

APLU IFS Newsletter June 2024



Let's Talk About IFS!

Part of our charge with both the Intermediaries for Scale and Powered by Publics initiatives is to evaluate our activities and disseminate findings.

We are working on the IFS final report for the Gates Foundation (due August 31) and the final PxP Annual Report, but we wanted to do something a little different to capture participant feedback, since our surveys don't garner great levels of participation. So... we are doing interviews instead! The plan is to have 1-2 30-minute conversations focused on each IFS service. What better way to collect feedback than to actually talk to you?! When we said we were committed to elevating the institutional voice throughout this initiative, we meant it! We truly value your feedback and suggestions.

Interested? Schedule a call with Greg Thornton [here](#)!

A New Service Opportunity for the APLU IFS Cohort?

YES! The Every Learner Everywhere service that ended in November, was supposed to be our final offering. However, earlier this year, we secured additional funding to provide another service opportunity.

SOVA's "Leading From Where You Are" workshop series is designed to empower mid-level professionals with essential leadership skills. This series is crucial for those looking to lead change from any position within their institutions, fostering student-centered reforms and institutional transformation.

Additionally, we are preparing our final Gates Foundation report, due August 31. The insights and stories from our meetings and discussions, and your evaluation and feedback will significantly inform this report. We appreciate your participation in these efforts and look forward to your further engagement this summer.

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

SERVICE UPDATE



LEADING FROM WHERE YOU ARE WORKSHOP SERIES



Since completing the Institutional Transformation Assessment, you know that effective leadership at all levels is paramount. To address this critical need, we're excited to announce, *“Leading From Where You Are.”* A workshop series designed to empower mid-level professionals with the skills and strategies needed to lead change from any position within their institutions. The series will be led by Dr. Allison Kadlec, Senior Partner at **Sova Solutions**, a firm dedicated to achieving large-scale change in higher education. The workshops are open to all Powered by Publics members and will address the unique challenges faced by mid-level professionals in implementing student-centered reforms and fostering institutional change. The series consists of three 90-minute interactive sessions intended for mid-level leaders/administrators involved in student success initiatives, institutional change efforts, or lead cross-functional teams or projects.



The Essential Skills of Student-Focused Change Leadership, July 10, 1:00-2:30 PM Eastern: This session explores the core skills of change leadership and their practical application in driving student-centered change. Attendees will gain insights into effective leadership practices and strategies for developing these essential skills in themselves and others. [Register here!](#)



Using Short-Term Action Plans to Own Your Power, July 17, 1:00-2:30 PM Eastern: Learn how to adopt an improvement mindset and apply improvement approaches to lead change from any position. This workshop draws on real-world lessons from higher education professionals who have successfully used short-term action plans to advance important work. [Register here!](#)



Leveraging Relational Power, July 24, 1-2:30 PM Eastern: Discover the importance of emotional intelligence and interpersonal relationships in leading meaningful change. This session explores strategies for facilitating complex conversations, supporting authentic collaboration, and ensuring diverse perspectives are included in decision-making processes. [Register here!](#)

NOTE: Each session requires separate registration. These workshops will provide actionable strategies and tools for leading change, fostering collaboration, and promoting equity — essential elements for driving student success initiatives at your institution. Participation is free, but space is limited to 100 participants per workshop. You can choose to attend one, two, or all three sessions based on your interests and availability. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your leadership skills and connect with peers across the Powered by Publics network. For any questions or feedback, please reach out to Greg Thornton at gthornton@aplu.org.

POWERED BY PUBLICS UPDATES



2024 Core Data Metrics Collection Closing Soon: We are collecting year 5 of the Core Data Metrics (CDM). APLU uses the CDM to measure progress towards our degree completion and equity goals. By using [VSA Analytics](#), institutions may see the data for their institution and their Powered by Publics peers. It becomes a particularly valuable resource as we look at disaggregating success metrics by various subgroups. Detailed guidance, including a data dictionary and an FAQ, as well as access to the online data portal, can be found on our website at <http://www.aplu.org/cdm>. Many thanks to those who have already submitted data! If you have not, and would like more time, please email us at CDM@aplu.org.

APLU UPDATES



Postsecondary Student Success Program Webinar: On July 8, APLU & USU will host a webinar featuring insights from three member institutions that have received funding through the Department of Education's Postsecondary Student Success Grant (PSSG) program. Representatives from the University System of Maryland, Florida International University, and the University of California, Berkeley will share their innovative approaches to improving student retention and completion, particularly for underserved populations. [Click here to register!](#)

We will highlight evidence-based practices, strategies for overcoming financial barriers, and effective peer support models. Participants will gain valuable insights for developing their own student success initiatives and preparing competitive PSSG applications. With the Department of Education expected to release information about the FY2024 program in the coming weeks, this webinar is a timely opportunity for institutions looking to enhance student success initiatives. For more information, contact Greg Thornton at gthornton@aplu.org.



2024 APLU Annual Meeting: Registration is underway for the [2024 APLU Annual Meeting](#) in Orlando, Florida, November 10-12! This is the premier event for senior leaders from public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state university systems, designed to inspire and empower you to drive positive change in your institution and community. Engage in dynamic discussions, collaborative sessions, and workshops centered around the theme of “**Our Public Purpose**,” exploring how public universities can better fulfill their mission to serve society and address the most pressing challenges of our time. Haley Carter, Vice President of Soccer Operations and General Manager for

the Orlando Pride of the National Women’s Soccer League (NWSL) will deliver the keynote address on Veteran’s Day, Monday, November 11. Carter will delve into lessons in leadership, service, and building community, drawing her inspiring soccer career on and off the field as well as her decorated service in the U.S. Marine Corps where she had multiple combat deployments.

Of course, more information is forthcoming, so please check the Tentative agenda topics include **Free Speech Issues Surrounding Campus Protests, Impacts of the 2024 Election, Artificial Intelligence in Higher Ed, Student Mental Health & Well-being, Higher Education Globalization, Career Readiness & Workforce Development, Data-Informed Decision Making, Access & Affordability**, and more. Don’t delay, [register today!](#) We look forward to seeing you in Orlando!