

2026 Event Program

(draft February 28, 2026 – subject to change)

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN TIME (ET)

Monday, March 16

Fuse at Mason Square - 3401 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA

5 - 7 pm

Welcome Reception – 6th Floor

- Gregory Washington, President, George Mason University

Tuesday, March 17

Fuse at Mason Square - 3401 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA

7:45 am

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:15 am / Main

Welcome

- Gregory Washington, President, George Mason University
- James Sparkman, Producer, P3•EDU

8:30 am / Main

The New Era of Collaboration in Higher Education

- Tony Allen, President, Delaware State University
- Susan Burns, President, University of Mount Saint Vincent
- Daniel Greenstein, Chief of Industry Transformation, Ellucian; Chancellor Emeritus, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education (PASSHE)
- Marjorie Hass, President, Council of Independent Colleges
- Moderator: Lee Gardner, Senior Writer, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

9:30 am / A

Collaborative Transformation Across Theological Education

- Jeff Carter, President, Bethany Theological Seminary
- Greg Henson, President, Kairos University
- Amy Kardash, President, In Trust Center for Theological Schools
- Frank Yamada, Executive Director, The Association of Theological Schools
- Moderator: Richard Staisloff, Senior Partner, rpk GROUP

9:30 am / B

National and Regional Affiliation Models

- Michael Horowitz, Chancellor, The Community Solution Education System
- Stig Laneskog, CEO, The Claremont Colleges Services (TCCS)
- Sarah Pfatteicher, Executive Director, Five Colleges
- Ricardo Azziz, Principal, SPH Consulting Group; Director, Center for Higher Education Mergers & Acquisitions (CHEMA)
- Moderator: Neil Lefkowitz, Partner, Loeb & Loeb LLP

10:30 am / A

Strategic MAP Approaches

- Chad Cook, Treasurer, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Nicole Salazar, Director, PFM Financial Advisors
- Moderator: Archie Chandrasekhar, Managing Director, Reith Jones Advisors

10:30 am / B

The Merger That's Redefining Higher Education – University of Texas at San Antonio Case Study

- Francisco Cigarroa, M.D., Senior Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Health System, University of Texas at San Antonio; former Chancellor, University of Texas System
- Taylor Eighmy, President, University of Texas at San Antonio
- Moderator: Doug Lederman, Co-Founder, *Inside Higher Ed*

11:30 am / A

The Future of MAP Models

- Kent Devereaux, President, Goucher College
- Jeanne Meister, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, Excelsior University
- Rodney Rogers, President, Bowling Green State University
- Moderator: Peter Stokes, Managing Director, Huron Consulting Group

11:30 am / B

Outsourced Shared Services

- Jason Dempsey, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.); President, MissionWise Growth Partners
- Shawn Daley, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, George Fox University

12:15 pm

Lunch

1 pm

Fuse Building Tour

- Edgemoor Infrastructure and Real Estate

1:30 pm / A

Building Scale and Private University Systems

- John Porter, President, Lindenwood University
- Jessica Wood, Managing Director, S&P Global Ratings
- John Comerford, President, Otterbein University
- Moderator: Christopher Good, Managing Director and Head of Higher Education & Nonprofit Finance, Global Investment Banking, RBC Capital Markets

1:30 pm / B

The MAP Hard Truths Clinic

- Deb Bushway, President, Northwestern Health Sciences University
- David King, President, Ursuline College
- Jay Goin, President, Los Angeles Pacific University
- Eric Fulcomer, President & CEO, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- Moderator: Kamalika Sandell, CEO, Core Education

2:30 pm / A

State of U.S. Higher Education

- Sara Custer, Editor-in-Chief, *Inside Higher Ed*
- Brad Wolverton, Editor, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*
- Moderator: Ted Eismeier, Senior Vice President, Head of Postsecondary Communications, Whiteboard Advisors

2:30 pm / B

Strategic Transaction Frameworks in Higher Education

- Barry Ryan, Partner, Edu Alliance Group; former President, Woodbury University
- Patrick Hogan, Vice President for Financial Planning & Analysis and Strategic Transactions, Loyola Marymount University
- Moderator: AJ Prager, Managing Director, Hilltop Securities

3:30 pm / A

Shared Services Partnerships for Growth and Innovation

- Melik Peter Khoury, President & CEO, Unity Environmental University
- Josh Knotts, President & CEO, Joyce University of Nursing and Health Sciences
- Kim Fahey, President & CEO, Collegis Education
- Brent Ramdin, CEO, EducationDynamics
- Moderator: Chloe O'Sullivan, Principal, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)

3:30 pm / B

MAP Integration Challenges

- Stephanie Gold, Partner, Hogan Lovells
- Bryan Lackaye, Vice President, Global Network and Strategic Initiatives, Northeastern University
- Matthew Shaftel, President, Russell Sage College
- Jeffrey Stein, Chief Integration Officer and Executive Vice President, Elon University
- Moderator: Robert Spencer, Principal, Huron Consulting Group

4:30 pm / Main

Fireside Chat

- Nicholas Kent, Under Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education
- Dennis Cariello, Shareholder, Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose

5:15 pm

Reception