



# 87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"  
Hilton Milwaukee City Center - October 13 - 15, 2025

## Pre-Conference • Sunday, October 12

Time	Session Title	Location
9:00 - 10:00 AM	ACHE Board of Directors Breakfast	MacArthur Room
9:00 - 12:00 PM	ACHE Board of Directors Meeting	MacArthur Room
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch: ACHE Board of Directors and Conference Planning Committee	MacArthur Room
1:00 - 2:00 P.M.	Conference Planning Committee Meeting	MacArthur Room
1:00 - 5:00 PM	ACHE Registration Desk Open	Wright Foyer
3:30-6 P.M.	Business Partners Set-Up	Wright Foyer
6 P.M.	First and Second Timers Social	TBD



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## Day 1 • Monday, October 13 • Feel the Love Day

Time	Session Title	Location
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Conference Registration & Information Desk Open	Wright Foyer
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Business Partners Open	Wright Foyer
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast (All Attendees)	Wright Ballroom
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast (First and Second Timers)	TBA
9:00 – 9:50 AM	Melissa Robinson Winemiller (Keynote #1)	Wright Ballroom
9:50 – 10:15 AM	Break	
10:15 – 11:00 AM	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 1 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>“Cultivated Student and Teacher Agency Empowers College and Career Pathways”</b> Presented by David Waldherr	Walker Room
	<b>“Empathy in the Classroom: Using the Johari Window to Foster Understanding and Collaboration Among Faculty and Nontraditional Students in Higher Education”</b> Presented by Janine N. Guerra, LLM, JD and Melissa Robinson-Winemiller, PhD	Pabst Room



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Day 1 • Monday, October 13 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 1 (cont.)</b>	
	<b>"Engage, Lead, Inspire – Achieve with ACHE &amp; ELI!"</b> Presented by Dr. Rich Whitney	Miller Room
	<b>"Should I Get Some Practice Experience First? : A Historical Case Study Analysis of the CVs of Black, Indigenous, and Latinx (BIL) Full Professors at Highly-Ranked"</b> Presented by LaShawnda N. Fields, Ph.D., MSW and Renee M. Cunningham-Williams, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.P.E.	Schlitz Room
<b>11:00 – 11:15 AM</b>	Break	
<b>11:15 – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 2 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>"Enhancing Learner Success and Workforce Development with the Neuroinclusion Framework"</b> Presented by Niki Elliott, PhD and Sylvia Mac, Ph.D.	Mitchell Room
	<b>"Empowering Educators: Leveraging AI for Course Design"</b> Presented by Cindy S. York	Walker Room
	<b>"Pedagogy, Practice, and Purpose: Preparing New Faculty for Teaching Excellence"</b> Presented by Dr. Chessica Cave and Dr. Ashley Stanley	Pabst Room
	<b>"Celebrating Ourselves: Beating Stress"</b> Presented by R. Scott Boots, MPA	Schlitz Room



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Day 1 • Monday, October 13 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Lunch	Wright Ballroom
12:45 TO 1:00 PM	Business Partner Talk	Wright Ballroom
1:00 TO 1:15 PM	Break	Wright Ballroom
1:15 TO 2:00 PM	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 3 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>"Bridging Equity and Empowerment: How Multicultural Program Investment Advances Student Success in Continuing Higher Education"</b> Presented by Dr. J. Quinton Staples	Pabst Room
	<b>"Neurodivergence, Trauma, &amp; SLIFE: Concerns in Adult &amp; Higher Education"</b> Presented by David A. Housel, Ed.D.	Miller Room
	<b>"Strategies for Creating, Developing &amp; Leading Productive Remote Work Teams"</b> Presented by Dr. Wendy Johnson	Schlitz Room
2:00 TO 2:15 PM	Break	



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Day 1 • Monday, October 13 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
<b>2:15 TO 2:45 PM</b>	<b>Breakout Session + Roundtable (30 min)</b>	
	<b>"Publishing your work in JCHE and beyond"</b> Presented by Dr. Walter S. Pearson and Katherine Lyons	MacArthur Room
	<b>"Teaching Inclusive Teaching Strategies: A Game-Inspired Approach"</b> Presented by Dr. Michael Reese	Mitchell Room
	<b>"Student Faculty Interaction and the Non-Traditional Learner"</b> Presented by Dr. Pamela D Morris	Walker Room
	<b>"Cohort Based Communities of Learning - Revisited Post-Pandemic"</b> Presented by Elizabeth Crawford and David Rausch	Pabst Room
	<b>"Prediction of Student Success Through LMS Engagement in Asynchronous Online Courses"</b> Presented by Andy Browne, PhD	Miller Room
	<b>"What matters most? Adult Learner Choice in Noncredit Continuing Education"</b> Presented by Kiel Norris	Schlitz Room
<b>2:45 TO 3:00 PM</b>	Break	
<b>3:00 TO 3:45 PM</b>	Feel the Love!	Wright Ballroom
<b>5 TO 9 PM</b>	Welcome Reception	



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## Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 • Color Pop Day

Time	Session Title	Location
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Conference Registration & Information Desk Open	Wright Foyer
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Business Partners Open	Wright Foyer
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast (All Attendees)	Wright Ballroom
9:00 – 9:50 AM	Jessica Riddell (Keynote #2)	Wright Ballroom
9:50 – 10:15 AM	Break	
10:15 – 11:00 AM	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 4 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>"Bridging Innovation and Access: Reimagining Continuing Education through Technology and Empathy"</b> Presented by April Rainbolt and Brent Rangen	Mitchell Room
	<b>"Beyond the Badge: Industry-engaged Microcredentials for Bridging Generations in the Workforce and Advancing Socioeconomic Mobility"</b> Presented by Melynda Thorpe	Walker Room
	<b>"Building Bridges: Empowering New Faculty Through Mentorship"</b> Presented by Dr. Marie M Mallory and Hannah Regitz	Pabst Room
	<b>"An AI Professional Development Book Club: Helping Faculty to Prepare Students for the Future Workforce"</b> Presented by Jennifer Banas and Sandra Beyda-Lorie	Miller Room



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Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Break	
11:15 – 12:45 PM	Awards + Lunch	Wright Ballroom
12:45 TO 1:00 PM	Business Partner Talk	Wright Ballroom
1:15 – 2:00 PM	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 5 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>"Empathy and Expectations: Success Stories and Second Chance Students"</b> Presented by Keri Lee Carter and John Lando Carter	Walker Room
	<b>"The Art of Tough Talks: A Leadership Playbook for Difficult Conversations"</b> Presented by Dr. Wendy Johnson	Pabst Room
	<b>"Feedback That Fuels Student Growth"</b> Presented by Dr. Chessica Cave	Miller Room
	<b>"Kentucky's Statewide Blueprint for Adult Student Success by Scaling Credit for Prior Learning"</b> Presented by Matt Bergman, Ph.D.	Schlitz Room
2:00 TO 2:15 PM	Break	Wright Ballroom



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Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
2:15 TO 3:00 PM	<b>Concurrent Sessions: Block 6 (45 min)</b>	
	<b>"Leading from Within: The Power of Self-Reflection"</b> Presented by Dr. Wendy Johnson	Walker Room
	<b>"Reimagining Learning Systems: Open Source Innovation for Skills Forward Education"</b> Presented by Jenna Makowski, Kathryn Green, and Lacey McCann	Pabst Room
	<b>"Connection as Compassion: Using Empathetic Case Management to Retain and Empower Workforce Students"</b> Presented by Odile Dilone	Miller Room
	<b>"Promoting Culturally Responsive, Decolonized Instruction and Linguistic Justice in Adult &amp; Higher Education"</b> Presented by David A. Housel, Ed.D.	Schlitz Room
3:00 TO 3:15 PM	Break	





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Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
3:15 TO 3:45 PM	<b>Breakout Session + Roundtable – 30 min</b>	Wright Ballroom
	<b>"The Integration of Non-Credit Certificate Programs in For-Credit College Courses"</b> Presented by Elizabeth Crawford, David Rausch, and Christine Wolfe	MacArthur Room
	<b>"Beyond the Transcript: Empowering Adult Learners Through Co-Curricular Engagement"</b> Presented by Jennifer Gettings and Whitney McDowell-Robinson	Mitchell Room
	<b>"Tune In, Reach Out: Expanding the University Voice Through Podcasting"</b> Presented by Leslie Cordie, PHD, MBA, BSN	Walker Room
	<b>"More Than Academic: The Critical Role of Emotional Support in Online Adult Student Success"</b> Presented by Kijoung Na	Pabst Room
	<b>"Innovate to Empower: Guiding Adult Learners in the AI-Enhanced Classroom"</b> Presented by Dr. Mike Breakey	Miller Room
	<b>"Towards a Critical College Choice Model for Undocumented Students"</b> Presented by Diego Castro Gomez	Schlitz Room
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Lakefront Brewery Tour	



# 87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

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## Day 3 • Wednesday, October 15 • Spirit & Swag Day

Time	Session Title	Location
8:00 - 11:00 AM	Business Partners Open	Wright Foyer
8:00 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast (All Attendees)	Wright Ballroom
9:00 - 9:50 AM	Julie Shankle (Keynote #3)	Wright Ballroom
9:50 - 10:00 AM	Break	
10:00 - 10:45 AM	Roundtable Discussions	Wright Ballroom
10:45 - 11:00AM	Break	
11:00 - 11:45 AM	Passing of the Gavel & Closing Remarks	Wright Ballroom
12:00 PM - 3 PM	ACHE Board of Directors Meeting + Working Lunch	MacArthur Room



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## 2025 Conference Themed Days

Day	Theme	Attire
Monday, October 13	<b>Feel the Love Day: What Connects Us</b> <i>Bridge to empathy through appreciation.</i>	Wear <b>heart-themed accessories</b> or something that represents what you love most about higher education – whether it's student success, lifelong learning, or community impact.
Tuesday, October 14	<b>Empowerment Color Pop Day: Wear Your Strength</b> <i>Bridge to boldness through color.</i>	Wear <b>vibrant shades</b> that make you feel strong, joyful, and confident. Whether it's red for courage, yellow for optimism, or purple for purpose, let your outfit express the power within you – and inspire those around you.
Wednesday, October 15	<b>Spirit &amp; Swag Day: Where You Come From, Where We're Going</b> <i>Bridge your past, present, and future.</i>	Rep your <b>alma mater, current institution, or ACHE conference swag</b> – paired with your favorite denim. Celebrate the institutions, people, and connections that have shaped your journey and continue to move us forward.