Keynote Speakers

SUNY Senior Vice Chancellor Johanna Duncan-Poitier

Johanna Duncan-Poitier is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline for the State University of New York (SUNY). With over 25 years of experience providing results driven leadership, Ms. Duncan-Poitier provides system oversight and coordination for SUNY's 30 community colleges that educate a quarter of a million students with an annual operating budget of $1.8 billion. In her dual role, she also provides leadership across all 64 SUNY campuses to strengthen teacher preparation and the educational connections between its institutions and local Pre K–12 schools, business leaders, and other partners to maximize student success and prepare a highly-qualified workforce. At SUNY, she has led the launch and development of a statewide collaborative of cradle-to-career partnerships, the Smart Scholars Early College High Schools, the SUNY Empire State STEM Learning Network, and the development of a multi-million dollar consortium of 30 community colleges dedicated to high demand careers. Ms. Duncan-Poitier also serves as one of six New York State Commissioners for the Education Commission of the States (ECS).

Ms. Duncan-Poitier previously served as the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Education P-16 for the New York State Education Department. She was responsible for regulatory oversight of the 700 school districts, all 270 NYS colleges and universities (public & private) and the preparation and licensure of 750,000 licensed professionals in 47 health, business and design professions.

Johanna Duncan-Poitier earned a baccalaureate degree from Queens College and a master's degree from Bernard M. Baruch College, both from the City University of New York. She received two honorary degrees including a Doctor of Laws from Saint Joseph's College and a Doctor of Humane Letters from D'Youville College. She has been recognized with numerous honors and awards, including: the Governor's Outstanding Leadership Award; the President's National Award

Jane Shure, PhD, LCSW, & Beth Weinstock, PhD

Cultivating Resilience in Leadership

Dr. Jane Shure, leadership consultant and psychotherapist, is a national expert on bolstering resilience and self-confidence. Named a Philadelphia Magazine "Top Doc for Women," Jane writes for the Huffington Post, co-authored a teen resilience building curriculum, co-authored a book on body image and eating disorders, appeared on NPR and CBS television, has been featured in publications including: O The Oprah Magazine, Washington Post and Philadelphia Inquirer, and is on faculty at Kripalu Center and Athena Leadership Lab at Barnard College.

Dr. Beth Weinstock is a psychologist, leadership consultant, educator and national speaker who guides individuals and work groups through successful transformations. She has taught at universities on both coasts is both an expert, and published author on executive coaching with faculty who transition into leadership and administrative roles. She founded the non-profit women's LeadershipWorks, is currently on faculty at Barnard College's Athena Leadership Lab and the Kriapalu Center in Stockbridge, MA, and writes for the Huffington Post.

Jane and Beth are co-founders of The Resilience Group

Lindsey Woolsey

Using Sector Partnerships to Connect Education with Industry: What, Why, How

Lindsey Woolsey is the President of The Woolsey Group, LLC. The Woolsey Group is a research and technical assistance firm that works with State policy leaders and local programs to better connect their education and training to the needs of industry. The Woolsey Group's mission is to get people the right education and training at the right time for jobs that exist now. This work involves industry engagement; community partnership building among multiple education and economic institutions; and research on advancing job seekers through education into jobs. She has worked in 14 different states, with over a dozen industries, and is frequent speaker at national events. Find more at www.woolseygroup.com.

for Excellence in Administering Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Programs; and the New York State Association for Women in Administration – Pathfinder's Award.

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