



# TECSCU

TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL OF  
STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

**ANNUAL FALL MEETING**

*The Orleans Hotel & Casino*

**October 5–7, 2025**

**WELCOME**

TO *Fabulous*  
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**NEVADA**

**Resilient  
Leadership  
in Times  
of Change**

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### Undergraduate Programs

|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Early Childhood Education*  | Health & Physical Education  |
| Elementary Education        | Sport/Recreation Management* |
| Special Education*          | Psychology*                  |
| Health & Human Performance* |                              |

### Graduate Programs

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Counseling                 | Library Media & Info   |
| Early Childhood Education* | Technology*            |
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| Instructional Leadership*  | School Administration* |
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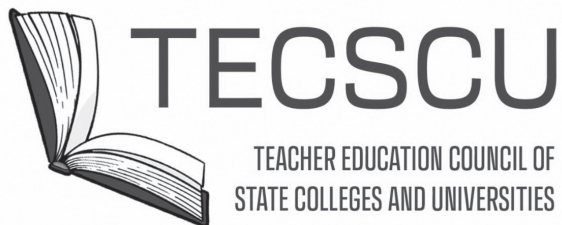
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# Excellence in Educator Preparation



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## Welcome

Dear TECSCU Conference Attendees,

Welcome to the **Fall 2025 TECSCU Conference**! We are thrilled to gather with such a dedicated community of leaders, scholars, and educators who are deeply committed to advancing teacher education through collaboration, innovation, and shared purpose.

This year's theme, *"Resilient Leadership in Times of Change,"* resonates powerfully as we continue to navigate evolving landscapes in education. Together, we will explore strategies for strengthening educator preparation, leading with courage and vision, and building meaningful partnerships that expand opportunities and support all learners.

As we come together this week, you will have the opportunity to engage in thought-provoking sessions, share emerging practices, and learn from colleagues across the country. We are especially excited about the discussions focused on resilience, innovation, and expanding access, which are essential to shaping strong and responsive teacher preparation programs for the future.

We also invite you to look ahead to our upcoming professional development events, designed to continue the momentum sparked here in Las Vegas. Be sure to mark your calendars for our upcoming events this winter and spring, which promise to offer powerful insights and strategies to support your continued growth as educational leaders. You can learn more about these offerings at [tecscu.org/professional-development/](https://tecscu.org/professional-development/).

Thank you for your passion, your presence, and your ongoing contributions to our field. We are honored to learn and lead alongside you, and we look forward to an inspiring and productive conference!



Warm regards,  
**Lisa Huffman**  
President, TECSCU



**Amy Ginsberg**  
President-Elect, TECSCU

## Thank you to our Sponsors



# AT-A-GLANCE AGENDA

## Sunday, October 5, 2025

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| Noon–4 p.m. | TECSCU BOARD MEETING & LUNCH |
| 4–6 p.m.    | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION      |
| 6–7 p.m.    | HAPPY HOUR / NETWORKING      |

## Monday, October 6, 2025

|                 |   |  |  |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| 7:30–10 a.m.    | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION   |  |  |
| 7:30–8:30 a.m.  | BREAKFAST   |  |  |
| 8:30–9 a.m.     | CONFERENCE WELCOME   AACTE/AASCU UPDATES   SPONSOR SHOWCASE   |  |  |
| 9–10 a.m.       | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Naming and Historicizing this Moment: A Top Five List                              |  |  |
| 10–10:15 a.m.   | BREAK   |  |  |
| 10:15–11 a.m.   | CONNECTING INNOVATION WITH INTEGRITY:<br>AI-Assisted Curriculum Development in Educator Preparation | FROM OZ TO ACTION:<br>Building Transformational Leadership for Evolving Educational Spaces                               | TEACHING BLACK:<br>Common Eyes All See the Same                                |
|                 | FROM WARNED TO WINNING:<br>Celebrating Multi-Stakeholder Transformation in Educator Preparation     | IMAGINE A PATHWAY TO TEACHING  |  |
| 11–11:15 a.m.   | BREAK   |  |  |
| 11:15 a.m.–Noon | FROM CONTACT TO COLLABORATION:<br>Building Powerful Partnerships with Families                      | FROM PREPAREDNESS TO PRACTICE:<br>Principals’ Perspectives on First-Year Teacher Impact                                  | TEACHER RESIDENCY’S INFLUENCE ON TURNOVER INTENTION                            |
|                 | LEVERAGING SHARED EXPERTISE IN A COLLABORATIVE PLC MODEL  | STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF POLICY FLUX:<br>A Comparative Case Study of Two EPPs Responding to Convergent Pressures |  |
| Noon–1:30 p.m.  | LUNCH AND TECSCU BUSINESS MEETING   |  |  |
| 1:30–2:15 p.m.  | GOING BEYOND CLINICAL PARTNERSHIPS:<br>Building Strong Programs with School-University Partnerships | NEED MORE TEACHERS?<br>Rethinking Curricula and Supports to Expand the Candidate Pool and Improve Retention              | THE LEADERSHIP BALANCING ACT:<br>Playing Your Hand Wisely                      |
|                 | SCROLLING HORIZONS GOALS:<br>A Continuous Improvement Approach to Strategic Planning                | TRANSFORMING TEACHER PREPARATION THROUGH STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCES  |  |
| 2:15–2:30 p.m.  | BREAK   |  |  |
| 2:30–3:15 p.m.  | ACCREDITATION PILATES:<br>Flexibility, Strength, and Balance in the CAEP Accreditation Process      | A PILOT PROGRAM REVIEW:<br>Centering Authenticity and Meeting Accreditation Requirements                                 | SUSTAINING IMPACT:<br>Innovative Approaches to Trauma-Informed Program Funding |
|                 | INCREASING CERTIFICATION ACCESS AND FLEXIBILITY   | LEADING TOGETHER:<br>Institutions Advancing Equity and Policy Through Strategic Collaboration                            |  |

# AT-A-GLANCE AGENDA

## Monday, October 6, 2025 *continued*

|                |  |   |  |
|----------------|--|---|--|
| 3:15–3:30 p.m. | BREAK  |   |  |
| 3:30–4:15 p.m. | EMPOWERING EDUCATORS THROUGH AGENCY  | ENGAGEMENT IN QUALITY ASSURANCE:<br>Faculty, candidates, completers, and other stakeholders | THE ART AND SCIENCE OF TEACHING:<br>A Framework for Excellence |
|                | FROM INTERN TO EDUCATOR:<br>Building Teacher Pipelines Through Registered Apprenticeship | INNOVATION IN ACTION:<br>Co-Designing the Future of Teacher Preparation                     |  |
| 5–6 p.m.       | HAPPY HOUR/NETWORKING  |   |  |

## Tuesday, October 7, 2025

|               |   |  |   |  |
|---------------|---|--|---|--|
| 7:30–8 a.m.   | BREAKFAST   |  |   |  |
| 8–8:45 a.m.   | BREAKFAST KEYNOTE ADDRESS: TeachBridge Pathways: From Practice to Profession  |  |   |  |
| 8:45–9 a.m.   | BREAK   |  |   |  |
| 9–9:45 a.m.   | GRAPPLING FOR HEALTHY BOUNDARIES:<br>Pre-Service Teachers at a Rural-Serving University Reflect on Their Self-Care Kits | REIMAGINING READINESS TOGETHER:<br>A Collaborative Exploration of Flexible, Future-Focused Teacher Internships | GROW YOUR OWN DATA ANALYTICS:<br>Using Tableau to Visualize Program Strengths for State Reauthorization | FROM SILOS TO SYNERGY:<br>A University-State-Partner Model for Transforming Educator Learning. Insights from a Statewide Collaboration to Elevate Early Literacy Instruction |
| 9:45–10 a.m.  | BREAK   |  |   |  |
| 10–10:45 a.m. | CONSTRUCTIVIST PEDAGOGY MEETS VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS:<br>Innovation for Nontraditional Teachers                           | KEARNEY TEACHERS TOMORROW:<br>School District to University to School District Pipeline                        | THE PARADOX OF THE PREPARATION-PRACTICE DIVIDE:<br>The (Ir) Relevance of Teacher Education              | WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?<br>Building and Retaining the Teaching Workforce   |
| 10:45–11 a.m. | BREAK   |  |   |  |
| 11–11:45 a.m. | 7 STEPS FOR BEING A CHANGEMAKER IN EDUCATION'S EVOLVING LANDSCAPE   | REWRITING READING:<br>A Rural Response to Literacy Equity in New Mexico  | MANAGING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS  | PROJECT IMPACT PROGRAM:<br>A Model of Strategic Partnership in Education Workforce Development   |
| 11:45 a.m.    | ADJOURN   |  |   |  |

BREAKS, MEALS & NETWORKING

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

BOARD ACTIVITIES



**TECSCU**

TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL OF  
STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Annual Fall Meeting 2025

# *Resilient Leadership in Times of Change*

October 5–7, 2025

The Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

## Sunday, October 5, 2025

Noon–4 p.m.

TECSCU BOARD MEMBERS: MEETING AND LUNCH

Jackson Square

4–6 p.m.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference Foyer

6–7 p.m.

HAPPY HOUR/NETWORKING

OR Salon K&L

## Monday, October 6, 2025

7:30–10 a.m.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference Foyer

7:30–8:30 a.m.

BREAKFAST

Bienville

8:30–9 a.m.

CONFERENCE WELCOME

—Lisa Huffman, TECSCU President; Dean, University of Cincinnati

—Amy Ginsberg, TECSCU President-Elect; Dean, William Paterson University

**AACTE Updates:** Cheryl Holcomb McCoy, President and CEO

**AASCU Updates:** Lisa Hunter, Associate Vice President, Academic Innovation & Transformation

SPONSOR SHOWCASE

9–10 a.m.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Naming and Historicizing this Moment: A Top Five List**

Bienville

—Kevin Kumashiro, Co-founder, Education Deans for Justice and Equity

How might schools and educators dive into this moment of numerous national and global crises to reimagine and democratize education? What is happening right now in education across the country, and what are the histories too often overlooked in our analyses of the problems and solutions? This interactive lecture summarizes and analyzes significant developments and initiatives in U.S. education, focusing on the interconnected web of recent SCOTUS rulings, federal and state legislation and policy initiatives, venture philanthropy, and social mobilization that are positioned like never before to accelerate the dismantling of public education. The presenter will share a Top Five List of what we, particularly in teacher education, should be preparing for, how we got here, and more just alternatives, along with new resources and questions for further dialogue.

10–10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15–11 a.m.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Connecting Innovation with Integrity: AI-Assisted Curriculum Development in Educator Preparation**

OR Salon A

—Lead Presenter: Marguerita DeSander, Western Kentucky University

—Additional Presenters: Susan Keesey & Corinne Murphy, Western Kentucky University

This presentation examines ethical AI use in educator preparation curriculum development. Key concerns include bias, content quality, instructor autonomy, and accountability. Six principles emerged: purpose-driven design, program-specific prompts, AI-faculty partnerships, human oversight, stakeholder engagement, and transparency. Findings show ethical AI implementation requires iterative dialogue and faculty review to maintain academic integrity while leveraging efficiency.

**FREE Professional Development Opportunities offered by TECSCU during 2025–2026:**

**SEE PAGE 15 FOR DATES AND TOPICS!**

Professional Development will be held via Zoom.

More detailed information will be posted to [www.tecscu.org](http://www.tecscu.org)



10:15–11 a.m.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **From Oz to Action: Building Transformational Leadership for Evolving Educational Spaces**

OR Salon B

–Lead Presenter: Kari Henry Hulett, Northeastern State University of Oklahoma  
–Additional Presenter: Maria Gray, Northeastern State University of Oklahoma

In today's evolving educational landscape, transformational leadership empowers educators to lead with vision, courage, and purpose. Using The Wizard of Oz as a framework, this session explores principles of transformational leadership. Participants will identify their leadership strengths through a survey and engage in discussions to share effective leadership strategies.

### **From Warned to Winning: Celebrating Multi-Stakeholder Transformation in Educator Preparation**

OR Salon D

–Lead Presenter: Jannah Nerren, Stephen F. Austin State University  
–Additional Presenter: Christina Sinclair, Stephen F. Austin State University

This presentation describes a university-based educator preparation program's transformation from state "Accredited Warned" status to full accreditation through strategic multi-stakeholder collaboration. Program leaders, faculty, staff, and school partners drove systematic improvements including curriculum redesign, enhanced clinical experiences, and robust assessment systems, demonstrating how accountability challenges can catalyze sustainable program excellence.

### **Imagine a Pathway to Teaching**

OR Salon E

–Lead Presenter: Laurie Mullen, Towson University  
–Additional Presenter: Laila Richman, Towson University

This proposal describes a new initiative to recruit conditional teachers in Maryland. We describe our innovative recruitment approaches, the unique boot-camp materials and ongoing mentoring strategies to support the complex process of becoming fully certified teachers. We will share a replicable framework for addressing educator shortages across the nation.

### **Teaching Black: Common Eyes All See the Same**

OR Salon F

–Lead Presenter: LaChan Hannon, Rutgers University-Newark

This presentation celebrates the self-study of five Black teachers from the same school who explore the actualization of bringing our whole selves to the workplace. Using the tenets of racial identity development in teaching to operationalize what we call teaching Black, we discover how we created third-spaces to confront issues of anti-Blackness, abuses of power, and structural inequities for ourselves and our students towards the goal of community building, collective responsibility, and teacher retention.

11–11:15 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m.–Noon

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **From Contact to Collaboration: Building Powerful Partnerships with Families**

OR Salon A

–Lead Presenter: Christine Fisher, University of Nebraska Kearney


This session presents a practical, research-based toolkit designed to strengthen culturally responsive partnerships between educators and families of students with severe disabilities. Participants will explore tools that support communication, collaboration, and conflict resolution, while embracing visionary leadership and inclusive practices that promote shared decision-making and equitable educational outcomes.

### **From Preparedness to Practice: Principals' Perspectives on First-Year Teacher Impact**

OR Salon B

–Lead Presenter: Casey Brown, Sam Houston State University  
–Additional Presenters: Abbie Strunc, Helen Berg & Stacey Edmonson, Sam Houston State University

Findings will be shared from a study exploring school leaders' perspectives of early-career teacher readiness. Insights gained can inform educator preparation program curricula, professional development, and evaluation systems. The session will include implications for program redesign, school-university partnerships, and induction opportunities.



**INVITED PRESENTATION:**  
will be offering  
a professional  
development  
webinar  
during  
2025–2026  
for TECSCU

**11:15 a.m.–Noon**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Leveraging Shared Expertise in a Collaborative PLC Model**

**OR Salon D**

–Lead Presenter: Laila Richman, Towson University

–Additional Presenter: Laurie Mullen, Towson University

Through teacher collaborative projects to foster increased alignment and shared language, a university and two school districts collaboratively developed and implemented a unique Professional Learning Community (PLC) model with interns, in-service teachers, and university faculty participants. This presentation will share the unique challenges and benefits of partnership PLCs.

**Strategic Leadership in Times of Policy Flux: A Comparative Case Study of Two EPPs Responding to Convergent Pressures**

**OR Salon E**

–Lead Presenter: Gina Anderson, Texas Woman's University

–Additional Presenters: Jannah Nerren & Christina Sinclair, Stephen F. Austin State University

This session explores how two educator preparation programs used mission-aligned leadership, strategic collaboration, and adaptive planning to navigate converging policy pressures. Through comparative case analysis, presenters offer practical tools for prioritizing opportunities, building partnerships, and sustaining innovation within dynamic higher education environments. Attendees will engage in application-focused discussion.

**Teacher Residency's Influence on Turnover Intention**

**OR Salon F**

–Lead Presenter: Myra Lovett, University of Louisiana Monroe

–Additional Presenter: Dustin Hebert, Southeastern Louisiana University

Given the increase of turnover in recent years and the nationwide shortage of classroom teachers, this presentation will share the findings of a study that explores the factors that influence turnover intention through the lens of psychological capital and emotional exhaustion among teacher residents in their year-long induction program.

**Noon–1:30 p.m.**

**LUNCH AND TECSCU BUSINESS MEETING**

**Bienville**

Hear from the Board of Directors regarding 2025–2026

**1:30–2:15 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Going Beyond Clinical Partnerships:**

**OR Salon A**

**Building Strong Programs with School-University Partnerships**

–Lead Presenter: Margaret Renn, William Paterson University

Explore how school-university partnerships (SUPs) can extend beyond strong clinical practice settings to shape policy, drive innovation, and ensure program quality. Highlighting the work of a dynamic SUP advisory council, we examine collaborative efforts in accreditation, research, and advocacy that strengthen teacher preparation and elevate stakeholder engagement statewide.

**Need More Teachers? Rethinking Curricula and Supports to Expand the Candidate Pool and Improve Retention**

**OR Salon B**

–Lead Presenter: Susan Keesey, Western Kentucky University

–Additional Presenters: Marguerita DeSander, Corinne Murphy & Jennifer Klemm, Western Kentucky University

Development of Grow Your Own and Apprenticeship programs provide opportunities to increase the number of teacher candidates and teacher leaders through an expanded candidate pool. It also requires rethinking current practices and supports for nontraditional candidates. This interactive session explores successes, challenges, and program effectiveness of these innovative models.

**Scrolling Horizons Goals:**

**OR Salon D**

**A Continuous Improvement Approach to Strategic Planning**

–Lead Presenter: Jon Margerum-Leys, Oakland University

Discover how Oakland University's School of Education and Human Services uses a dynamic scrolling horizons model to keep strategic planning responsive and relevant. Anchored in core values and iterative, rolling timeframes, this approach fosters vision clarity, adaptability, and collaboration across departments – turning strategic planning into a continuous process of reflection, alignment, and action.



1:30–2:15 p.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Transforming Teacher Preparation through Study Abroad Experiences**

**OR Salon E**

–Lead Presenter: Laura Dell, University of Cincinnati

Explore strategies for leading and customizing study abroad courses for teacher preparation students. This session will highlight transformative experiences that empower future educators by immersing them in diverse educational environments, fostering global perspectives, and equipping them to confidently lead increasingly multicultural and international US classrooms.

#### **The Leadership Balancing Act: Playing Your Hand Wisely**

**OR Salon F**

–Lead presenter: Colleen Mulholland, University of Northern Iowa

–Additional presenter: Laurie Mullen, Towson University

As leaders of Colleges and Schools of Education, we constantly face complex dilemmas shaped by competing demands and shifting priorities. This session offers space to discuss leadership dilemmas paired with strategy ideas to address, tackle, and consider these challenges—while playing the hand we’re dealt with wisdom, integrity, and foresight.

2:15–2:30 p.m.

**Break**

2:30–3:15 p.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Accreditation Pilates:**

##### **Flexibility, Strength, and Balance in the CAEP Accreditation Process**

**OR Salon A**

–Lead Presenter: Malina Monaco, CAEP

–Additional Presenter: Dustin Hebert, Southeastern Louisiana University

This presentation will explore the CAEP accreditation process, emphasizing flexibility, strength, and balance. Attendees will learn how to adapt to shifting state and federal policies, build strong assessment systems, and maintain equilibrium across standards. Practical strategies for addressing standards will be shared.

#### **A Pilot Program Review: Centering Authenticity and Meeting Accreditation Requirements**

**OR Salon B**

–Lead Presenter: Mary McGriff, New Jersey City University

This session reports on a pilot quality assurance system designed to deepen faculty engagement and strengthen accreditation reviews. Emphasizing faculty ownership and relevance to teaching and student outcomes, the model moves beyond compliance to foster authenticity and purpose. Participants will explore the theoretical framework and consider applications for their institutions.

#### **Increasing Certification Access and Flexibility**

**OR Salon D**

–Lead Presenter: Lisa Johnson, Winthrop University

–Additional Presenter: Beth Costner, Winthrop University

As we look for ways to recruit teachers from multiple and varied backgrounds, we must acknowledge the need for increased access to and flexibility in curriculum delivery. This presentation highlights efforts to transform teacher preparation through competency-based, virtual spaces with significant focus on program quality and participant engagement.

#### **Leading Together:**

**OR Salon E**

##### **Institutions Advancing Equity and Policy Through Strategic Collaboration**

–Lead Presenter: Amy Ginsberg, William Paterson University

–Additional Presenters: Sumi Hagiwara, Montclair State University; Tabitha Dell’Angelo, The College of New Jersey; LaChan Hannon, Rutgers University-Newark; & Stacey Leftwich, Rowan University

This session highlights the visionary leadership and collaborative impact of New Jersey institutions affiliated with TECSCU and the state AACTE affiliate. Presenters will share strategies for fostering equity through roles on the executive, social justice, and government relations committees, offering a model for statewide influence, shared governance, and sustained educator preparation reform.

**Thank you to our sponsors!**



2:30–3:15 p.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Sustaining Impact: Innovative Approaches to Trauma-Informed Program Funding**

OR Salon F

–Lead Presenter: Kathryn Young, Metropolitan State University of Denver

–Additional Presenter: Suzan Dees, Metropolitan State University of Denver

In this session, we are going to share an innovative practice to raise trauma-informed programmatic funds in the current political climate. We provide the case for utilizing our parallel expertise in content-knowledge and non-profit business acumen to expand trauma-informed practices into the K-12 community and expand offerings at the university.

3:15–3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30–4:15 p.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Empowering Educators Through Agency**

OR Salon A

–Lead Presenter: Sharon Vasser Darling, University of Texas Permian Basin

–Additional Presenter: Lorraine Spickermann, University of Texas Permian Basin

Our teacher residency program empowers prospective educators to be leaders. Creating and sustaining living documents that grow with both the program and the teacher residents is essential. Ongoing transformations to curriculum, programs, and scholarship facilitate the placement of well-equipped and experienced educators from underrepresented rural populations in west Texas.

#### **Engagement in Quality Assurance:**

##### **Faculty, Candidates, Completers, and Other Stakeholders**

OR Salon B

–Lead Presenter: Linda McKee, AAQEP

Accreditation has historically posed a barrier to collaboration and innovative growth in educator preparation through reliance on measures that stress inputs, yield disparate outcomes, and insistence on limited program models. AAQEP accreditation standards promote access and support service to communities and individuals through partnerships supported by a collaborative, innovative process.

#### **From Intern to Educator:**

##### **Building Teacher Pipelines Through Registered Apprenticeship**

OR Salon D

–Lead Presenter: Mary McGriff, New Jersey City University

–Additional Presenter: Michelle Rosen, New Jersey City University

Learn how a teacher intern program earned US Dept. of Labor Registered Apprenticeship status and continues to build a diverse, practice-ready pipeline of future educators. Presenters will share insights on addressing Registered Apprenticeship standards, supporting pre-service teacher development, and growing K–12 school partnerships.

#### **Innovation in Action: Co-Designing the Future of Teacher Preparation**

OR Salon E

–Lead Presenter: Angela Parmentier-Sikorski, Texas A&M University-Texarkana

–Additional Presenter: Abbie Strunc, Helen Berg & Casey Brown, Sam Houston State University

Framed by Texas's recent HB2 legislation supporting teacher preparation, this interactive session invites participants to co-create innovative strategies for educator development. Through small-group discussion, participants will share best practices, explore emerging trends, and generate actionable ideas—leaving with adaptable, field-informed approaches to program design, regardless of state or setting.

#### **The Art and Science of Teaching: A Framework for Excellence**

OR Salon F

–Lead Presenter: Carrie Kracl, University of Nebraska Kearney

The “science of reading” is a body of research that informs educators on how students learn to read and how to best support them in developing strong literacy skills. Is preparing preservice teachers with information on the 5 components of the SoR enough? This presentation will focus on not only the science but also the art of teaching that must be present in order to achieve excellence for all students.

5–6 p.m.

#### **Happy Hour/Networking**

OR Salon K&L

Meet with existing and new colleagues to enjoy a drink & some refreshments.

# Tuesday, October 7, 2025

7:30–8 a.m.

Breakfast

Bienville

8–8:45 a.m.

## BREAKFAST KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

### TeachBridge Pathways: From Practice to Profession

Bienville

–Erin Crisp, AVP Learner Success and Workforce Pathways, University of Tennessee System

The University of Tennessee Grow Your Own Center created 16 flexible modules aligned with InTASC standards for teacher training. This online, competency-based curriculum helps Tennessee EPPs widen access to high-quality teacher preparation and supports TN's Registered Apprenticeship Program. TeachBridge Pathways will become Open Educational Resources (OER) in December 2025. The modules suit both undergraduate and post-baccalaureate programs and can be matched to any state's licensure requirements.

8:45–9 a.m.

Break

9–9:45 a.m.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Grappling for Healthy Boundaries:

OR Salon A

#### Pre-Service Teachers at a Rural-Serving University Reflect on Their Self-Care Kits

–Lead Presenter: Monica Hansen, University of Nebraska Kearney

While self-reliance and independence have long been American ideals, especially in rural areas, expecting teachers to put the care of others first and become all things to all people is rooted in our history and philosophy with standing icons like the single teacher in a one-room schoolhouse. Analysis of end-of-term reflections of preservice teachers helps us better understand a new generation of teachers' developing ethics of care. Themes present in reflections of third- and fourth-year students suggest preservice teachers are beginning to recognize that self-care is not just superficial and egocentric, but that building strong relationships with others is vital to their ability to survive and thrive in the workforce.

### Grow Your Own Data Analytics –

OR Salon B

#### Using Tableau to Visualize Program Strengths for State Reauthorization

–Lead Presenter: Barbara Fricks Romero, Metropolitan State University of Denver

–Additional Presenters: Chandra Diaz & Bryan Bohanan Metropolitan State University of Denver

State reauthorization can be a daunting task for many education preparation programs (EPP). Through centralized data collection and documentation, we have developed a method to maximize individual autonomy of program areas while ensuring all required expectations are met using a single Tableau dashboard.

### From Silos to Synergy:

OR Salon D

#### A University-State-Partner Model for Transforming Educator Learning.

#### Insights from a Statewide Collaboration to Elevate Early Literacy Instruction.

–Lead Presenter: Jesslyn Hollar, University of Nebraska Kearney

–Additional Presenter: Chelsea Feusner, University of Nebraska Kearney

This session spotlights institutional leadership in forging strategic partnerships to advance educator preparation. Presenters share lessons from a statewide initiative that brought universities, agencies, and external organizations together to deliver evidence-based literacy training. Attendees will explore collaborative models, leadership practices, and strategies for driving sustainable, cross-sector educational innovation.

### Reimagining Readiness Together:

OR Salon E

#### A Collaborative Exploration of Flexible, Future-Focused Teacher Internships

–Lead Presenter: Vanessa Anton, Northeastern State University

–Additional Presenters: Lisa Bisogno & Kelli Carney, Northeastern State University

In this interactive session, we'll look at how programs can transform internships to reflect the current needs of teacher candidates and PK–12 classrooms. Balancing work, caregiving, and part-time study, let's rethink candidate "readiness" and redesign experiences for greater flexibility, accessibility, and equity. Innovative models supporting high-quality, community-embedded, and tech-integrated internships are critical. Participants will contribute insights, discuss challenges, and share ideas as we co-construct strategies for internships that are rigorous and responsive.

INVITED  
PRESENTATION:

will be offering  
a professional  
development  
webinar  
during  
2025–2026  
for TECSCU



|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 9:45–10 a.m.  | Break  |
| 10–10:45 a.m. | <div> <div> <b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b> </div> <div> <div> <b>Constructivist Pedagogy Meets Virtual Environments: Innovation for Nontraditional Teachers</b> </div> <div> <i>–Lead Presenter:</i> Jill Davis, University of Central Oklahoma<br/> <i>–Additional Presenter:</i> Katie Fields &amp; Dan Vincent, University of Central Oklahoma </div> <div> <p>This session highlights an innovative remote graduate program supporting Oklahoma teachers on alternative certification pathways. Presenters will share how faculty adapted constructivist pedagogy for virtual delivery, addressed key barriers, and designed coursework to bridge theory and practice, offering a model for programs facing similar challenges amid the national teacher shortage.</p> </div> </div> <div> <div>OR Salon A</div> </div> </div> <div> <div> <b>Kearney Teachers Tomorrow: School District to University to School District Pipeline</b> </div> <div> <i>–Lead Presenter:</i> Mark Reid, University of Nebraska Kearney<br/> <i>–Additional Presenter:</i> Jason Mundorf, Kearney Public Schools </div> <div> <p>The College of Education at the University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK) partnered with Kearney Public Schools (KPS) to create a pathway for students from the district to study at UNK and then return to the district to teach. Students receive support from UNK and KPS including a guaranteed job with KPS upon graduation.</p> </div> </div> <div> <div>OR Salon B</div> </div> |

**The Paradox of the Preparation-Practice Divide: The (Ir) Relevance of Teacher Education**

*–Lead Presenter:* Brian Sevier, California State University Channel Islands

The current preparation-practice divide in teacher education represents perhaps the greatest delta in memory but we contend it contains a startling paradox. Today's divide simultaneously denotes the inconsequence of preparation coursework and content even as it signifies the compelling importance of what we do for students, families, and communities.

OR Salon D

**Where Do We Go From Here? Building and Retaining the Teaching Workforce**

*–Lead Presenter:* Valerie Rutledge, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
*–Additional Presenter:* Jennifer Lynberg, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Recent circumstances have led to a number of policies and practices that have changed and continue to impact teacher education. This presentation addresses a number of these and solutions being used to recruit, train, and maintain more educators. In addition, several other opportunities are in process to sustain important changes.

OR Salon E

11–11:45 a.m.

### Managing Difficult Conversations

OR Salon D

–Lead Presenter: Amy Ginsberg, William Paterson University of New Jersey

–Additional Presenter: Lisa Huffman, University of Cincinnati

Leadership spotlight for current and potential leaders to simulate difficult conversations to improve their effectiveness while maintaining relationship for the good of the organization.

### Project Impact Program:

#### A Model of Strategic Partnership in Education Workforce Development

OR Salon E

–Lead Presenter: Chinaka DomNwachukwu, California State University, San Bernardino

Project Impact was established in 2020 with a focused mission: to increase the representation of African American males in the teaching profession. Since its inception, Project Impact has consistently advanced its goal of increasing diversity in education each academic term. What sets Project Impact apart is its unwavering commitment to the recruitment, preparation, placement, and mentorship of Black and Brown men in education. Unlike broader diversity and inclusion efforts, Project Impact addresses the systemic underrepresentation of minority educators and the enduring academic disparities affecting students of color, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable education system. This presentation will highlight the power of visionary leadership and the benefits of strategic collaboration.

11:45 a.m.

Adjourn

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## MISSION

The mission of the **Teacher Education Council of State Colleges and Universities (TECSCU)** is to advance and enhance high quality educator preparation within comprehensive public colleges and universities.

In doing so, the organization significantly contributes to the enrichment of P-12 education and the core values of our diverse, democratic society. TECSCU is the distinct national voice on matters of importance to educator preparation programs at public colleges and universities. TECSCU strives to advance access to and the quality of public educator preparation; and to illuminate the significance of public educator preparation programs.

## VISION

TECSCU amplifies the distinct contributions its members make to the ever-evolving preparation and professional development needs of educators in partnership with P-12 education. TECSCU endeavors to expand the influence its members have on educational policy and practice.

## VALUES

**WE VALUE** rigorous comprehensive public educator preparation grounded in research and clinical practice. Such preparation results in analytical and caring professionals who make decisions based on the needs of P-12 learners.

**WE VALUE** the power of good teaching as the foundation of individual empowerment and a well educated democratic society. Dedicated, well prepared and effective educators engage with community agencies/organizations for developing the whole individual.

**WE VALUE** robust partnerships with P-12 education stakeholders that promote the successful professional preparation of effective practitioners.

**WE VALUE** diversity and equity within the profession.

**WE VALUE** the application of the highest standards for student success.

**WE VALUE** evidence-based decision making as essential to continuous improvement.

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Tuesday, November 4, 2025**  
**Noon EST (11 a.m. CST/10 a.m. MST/9 a.m. PST)**

**From Vision to Impact: Building a Culture of Research**  
—Dr. Maribeth Jorgensen, Assistant Dean, College of Education  
Sam Houston State University Texas

**Thursday, February 12, 2026**  
**Noon EST (11 a.m. CST/10 a.m. MST/9 a.m. PST)**

**HEROES: A MARVEL-ous Framework  
for Systems Convening Leadership**  
—Dr. Kari Hulett, Program Chair, Instructional Leadership  
—Dr. Maria Gray, Department Chair, Educational Leadership  
Northeastern State University of Oklahoma

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026**  
**Noon EST (11 a.m. CST/10 a.m. MST/9 a.m. PST)**

**Reimagining Readiness: Transforming Teacher  
Education Internships for Now and the Future**  
—Dr. Vanessa Anton, Dean  
—Dr. Lisa Bisogno, Associate Dean  
—Dr. Kelli Carney, Assistant Dean  
Northeastern State University of Oklahoma



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