



President's Message May 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Yesterday we had a perfect spring day here in Boston (really, we were wondering if spring would ever arrive) – sunshine, a slight breeze, no humidity! I hope you are all enjoying good weather as you celebrate graduations and the transition from one academic year to the next. I am taking this opportunity to provide everyone with a brief update on ACL activities.

ACL Strategic Planning

The ACL Board met in March at the Association of Governing Board offices in Washington, DC. Much of the time was focused on reviewing and articulating the organizations values and strategic plan for moving ahead. Chaired by Stig Lanesskog from Claremont, the strategic planning subcommittee led the rest of the board in identifying and clarifying priorities.

ACL Core Values

Collaboration: We prioritize working together, learning from each other, and sharing the many benefits that collaboration can bring to organizations serving higher education.

Community: We create an environment for reciprocal support among colleagues.

Leadership: We provide expertise that leads to successful collaborations.

Creativity: We advance innovative strategies and leverage resources for effective collaborations.

Responsiveness: We tailor programs and services to meet member needs and address issues in higher education.

Goals

- Expand our professional community,
- Build our members' capacity for collaborative work, and
- Create a stronger voice for collaboration in higher education

We look forward to working with all of you in this important work and welcome your ideas and participation as we support collaboration as a means of strengthening our institutional members.

ACL Summer Institute 2018 Postponed

After weighing the decision carefully, the ACL board has decided to move the Institute to an "every-other-year" offering and we are postponing the 2018 session to **June 23-26, 2019**. ACL has offered the summer institute each year since 2010. In that time, 121 fellows from over 40

consortia and academic collaborations have gone through the program. Because ACL has a membership of approximately 50 consortia, and because most of those consortia are one- or two-person operations, we have effectively trained the majority of senior staff and are now working with a much smaller population of potential fellows. While interest remains strong, a class size of at least 12 provides the most effective learning environment for the fellows. Registration for the 2018 fell short of that goal. An every-other-year format will help ensure the optimal class size. We apologize to all who were looking forward to the 2018 Institute. We hope you will sign up for the 2019 Institute, which will be held June 23-26 in Atlanta, Georgia and hosted by Associated Colleges of the South!

Nominations Open for ACL Board Members

Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for the ACL Board. Nominations close on **May 28th, 2018!**

ACL provides an invaluable network of people who understand collaboration in higher education and the unique role our organizations play in facilitating that collaboration. The ACL network, and its programs, resources, and events have led higher education collaboration for fifty years.

Why consider board membership?

- Work with colleagues who bring high levels of energy and expertise;
- Contribute to solving critical challenges facing higher education;
- Have FUN while building friendships, advancing your own professional development and making a difference with others!

Click [here](#) for the nomination form.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to email or call any member of the Nominating Committee: Cristin Toutsis Grigos (Chair) ctoutsis@agb.org, Larry Dotolo, lgdotolo@aol.com; Owen Williams, rowilliams@colleges.org; and Jeanine Went, jwent@heccma.org.

ACL Webinar – Strategic Thinking – Tuesday, May 29

Consortial staff are increasingly being asked to “think strategically” in making key decisions. Join us **Tuesday, May 29 at 12:00 p.m.** EDT, for a webinar on how to think strategically within and across their organizations.

Panelists:

- John Bryson (McKnight Presidential Professor of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities), whose writings include What To Do When Stakeholders Matter: Stakeholder Identification and Analysis Technique and Designing and Implementing Cross-Sector Collaborations: Needed and Challenging
- Stig Lanesskog (Chief Executive Officer, the Claremont Colleges Services), an ACL board member who has presented on strategic planning at ACL conferences.

- Barbara McFadden (Principal, McFadden, Rocklin and Associates), a former ACL board member who has written extensively for ACL and Inside Higher Ed.

Register [here](#).

Welcome New Leaders!

ACL welcomes several new leaders of higher education collaborations and consortia:

- Sarah Pfatteicher, [Five Colleges, Inc.](#)
- Linda M. de Mello, [Cross College Alliance](#)
- Kristen Brinlee, [Baltimore Collegetown](#)
- Sonya Malunda, [Associated Colleges of the Midwest](#)
- Mickey McDonald, [Great Lakes College Association](#)

And we welcome one new organizational member to ACL:

- **Lowcountry Graduate Center** in South Carolina!

ACL Celebrates 50 Years!! October 10 -12, 2018

Mark your calendars and plan now to join us in **Norfolk, Virginia** for the ACL Annual Conference and 50th Anniversary Celebration! Led by Larry Dotolo from the Virginia Tidewater Consortium, the conference committee is planning a program that both celebrates our past and prepares us to lead our members through the opportunities for collaboration that the future holds. We look forward to celebrating with all who have contributed to ACL's success!

Enjoy Your Summer!



Claire Ramsbottom
President
Association for Collaborative Leadership
Executive Director, Colleges of the Fenway

