

NORTHEAST COALITION FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS

JUNE 2018

Don't miss out on the opportunity to be in dialogue with thinkers from campuses and high schools in the Northeast!

BACKGROUND

Since its founding in 2012, the Center for Higher Education Retention Excellence (CHERE), in Hartford, has put on 20 conferences and forums on **key issues related to the access to, and success in, higher education for underrepresented, first generation and otherwise challenged students.** At its two conferences in 2017, representatives from 40 campuses, including 18 outside Connecticut in the Northeast, attended, suggesting that the issues addressed, and the “small conference” format, combining expert presentations with focused discussion, and substantive student input, was attractive to many different kinds of campus professionals and to high school staff interested in the transition to college for their recent graduates.

At the same time, CHERE staff began meeting with representatives of Pace University in Pleasantville, New York, and contributing to their first and second conferences on student success – leading to the idea of creating a regional organization to foster broad discussion of shared interests across the Northeast. At the end of CHERE’s 2017 events, and PACE’s 2017 conference, several professionals from the Northeast expressed interest in being part of a new regional organization – **hence the birth of the “Northeast Coalition for College Success,”** jointly sponsored by CHERE and Pace.

An initial meeting was held on March 23, 2018 with 20 enthusiastic professionals from 9 colleges, 2 high schools, 1 foundation, and CHERE. Agreement was reached that:

1. Initial goals included: communication with widespread colleagues on shared issues, dissemination of models/best practices, professional development, networking, and advocacy,
2. Additional schools should be invited,
3. The group should be named Northeast Coalition for College Success,
4. Meetings, both in-person and teleconference, should be held at least quarterly,
5. That a “membership fee” structure should be established, perhaps on a sliding fee scale, ranging from a \$150 fee for individual memberships, \$500 for an institutional membership, and a \$1000 “Gold Institutional” membership that could include free conference registrations, and/or a day on campus for CHERE’s two principals, David Johnston and Alan Kramer, for “consultations” of the school’s choosing.
6. Any member school could bring a student at no charge to a CHERE or Pace conference.
7. Three subcommittees be created: “Communications and Media,” “Fund-Raising and Foundations,” and “High School Links”
8. Next meeting would be directly after CHERE’s next conference on June 22 at University of Hartford.



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