Business Efficiency Programs Update

October 2026 - Volume 16, Issue 10

AICUP Trending

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- **AICUP--**Need Office Space in Harrisburg?
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- **AICUP--**2025 Economic Impact

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- **Constellation--**CFO/Facilities Playbook for Campus Resilience

- **Evolution Sustainability Group--**PJM's Capacity Market, Explained
- **E&I Cooperative--**How to Use Spend Analytics to Strengthen Financial Strategy
- **Forvis Mazars (CPE)--**Higher Ed Outlook: Leading Strategic Partnerships **11/30**

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- **Misericordia University--**Retention & 1st year Couse Work: Integrating Analytics & Scheduling
- **Bryan Majors, LLC--**Leaders Lead by All Means!
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AICUP Resources

- **AICUP--**Collaboration Mission & Business Efficiency Programs
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Latest from AICUP

AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

For the first time, this year's Campus Leaders Forum will take place on a member campus—Lehigh University! Mark your calendars for **November 10th**. See *below* for more information and registration.

Rental of Office Space at AICUP Headquarters

AICUP is seeking a tenant or tenants(s) for offices at 101 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA (the James McCormick Mansion/home to AICUP). One space

offers one executive office on first floor with view of the river and private bathroom and access to the conference room.

AICUP would be very interested in securing a tenant that is a member college, but any interest from a current Corporate Affiliate or Endorsed Program Provider would also be welcomed. For more information about this space and/or to schedule a visit, please contact *Cale Nelson*.

Add AICUP to Email Safe Sender List

AICUP asks that you make sure AICUP is on your college or university's email safe sender list. This will ensure that important AICUP communications arrive in your email inbox.

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Featured Forum Sponsor

This year's Campus Leaders Forum) will take place at Lehigh University, hosted at the Iacocca Conference Center. This is the first time the forum will be at a member college.

Breakout Sessions - Descriptions & Presenters

This new setting offers a unique opportunity to engage directly in a campus environment while connecting with peers and thought leaders from across the Commonwealth. Senior staff and the Member Services Committee have built timely agenda from the many breakout proposals received from campus staff, business efficiency program providers and corporate affiliates.

Forum Sponsors

Why Should You Attend?

- **Professional development:** gain new insights from peers & industry experts
- **Stay in the loop:** get the latest on policy, advocacy, and what's shifting in higher ed.
- **Step back & think:** take time away from campus to refocus.
- **Have a real say:** your voice helps shapes decisions impacting AICUP campuses.
- **Build your network:** connect w/peers & collaborate long after the forum ends.

Member College Registration *Early Bird Pricing EXTENDED!*

Breakout Sessions - Descriptions & Presenters

Contributor Sponsors

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From the AICUP Comms Desk

Last month, mascots from many AICUP member schools travelled to the State Capitol in Harrisburg to meet their legislators and to advocate for independent nonprofit colleges and universities - the largest sector of higher ed in PA! AICUP Mascot Day was featured on WGAL, ABC 27, PennLive, with posts by Governor Shapiro.

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On Track to College Graduation: Collective Impact for Student Success

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

This workshop will showcase the work of a new collective impact initiative in Philadelphia, CASE (College Access and Success Ecosystem), with specific emphasis on the work of the On Track to College Gradation Action Team. For the past two years, the College Graduation Action Team has piloted and refined several initiatives, two of which will be highlighted. First, is our work around FAFSA Renewals or re-engagement. Second, is our work around Summer Melt and reducing barriers to matriculation by improving checklists for admitted students.

Participants will learn about both initiatives and have an opportunity to develop initial plans to implement the ideas on their own campuses.

Presenters:

Hillary Kane, Director for the Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND). PHENND, which is part of the University of Pennsylvania, is a consortium of over 25 institutions of higher education in the Greater Philadelphia region that seeks to help campuses connect to their communities through mutually beneficial service and service-learning partnerships. Since Ms. Kane joined PHENND in 1999, the organization has increased its membership, developed new multi-university programs and partnerships, and become a leader in the field of service-learning. Under her leadership, PHENND has developed particular expertise in K-16 Partnerships, with an emphasis on college readiness and success. PHENND has partnered with the School District of Philadelphia for over 15 years on all of its GEAR UP grants as well as the K-16 VISTA project which places 20 full-time AmeriCorps VISTAs in public schools and District offices.

Janine Wright, K-16 Partnerships Manager, PHENND joined PHENND in the summer of 2020. Prior to PHENND she spent over twenty-five years in the nonprofit sector focused primarily on college access and success, community-based education and engagement and professional development. She served as the Assistant Director for Minority Recruitment at the University of Pennsylvania and was part of the inaugural staff of the Philadelphia Education Fund's College Access Program (later serving twice as its director). Janine also managed the E3 Centers project at the Philadelphia Youth Network and directed the agency's professional development initiatives for network members.

Krista Bailey Murphy, Ph.D. VP for Strategic Innovation and Title IX Coordinator, Chestnut Hill College holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Temple University, where her dissertation focused on risk mitigation strategies amongst high-risk, high-achieving college students. She also has an MA from The Ohio State University in Higher Education and Student Affairs and a BA from Ursinus.

With nearly eighteen years at Chestnut Hill College, Krista has transitioned from Student Life to her current role supporting Student Success, Neurodiversity, and the Center for Accessibility and Learning Services. Grounded in the Sisters of Saint Joseph's charism and CHC's mission, she is committed to fostering just relationships that honor the dignity of all persons and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

Using Data & AI Tools to Support Institutional Decision-Making

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

Higher education's analytics bottleneck is rarely the absence of data. It is the time and expertise required to turn data into an answer a leader can act on. The rapid rise of AI offers answers to address this gap. This session presents an overview of data analytics and AI development in higher education and will introduce two pilot projects at Carnegie Mellon University to demonstrate the promise of AI use in administrative decision-making. The landscape review and the pilot case studies point to two distinct gains: faster transformation of data into insight for decision-makers, and improved quality, consistency, and timeliness of the data itself. Attendees will leave with a realistic view of where AI accelerates analytics today, the data readiness each use case demands, and a starting sequence for institutions considering similar work.

Presenter:

Dr. Henry Zheng is Carnegie Mellon University's inaugural Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Planning. He leads institutional research, data science, and advanced analytics functions. In this role, he provides strategic leadership for the university's data reporting, strategic analytics, and organizational assessment functions. Dr. Zheng has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles and white papers and is a frequent speaker at national and regional conferences. He is the editor of Big Data on Campus: Data Analytics and Decision Making in Higher Education (Johns Hopkins University Press) and the author of the forthcoming MIT Press book, The Analytical Advantage. Previously, Dr. Zheng served as the Associate Vice President at Ohio State University and the Vice Provost for Institutional Research at Lehigh University.

Register Now

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Early Bird Registration Extended!

Retention & 1st Year Course Work:
Integrating Retention Analysis & Scheduling

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

Colleges possess extensive information that could help them identify students who may struggle during the first year, but that information is often dispersed across systems and disconnected from the decisions that shape students' experiences.

Misericordia University and Higher Ed Studios will demonstrate two integrated tools: a Retention Tool that identifies students' likelihood of attrition and the factors contributing to that risk, and a Registration Simulator that uses student, curricular, and institutional information to construct appropriate first-semester schedules.

The session will examine how predictive information, targeted interventions, and intentional course placement can be combined—while preserving human oversight—to improve administrative efficiency and first-year student success.

Presenters:

Daniel J. Myers, President of Misericordia University. A sociologist by training, he previously held faculty and administrative positions at American University, Marquette University, and the University of Notre Dame. At Misericordia, he has supported the development of data-informed administrative tools intended to improve student success, institutional effectiveness, and decision-making. His current work includes initiatives involving enrollment, retention, academic innovation, and the responsible use of institutional data and emerging technologies in higher education.

Micah Corning-Myers, Lead Developer at Higher Ed Studios and a Software Development Engineer at Spherical LLC. He leads the technical development of software that translates complex institutional data, policies, and administrative processes into practical tools. He is the lead developer of the Retention Tool and Registration Simulator presented in this session, working to integrate predictive analysis, curricular and scheduling rules, user review, and student information into configurable decision-support systems for colleges and universities.

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

From Energy Expense to Strategic Asset: A CFO & Facilities Playbook for Campus Resilience

~Constellation

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

Colleges are being asked to manage rising costs, aging infrastructure, and limited capital without compromising the campus experience. This session will explore practical ways CFOs and facilities leaders can address these challenges together. From demand response and peak-cost management to utility data, energy efficiency, and infrastructure resilience, participants will discover opportunities to reduce financial risk, improve operational reliability, and create value from resources their campuses may already have.

Presenters:

Patrick Winemiller, Manager - Onsite Solutions, Constellation
John Leimbach, Business Development Manager, Constellation
Blaire Miller, Senior Business Development Manager

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

Constellation is the endorsed energy supplier to assist AICUP members with managing energy costs in new and powerful ways to achieve budget certainty, cost savings and financial protection with a full range of integrated energy solutions. ***Constellation is an endorsed co-provider of the AICUP Energy Management & Procurement program.***

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Crane Energy Tour w/AICUP Members

~Constellation

Recently, Constellation took 21 people from 12 AICUP member schools, and three AICUP staff members on an exclusive, behind-the-scenes tour of the Crane Clean Energy Center. The tour included a walk through the Turbine Building, stepping inside the Main Control Room in Unit 2.

Latest Weekly Energy Industry Summary

Constellation is the endorsed energy supplier to assist AICUP members with managing energy costs in new and powerful ways to achieve budget certainty, cost savings and financial protection with a full range of integrated energy solutions. ***Constellation is an endorsed co-provider of the AICUP Energy Management & Procurement program.***

Contact: Blaire Miller, *blaire.miller@constellation.com* ***or 855-836-2658***

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AICUP Endorsed Program

PJM's Capacity Market, Explained

~Evolution Sustainability Group

PJM's capacity market pays power plants a standby fee to ensure reliability on peak weather days, with costs passed directly to consumers. Driven by massive data center growth, electricity demand is outstripping new supply. This squeeze has pushed auction prices to their cap for three consecutive cycles, triggering intense pressure from federal regulators to overhaul the market. The article walks through what has changed, proposed solutions, and the key role big tech plays in the strain.

Read More

Latest Energy Market Updates

is a complete package of energy and sustainability expertise bundled across our sister companies. Evolution's customers enjoy a positive impact on the bottom line by leveraging a comprehensive suite of energy and sustainability services that mitigate risk, enhance stakeholder/asset value, and provide a foundation to increase corporate citizenship and sustainable practices. ***ESG is an endorsed co-provider of the AICUP Energy Management & Procurement program and also the provider of the AICUP Natural Gas Program.***

Contact: Chuck Hurchalla, churchalla@evolutionsg.com ***or 877-280-4655***

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AICUP AI Amplify Platform

AICUP has partnered with CR8 to bring member institutions Amplify, a game-changing hosted AI platform designed specifically for AICUP Member Schools. Built from Vanderbilt University's infrastructure, Amplify gives your campus secure, enterprise-grade access to 20+ leading AI models—including GPT-4, Claude, and specialized tools—all through one centralized, compliant platform.

Learn alongside your peers—join our upcoming webinars with live discussion

Questions about the AICUP Amplify AI Platform

August 28th

September 4th

Benefits of Amplify

- Access 20+ AI Models: GPT-4, Claude, Gemini, and specialized tools in one place
- Enterprise Security: Your data stays private and is never used to train AI models
- Centralized Management: Control user access, monitor usage, and maintain compliance
- Cost Effective: One platform replaces multiple individual subscriptions

- Education Focus: Built for research, teaching, administration, and student services
- Ongoing Training: Regular webinars and support to maximize your investment

💰 What It Costs:

- $10 per user/month (5 users minimum)
- 6-month term
- Scale up or down as your needs change

🚀 How to Register

Ready to get started? Kelly Carli will handle your onboarding and offboarding: 📧 carli@aicup.org

🛠️ Support & Training Available

You're not alone on this journey! Kasie Joseph from CR8 is your dedicated contact: 📧 kasie@cr8.io. Kasie can help with:

- Technical questions about the platform
- Training resources and best practices

⏭️ Next Steps

1. Contact Kelly Carli at carli@aicup.org to begin your registration
2. Explore our YouTube Training

CR8 Amplify is the ***AICUP Member Preferred Program (AMP) Provider of CR8 Amplify for AICUP Platform.*** Amplify is hosted Gen AI platform that connects data to the right models for each use case and supports 20+ top-tier LLMs including the latest versions of Chat GPT and Claude. You now have access to intuitive interfaces that put advanced AI capabilities in your hands—no technical expertise required. CR8 is available for onboarding + training which is included with your AICUP instance so adoption doesn't stall. Hosted environment, data governance and compliance built-in, with continuous updates and monitoring. Amplify does not train the models.

Contact: Bzur Haun, *bzur@cr8.io*

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How to Use Spend Analytics to Strengthen Your Financial Strategy

~E&I Cooperative Services

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

As higher education leaders seek innovative ways to address financial pressures, many are uncovering opportunities hidden within their institution's spend data. Join fellow AICUP campus leaders for a panel discussion on how E&I Cooperative Services Strategic Spend Assessment has helped their institution identify savings opportunities, optimize spending, and support broader financial and operational goals.

Presenters:

Jon Kokos, Sourcing Consultant at E&I Cooperative Services. In his current role, Jon leverages his expertise to assist CFOs and CBOs in developing and implementing procurement strategies that optimize financial resources, streamline operations, and enhance overall institutional effectiveness. As a former small college CFO, Jon brings firsthand insight into the unique challenges faced by tuition-driven institutions—particularly in purchasing and procurement. His proven track record in improving operational efficiency makes him a valuable resource for institutions navigating today's challenging higher education landscape.

Prior to joining E&I, Jon held leadership roles at both public and private higher education institutions in the Southeast for more than twenty years. Originally from Pittsburgh and an alum of two AICUP member institutions, he currently resides near Columbia, South Carolina, and enjoys spending time outdoors and with his family.

Sheyna Arthur, Sourcing Consultant at E&I Cooperative Services. She is a procurement and operations leader with more than 20 years of experience helping organizations improve efficiency, navigate change, and strengthen sourcing strategies. As a Sourcing Consultant with E&I Cooperative Services, she partners with higher education institutions to identify procurement opportunities, drive contract utilization, and deliver strategic value. Her background spans procurement, compliance, project management, organizational transformation, and contract transition support for higher education and government organizations.

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

is the new ***AICUP Member Preferred (AMP) provider for group purchasing.*** They are the only member-owned, non-profit procurement cooperative focused exclusively on education. E&I delivers unsurpassed value and an exceptional experience to its members through a broad portfolio of competitively solicited contracts with industry-leading suppliers and a range of innovative sourcing solutions. The Cooperative empowers its members to make informed, analytics-driven decisions to capture more spend and optimize their education dollars.

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Recover, Access, Protect: Enterprise Cyber Resilience at Exclusive Pricing

~ePlus Technology

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

Ransomware and cyber-attacks on higher education keep rising, putting institutional data, operations, and reputation at risk, often at schools with lean IT teams. This session introduces four specially priced offerings for AICUP members. Together they build layered resilience without adding internal staff.

- **Rubrik:** air-gapped, immutable backup and rapid ransomware recovery. It is fully managed by the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU), which provides 24/7/365 monitoring and restore support.
- **Zscaler:** a cloud-native Zero Trust platform and VPN alternative, also managed by CCIU. It inspects all web and encrypted traffic for on-campus and remote users. There is no hardware to manage, and privacy controls are FERPA-aligned.
- **SentinelOne:** AI-driven endpoint protection, EDR, and 24/7 managed detection and response, with one-click remediation and rollback.

SentinelOne was named a Leader in the 2025 Gartner Magic Quadrant for Endpoint Protection Platforms.

- **Nutanix:** a simplified hybrid cloud infrastructure platform with built-in data protection and ransomware resilience. It gives schools a cost-effective way to adjust their data center strategy to market conditions, and it is also available at special AICUP pricing.

Attendees will learn how these solutions work together to secure recovery, access, endpoints, and infrastructure. They will also see how CCIU's managed services model and AICUP-negotiated pricing put enterprise-grade protection within reach for independent colleges and universities.

Presenters:

Brandon Holmes, Account Executive, ePlus Technology, is the contact for the AICUP Data Security Software Program and the Nutanix for AICUP Institutions Program.

Chris Gerriets, Senior Solutions Architect, ePlus Technology

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for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

heads the ***AICUP Member Preferred Program (AMP) Provider of the Data Security Software Program.*** From Cloud and Data Center, Security, Collaboration, Networking and AI, to Digital Transformation, Managed and Professional Services or Financing, we bring a vast perspective that helps organizations design, orchestrate and seamlessly implement versatile technology solutions. Our unparalleled expertise has been refined over more than three decades, allowing customers to maximize the return on their technology investments.

With a dedicated SLED practice of Account Executives and SLED Operations Professionals, ePlus knows SLED, Contracts and works to keep our customers in compliance with grants and funding.

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The AI Ready Campus:Turning Siloed Data into Smarter Decisions w/Workday Data Cloud

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

As higher education institutions navigate shifting enrollment trends, rising administrative demands, and resource constraints, leveraging modern cloud and AI technologies has moved from a strategic goal to an operational necessity.

This session explores how colleges and universities can harness Workday AI Agents, advanced machine learning features, and Workday Data Cloud to drive institutional agility, enhance student success, and streamline campus-wide operations across finance, HR, and student administration.

Attendees will discover how Workday's next-generation AI agents automate complex workflows—from optimizing student support touchpoints to reducing manual reporting burdens for faculty and staff. We will dive into how Workday Data Cloud serves as the single source of truth, connecting disparate campus data sources securely to deliver actionable, real-time analytics.

Presenters:

Justin Brantley is a Core Account Executive at Workday with over 10 years of higher education experience, helping institutions modernize legacy systems, connect data, and leverage technology and AI to drive smarter decisions.

Steven Forman is a Principal Enterprise Architect at Workday, focusing on Higher Education transformation for the last 12 years. Having worked in the Higher Ed ERP world for over 25 years, he brings a unique perspective on how AI technology can transform an institution

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

Abnormal AI

Cyber Roundtable:
How AICUP Member Schools Are Defending Their Campuses

For Cybersecurity Awareness Month, AICUP & Abnormal AI hosted a roundtable of security leaders from colleges and universities across the AICUP community for a candid conversation about what it really takes to protect a modern campus.

From AI-powered email attacks to building a culture of awareness with limited staff and budget, the panelists shared their strategies, hard-won lessons, and practical advice shaping higher ed security today. Whether you lead a team or work on the front lines, this recording is worth the watch as you will walk away with fresh ideas you can put to work right away. This was a conversation among peers, built for the people defending higher ed every day.

The Panel Featured:

- Chris Treib, VP of Information Technology, Geneva College
- Ikram Muhammad, Information Security Engineer, University of Scranton
- Mark Green, VP of Institutional Effectiveness, IT & Innovation, Holy Family University
- Travis Bertolino, SLED Solutions Engineer, Abnormal AI

Recording
Panel Contact Info

Presented by:

Abnormal Universities and colleges are prime targets for cyberattacks and email is the front door. From phishing attempts on students and staff to financial fraud targeting bursar and financial aid offices, higher education institutions face threats that legacy security tools simply weren't built to stop. Abnormal AI is the leading cloud email security platform, using behavioral AI to understand normal communication patterns across your campus community and automatically block sophisticated attacks before they reach the inbox. No rules, no tuning, no dedicated security team required. Protecting the people who power higher education.

Contact: Sam Weisbuch, sweisbuch@abnormal.ai or 201-403-0798

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Bryan Majors, LLC

Leaders Lead by All Means!

Upcoming Lunch Speaker at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

Bryan, an alum of Susquehanna University, is an Amazon number one bestselling author, leadership speaker, serial entrepreneur, educational consultant, and college professor. He has worked directly with more than 5,000 students, athletes, and young leaders and has delivered more than 250 speaking engagements for schools, athletic programs, colleges, and organizations across the country.

Register Now
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Early Bird Registration Extended!

Below you will find links to the recording & slide deck from a recent AICUP Campus Leaders Webinar:

Recording
Slide Deck

Highlights

- Build a culture where leadership becomes part of every student's experience.
- Learn practical strategies to increase student engagement, ownership, and accountability.
- Discover how preparation driven leadership transforms school culture and student success.
- Walk away with proven tools and resources that can be implemented immediately.

is a leadership-driven brand built on preparation, discipline, and purpose. Founded by Bryan Majors, an alum of Susquehanna University, it empowers athletes, leaders, and everyday individuals to rise above adversity and perform at elite levels. Through premium apparel, speaking engagements, and transformational coaching, the company delivers a unified message that greatness is earned through preparation.

Trusted by teams, organizations, and influencers, Major Prep blends culture, performance, and identity into every product and experience. It is more than clothing, it is a community that challenges people to lead boldly, live intentionally, and leave a lasting legacy through faith, consistency, and execution.

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AICUP Corporate Affiliate

Cintas

AED Trade-Ins

Now until December 31st, trade in your current AED and upgrade to the latest ZOLL technology while taking advantage of a limited-time rebate offer. Upgrade any AED in any condition.

More information

is the industry leader in supplying uniform programs, providing entrance and logo mats, restroom supplies, first aid, safety, fire protection products and services, and industrial carpet and tile cleaning. We help more than 1 million businesses get Ready™ to open their doors with confidence every day by providing a wide range of products and services that enhance our customers' image and help keep their facilities and employees clean, safe and looking their best. With products and services including uniforms, floor care, restroom supplies, first aid and safety products, fire extinguishers and testing, and safety compliance training, Cintas helps customers get Ready for the Workday.

Contact: Tom Best, BestT@Cintas.com or 570-687-7766

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MBP - How Healthy is Your Capital Program?

Upcoming Session at the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum

How does your institution's capital program compare to its peers? This session unveils the results of the 2026 AICUP Capital Program Benchmark, a confidential benchmarking initiative completed by AICUP member institutions. Attendees will gain exclusive insights into the strengths, challenges, and emerging trends shaping higher education capital programs, along with practical strategies to strengthen governance, financial stewardship, collaboration, and decision-making, thereby improving project and program outcomes.

Presenters:

Kevin Hayes., Service Line Manager, Program Consulting, MBP, leads MBP's Program Consulting practice, where he helps owners strengthen the planning, governance, and delivery of complex capital programs. With more than 20 years of experience in the AEC industry, Kevin's expertise includes strategic planning, stakeholder alignment, program evaluations, risk identification, and organizational performance. Having led hundreds of consulting engagements, he is known for helping clients simplify complex challenges, make data-informed decisions, and improve program outcomes through a collaborative, practical approach focused on long-term success.

Gerry Timothy, PE, CCM, CCP, VP, Services Line Manager, MBP, has nearly 30 years of experience in project management, design, construction, and commissioning. He has supported public and private owners across higher education, healthcare, K-12, commercial, and government markets, helping organizations successfully plan and deliver complex capital projects. Gerry's expertise includes project and construction management, commissioning, risk management, cost estimating, scheduling, and contract administration. He works closely with owners to strengthen project delivery, improve collaboration among

stakeholders, and successfully manage complex capital programs from planning through occupancy.

Register Now

for the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum
Early Bird Registration Extended!

MBP is a nationally recognized leader in construction management with a proven track record of delivering complex building and infrastructure projects. We offer services in construction project management, program consulting, project controls, risk management, building commissioning, facility performance, and dispute resolution. With deep technical expertise, a strong culture of leadership, and a focus on innovation, MBP is committed to delivering smart, tailored solutions that drive better project outcomes. We proudly serve a variety of markets, including higher education, K-12, healthcare, government, and transportation.

AICUP 2025 Economic Impact Report

~Tom Foley, AICUP President

With all the troublesome news for higher ed at the national level, the latest AICUP Economic Impact Report offers GREAT news for our member schools. The report on PA's 80+ independent nonprofit schools concludes these AICUP schools support almost 200,000 jobs in Pennsylvania every year, generate an annual economic impact of $29 billion for the state's economy (that's larger than the entire budget of 28 states), and provides a stunning 139-to-1 return on PA taxpayer investment. With our health care systems, the AICUP SCHOOLS represent almost 7% of the entire PA economy (more than coal and total gas combined!).

The report confirms independent nonprofit schools don't just prepare the workforce of tomorrow, they enhance Pennsylvania's economy today.

AICUP schools employ 1 in 33 workers in Pennsylvania, they supply 39,000 new PA workers every year, they're the top employer in 3 counties, and among the top 25 employers in 19 counties. In fact, the PA Chamber of Commerce and Industry named higher education "the fifth largest industry" in Pennsylvania, and AICUP schools constitute half the entire sector. AICUP graduates in this "industry" are an inclusive bunch:

- 45% of PA teacher cert candidates
- 47% of low-income students pursuing bachelor's degrees in PA
- 52% of working age adult students' re-skilling/up-skilling in PA
- 55% of all minority students pursuing bachelor's degrees in PA
- 58% of STEM graduates in PA • 69% of all PA nursing degrees

PA should celebrate this asset that has made our state the second-top net importer of students in the nation (for over 30 years) and the 2025 Wall Street Journal's third ranked state for quality outcomes in higher education. Don't take my word for it—look at the data.

Read my op-ed

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AICUP
Business Efficiency Programs

www.aicup.org/Collaboration/BEP

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AICUP Leadership:
Board of Directors
Committees & Working Groups
Staff

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