

# Open Educational Resources and Dual Enrollment Conference

*Making a Case for Student Success*

## Conference Program

March 2-3, 2023

Hilton Atlanta Airport

Atlanta, Georgia

**SREB**

Southern Regional  
Education Board



**SREB Welcomes You to Atlanta and the**  
**Open Educational Resources and**  
**Dual Enrollment Conference**  
*Making a Case for Student Success*

We are pleased you have joined us for the second Open Educational Resources and Dual Enrollment Conference. All of us are learning about how institutions and states use OER and dual enrollment to drive education attainment and increase student success. Events like this are particularly valuable as they allow us to hear from K-12 educators, college faculty, senior administrators, state education leaders and policymakers.



**Stephen Pruitt, SREB**

SREB's mission is to help advance all levels of education to improve the social and economic vitality of states in our region, which requires focused efforts to ensure that students have access to postsecondary education, remain enrolled and progress to graduation. Open educational resources help students, schools and educators save money, true, but they also improve the quality of education, giving teachers and faculty access to high-quality instructional materials. Combining the promise of OER with dual enrollment courses is a win-win proposition, increasing student engagement while making college more affordable.

Bringing so many professionals together for robust and wide-ranging discussions — gaining new perspectives and learning of promising practices — can help blaze a path to new programs and educational initiatives, with results greater than any we could achieve alone. The more we do together, the brighter the future of education in our region. Let's get to work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen L. Pruitt". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen L. Pruitt, President  
Southern Regional Education Board

## About SREB

The Southern Regional Education Board works with states to improve public education at every level, from early childhood through doctoral education and the workforce. We help policymakers make informed decisions by providing independent, accurate data and recommendations. We help educators strengthen student learning with professional development, practices and curricula. And we help policymakers, institutions and educators accomplish more together than they could alone.

SREB is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization headquartered in Atlanta. Our 16 states are Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Our work is funded by appropriations from our states, as well as by contracts and grants from foundations and from local, state and federal agencies. The nation's first regional interstate compact for education, SREB was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislators who recognized the link between education and economic vitality.

### **SREB helps states focus on what works in both policy and practice**

We conduct research, collect and analyze data, publish reports and recommend actions on current and emerging issues. We bring states together to forge consensus and work together on initiatives that would not be possible alone. We help states share scarce resources and best practices.

We work side-by-side with policymakers such as state legislators and education agency officials as they implement policies to help students achieve more. And we work directly with universities and public schools to improve capacity, teaching, learning, counseling and school leadership. Targeted SREB programs work to increase the number of minority faculty, for example, or reduce out-of-state tuition for uncommon degree programs. These sustained partnerships have built a knowledge base we draw on to advise state leaders and provide information they need for sound policies and effective action.



# Conference Agenda

## Wednesday, March 1

- 1 -5 p.m. **Pre-Conference Sessions (Invitation Only)**
- Dual Enrollment Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting* Lanier Salon
- Education Technology Cooperative Convening* Savannah Salon
- 7 - 9 p.m. **Welcome Reception** The Gallery

## Thursday, March 2

- 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Registration** Chattahoochee Promenade
- 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 8:45 – 10 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Session — Day 1** Chattahoochee Salon
- Stephen Pruitt, President, Southern Regional Education Board  
Stevie Lawrence, Vice President, Postsecondary Education, SREB
- Keynote**  
*Building the Tapestry of Student Success: We Are All in This Together*
- Regina Gong, Associate Dean for Student Success and Diversity,  
University of San Diego
- 10 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**
- 10:15 – 11 a.m. **Session 1** Chattahoochee Salon
- Stronger Together: National Consortium of Open Educational Resources*
- Moderator:* Patrick Lane, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research,  
Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education  
Angela DeBarger, Education Program Officer, Hewlett Foundation  
Jenny Parks, Midwestern Higher Education Commission  
Jonathan Gowin, New England Board of Higher Education  
Charlotte Dailey, Southern Regional Education Board  
Liliana Diaz, WICHE

# Conference Agenda

11 – 11:40 a.m. **Session 2** **Chattahoochee Salon**  
***Open Education in a Changing Landscape:  
Opportunities and Challenges***

Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education, SPARC  
Tonja R. Conerly, Sociology Professor, San Jacinto College  
Jeff Gallant, Program Director, Affordable Learning Georgia  
Daniel Williamson, Managing Director, OpenStax

11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Lunch** **Chattahoochee Promenade**

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **State Work Sessions** **Chattahoochee Salon**  
Table discussions on adoption of OER and expansion  
of dual enrollment

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. **Break**

2:45 – 3:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (A, B, C, D)**  
*Attendees may choose among four sessions that repeat at 3:30 and 4:15 p.m.*

**Session A — Powering Student Success:  
OER and Technology in Wrap-Around Services** **Savannah Salon**  
Michael Torrence, President, Motlow State Community College

**Session B — Equipping and Encouraging Higher  
Education Faculty to Adopt OER for Student Success and  
Workforce Preparedness** **Chattahoochee A**  
Tokesha Warner, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health,  
Health Administration and Health Sciences, Tennessee State University

**Session C — Research to Resources:  
A User-Centered Approach to OER in Texas** **Rabun Salon**  
Kylah Torre, Director of Digital Learning,  
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Session D — Scaling Dual Enrollment and OER:  
The Louisiana Story** **Chattahoochee C**  
Susannah F. Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic  
Planning & Student Success, Louisiana Board of Regents

3:30 – 4:15 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (A, B, C, D)**

4:15 – 5 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (A, B, C, D)**

***Dinner on your own***

# Conference Agenda

## Friday, March 3

- 7:30 – 10 a.m.     **Registration**     **Chattahoochee Promenade**
- 7:45 – 8:30 a.m.     **Breakfast**
- 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.     **Opening Session**     **Chattahoochee Salon**  
*A Case for Student Success*  
Stevie Lawrence, Southern Regional Education Board  
Michael DeJesus, Director, Postsecondary Student Success and Access, SREB
- 9:45 – 10 a.m.     **Break**
- 10 – 10:45 a.m.     **Session 1**     **Chattahoochee Salon**  
*Tennessee Board of Regents:  
Supporting Equitable Student Success Through OER*  
Zachary Adams, Moderator, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Workforce Alignment, Tennessee Board of Regents  
Monica Butler, Assistant Professor of History, Motlow State Community College  
Robert M. Denn, Associate Vice Chancellor, Veterans Services Officer, TBR  
Brent Fonville, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Dyersburg State Community College  
Nellie McCollum, Early Postsecondary Opportunities Administrator, TBR
- 10:45 – 11:30 a.m.     **Session 2**     **Chattahoochee Salon**  
*Improving Educational Equity: Transforming the Approach to Developmental Education, Dual Enrollment and College Readiness Through OER and Collaboration*  
Relinda Ruth, Director of Educational Resources, Cossatot Community College, University of Arkansas System
- 11:30 a.m.     **Announcements**
- Closing Remarks**  
Stevie Lawrence, SREB

## Conference Speakers



**Zachary Adams** serves as assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and workforce alignment at the Tennessee Board of Regents. Before joining the board, he worked at the Tennessee Department of Education, developing the final pillar of the Drive to 55 Initiative. He has worked in both K-12 and higher education in New York, Mississippi and Tennessee, defining the vision of guided pathways from K-12 into college and career for Tennessee’s school systems. He has a master’s from Vanderbilt University and is a doctoral student at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.



**Nicole Allen** is the director of open education for SPARC, leading the organization’s efforts to advance openness and equity in education. Inspired as a student to make knowledge more accessible to the world, she has dedicated her 15-year career to advocating for open education and college affordability. Her impact includes passing legislative reforms, mobilizing grassroots campaigns and building the open movement nationally and internationally. At SPARC, Allen leads a broad portfolio of initiatives to advance open education, spanning state and federal policy work, community organizing and leadership development.



**Monica L. Butler** is an assistant professor of history at Motlow State Community College. Since earning her Ph.D. in history at Arizona State University, she has taught in the humanities and social sciences at open-access institutions in the urban and rural South. In addition to studying Universal Design for Learning, she focuses on African American and modern Indigenous peoples’ representations in popular culture. Her most recent work, “Life, Liberty, or Property’: Analyzing American Identity through Open Resources,” is in *Understanding and Teaching Contemporary American History since the Reagan Era*.



**Tonja R. Conerly** is a sociology professor at San Jacinto College. As former Achieving the Dream–OER grant director at SJC, she led the effort to save students over \$3 million in textbook costs. She is the founder of the Houston Area OER Consortium, leading the way to making textbook costs affordable for students in the Houston-Galveston area. She was elected to the board of directors for the Open Education Conference and in 2010 piloted the OpenStax Introduction to Sociology course.

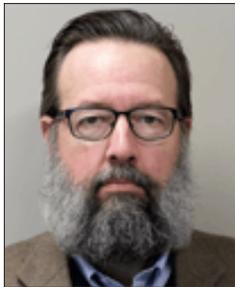
## Conference Speakers



**Charlotte Dailey** is the program specialist for open educational resources at the Southern Regional Education Board. In this role she is responsible for the creation, development and implementation of programming to increase awareness and adoption of OER across the South. Dailey has over 20 years of experience in non-profit management, higher education, and small business consulting.



**Michael DeJesus** leads postsecondary student success and access at SREB. He joined SREB's postsecondary education team in 2022, bringing more than 20 years of experience in higher education and state government. He was previously a program officer at the New York State Education Department, where he managed the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program statewide. He has also held several roles in higher education, serving as director of intercultural leadership and diversity at a private liberal arts college.



**Robert M. Denn** serves as associate vice chancellor for academic affairs at the Tennessee Board of Regents. Current leadership responsibilities include the General Education Core and Tennessee Open Education. Prior to 2017, he served nine years at Chattanooga State Community College, where he founded the Global Scholars Honors Program and STEM School Chattanooga. As vice president for institutional effectiveness, research and planning, Denn established the campus intelligence architecture housing advanced data modeling, enhanced visualization and an integrated data operations center. Denn is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran.



**Liliana Diaz Solodukhin** is a policy analyst with the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education. Her roles include conducting and communicating policy research on a wide array of higher education-related topics, developing and sustaining relationships with external stakeholders, and conceptualizing and executing short- and long-term collaborative projects with states. Diaz received her bachelor's in journalism and mass communication, a bachelor's in film studies, and a certificate in technology, arts and media from the University of Colorado Boulder, and she earned her master's and doctorate in higher education from the University of Denver.

## Conference Speakers



**Brent Fonville** is an assistant professor of psychology at Dyersburg State Community College in Tennessee. He has taught at Dyersburg State since 2016 and has taught previously since 2011. Fonville teaches Introduction to Psychology, Lifespan Development Psychology and Social Psychology. He is currently the OER campus facilitator and works to spread the use of open educational resources across the college. He began incorporating OER in his courses in 2019 and has continued working to make all of his course materials open and accessible. He received a master's of science from the University of Memphis.



**Susannah Fowler Craig** is deputy commissioner for strategic planning and student success at the Louisiana Board of Regents. She collaborates with system chief academic officers to support student affairs activities that promote Master Plan for Higher Education goals and reduce barriers to completion. Craig and her team work with accreditation activities, policies and procedures, and legislative studies. She spearheads digital inclusion projects, teacher and leadership initiatives, and COVID-19 response. She also serves as liaison between the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and Department of Health.



**Jeff Gallant** is program director for Affordable Learning Georgia, an initiative of the University System of Georgia to promote student success and foster educational equity through supporting the adoption and creation of open educational resources by faculty and professional staff. He has been a mentor in the SPARC Open Education Leadership Program since its inception in 2017, a faculty member of the American Association of Colleges and Universities Institute on OER since its inception in 2021, and a co-author of *The OER Starter Kit for Program Managers*. Before working on Affordable Learning Georgia, Gallant was a reference and virtual services librarian at Valdosta State University.



**Keynote — Regina Gong** is associate dean for student success and diversity at the University of San Diego Copley Library, working to ensure that all students succeed in both academic and non-academic pursuits. She was the OER and student success librarian at the Michigan State University Libraries and is actively involved in the open education community. She currently serves on the SPARC Open Education Advisory Group and chairs the Michigan OER Network. Gong obtained her master's in library and information science from Wayne State University and is a Ph.D. candidate in the higher, adult and lifelong education program at Michigan State University's College of Education.

## Conference Speakers



**Jonathan Gowin** serves as director of Tuition Break, the New England Regional Student Program, for the New England Board of Higher Education, where he leads the development of postsecondary enrollment initiatives. Gowin's experience as a first-generation college graduate and Pell recipient drives his mission for expanding postsecondary access and student success. He built experience in college admission and enrollment management for Trinity College and Carnegie Mellon University to NEBHE. Gowin holds an M.Ed. in educational leadership from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. in psychology from Lycoming College.



**Angela Haydel DeBarger** is a program officer in education at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Her portfolio addresses open education, with the aim of democratizing knowledge, creating inclusive and engaging experiences for learners, and advancing racial equity. Previously she served as senior program officer at the George Lucas Educational Foundation and as a researcher at SRI International. She has a bachelor's in psychology from Stanford University, a master's in psychology from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in educational psychology from Stanford University.



**Patrick Lane** is vice president of the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education's policy analysis and research unit. He was previously director of data initiatives, managing the Multistate Longitudinal Data Exchange, which seeks to improve linkages between state data systems to provide better information to students and their families while improving education, workforce and economic development policy. He has worked extensively on the Non-Traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners project. Lane holds a master's from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University and a Ph.D. in public administration from the University of Colorado Denver.



**Stevie Lawrence** is vice president for postsecondary education at SREB, leading programs such as the Academic Common Market, Doctoral Scholars Program and educational technology, including open educational resources. As dean and vice provost of University College at Fort Valley State University, he oversaw enrollment, retention, student success and student affairs. He has also held positions at the University of North Carolina system, Shaw University and Virginia Union University. He holds a bachelor's from North Carolina A&T, a master's in public administration from North Carolina Central and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University.

## Conference Speakers



**Nellie McCollum** is the early postsecondary opportunities system administrator for the College System of Tennessee. She manages the OER Commons hub for Tennessee's statewide dual credit program. She facilitated the creation of original OER textbooks on plant science and world history using OpenAuthor and is facilitating the creation of an OER collection for agriculture business. She recently completed her Creative Commons certification.



**Jenny Parks** is vice president of policy and research at the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. She leads the exploration, development and implementation of projects that help Midwestern postsecondary institutions improve the way they serve students. Parks has worked at all levels and in multiple sectors of education, including state and federal compliance, institutional research and policy advocacy. She earned her master's in educational policy and research from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Currently she is writing her dissertation for the doctoral program in higher education from Northeastern University in Boston.



**Stephen Pruitt** took office as president of the Southern Regional Education Board in 2018. During his career, Pruitt has built education policy, assessment and instructional background at the local, state and national levels. He started his education career as a high school chemistry teacher in Fayette County, Georgia, then served in several leadership roles at the Georgia Department of Education. As senior vice president for Achieve, he worked closely with state agencies and educators around the country to improve science education. Before coming to SREB he was Kentucky's state commissioner of education.



**Tim Shaughnessy** is program director for career pathways at SREB. He has experience as a community college leader, state legislator and health care executive. He works with the school improvement team to develop and strengthen career and technical education pathway programs of study. Shaughnessy attended Jefferson Community College and graduated from the University of Louisville with a bachelor's in policy analysis. He earned an MBA from Bellarmine University, an Ed. D. in leadership education from Spalding University and a graduate certificate in college teaching and learning from the University of Kentucky.

## Conference Speakers



**Kylah Torre** is a director of digital learning at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. She brings to that position professional experience in education research, curriculum development and teaching. Her work in digital learning is a natural extension of a career working towards equity and accessibility for all students. Kylah earned a Ph.D. in urban education from the City University of New York Graduate Center and her B.A. in international development from McGill University.



**Michael Torrence** is president of Motlow State Community College. He is a technology strategist creating space so everyone may have a voice and a seat at the table. His areas of expertise include community and economic development, adult education, student success, distance learning, and diversity, equity and inclusion. He serves on local, state, national and international boards that influence and shape the future of higher education. Recently, he was appointed to the Community Colleges of Appalachian Board of Directors. Torrence, an Air Force veteran, earned a doctorate in exceptional learning (literacy) from Tennessee Technological University.



**Tokesha Warner** serves as an assistant professor in health care administration and planning at Tennessee State University. She holds a bachelor's in physical anthropology from Earlham College, a master's in health administration from Bellevue University and a doctorate in higher education leadership from Tennessee State University. Her dissertation analyzed faculty awareness and perceptions regarding open educational resources. Warner's research is focused on health services, maternal mortality, health disparities, health equity, children with disabilities, maternal and child health, and research administration.



**Daniel Williamson** leads the day-to-day operations of OpenStax, using his extensive experience in academic publishing to guide content development, technology integration and overall project coordination. A Rice University graduate and passionate advocate of improved access and equity in education, he has dedicated the past 14 years to developing and leading education start-ups from idea to realization. During that time, he has built many areas of specialization, including open education, content development, education technology, education technology policy, management and quality assurance.

## Conference Speakers



**Dale Winkler** was named vice president of school improvement in 2018. He joined the Southern Regional Education Board in 2015 as special assistant to the senior vice president of the organization's school improvement team, where he brings decades of experience working on issues related to leadership and policy in the area of college and career readiness. Prior to SREB he was a high school teacher, principal and associate commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education. Winkler holds a bachelor's in accounting and a master's in secondary education from Cumberland College and a doctorate in education leadership from the University of Kentucky.

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