

Arkansas – Casey Sacks, Ph.D.

Casey Sacks is currently the Assistant Provost at the Colorado Community College System office where, for seven years in Academic Affairs, she has led special programs.

In 2011, as the System Dean for Developmental Education, Dr. Sacks led the process that resulted in a massive redesign of developmental education in Colorado. This redesign included policy creating corequisite instruction, combination of disciplines of English and reading, and pathways in math. Data demonstrate significant improvement in student success as a result of the redesign. Dr. Sacks created a Grants and Resource Development office whose functions include development, statewide policy, tracking mechanisms, and process for consortium applications for large grant projects. The office has received more than \$52 million in total funding for its projects. Dr. Sacks is currently working on statewide redesign of Prior Learning Assessment, which has already dramatically changed the way prior learning is evaluated at the 13 System colleges in Colorado.



She completed her Ph.D. in higher education administration at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, specializing in institutional planning.

Michigan & Massachusetts – Richard Kazis

Richard Kazis is an active consultant for education and workforce initiatives with various national organizations and foundations, including the Charles A. Dana Center, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC), the Brookings Institution, and the John M. Belk Endowment. Also, he serves as the Board Chair of The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS).

Until 2014, Richard Kazis was Senior Vice President of Jobs for the Future (JFF). At JFF, Mr. Kazis led the development and implementation of policy and advocacy activities in support of innovative solutions to educational and economic challenges facing low-income youth and adults. Further, he oversaw JFF's Washington policy office and the organization's varied initiatives on community college student success. He has taught at an alternative high school, helped organize and staff workforce enterprises, and supervised a Neighborhood Youth Corps program.



Mr. Kazis has co-authored a book on environmental and labor politics and edited two others. He has written extensively for professional and research organizations on topics such as improving low-income community college students' performance and outcomes, college and career readiness approaches for struggling students, low-wage worker advancement strategies, and the role of labor market intermediaries in workforce development.

Richard Kazis graduated from both Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Missouri – Linda Welsh, Ph.D.

Linda Welsh recently completed her tenure as the Dean of Graduate Students and Academic Support and will continue as adjunct faculty for the Roueche Graduate Center’s Community College Leadership Program at National American University. Previously she was a faculty member and Department Chair for Child Development for the Austin Community College District (ACC), where she led the department through national accreditation. Dr. Welsh served as President for the ACC Faculty Senate and was active in a variety of college-wide councils and committees, including the Administrative Services Council and Academic and Campus Affairs Council. Prior to that, Dr. Welsh was the Early Childhood Coordinator for the City of Austin where she facilitated community-wide planning and program development for the early childhood system of Austin.



Dr. Welsh serves as the Vice President of the Board for the local Head Start agency, Child Incorporated. She also serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors for Together4Children and is engaged in collective philanthropy through her work on Impact Austin.

Dr. Welsh has a PhD in Educational Administration with a concentration in Community College Leadership from the University of Texas at Austin. She also has a Certificate from the Graduate Portfolio Program in Non-Profit Studies from the RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service at the University of Texas at Austin.

Oklahoma – Sandy Gilpin

Sandy Gilpin is currently the Assistant Dean of First Year Programs at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. She is also a member of the Colorado Math Pathways Task Force.



Sandy Gilpin has been involved in diverse educational initiatives. She was a high school mathematics teacher for public and private schools in Virginia, Texas, and Colorado. Also, she was a consultant for a regional education laboratory, Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), where she conducted professional development for K–12 educators. In 2007, she was a faculty member at Fort Lewis College where she excelled and served as the Director of the Freshman Math Program in 2009.

Ms. Gilpin has been an instrumental leader, serving as a facilitator for the Western Region of the Colorado Core to College P20 Regional Partnerships. She was a member of the Colorado Remedial Education Policy Review Team in which her team was responsible for rewriting the state’s policy on Remedial Education and Supplemental Academic Instruction.

She earned her master’s degree in secondary education, with an emphasis in mathematics, from George Washington University.

Washington – Jane C. Sherman, Ph.D.

Dr. Jane C. Sherman retired last year from the position of Vice Provost for Academic Policy & Evaluation at Washington State University. For the past five years, she also served as the Associate Director for Academic Policy with the Council of Presidents (COP) office, where she worked closely with public and non-profit universities, community college systems, and K-12. For COP, she led policy analysis and advocacy in areas that included student transfer, performance funding, higher education's Common Core and Smarter Balanced agreements, and dual credit, among others.



Previously, Jane served as the Deputy Director for Academic Affairs at the Higher Education Coordinating Board (precursor to WSAC), where she led state-level policy development and implementation in areas that included university admission requirements, student transfer, new program approval, gender equity and diversity, and branch campus policy. Jane also has experience as a university faculty member and with non-profit organizations. She currently consults part-time with the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) on a nationwide student transfer project.