NACCE 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Hilton Boston Park Plaza Hotel
AGENDA

Sunday, November 1, 2026

10:00am – 1:00pm **NACCE Board of Directors Annual Meeting & Luncheon** (Closed meeting)

11:00am – 12:15pm: **Ratcliffe Foundation Pitch Winner Meetup & Lunch**

11:45am – 2:00pm: **Pre-Conference: Smarter Enrollment, Stronger Student Success: Powered by AI** (Ticketed experience with lunch included)
Charlie Davis, Chief Visionary Officer, Crazy Think (FL)
Marcy Euler, CEO, Pima Community College Foundation (AZ)
Dr. Kevin Logan, Chief Innovation Technology Officer, SkillPointe (MD)

1:00pm – 2:30pm: **The Babson College Entrepreneurship Experience at NACCE** (Free ticketed experience)

3:00pm – 3:45pm: **New Attendee Networking Experience**
Dr. Trenton Hightower, Executive Director of Membership & Workforce Development, NACCE (FL)
Suzanne Ross, SBDC Director, Johnston Community College (NC)

4:00pm – 5:30pm: **Opening General Session**

Welcome from the NACCE Board Chair – Dr. Sharon Pierce, President of Minneapolis College (MN)

Welcome to Boston – Dr. Stephen Zrike Jr., Secretary of Education Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Revolutionary Edge: Connecting Ideas, Innovating Futures

Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE (moderator)
Dr. Pam Eddinger, President of Bunker Hill Community College (MA)
Mr. Reza Jafari, Chair of Chesapeake College Board of Trustees (MD)
Mr. Nate MacKinnon, Executive Director, Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges (MA)

Skills, Scalability, and Synergy: Driving the Future Workforce Forward
Acting Asst. Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor (Invited)

Woven Innovation: Effectuation Table Crazy Quilt Challenge
Facilitators:
Erik Coyne, JD – Chancellor, Ivy Tech Bloomington (IN)
Dr. Amy Diaz, President, GateWay Community College (AZ)
Dr. Torie Jackson, President, West Virginia University, Parkersburg (WV)

5:30pm – 7:00pm: **Reception & Music in Exhibit Hall** (Heavy hors d'oeuvres)

7:00pm – 8:30pm: **VIP Dinner** (*by invitation only*) – Lifetime Achievement Award Winner Celebrated

The Garden of Impact: Nurturing Change through Leadership & Philanthropy
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE
Donna Epps, Sr. Vice President and Chief Responsible Business Officer at Verizon
Rose Stuckey Kirk, 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

<u>Monday, November 2, 2026</u>

7:00am – 8:30am: **Breakfast & Exhibit Hall Open**

8:15am – 9:55am: **Opening Session: Anchored in Purpose, Driven by Change: The New Leadership Legacy**

Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation

Welcome from **Dr. Jermaine Ford**, NACCE Board Treasurer

Cheryl Kiser, Founder of Breakthrough Interactions Group

2026 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient
Rose Stuckey Kirk

Global Horizons: Innovate, Connect, Scale

Dr. Lisa Avery, President, Linn-Benton Community College (OR)

Dr. Carol Carter, Founder, Global MindED - invited
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE (moderator)
DuBois Jennings, Director of Engagement, Education New Zealand

Accelerate Opportunity: The Blueprint for Middle-Skill Growth
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE (moderator)
Dr. David Doré, Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System (VA)
Craig Robinson, Senior Vice President of Quality Coaching, Strada Education Foundation
Dr. Lucas Cocco Delgado, GTM Strategy & Partnerships, Pearson Career Ready

Powering the Future Workforce: Introducing Verizon AI Skills for America
Michelle Liberatore, Associate Director, Responsible Business Corporate Social Responsibility, Verizon (NJ)

2026 Entrepreneurial President of the Year Award!
Presented by:
Dr. Michael Baston, President of Tri-C in Cleveland, OH, the 2025 Entrepreneurial President of the Year

The SpringBoard Solution & Community of Practice
Kate Maloney, Executive Director, Infosys Foundation USA

10:15am – 11:15am: **Breakout Sessions 1**

11:30am – 12:30pm: **Breakout Sessions 2**

10:15am – 12:15pm: **From Pathways to Policy: CEO Leadership for Economic Opportunity (by invitation only)**
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO, NACCE (NC)
Dr. Michael Baston, President, Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) (OH)
Jee Hang Lee, President & CEO of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT – DC)

Nate MacKinnon, Executive Director, Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges (MA)
Dr. Joe Schaffer, President, Laramie County Community College (WY)

12:30pm – 1:00pm: **Lunch Buffet**

1:00pm – 2:30pm: **Lunch General Session**

12:50pm – 2:30pm **Opening Remarks: Dream Big, Lead Boldly: Navigating Purpose and Passion**

Dr. Michael Baston, President of Cuyahoga Community College (OH)

Philip E. & Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation LIVE Pitch for $150,000!

Carlene Cassidy, CEO, Philip E. & Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation (MD)
Dr. Darcie Tumey, Director of Events & Programs, NACCE Pitch for the Skilled Trades Coach (NC)

The Recipe of Belonging: Creating Places Where Everyone Thrives
Kelly Koermer, J.D., Vice President Workforce Development & Community Education
Julie Stein, Director of Program Development, Florida State College at Jacksonville
Nicki Rawlings, Parent & Entrepreneur

Special Announcement of the Belonging Challenge for 2027! supported by the Guardian Trust Foundation

Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE

2:30pm – 3:15pm: **Dessert & Networking in Exhibit Hall**

3:30pm – 4:30pm: **Breakout Sessions 3**

4:45pm – 7:00pm: **Cheers Tribute Reception: Where Everybody Knows Your Name**
An evening of great conversation, pub-inspired food. Local beers featured with a welcoming atmosphere. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available. Feel free to dress for the occasion and come in your favorite 1980s or Cheers-inspired costume or attire!

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

7:00am – 8:30am: **Breakfast Buffet & Exhibit Hall Open**

8:15am – 10:00am: **Morning General Session – Innovating for Student and Community Success**

Welcome

Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO, NACCE

Beyond the Incubator: The Ecosystem Shift Transforming Entrepreneurial Colleges

Xavier Nazario, Co-Founder, Workforce Innovation Labs
Dr. Monte Perez, President, East Los Angeles College (CA)

Shaping the Shift: AI Policy, Cutting Edge Tools, and Future Workforce Impact

Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE (moderator)
Dr. Lee Lambert, Chancellor of Foothill-DeAnza Community College District (CA)
Dr. Casey Sacks, Acting Assistant Secretary of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
Sebastian Wowra, Founder, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of MyUnicBrain (Switzerland)

The Agility Advantage: How the College of DuPage and NCCET Forms the Future of Work Fireside Chat
Dr. Joe Cassidy, Vice President of Workforce Innovation and Community Education at College of DuPage and President of NCCET (IL)

Verizon Small Business Digital Ready (VSBDR)
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE

The Guardrails of Progress: Innovation & Student Success
Sharon Bonney, CEO of the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE)
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO of NACCE (moderator)

Dr. Heather Perfetti, President & CEO of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)

10:15am – 11:15am: **Breakout Sessions 4**

11:30am – 12:30pm: **Breakout Sessions 5**

12:30pm – 1:00pm: **Lunch Buffet**

1:00pm – 2:30pm: **Lunch General Session & Pitch for the Skilled Trades Winners Announced!**

Announcement of the Ratcliffe Foundation $150,000 Pitch for the Skilled Trades Winners!
Carlene Cassidy, CEO of the Philip E. & Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation (MD)

Collaborate to Capitalize: Community & Bank Ready
Andy Ivankovich, CEO of Baker Hill

The Hidden Assets Challenge: Reimagining Campus and Community Spaces for Opportunity
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO, NACCE
Christopher Purdy, AIA, LEED, AP, Executive Director, Marketing Strategies & Growth-Science Education

The Everyday Entrepreneur 2026 Showcase & Announcement of the 2026 Entrepreneurial College of the Year!
Stuart & Chip Weismiller, Co-Founders of EEVF
Vince Murphy, Director, Everyday Entrepreneur Program NACCE (FL)
Lydia Perez-Kavanagh, Manager, Everyday Entrepreneur Program, NACCE (IL)

2:35pm – 3:15pm: **Dessert & Networking in Exhibit Hall**

3:30pm – 4:30pm: **Breakout Sessions 6**

4:45pm – 6:00pm: **Evening Reception & Exhibit Hall Open** (Heavy hors d'oeuvres)

7:00pm – 9:00pm: **Film Screening of "Multiple Choice"** by Ted Dintersmith with popcorn and snacks

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

7:30am – 8:45am: **Breakfast**

8:30am – 11:00am: **Closing General Session**: **Ignite and Achieve: Sustaining Our Legacy, Shaping Tomorrow**

Welcome & Reflection on Transformation
Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President & CEO, NACCE

Opening Keynote: The Wayfinder's Compass: Navigating the Next Horizon of Workforce Innovation

Dr. Betty Young, President of Hocking College (OH)

Founders Awards and Reflections moving into NACCE's 25th Year Celebration
Honorees:
Carlene Cassidy, CEO of the Ratcliffe Foundation (MD)
Dr. Pam Eddinger, President of Bunker Hill Community College (MA)
Dr. Barbara Kavalier, President of St. Charles Community College (MO)
Dr. Steve Spinelli, President of Babson College (MA)
Dr. Joe Sallustio, Chief of Industry Engagement, Ellucian (Moderator)

***Announcement of 25th Anniversary NACCE Festivities:**
Elizabeth Anderson, Manager of Communications & Special Projects, NACCE (NC)
Marcy Euler, President & CEO, Pima Foundation (AZ)

10:00am – 10:15am **BREAK**

10:15am – 10:45am **The Lemonade Pivot Activity!**

10:45am – 11:05am **HUMAN FIRST: AI Will Not Slow Down. Integrity Must Lead.**
Mark L. Madrid, CEO & Founder-Breakthrough Mavens, a Fractional C-Suite Services & Boutique Advisory Firm (TX)

11:05 am **Conference Concludes**

Information is accurate as of the printing date. For the most up-to-date schedule, live changes, and announcements, please consult the Whova app