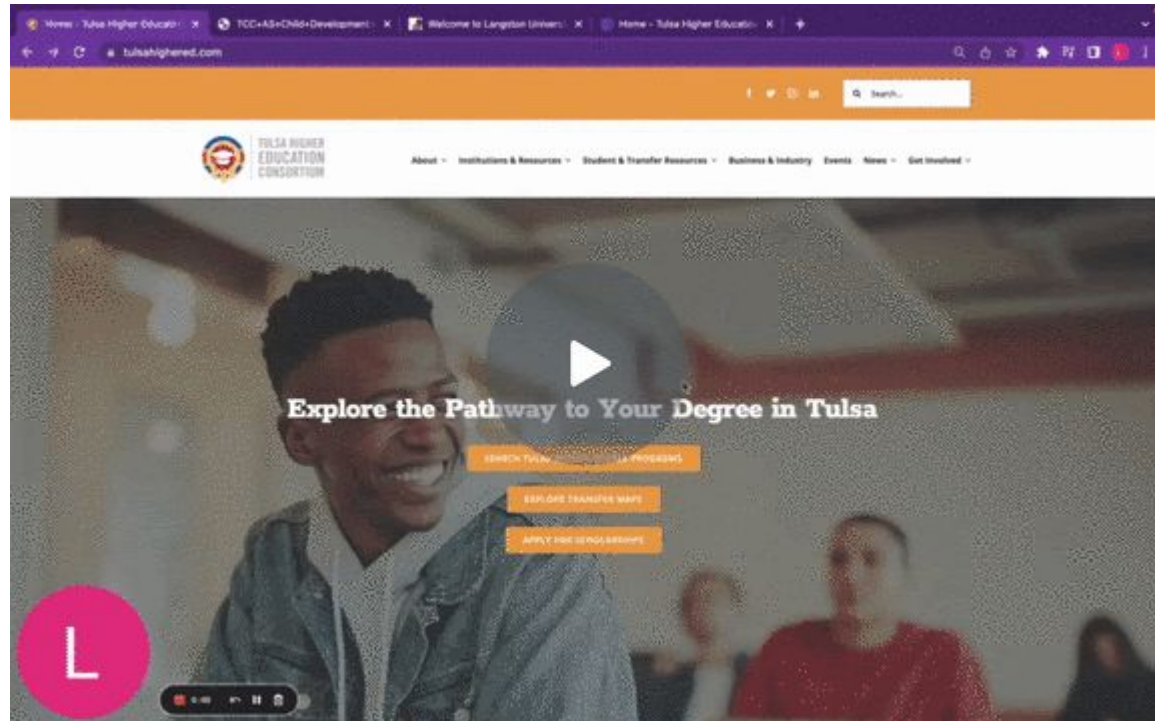


Website: Transfer Supportive Search Tools

Students can now search
Tulsa-area

- Degrees
- Scholarships
- Transfer Pathways
- Tuition Assistance Benefits

[Watch Video](#)



Phase 2: The Tulsa Higher Education Task Force



January 2020: All seven Presidents and five community leaders agreed to establish the
Tulsa Higher Education Task Force.

The Work of the Task Force

- ▶ Eight Task Force meetings and over 40 Sub-Committee meetings between April - October 2020
- ▶ Research on regional consortium models
- ▶ Panels with consortium leaders and national experts in higher education collaboration

Themes from Panel Meetings with Consortium Leaders

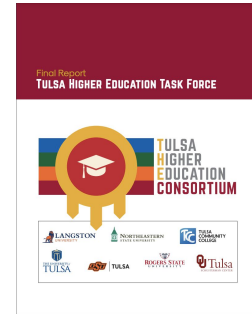
1. Student needs and experiences must **come first.**
2. **Shared professional development** is a significant benefit of a consortium.
3. **Relationships** across institutions are critical and create a foundational building block for cross-institutional structures and processes.
4. It is critical to develop **aligned and standardized transfer processes**, such as articulation agreements and data sharing.
5. Stay **close to the mission**, prioritize simplicity when developing structures, avoid mission drift, and collect mission-centered data.
6. Get creative in developing a **funding structure that promotes sustainability.**

Timeline of Collaboration



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



July 2018-
Tulsa Transfer Project

January 2020- Tulsa Higher
Education Task Force

July 2021: Tulsa Higher
Education Consortium Launch



SNU
1899

Our Mission

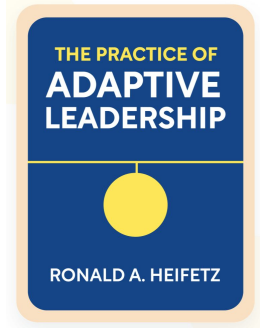


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Convener | **Communicator** | **Connector**

Navigating Challenges in Consortium Formation



Shared interest & Buy-in

- Communicate benefits (“value add”) of collaboration
- Win over early adopters: getting presidents and institutional champions on board
- Create shared space for relationship cultivation

Cross-institutional, Cross-sector Communication

- Assign project managers and facilitators
- Elect a backbone organization to serve as a convener and connector
- Understand the “actor map” and who is engaged in the work.

Common Agenda

- Establish a purpose that unites and excites all institutions
- Clearly communicate the mission at every convening

Funding & Sustainability

- Learn from successful funding structures
 - External funding structure has its benefits for preserving the neutrality of the Consortium

2022 Spring & Fall Convenings

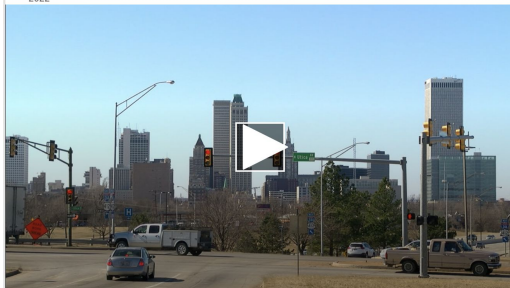




Great News about our Institutions

City of Tulsa awarded \$38 million Build Back Better grant

by Daniela Ibarra & Jennifer Maupin, KTUL staff | Friday, September 2nd 2022



View of the Tulsa skyline at the intersection of Admiral and Utica. (KTUL)



TULSA, Okla. (KTUL) — The White House awarded Tulsa a \$38.2 million dollar grant to advance aerial mobility, according to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Inasmuch Foundation

Inasmuch Foundation distributes \$3.7 million in recent grant awards

September 1, 2022



Six new partners have been awarded Impact Partnership Grants (IPG)

July 27, 2022 | Filed Under: Workforce + Education

The Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development (GCWED) and the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development (OOWD) announce the award of six Impact Partnership Grants for investment in workforce growth.

EDUCATION

University of Oklahoma to found new polytechnic institute in Tulsa

Nuria Martinez-Keel
Oklahoman

Published 5:00 a.m. CT May 14, 2022

View Comments

NORMAN — With corporate interest growing in the northeast corner of the state, the University of Oklahoma is planning a new technology school in Tulsa to meet workforce demand.

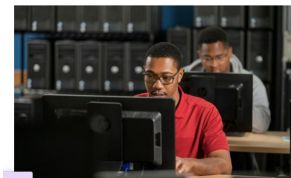
OU Polytechnic Institute would operate on the OU-Tulsa campus, pending approval next month from the OU Board of Regents and later from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

OU President Joseph Harroz Jr. announced the launch at a Friday meeting of the university regents in Norman. A date for the institute to open has not been determined.

Cyber Skills Center Launches in Tulsa to Develop Diverse, Local Tech Talent Pipeline

July 6, 2022

Tulsa Community College and Tulsa Innovation Labs, in partnership with edX, the global online learning platform from 2U, Inc. (Nasdaq: TWOU), and SkillStorm, launch the Cyber Skills Center.



TOP STORY

\$9.5 million grant to help expand OSU Center for Health Sciences childhood trauma research

The Okfuskee | Oct 13, 2022 | Updated Oct 13, 2022 | 463



The OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa is pleased to have received this grant.

RSU ranked in U.S. News and World Report for college rankings

Nov 10, 2022 | Updated Nov 13, 2022

THE Consortium Programs



Advance Student Learning



Improve Student Success
and Degree Completion



Achieve Equity in Outcomes



Meet Workforce Needs

Communities of Practice

Higher Education in
Tulsa Web Resources

Data Dashboard

Tuition Assistance
Benefits Website

Professional
Development Offerings

Campus Ambassador
Program

Community-wide higher
education survey

Connections with
Internship Opportunities



**Institutional Staff, Faculty, &
Leadership**



**Prospective Students in
NEO**



Institutional Partners



Business & Industry Partners

Communities of Practice



A community of practice is a **group of people who share a similar role, a common set of challenges, or an interest in a topic and who collaborate to fulfill shared goals.**

Outcomes:

- Information and resource sharing
- Streamlining and connecting processes
- Collaborative marketing
- Professional development

THE Consortium's Progress



Follow us on Social Media!



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@TulsaHigherEducationConsortium



@HigherTulsa



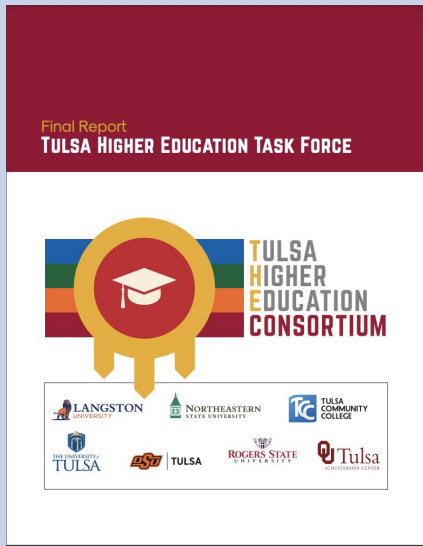
@tulsahighered



@TulsaHigherEducationConsortium

Website:

www.tulsahighered.com



Check out the 2020 Higher Education Task Force Report:

www.tulsaighered.com

Questions?

Laura Latta: llatta@tulsaighered.com

Sarah Wyatt: swyatt@tulsaighered.com

Robin Ploeger: robin-ploeger@utulsa.edu