



AGENDA

Monday Sept 9

5:00 - 8:00 pm

National Museum of American Jewish History

101 South Independence Mall East; Philadelphia

Screening of 'Unlikely'.

Reception with welcome and introduction to the film

John Colborn, Chair of the Graduate! Network board of directors,
and COO, JEVS

Tuesday Sept 10

Morning Sessions

7:15 - 10:30 am

The Kimmel Center, Rooftop Garden

300 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia

Networking Breakfast starts at 7:15 am

Sessions start at 8 am

Welcome with Co-hosts Hadass Sheffer, President of the Graduate!
Network, Malik Brown, Executive Director of Graduate! Philadelphia
and Philadelphia Director of Commerce Harold Epps

Keynote: Graduating #RealCollege Students

Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab

Sept 10
Morning Sessions
Continued

**Innovate for Scale: Short-takes from 9 Graduate! Network
Communities**

Moderator:

Hadass Sheffer, The Graduate! Network

Innovators:

Anthony Johnson, Senior Advisor, Graduate! Philadelphia -
Services for incarcerated individuals

Melanie D'Evelyn, Director of Detroit Drives Degrees, Detroit
Chamber of Commerce - Wiping out prior-debt restrictions

Felecia Johnson, Professor of Business Administration at
Madisonville Community College - Ambassador programs

Cedric Deadmon, Outreach and Advising Project Manager, KC
Degrees - New technologies for scaling one-to-many services

Julie Szeltner, Senior Director of Adult Programs and Services, College
Now Greater Cleveland - ROI of data sharing between colleges and local
completion agency

Delma Madrigal, Director of Collective Impact, United Way of
Central New Mexico (formerly with GraduateABQ) - Engaging
workforce boards and United Ways

Janet Cunningham, Executive Director, Citizens for Educational
Excellence, Corpus Christi - Bridging The Talent Gap as an
employer engagement tool

Paul Bolton, Director of Adult Enrollment at Spalding University
- Institutional transformation

Micaela Rios, Program Director, Upgrade San Antonio -
Legislative change

Sept 10
Morning Sessions
Continued

**Fueling economic growth and an inclusive talent agenda in
Greater Philadelphia**

Moderator:

Malik Brown, Executive Director of Graduate! Philadelphia.

Panelists:

Carol De Fries, Vice President, Workforce & Economic
Innovation, Community College of Philadelphia

Jeanie Heffernan, Executive Vice President & Chief Human
Resource Officer, Independence Blue Cross

Anne Bovaird Nevins, Chief Strategy and Communications
Officer, PIDC

Kahiga Tiagha, President & CEO, The ITEM

Dr. Nikia Owens, Managing Director of Financial
Empowerment, United Way of Greater Philadelphia and
Southern New Jersey

Wolf Memorial Scholarship Award Recognition

Break 10:30 – 11:15 am

(Philadelphia guests may leave)

Reconvene at 11:15
Kimmel Center, Rooftop Garden

Sept 10 Graduate! Network community introductions

Lunch Session **Keynote: High Quality Certificates - A Complex Gambit.**
11:15 am – 1 pm Louis Soares, Chief Learning and Innovation Officer,
American Council on Education

Sept 10 **The State Adult Free College Movement and the Role of**
Afternoon **Community Partners**

Sessions *Overview of the movement:*
1 – 4:30 pm Louis Soares, Chief Learning and Innovation Officer, American
Council on Education

Panelists:
Mary Lapham, Director of Navigate Reconnect, TN-Reconnect,
Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Aaron Thompson, President, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary
Education

Chris Treadway, Senior Director of Research and Policy, West
Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Sara Lundquist, Strategy Consultant, Lumina Foundation and
WestED

Debbie Blanke, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs,
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Michelle Richard, Deputy to the Senior Advisor to the Governor for
Michigan Prosperity, State of Michigan

*Sept 10
Afternoon
Sessions
Continued*

Data That Move Us: Graduation indicators

Presenters:

Annette Mattei, DTMU Research Director

Alexandra Yanovski-Bowers, Assistant Director for Undergraduate Strategic Initiatives, Temple University

Prioritizing DEI: An Essential Condition for Stimulating Change

Workshop led by Ebele Anidi, Senior Consultant, FSG

Sept 10

Scenic walk to Graduate! Network office

*Evening
4:30 – 7:30*

**Graduate! Network office
1635 Market Street, 15th Floor**

Summary of day and networking over pizza & beer

Wed. Sept 11

Kimmel Center, Rooftop Garden

*2nd Day Sessions
7:30 am - 2:30 pm*

*Networking breakfast starts at 7:30
Welcome to the day starts at 8:15*

Built to Last - Resilience and Sustainability

Workshop led by Ebele Anidi, Senior Consultant, FSG

Topical table discussions

Bridging The Talent Gap: Data and news from 20 Graduate! communities working with employers

Presenters:

Bridgett Strickler, VP for Community Engagement and Co-Lead Bridging The Talent Gap, The Graduate! Network

Dr. Dan Ash, Research Director and Co-Lead Bridging The Talent Gap, The Graduate! Network

Panelists:

Greg Laposa, Independent Consultant and Lead, Bridging The Talent Gap-Gateway to Degrees, St. Louis

Julie Szeltner, Senior Director of Adult Programs and Services, College Now Greater Cleveland

Delma Madrigal, Director of Collective Impact, United Way of Central New Mexico (formerly with GraduateABQ)

Janet Cunningham, Executive Director, Citizens for Educational Excellence, Corpus Christi

Take-Aways, Conclusions, and See you next time