



2018 19 ASPEN PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship identifies and empowers a network of exceptional leaders capable of enacting transformational change throughout the nation's community colleges.

THE ASPEN PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXCELLENCE

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence is developing a cadre of exceptional leaders who can transform community colleges to achieve higher levels of student success while maintaining broad access.

Each year, Aspen engages a select group of up to 40 fellows for this intensive, one-year, applied executive leadership program, delivered in collaboration with the Stanford Educational Leadership Initiative.

FEATURES OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship provides a perspective and skillset that equips Fellows to become innovative and highly effective community college presidents. Fellows have the opportunity to:

- Work with national leaders who are shaping and implementing at scale best practices for community college success
- Build a network of forward-thinking peers to support and challenge one another in the pursuit of broad change
- Apply grounded and innovative strategies to meet student success challenges at their home colleges
- Be recognized and promoted as highly promising candidates for future presidencies

The year-long Fellowship includes:

- **Residential seminars** led by Aspen Institute and Stanford University faculty, as well as some of the nation's top community college professionals and higher education experts. Each of the three, four-day sessions includes presentations of ground-breaking research, extensive hands-on time working in small groups with peers and mentors, and the opportunity to learn from veteran college leaders.
- **A capstone project** that offers participants a structured process, with feedback from peers and mentors, for crafting and extending their own distinct presidential perspective on community college student success. The conclusion of

the Fellowship, the capstone project leads participants through rigorous analysis of data and inquiry into the student experience, developing and refining of a vision for community college excellence, and advancing their ability to communicate and build urgency around a vision for transformational change.

- **Mentorship** by an exceptional, nationally recognized current or former community college president who engages participants in a dynamic exchange of ideas and helps to draw connections across the seminars, portfolios, and participants' own professional experiences. Mentors offer support and guidance to Fellows throughout the year, including a series of interactive webinars on topics related to leading change to improve student success.

“Through engagement with leading researchers, writers, and leaders in community colleges, I experienced growth and development not just in knowledge about higher education but also about myself. This balance of cutting edge information and work on the internal life of an effective leader makes the Aspen Presidential Fellowship like no other.”

—SUZANNE JOHNSON, 2016-2017 Aspen Presidential Fellow, President, Green River College

Throughout the program, Fellows will explore three broad themes:

LEADING FOR IMPACT

Defining and assessing student success in multiple domains: learning, completion, transfer and bachelor's attainment, labor market, and equity in access and outcomes.

LEADING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

Transforming institutional culture and core practices to deeply and sustainably improve student success.

PARTNERING FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION

Implementing new structures with external partners—including K-12 schools, universities, community-based organizations, and employers—to improve student success.



WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

IDEAL candidates are motivated by the potential of community colleges to impact the lives of students and to grow the health and vitality of communities. Aspen Fellows aspire to be transformational community college presidents—those who will lead their institutions to achieve significant improvements in student outcomes and greater equity in educational access and success. They possess the willingness to take risks to lead transformational change and are strategic, reform-minded thinkers and innovators. Applicants should aspire to enter

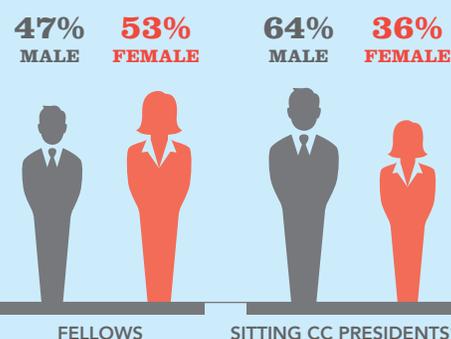
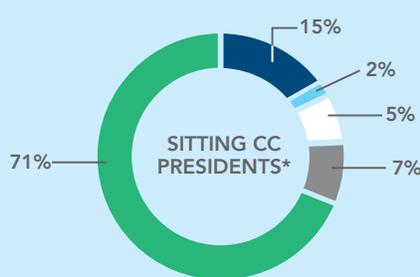
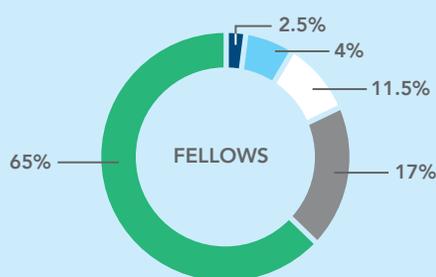
a presidency within five years of completing the Fellowship.

The Aspen Fellowship program is committed to identifying and developing talented leaders that reflect the diversity of the communities and students that the nations' community colleges serve, and we strongly encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds and from all groups representative of varying race and ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, culture, religion, and physical abilities.

We also encourage applicants from a variety of professional backgrounds, including:

- Campus presidents, provosts, or vice presidents at a community college
- Senior administrators in other higher education institutions or K-12 systems
- Executives from outside of education with deep commitment to ensuring students' success

FELLOWS VS. SITTING COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENTS



* <http://www.aacc.nche.edu/AboutCC/Trends/Documents/CEOCCompensationResearchBrief.pdf>
 ** http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Publications/datapoints/Documents/LeadershipGap_11%2012%2014.pdf

PROGRAM DATES

Residential seminars of four days each will be held in late July 2018, mid-November 2018, and early April 2019. Exact dates for 2018-19 Fellowship seminars are yet to be determined.

FELLOWSHIP FEES

The cost of the Fellowship is \$5,000 (includes lodging and onsite meals during each seminar). Fellows will be responsible for paying for and arranging travel to/from seminars. Limited financial aid is available to offset the Fellowship fee and travel costs; applications are available after selection.

HOW TO APPLY OR NOMINATE A FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATE

Applications open on September 29, 2017 and will include short essays, an updated resume, and a letter of support from your institution's president. Please visit our website at www.aspeninstitute.org/pres-fellowship.

Aspen strongly encourages nominations of exceptional leaders who are well positioned to benefit from the Fellowship. Nominated candidates will be contacted directly and encouraged to apply. To nominate a candidate, please visit our website.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2017

To learn more, visit www.aspeninstitute.org/pres-fellowship or contact Ashmi Patel at ashmi.patel@aspeninstitute.org.

“I expected, like in most fellowships, to spend more time working on my application, resume, and interview. Instead, I experienced much more—an introspective look at my beliefs, values, and abilities; deep discussion about perceptions, challenging higher education issues, foundations of teaching and learning, critical thinking, leading change, leadership style, and how to set the vision.”

—TONJUA WILLIAMS, 2016-2017 Aspen Presidential Fellow, President, St. Petersburg College

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE GRACIOUSLY RECOGNIZES THE SUPPORT OF:

Carnegie Corporation of New York; the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, College Futures Foundation, ECMC Foundation, Greater Texas Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, and the Kresge Foundation.