

# APLU IFS Newsletter January 2023



*"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together" – Unknown*

*I hope you're rested and refreshed after the holidays! With DLite's launch, you are now participating in **advising, digital learning, strategic finance, and data literacy** services to support our goal of equitable student success. We recognize the value of your time and thank you for your ongoing commitment to sharing what you're learning about transformation. We have an excellent opportunity to share best practices from our IFS institutions with our colleagues across the postsecondary success community. For that, we are grateful. Collaboration is crucial for driving meaningful and sustainable change! We look forward to our work together in 2023.*

As we bid adieu to 2022 and look forward to 2023 with optimism and anticipation, it's time to celebrate all that we've accomplished! We've grown, adapted, and achieved so much, and it's important to take a moment to acknowledge our progress. With the ever-evolving world of higher education, there are always new and exciting developments on the horizon. We have much to look forward to in the coming year and we're eager to take on whatever challenges and opportunities that come our way.

When we talk about our goal of transformation, it is important to note that achieving this goal is not a one-time event, but a continuous journey that requires building trust and fostering connections across your institutions. Therefore, it's critical we stay informed and connected with one another. Of course, we'll keep sharing insights and lessons learned in future newsletters. If you get a few minutes, please check out our blog on the PxP Learning Exchange, "[Transformation Journey of IFS Institutions](#)." No login required! We hope that these insights will be valuable as you continue to work towards creating a more equitable and successful future for all of your students.

In partnership,  
Greg Thornton & Robin Ellis (your APLU service team)

## Shout Outs & Kudos

- Big thanks to [Nycole Courtney](#) at [University of Wyoming](#) for her [response](#) to Robin Ellis' "Transformation Journey of IFS Institutions" blog on the PxP Learning Exchange! She stated, "This process and opportunity have brought a dedicated focus on student success. Thank you! It was the nexus of creating the change needed to ensure our students are set up for success from the day they say yes to attending our institution." We love hearing from you through any medium, and we always want to share/elevate your voices whenever possible!

*You may 'unsubscribe' from this newsletter by emailing Greg Thornton at [gthornton@aplu.org](mailto:gthornton@aplu.org). You will continue to receive standard IFS communications.*

## SERVICE UPDATES



The **ASN** holistic advising service has entered the final track of modules. **Module 1: *Centering Equity in Policies and Processes for Holistic Advising*** had two parts—**Part 1** was **Friday, January 20, 3-4:30 PM**, and **Part 2** was **Friday, January 27, 3-4:30 PM**. **Module 2: *Understanding and Applying Racial & Socioeconomic Equity in Policy*** will also have two parts—**Part 1: [Tuesday, February 21, 3-5 PM](#)** and **Part 2: [Wednesday, February 22, 3-5 PM](#)**. **Module 3, Part I: *Process Mapping Fundamentals*** will take place on **[Monday, March 6, 2-4 PM](#)**. **Module 3, Part II: *Applying Process Mapping to Advising Redesign*** is set for **[Monday, March 27, 1-5 PM](#)**. **Module 4: *Redesigning Student Support Policies and Processes for your Unique Student Population*** will close us out with **Part 1: [Monday, April 10, 3-5 PM](#)** and **Part 2: [Tuesday, April 11, 3-5 PM](#)**. All times Eastern. Registration is required, so click the date/time for each link. Please follow up with **Michelle Foley** ([mfoley@naspa.org](mailto:mfoley@naspa.org)) with any questions or [feedback](#). A [Google Drive](#) folder houses each institution's project plan, recommended audiences, etc. If you missed previous modules, access recordings [here](#).



**ELE's** evidence-based teaching and student-centered instruction service has moved into the 4<sup>th</sup> of its five phases, ***Implementation***. Our teams from ***New Mexico State University***, ***Montana State University***, the ***University of New Orleans***, ***Rutgers University–Newark***, and ***Clemson University*** will be implementing their pilot projects and collecting data in preparation for the final phase, ***Iterate and Scale***, which will take place in Fall 2023. As part of the ***Implementation*** phase, each institution will have monthly check-in meetings with their coaches designed to complement the project and specific needs of each team to reflect on what practices have worked or not, changes to make in future iterations, pre/post and other outcomes data, and leveraging the institutional support team. Activities will primarily consist of asynchronous work with monthly coaching as a cross-functional team. Please visit the [LMS](#) for recordings, assignments, and additional resources, and contact **Norma Hollebeke** ([nhollebeke@wiche.edu](mailto:nhollebeke@wiche.edu)) with questions and feedback.



The **rpK GROUP** led ***Strategic Finance Capacity Building*** workshop sessions have been completed. Slide decks and recordings are available [here](#). Workshop 1 provided a high-level overview of current higher education business models and the return on investment (ROI) lens. Workshop 2 was a deeper dive into how ROI has been successfully applied to student success initiatives, academic resource reviews, and administrative services reviews. Participants left the workshops excited to begin the groundwork of applying an ROI lens at their institution, beginning with drafting an action plan. No surprise, the discussions highlighted that beyond the data, creating a cultural change requires intentionality and transparency when making informed decisions. **Mike Daly** ([mdaly@rpkgroup.com](mailto:mdaly@rpkgroup.com)) will work individually with the participating institutions—***Montana State University***, ***NJIT***, ***Rutgers University–Newark***, and the ***University of Wyoming***, to produce an action plan for adopting an ROI approach on each campus. These technical assistance sessions will take place from **January** through **March**. Please schedule those with Mike, but let Greg Thornton ([gthornton@aplu.org](mailto:gthornton@aplu.org)) know if he can assist.



Our final Intermediaries for Scale service, **AIR's *Data Literacy Institute Lite (DLite)***, launched this week! **Jason Lewis** ([jlewis@airweb.org](mailto:jlewis@airweb.org)), AIR CFO, had individual kickoff meetings with the participating institutions—***Montana State University***, ***NJIT***, ***Rutgers University–Newark***, and ***University of Wyoming***. The 12-week experience will feature live virtual discussions, asynchronous tutorials, and independent and group work culminating in collaborative projects (no activities during each institution's spring break). DLite follows a flipped-classroom model, and the weekly time commitment is approximately four hours. Recordings, asynchronous content, and team discussion boards will be housed within a HigherLogic Learning Management System site. The workshops and technical assistance will be led by **Dr. Darlena Jones**, Director of Assessment and Research ([djones@airweb.org](mailto:djones@airweb.org)).

## POWERED BY PUBLICS UPDATES



**Future of PxP Update:** Our [independent evaluation](#) showed that the most valuable aspects of Powered by Publics are its network of peers, convenings, and opportunities to collaborate around solutions to common challenges. Areas for improvement include an updated Theory of

Action, revisiting alignment with institutional priorities (which shifted during the pandemic) and adding resources for campuses. Based on these results, APLU will pursue the following path forward in 2023 and beyond:

- A permanent structure to support long-term student success initiatives, in collaboration with other APLU councils/commissions.
- Working with a subset of engaged campus leaders to create a Theory of Action for how the network can accelerate campus efforts to increase degree completion and close equity gaps.
- Topic-based Communities of Practice. At the 2022 PxP convening, we prioritized advising, student belonging, and data integration. We'll work to finalize the topics with input from those who could not attend our meeting.
- Partnerships with external organizations and funders doing similar work to expand support for our members.

While most clusters have wrapped up or are close to doing so, the PxP team will continue to support those needing additional time to complete their work.

**Highlights from the 2022 Annual Convening:** We have placed the [slide decks and additional resources shared at the recent PxP convening](#) on our Learning Exchange platform. These items are publicly available. Login is NOT required to access this content. However, we do encourage everyone to sign up and [join the Learning Exchange](#) to access additional PxP content, participate in the conversation in the discussion section, or connect with colleagues from across the network.

**The 2022 Core Data Metrics collection has concluded:** we are now in the process of validating the data. You can view a presentation of national results and trends based on preliminary data [here](#). Once the data are final, we will share links to access PDF and CSV copies of your clusters' data for all three years. As always, subscribers to APLU's [VSA Analytics](#) can use that platform to access and manipulate their data – including creating custom peer comparison groups.

## APLU UPDATES



**Black History Month Celebration:** APLU is planning our annual Black History Month Celebration webinar. The national theme for Black History Month this year is “Black Resistance.” APLU is titling our virtual event “Black Resistance: Leadership in the Academe,” focusing on Black leaders at APLU member institutions. We will feature four leaders who will provide an understanding of the historical significance of Black leadership, the importance of increasing the number of Blacks

in senior leadership roles at our institutions and discuss their own personal journeys. Please be on the lookout for the invite with link. The webinar will be on **February 28, 3-4 PM**. We would be honored if you would join us and participate in the discussion!

## UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF NOTE (all times Eastern unless noted)

- **ASN T3M1: Centering Equity in Policies and Processes for Holistic Advising, Part 2:** Friday, January 27, 3:00-4:30 PM\*
- **AIR Data Literacy Institute Lite Launch Meetings (Individual):** TBA, January/February 2023
- **ASN T3M2: Understanding and Applying Racial & Socioeconomic Equity in Policy, Part 1 of 2:** Tuesday, February 21, 3:00-4:00 PM\*
- **ASN T3M2: Understanding and Applying Racial & Socioeconomic Equity in Policy, Part 2 of 2:** Tuesday, February 22, 3:00-4:00 PM\*
- **APLU 3rd Annual Black History Month Celebration: Black Resistance: Leadership in the Academe:** Tuesday, February 28, 3:00-4:00 PM\*

\*Registration is required