Corley F. Dennison III has served as the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education since 2014. He has led the statewide effort to reform remedial education primarily through implementation of co-requisite delivery of college-level English and math. Results have been promising as state pass rates for math have increased 39% since 2014 while college level pass rates in the same period for English have increased 16.4%. He has delivered numerous presentations on co-requisite course delivery, student success and curricular reform at conferences and events across the country.

He also serves as vice-chair for the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority, the oversight body for West Virginia Public broadcasting and serves as the West Virginia representative to the Midwest Council for the College Board, the recommending organization for the SAT College Admissions test and for AP tests.

Born in Sutton, WV, Dennison earned his bachelor’s degree from James Madison University, his master’s in English from Northwest Missouri State University and his doctorate in Education from West Virginia University. Dennison worked in both commercial and public broadcasting, then served multiple roles during his 29-year stint at Marshall University including professor, Faculty Senate President, assistant dean in two colleges, Dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

11:10 am-noon  Breakout Session 1

A.  First2 Network: Helping STEM Underrepresented College Students Persist  
Lance Beck | Fairmont State University

The session will be given by a college student who is an ambassador for the First2 Network at Fairmont State University. First2 Network is a grant-funded initiative that brings together diverse partners from across West Virginia in support of increasing persistence of rural, first generation and other underrepresented STEM undergraduates, particularly in the first two years of college. The presenter will be discussing the organization’s purpose, opportunities for rising college freshmen and undergrads, and how the Advisor community can help. He will talk about his dedication, what he has contributed to the organization, and plans for the future.

B.  Once Upon a Time in Academic Advising…through the Looking Glass of Transformative Learning and Intersectionalit
R. Saya Bobick and Lori Britton | West Virginia University

Academic advisors need to meet the challenges of transcending more than what we call ourselves by using a holistic approach. Part of advising spaces should be viewed as educational projects—a transformative place for learning about our students, while providing needed advice. Academic advisors can influence and modify the perceptions we have of those who come into our advising space as we respond to these differences within ourselves. Advisors should go through the looking glass and embrace transformative learning while employing intersectionality to influence a student’s achievement of their potential.

C.  Advisors Take Action: Academic Advising and Assessment  
Stacy Adkins | Glenville State College

For the most part, we all go in unknowing of the footprint we, Advisors, will leave on a students’ pathway to success. On a repeating schedule, each semester begins with a sense of energy, optimism, and enthusiasm. Perhaps, even filled with a little uncertainty and excitement. This 45-minute breakout session will cover not only the key critical components of Academic Advising, but review the vital role Assessment has on Academic Advising and in depth, discuss the importance of strategic planning, organization, and alignment of Advising best practices and the Co-Curricular Assessment Process with General Education Outcomes.
A. **Episode X: Major Galactic Decisions**  
*Emily Gross | Shepherd University*

A short time ago in a galaxy far, far away, a group of undeclared advisors realized that their students needed additional help in their quest to declare a major. Their journeys would not be easy, but with the assistance of a select group of “advising masters”, the future leaders of the force would discover their inner strengths, understand the ways of the university, and prepare for the world beyond. This break-out session will review a first-year experience course specifically tailored to guiding the overwhelming life decisions into bit sized pieces. This course was designed to assist the undeclared major through the major declaration process. We will review our design methods, a sample course syllabi, and share our class resources.

B. **Lights, Camera, Advise: A Discussion on the Tools that Help Us Advise**  
*Amanda Tuscan | Fairmont State University*

Before movies appear on the big screen, there are many tools of the trade that help make the magic happen. Advisors rely on many tools and resources to help not only students, but themselves be successful. This will be a discussion on what resources we all use to make our lives a little easier. This session will be structured with a brief discussion about some tools used by the presenter. Attendees will then have an opportunity to share with each other what tools they use on their campuses. Leaving this session, attendees will have one more person to add to their Oscar acceptance speech.

C. **Assessing Advising: How do we know what we are doing actually works?**  
*Joy Carr and Ben Harmon | West Virginia University*

As advisers, we often have lots of anecdotal evidence that what we are doing works. But data and assessment are the cornerstone of monitoring a program in progress and providing verifiable evidence that what we do works. Assessment results can be used in a variety of mission-critical ways. This session covers best practices for beginning assessment for an advising program based on the experiences of WVU’s Eberly College of Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs academic probation programming. Participants will see the early stages of our program assessment, the design and implementation of our simple measuring tools, and the results of our discoveries, such as a new course for probationary freshmen and retooling the parameters of “successful” academic probation behaviors.

(Best for: Those who want to build an assessment program from “scratch” or who are in the earliest developmental stages of designing assessment plans.)

**1:40-2:25 pm**  
**Student Panel**  
*Room 201*

**2:25-3 pm**  
**Closing Ceremony**  
*Room 201*