



Business Efficiency Programs Update

April 2021 - Volume 11, Issue 4

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AICUP Campus Leaders Series

Electronic Payments Save
Time & Money

Allowing AP to Focus on Mission Critical Tasks

April 27, 2021 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

REGISTER

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Accounts Payable is now busier than ever and AP leaders are eager to improve operation efficiency and effectiveness. Paying vendors electronically frees staff from the drudgery of manual check processing, allowing them to focus more of their time on higher-value activities such as data analysis and supplier management. Join our informative webinar to learn how payments make AP more efficient.

Learning Objectives:

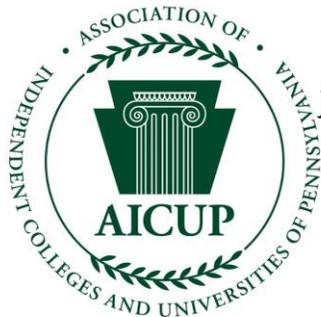
- Discuss current AP pain points and headaches
- Uncover ways to make AP more efficient
- Understand how AP teams can reallocate time and resources



Learn More about the [AICUP A/P Automation Program](#) on the [AICUP Website](#)

*This webinar is part of the **AICUP CAMPUS LEADERS SERIES** and is provided free of charge to anyone working on an AICUP member campus.*

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AICUP Campus Leaders Series

**UPDATE YOUR OUTLOOK:
NAVIGATING POST COVID-19**

April 29, 2021 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

REGISTER

Thursday, April 29, 2021

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Update Your Outlook - Navigating Post COVID-19

Now that the end is in sight, how do you update your financial models and plans to reflect our new reality? In this webcast, Derek Freitag, Senior Higher Education Account Executive from Synario, will review how you can use existing COVID-19 impact data to update your financial models, as well as how to model future enrollment scenarios to anticipate any future outcome.

Every college and university is currently planning around their unique challenges, so this webinar will also cover scenario planning techniques that you can use to chart the best path forward for your institution.

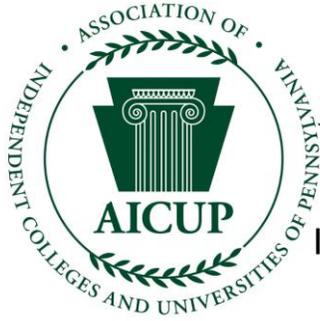
Target Audience: Finance and Budget Leaders (Directors, VPs, CFOs), FP&A, Business Affairs.



Learn More about the [Synario and the AICUP Member Preferred Program](#), [Agile Financial Modeling Software](#), on the [AICUP Website](#)

*This webinar is part of the **AICUP CAMPUS LEADERS SERIES** and is provided free of charge to anyone working on an AICUP member campus.*

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AICUP Campus Leaders Series

Phase II:

Intelligence: Identification of Constraints & Variables-
Seeing the Unforseen

May 5, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

REGISTER

Wednesday, May 5, 2021
10:00 - 11:30 AM

This session will focus on the value and return on investment of choosing to look at and to find roadblocks to successful projects and client satisfaction. Phase I focused on *Mission, Identifying the Common Goal*. [View the recording of Phase I.](#)

This will be illustrated virtually from Washington & Jefferson College, looking at their recent project of a full renovation of a group of residence halls. It will feature a panel including:

- Jim Irwin, CFO, W&J College
- Eva Chatterjee-Sutton, VP of Student Life, W&J College
- W&J College Students
- Martin Kimmel, Principal, Kimmel Bogrette
- Matt McQuaide, Principal, Kimmel Bogrette



Learn More about [Kimmel-Bogrette & the MasterPlanning Concept AMP program](#) on the [AICUP Website](#)

Phase I took place on April 21st. [Watch the recording.](#)

Phase III will look at the needs analysis and will be featured during the AICUP Campus Leaders Forum in June.

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Title IX Coordinator/Investigator Training for AICUP Members

~D. Stafford & Associates

In light of the lingering issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, travel advisories and travel restrictions being implemented by colleges and universities, AICUP endorsed program provider, D.Stafford & Associates is offering a virtual course combining their two investigation classes. There are also other virtual trainings scheduled throughout 2021 (see below).

[Register](#)

May 3-7, 2021

11:00 am to 5:00 pm each day

Standard Rate: \$750 AICUP RATE: \$525 (-\$225)

Course Description: In this comprehensive course, attendees will learn how to manage a complaint of sexual misconduct, from sexual harassment to sexual assault. The course covers an overview of the Title IX function and will include opportunities for discussion and participation in case studies and practical exercises as well as opportunities for networking with other higher education professionals. The course will cover the training required for Title IX Coordinators under the 2020 Title IX regulations and the VAWA amendments to the Clery Act.

This training program will feature expert faculty, who serve as practitioners and lawyers serving on college campuses across the country in the areas of Title IX Compliance, Campus Law Enforcement, Student Conduct and Human Resources. Participants will be able to draw knowledge from networking with fellow Title IX coordinators and investigators.

Every college and university in the country is required by the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights to have a campus Title IX Coordinator, and to identify that individual to the campus community as a contact point for a Title IX communications and grievances.

This class is designed for College and University Title IX Coordinators and Deputy Coordinators; Investigators; and Administrators in Human Resources, Student Conduct and Student Affairs, General Counsel, Athletics, and Campus Law Enforcement/Public Safety.

Some of the key topics that will be covered are:

- History, law, regulations, and case law directing our response to sexual misconduct complaints, including Title IX, Title VII, and the Clery Act.
- Title IX Personnel - who should coordinate, investigate, adjudicate, and advise and the responsibilities of each
- Avoiding conflicts of interest and bias in the Title IX grievance processes

- Understanding the scope of the educational programs and activities and considerations in resolving sexual misconduct complaints that fall outside the jurisdiction of Title IX, including but not limited to VAWA offenses and Title VII sexual harassment
- Role of the Coordinator in the reporting process to include: duties upon receiving a “report,” intake, what constitutes “actual knowledge,” confidentiality vs privacy, supportive measures, oversight of investigations and formal and informal grievance processes.

Learn more about [D.Stafford & Associates and the AICUP Title IX Coordinator/Investigator Program on the AICUP website.](#)

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3ROX & MAGPI: New Project to Benefit PA's Research & Education Community

Three Rivers Optical Exchange (3ROX) based at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, and the MidAtlantic Giga-Pop for Internet2 (MAGPI) at the University of Pennsylvania, are pleased to announce that they are joining together in a co-operative project to significantly extend their network reach, add redundant capacities and expand network-based service offerings.

The project will offer a wider range of services to the Research and Education community in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, giving them greater access, improved reliability, and lower cost.

In addition, to access to the national Internet2 network, 3ROX and MAGPI will be providing these additional services:

CLOUD CONNECT NETWORK

The combined network resources will allow access to AWS, Google Web Services, Microsoft Azure and many other cloud service providers in Ashburn, VA, Chicago, IL, Dallas, TX and Palo Alto, CA with options of either shared capacity or private circuits.

PEERING AND CACHING

Direct peering through Internet2 I2PX and commercial peering at the DE-CIX global exchange in NYC, offer enhanced flexibilities and efficiencies to organizations. Direct peering with both R&E and commercial networks, including Comcast offers significant advantages. Caching services to popular streaming services such as Netflix and Google allow schools to better manage commodity Internet requirements, with the potential to lower costs.

DISCOUNTS ON SERVICES AND APPLICATIONS

Pennsylvania organizations will be able to choose from an extensive portfolio of programs and applications, including discounts for discounts on services, like Blackboard, Canvas, Zoom, AWS and Google Cloud Platform.

There is much more.

For more information about how your organization may benefit, call Ken Barber at (215) 898-0225 or [email](#).

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Hygienic Solutions that Support Healthy Campuses

~Omnia Partners

College and university campuses are busy places. So much activity and interaction creates a challenge to keep facilities hygienic, safe and to reduce the spread of germs. From common areas to dining halls, and from restrooms to everywhere in between, Omnia Partners has created a three-tiered approach involving:

- Hygiene
- Cost Efficiency
- Sustainability

[Download the pdf outlining various solutions >](#)

Learn more about [Omnia Partners & their Aggregated Group Purchasing Program](#) on the [AICUP website](#).

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5 Drivers of Business Acumen

~Nelnet Campus Commerce

[Register](#)

**Thursday, May 20, 2021
2:00 PM**

At its core, almost every organization is a business. When you break down any business to its fundamental elements, you'll find the same drivers that power the business – any business. Join us in this webinar to learn about the 5 Drivers of business.

The 5 Drivers of Business breaks down the questions "what do I really know about the business of our business?" In this session we will cover the fundamental elements for any company. By using the core financial statements—statement of cash flows (Cash), the income statement (Profit), and the balance sheet (assets)—as the foundation. Every company uses them to judge current strength and future prospects. The 4th driver is Growth is reflected in all of these statements (and is important for shareholders). The 5th driver is quite simple: without good employees providing value to its paying customers, the other 4 drivers cease to exist.

At the end of this webinar you will:

- List the 5 Drivers of any business and define each one
- Explain how the 5 Drivers interact with each other to impact business results
- Identify how outside factors impact the 5 Drivers

Learn more about [Nelnet & the AICUP Campus Commerce Program](#) on the [AICUP website](#).

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AICUP Bond Finance Update **~Stifel**

[Municipal Market Update 4-19-21](#)

Top Takeaways from Last Week:

- Tax-exempt interest rates fell in every maturity throughout the curve, with decreases ranging from 2 to 11 basis points. The 30-year AAA MMD is now 28 basis points above the record low achieved on August 7, 2020, and 16 basis points above its level at the beginning of the year.
- US Treasury yields also saw decreases in nearly all maturities. Decreases ranged from 1 to 8 basis points.
- Municipal supply decreased to \$7.2 billion, down from \$9.9 billion for the week ending April 9th. Average supply in 2021 held steady at \$8.3 billion. This week's supply is projected to increase to \$10.9 billion, but could exceed \$11.8 billion according to the day-to-day calendar.
- Municipal bond funds reported a sixth consecutive week of net inflows totaling \$2.3 billion. There have now been inflows for 22 of the past 23 weeks stretching back to November 2020. The four-week moving average has increased to \$1.3

billion. Highyield funds also reported a sixth consecutive week of inflows at a record high of \$1.3 billion.

- Democratic Senators introduced the Local Infrastructure Financing Tools (“LIFT”) Act, which includes the restoration of taxexempt advance refundings, the expansion of the bank-qualified cap to \$30 million, and the restoration of taxable direct pay bonds called ‘American Infrastructure Bonds’.

For further info, email [Linda Eremita](#)

Learn more about [AICUP Debt Financial Advisory & Bond Program](#) on the AICUP website

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Energy Insights *~Constellation*

[Read the Weekly Industry Summary 4-18-2021](#)

A quick glimpse into the latest energy headlines...

This online report, is designed to help you and your business stay up-to-date on the latest power and natural gas trends happening in the market.

Also inside:

- Commodity Fundamentals - Bulls/Bears
- Gas, Oil & Coal Futures Contract Prices
- Natural Gas Rig Counts & Storage Data
- Energy Commodity Physical Cash Prices
- Regional Updates

Constellation has created a helpful resources page at [Constellation.com/CARES](#) so customers and eligible channel partners can find answers to questions on how the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act** funds may help them pay utility bills and other business expenses. The site includes FAQs and links to materials.

Find additional info, on the [Constellation microsite](#) especially for AICUP Members.

Learn More about [Constellation & the AICUP Energy Procurement & Management Program](#) on the AICUP website.

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Support Your Students with the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

~Cengage

Supporting student success is the decision driver at Ivy Tech Community College. Ivy Tech used funding allocated to the institution under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide 90,000 students with learning materials through Cengage Unlimited for Institutions, a scalable service and content license model. Ivy estimates the decision saved students around \$150 each.

In addition to affordable student access to eTextbooks and award-winning digital learning platforms, Cengage Unlimited for Institutions offers scalable academic services to help administrators make the transition to hybrid or online learning, as well as new professional development resources to help faculty teach online.

Cengage has a [new website](#) for HEERF where institutions can find helpful information to support students during the pandemic.

Learn More about [Cengage and the Digital Subscription Service for Books](#) on the AICUP website.

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8 Ways to Advise Students to Pay for Grad School

~Credible

Going to graduate school can help students secure a better paying job in the future, but attending isn't cheap. There are many ways to pay for grad school — and if they'll need to take on hefty student loan debt to cover the cost. Grad students leave school with \$84,300 in [average student loan debt](#). But luckily, there are ways to lower their post-graduate education costs.

[Read More](#)

Learn More about [Credible](#) on the AICUP website.

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Apogee

The State of Higher Ed Strategic Technology Planning Interactive Report

Apogee recently unveiled [The State of Higher Ed Strategic Technology Planning Interactive Report](#) for higher ed leaders, an analysis of 491 higher ed pre-pandemic strategic plans that can enable your members to compare their campus and uncover gaps and opportunities as they plan for 2021 and beyond. University Business covered the report [here](#).

This interactive report reveals that higher ed was unprepared for the emergency shift to online learning during COVID due to a lack of technology preparedness. While schools did a remarkable job pivoting online, our report underscores how important it is to align technology to pedagogical and student outcome initiatives to deliver exceptional blended learning experiences.

[Read More & View Graphics >](#)

Learn more about [Apogee](#) on the AICUP website.

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Baker Tilly

Data Analytics Solution for Higher Education (DASH)

Do you have the necessary tools and processes in place at your institution to make strategic, data-driven change? Or do you feel like you're "flying blind" when it comes to having the right data to support key fiscal decisions?

Baker Tilly, a valued sponsor of AICUP, recently launched its DASH tool, a seamless, scalable and intuitive data analytics platform. DASH harnesses your institution's student and financial data, as well as peer institution data and industry benchmarks in one place, providing efficiency to leaders as you focus on achieving your university's mission within current fiscal constraints, rather than spending time and resources collecting and analyzing data from various sources.

[Learn more about DASH >](#)

Learn more about [Baker Tilly](#) on the [AICUP website](#).

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The Benecon Group

Benefits of the Shared Services Health Plan

One of the benefits of the Shared Services Health Plan is that all SSHP member groups receive complimentary compliance resources like the Benecon Compliance Review (a DOL Audit Readiness Service valued at more than \$10k if purchased through an independent vendor) & access to Monthly Compliance Webinars.

Benecon's VP of Compliance Services, Kelly Knight, Esq., recently hosted a very popular webinar explaining the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the impact on health plans. Kelly's expert guidance breaks down what you need to know and how to keep your health plan compliant with all of the new legislation.

[View the Webinar Recording](#)

The Shared Services Health Plan Provides:

- Total Transparency - Know Where Every Dollar Is Spent
- Freedom to Select the Network & Administrator for your Benefits (or keep the same!)
- Complete Autonomy in Benefit Design for the Employees

- Limited Sharing of Risk Among Members (< 25%)
- Protection from Volatile Claims
- Annual Rate Caps
- Surplus Retention - Each member controls and retains 100%
- Proven Funding Model for 30+ Years

Please visit the [SSHP Interactive Resource Page](#) for additional benefits and details:

**To schedule a personalized webinar or learn more about the benefits of SSHP and how it is different than other consortium models, please contact marketing@benecon.com.*

Learn more about [Benecon](#) on the AICUP website.

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Collegis Education

Deploying COVID-19 Relief Funding to Strengthen the Institution

With recent COVID-19 relief bills including nearly \$63B for funding higher ed, colleges and universities have the opportunity to start evolving the way they conduct operations and serve students through new investments in digital technology. See our list of recommended tech investment areas.

[Read More >](#)

Learn more about [Collegis Education](#) on the AICUP website.

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Contegix Managed Services

How Managed Service Providers Help Address Challenges Brought on by COVID-19

From outsourcing IT services requests, to managing cloud migration, to improving security architecture, managed service providers (MSPs) offer their clients a variety of services to navigate the increasingly complex, unpredictable technological world.

With COVID-19 and the sudden onset of remote operations, enterprises began looking to MSPs to fill IT gaps—[nearly 60% of respondents](#) in one survey agreed that MSP adoption increased. Higher education is one example of an industry that could (and did) benefit greatly from MSPs. With the rapid shift to remote operations, higher ed institutions used this technology to rapidly adapt their IT infrastructures to the demands of the pandemic. As remote learning persists and the future remains uncertain, MSPs will continue to be critical partners to these organizations, helping them address the challenges brought on by the pandemic as well as those beyond it.

[Read More >](#)

Learn more about [Contegix](#) on the AICUP website.

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Jenzabar

How to Drive Student Engagement with a Modern SIS

As student demands and expectations evolve, institutions need to leverage powerful student information systems (SIS) that can drive student engagement and accomplish the institution's mission. Discover the core attributes that determine how well a student information system can power digital transformation and revolutionize student engagement in a modern world.

Watch [this webinar](#) and learn how to:

- Identify the top SIS attributes that support digital transformations and enhanced student engagement
- Define and recognize key indicators of and risks to student success
- Uncover what digital-savvy students expect from today's campus experiences

Watch [this webinar](#) to learn more!

Learn more about [Jenzabar](#) on the AICUP website.

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MaherDuessel

Calculation of Lost Revenue for Institutions of Higher Ed

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 (CRRSAA) included a provision to allow Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to reimburse themselves for lost revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic. Many IHEs have questions on what is considered lost revenue as well as how lost revenue should be calculated and supported.

The Department of Education (ED) has issued an [FAQ](#) that answers many of the questions put forth by IHEs. The IHEs must now decide which calculation method to utilize to support lost revenue at their respective institutions.

Due to some difficulty in determining exactly when revenue declines occurred during the pandemic, the ED noted that any lost revenue starting March 13, 2020 (the date of the disaster declaration) can be claimed as lost revenue. Since the CRRSAA was written into law on December 27, 2020 and made retroactive, an IHE could go back to March 13, 2020 and recalculate all of their lost revenue. They could apply that lost revenue to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) 1.0 or HEERF 2.0 funds. This would be recorded on the June 30, 2021 Schedule of Expenditure of Federal Awards (SEFA).

[Read More >](#)

Learn more about [Maher Duessel](#) on the AICUP website.

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Pharos Resources

Bridging the Gap 2021: Golden Repair Virtual Professional Development Conference

This conference is focused on bridging the gap between academics and student development in a time where higher education has faced significant disruption. This opportunity will be a powerful time to focus on the optimistic and innovative future of higher education.

Join Student Success experts as they bring you innovative best practices and strategies for the work you do at your institution. We will explore relevant topics such as:

- The lasting impact of COVID on the higher education industry
- Addressing equity gaps in retention and graduation
- Building a success coaching team
- Creating and coordinating academic pathways
- How to develop a cohesive student success plan
- Building faculty buy-in on your campus
- Implementing technology to support your retention efforts

[Register](#)

Bridging the Gap 2021: Golden Repair

When: May 12-14, 2021

Where: Hosted Virtually

Who Should Attend? Academic or Student Development Professionals

Cost: \$100 per person

Learn more about [Pharos Resources](#) on the AICUP website.

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RLPS Architects & RLPS Interiors

CAREER CENTER DESIGN SHIFT:

Helping Students Launch Careers During a Pandemic

One of the most important outcomes of a college education is meaningful employment after graduation. However, recent graduates are seeking employment in one of the worst job markets since the Great Depression. As of December 2020, about 7.2 percent of recent college graduates were unemployed in the U.S. These statistics point to the need for a career center design shift to meet students' needs today and into the future.

Colleges and universities across the country have expanded or built new, state-of-the-art centers to help students launch their careers. These enhanced physical environments are designed to foster in-person connections between student talent, recent graduates, and business recruiters. Even as campuses reopen to students, in-person interactions, particularly with outside employers, have been limited. Many colleges and universities have switched to on-line job fairs allowing employers and students to connect virtually. Career center staff can provide coaching, but students may struggle to find an

appropriate setting for virtual interviews.

Campuses with well-equipped resource centers can adapt interview rooms and employer lounges to serve as video conference rooms (also known as Zoom Rooms). For campuses that don't already have these resources in place, flexible interview rooms or pods can be introduced cost-effectively.

[Read the entire blog](#) to learn about video conferencing and interviewing solutions that can be implemented in cost efficient ways to help your students succeed in planning for their future.

Learn more about [RLPS](#) on the AICUP website.

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SHI International

The Houdini of Hackers: An Interview with Kevin Mitnick

Kevin Mitnick's adventures as the world's most wanted hacker are notorious. Intellectual curiosity and a love of trickery propelled him from dumpster diving for bus transfer slips at the age of 12, to taking over a [McDonald's Drive-Thru speaker](#) with a radio at 16 (his favorite hack), to successfully wiretapping the NSA at 17.

His desire to "learn everything" extended the electronic joyride into his 20s. After a brief stint in prison for breaking into the network of Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), he hacked into [Pacific Bell](#) and spent two and a half years on the run, using Harry Houdini's real name — Eric Weiss — as an alias.

The FBI finally caught up with him in February 1995, after a frenetic game of cat and mouse that ended with a [box of donuts](#). He spent five years in prison, including over a year in solitary confinement after prosecutors convinced a judge he had the ability to "whistle into a telephone and launch a nuclear missile from NORAD.

[Read More >](#)

Learn more about [SHI International](#) on the AICUP website.

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Step toe & Johnson

A Cautionary Tale of Title IX Noncompliance

The March 3rd release of Louisiana State University's (LSU) Title IX Review exposed wide-ranging compliance failures of the University. According to that review, LSU's Title IX program (a) was woefully understaffed, (b) "rife with conflict of interest concerns," (c) failed to maintain appropriate records, and (d) used "work arounds" to control narratives and protect the brand of the institution. The investigation recently received television coverage and highlighted my comments on Title IX policies, guidance, and compliance.

In light of the extraordinary volume of guidance issued by the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR) over the years and the enormous public attention devoted to the regulations issued in 2020, LSU's compliance failures are hard to comprehend. Unfortunately, those failures have cost the institution dearly, and the significant damage to LSU's reputation is incalculable. Further, investigations by outside counsel come with a high price tag, and a likely investigation by the OCR will add to that cost. In addition, the NCAA may investigate the LSU Athletics Department which was at the center of LSU's Title IX problems, and that investigation could result in the imposition of sanctions. Accreditors may investigate whether the institution is committed to operating in compliance with its legal obligations.

Even more consequentially, far too many students have had their lives irreparably damaged, and their collegiate experiences ruined.

So how do other institutions avoid the plight which has afflicted LSU? In a recent client alert, my colleagues and I suggested that institutions initiate audits of their Title IX programs to identify and address Title IX problems before they escalate to the levels seen at LSU. In addition, our firm recommends that every institution adopt a compliance and ethics program to identify Title IX and other compliance issues on an ongoing basis and to develop and maintain a culture of compliance.

LSU's culture of complicity to cover up sexual misconduct was a stark departure from the culture of compliance to which every American institution of higher education should aspire. A well-structured compliance program is the best way to achieve the aspirational goal of a fully compliant college.

Learn more about [Step toe & Johnson](#) on the AICUP website.

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TimelyMD

Optimize Student Services Budget to Meet the Needs of Your Students

Colleges and universities are facing more financial decision-making pressure than ever before. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities calculated that state funding for higher ed since 2008 is down 16% — and that was prior to the global pandemic. McKinsey & Company estimates that, even if COVID-19 infection rates slow down this academic year, 25% of public institutions and almost half of private institutions will experience budget shortfalls of at least 5%. If ever there was a time to look at budget allocation for student services, it's now.

To help colleges and universities address the unexpected fiscal challenges brought on by COVID-19, the Consolidated Appropriations Act was signed into law on December 27, 2020. The act provides \$22.7 billion in emergency assistance from the federal government for higher ed institutions and students, including \$20.2 billion for public and private nonprofit institutions. (Read more from the U.S. Department of Education about the allocation of funds.) These funds are able to address short-term needs. However, colleges and universities continue to face long-term concerns, including tuition affordability and discounting pressures, reduced state funding, enrollment declines, and international student enrollment declines.

At the same time, generational shifts in student behaviors and changes brought about by the global pandemic have increased the need for implementing more holistic, integrated student services. The rise in mental health problems in the U.S. already had student development professionals worried about the need for additional support for struggling college students, as well as how schools provide that support. Now COVID-19 risk mitigation measures, such as online learning and physical isolation, put students at an even greater risk of facing negative mental health impacts.

Read the [Best Ways to Optimize Your Higher Ed Student Services Budget](#) for more ideas on how to meet the needs of your students within your budget.

Learn more about [TimelyMD](#) on the AICUP website.

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COVID-19 Testing Resources

AICUP Staff continues to work with an advisory group of professionals from AICUP schools to identify and evaluate options for COVID-19 campus-based testing of students, faculty and staff.

Here is a summary of recent progress/conclusions:

PCR (CIC/Broad) Testing In December 2020, AICUP hosted four webinars during which representatives of the Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC) discussed options for PCR testing available through The Broad Institute (Harvard-MIT Lab) and Poplar Labs (Memphis, TN). Representatives of 30 AICUP schools attended these webinars. A recording of the 90-minute webinar can be found [here](#).

Currently, 12 AICUP members have contracted with the CIC for on-campus COVID-19 testing with results that are available within 24 hours of samples arriving at the Broad Institute lab. Institutions can work with the CIC to select among 7-8 different COVID-19 testing methods (such as individual tests or pooled tests) depending upon the testing need on campus.

Contact: Boris L. Perlovsky, Director CIC Health

857- 221-1233

boris@cic-health.com

Abbot Laboratory BinaxNOW \$5/15-Minute Test AICUP is also working with Abbott Laboratories (with facilities in PA) to confirm Abbott's ability to fulfill orders from AICUP members for the \$5/15-minute COVID-19 test. The test has a 97.1% efficacy rate and supplies are available. Abbott has created a short-cut for AICUP schools, so you don't get lost in their email or phone system.

[Here](#) is a memo with instructions on how to access their supply chain. Currently, 15 AICUP members have contacted Abbot Labs to discuss orders for these tests.

For more information, contact [Tim Alexander](#) or [Ron Uroda](#) at AICUP

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COVID-19 Tracing: State & Private Resources

AICUP staff assembled a small team of four AICUP campus pandemic response leaders

and one AICUP campus technologist for the purpose of vetting various COVID-19 testing and contact tracing options. Here are resources for contact tracing.

State Resources

DOH is hiring 75 nurses to manage case investigating and tracing. This is in addition to the 1,000 contact tracers announced in mid-August. They also issued a warning about contact tracing scams operating in PA—here is the [DOH release](#) and a [news story](#). Many have already heard concerns about privacy and tracing (as well as ongoing issues with privacy and online learning). Here is a piece that, at least, lays out clearly what the issues are in both areas, and some [proactive suggestions](#).

Private Resources

Several COVID-19 contact tracing app alternatives have been reviewed and evaluated. The focus was on a PA-manufactured app from Microshare. It works, it restricts data access to the institution, it seems reasonable on cost, but set up time (on a campus with 2,000 individuals) can take 30-40 days.

Their proximity tracing tool that allows colleges and universities to determine what individuals were in close proximity (you decide what that is and they program it into the app) to someone who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The device is a wristband/badge sensor that is worn by all individuals on campus.

It will only collect contact event data (sensors that are within 10 feet of each other for more than 15 minutes). Pricing runs from \$4.44 per wearable/month for a one-year contract to \$2.00 per wearable/month for a three-year contract. An AICUP information webinar on the Microshare proximity tracing tool can be viewed [here](#). The presentation slides are available [here](#) and the last slide contains their contact information.

Contact [Ron Uroda](#) at AICUP

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COVID-19 PPE Resources

AICUP sponsors almost 40 collaborative ventures that promote efficiency and otherwise save and share resources on our campuses. These initiatives engage anywhere from 5 to 85 of our schools. They are each vetted by a very engaged Member Services Committee and then approved by our full Board.

- Here are [recommended solutions](#) (based on size of company and AICUP previous experience with them).
- Here is a [list of resources](#) offered by other entities (DCED and Chambers).

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AICUP Events Calendar

AICUP maintains a calendar of upcoming events on the AICUP website. These include AICUP events but also any webinars and conferences from:

- AICUP Endorsed Program Providers
- AICUP Member Preferred Program Providers
- AICUP Corporate Affiliates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Easter Sunday	5	6 ● Tax Update for Higher Education & Administrators	7	8	9	10

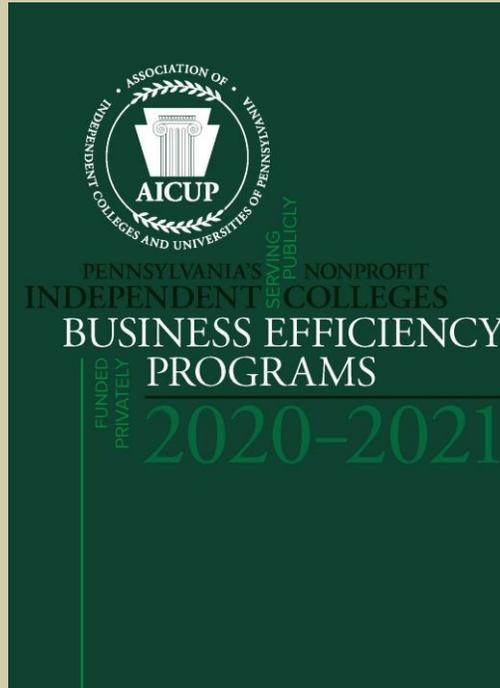
Click on the Calendar to View

Many of these events provide timely information and complimentary CPE opportunities for anyone on an AICUP member campus. When you are viewing the AICUP Calendar, you can select a category to show all the events directly related to that function area.

Future editions of *The Spotlight* will feature items for the upcoming month in this section, AICUP Events Calendar.

If you have any questions, please contact [Kelly Carli](#).

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