



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
5:30 P.M.	First and Second-Timers Meet-Up	3rd St. Market Hall



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"

Hilton Milwaukee City Center – October 13 – 15, 2025

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)	MacArthur Room
9:00 – 9:50 AM	Melissa Robinson Winemiller (Keynote #1)	Wright Ballroom
9:50 – 10:15 AM	Break	
10:15 – 11:00 AM	Concurrent Sessions: Block 1 (45 min)	
	“Cultivated Student and Teacher Agency Empowers College and Career Pathways” Presented by David Waldherr	Walker Room
	“Empathy in the Classroom: Using the Johari Window to Foster Understanding and Collaboration Among Faculty and Nontraditional Students in Higher Education” Presented by Janine N. Guerra, LLM, JD and Melissa Robinson-Winemiller, PhD	Mitchell Room



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
Day 1 • Monday, October 13 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
	Concurrent Sessions: Block 1 (cont.)	
	"Engage, Lead, Inspire – Achieve with ACHE & ELI!" Presented by Dr. Rich Whitney	Miller Room
	"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" Presented by LaShawnda N. Fields, Ph.D., MSW and Renee M. Cunningham-Williams, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.P.E.	Schlitz Room
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Break	
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions: Block 2 (45 min)	
	"Enhancing Learner Success and Workforce Development with the Neuroinclusion Framework" Presented by Niki Elliott, PhD and Sylvia Mac, Ph.D.	Mitchell Room
	"Empowering Educators: Leveraging AI for Course Design" Presented by Cindy S. York	Walker Room
	"Pedagogy, Practice, and Purpose: Preparing New Faculty for Teaching Excellence" Presented by Dr. Chessica Cave and Dr. Ashley Stanley	Pabst Room
	"Celebrating Ourselves: Beating Stress" Presented by R. Scott Boots, MPA	Schlitz Room



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
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	Concurrent Sessions: Block 3 (45 min)	
	"Bridging Equity and Empowerment: How Multicultural Program Investment Advances Student Success in Continuing Higher Education" Presented by Dr. J. Quinton Staples	Mitchell Room
	"Neurodivergence, Trauma, & SLIFE: Concerns in Adult & Higher Education" Presented by David A. Housel, Ed.D.	Miller Room
	"Strategies for Creating, Developing & Leading Productive Remote Work Teams" Presented by Dr. Wendy Johnson	Schlitz Room
2:00 TO 2:15 PM	Break	



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
Day 1 • Monday, October 13 (cont.)

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



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"

Hilton Milwaukee City Center – October 13 – 15, 2025

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	Concurrent Sessions: Block 4 (45 min)	
	"Bridging Innovation and Access: Reimagining Continuing Education through Technology and Empathy" Presented by April Rainbolt and Brent Rangen	Mitchell Room
	"Beyond the Badge: Industry-engaged Microcredentials for Bridging Generations in the Workforce and Advancing Socioeconomic Mobility" Presented by Melynda Thorpe	Walker Room
	"Building Bridges: Empowering New Faculty Through Mentorship" Presented by Dr. Marie M Mallory and Hannah Regitz	Pabst Room
	"An AI Professional Development Book Club: Helping Faculty to Prepare Students for the Future Workforce" Presented by Jennifer Banas and Sandra Beyda-Lorie	Miller Room



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

Time	Session Title	Location
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Break	
11:15 – 12:35 PM	Awards + Lunch	Wright Ballroom
12:35 TO 1:00 PM	ACHE Annual Business Meeting	Wright Ballroom
1:15 – 2:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions: Block 5 (45 min)	
	"Empathy and Expectations: Success Stories and Second Chance Students" Presented by Keri Lee Carter and John Lando Carter	Walker Room
	"The Art of Tough Talks: A Leadership Playbook for Difficult Conversations" Presented by Dr. Wendy Johnson	Pabst Room
	"Feedback That Fuels Student Growth" Presented by Dr. Chessica Cave	Miller Room
	"Kentucky's Statewide Blueprint for Adult Student Success by Scaling Credit for Prior Learning" Presented by Matt Bergman, Ph.D.	Mitchell Room
2:00 TO 2:15 PM	Break	Wright Ballroom



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

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



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

"Bridges to Empathy, Empowerment & Innovation"
Day 2 • Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)

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



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

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

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



87th Annual ACHE Conference (2025)

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

2025 Conference Themed Days

Day	Theme	Attire
Monday, October 13	Feel the Love Day: What Connects Us <i>Bridge to empathy through appreciation.</i>	Wear heart-themed accessories or something that represents what you love most about higher education – whether it's student success, lifelong learning, or community impact.
Tuesday, October 14	Empowerment Color Pop Day: Wear Your Strength <i>Bridge to boldness through color.</i>	Wear vibrant shades 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	Spirit & Swag Day: Where You Come From, Where We're Going <i>Bridge your past, present, and future.</i>	Rep your alma mater, current institution, or ACHE conference swag – paired with your favorite denim. Celebrate the institutions, people, and connections that have shaped your journey and continue to move us forward.