

Day one:

Building knowledge and community

🕒 Time	📋 Topic
8:00 a.m.	👤 Registration and breakfast
9:00 a.m.	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audrey Moreno, Senior Director, Accelerate ASU
	<p>Opening keynote</p> <p>James Arndt, Principal, Camelback High School</p>
9:45 a.m.	<p>Opening panel: Voices from the field — the impact of Accelerate ASU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Weatherford, Associate Vice President, Universal Pathways and K–12 Brent Olsen, Teacher, Fountain Hills High School Rio Stinger, School Director and Co-Founder, Vita Schools Students
	<p>In Voices from the Field, you'll hear directly from students, teachers and school leaders about how Accelerate ASU is shifting beliefs about what's possible — especially for students who have historically been left out of college-level opportunities. Through stories, audience Q&A and quick reflection, participants will explore how mastery-based, flexible Universal Learner Courses can expand access, build confidence and open new pathways.</p>
10:45 a.m.	Networking break
11:00 a.m.	Deep dive discussion tables
12:00 p.m.	🍴 Lunch
1:15 p.m.	<p>Plenary session I: College Advising Strategies That Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audrey Moreno, Senior Director, Accelerate ASU Aerial Merritt, Associate Director, College Counseling and Global Initiatives, The Mount Vernon School Serina Trevino, Guidance Counselor, ASU Prep Downtown Phoenix
	<p>Participants will learn from experienced counselors about practical college-advising systems that help students navigate multiple postsecondary pathways — from accelerating toward a degree with early university credit to combining dual enrollment, CTE and high school graduation requirements. Participants will leave with concrete strategies for building four-year plans, organizing advising information and guiding students toward flexible, personalized program choices.</p>
2:30–2:45 p.m.	☕ Break
2:45 p.m.	<p>Plenary session II: Pro Moves — facilitation of ULCs in HS classrooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taylor Stupka, Partnership Manager, Accelerate ASU Shannell Barnes, High School Transformational Teacher Leader, ASU Prep Kristen Rund, Assistant Director of College Going Initiatives, ASU Prep
	<p>Participants will learn how experienced partners make Universal Learner Courses actually work inside a variety of school systems and models — pacing coursework, blending ULC content with high school curriculum for (potential) dual credit and using crosswalks to align courses. The session surfaces concrete, school and classroom-ready strategies and tools that teachers, administrators and counselors use to keep students engaged, supported and on track in asynchronous college-level learning</p>
4:00 p.m.	<p>Day one wrap-up and awards</p> <p>Marco Serrato, Vice President, ASU Learning Enterprise</p>
6:00–9:00 p.m.	Social activity: Sparky's Fairway



🕒 Time	📄 Topic
8:00 a.m.	 Breakfast and headshots
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and overview of the day
9:10 a.m.	<p>Day two panel</p> <p>Every student, every path: lessons learned from veteran partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Bixler, Director, Accelerate High School Pathways, Accelerate ASU • Kim Middleton, Principal, Cienega High School • Edgar Salmingo Jr., Director of Early College and Online Learning, Archdiocese of Los Angeles • Jaime Smith, Founder and CEO, OnlineG3 • Isaac Keoua Vigilla, Dean of Studies, Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i High School <div data-bbox="922 436 1511 617" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>During this panel, participants will learn from experienced Accelerate ASU partners about what it really takes to launch, refine and scale a Universal Learner Course program — from early implementation pitfalls to the mindset shifts and systems that drive strong completion and persistence. Through practical examples, attendees will leave with actionable lessons to strengthen their local model and expand access, enabling more students to succeed in college-level learning</p> </div>
9:45 a.m.	<p>Introduction to the Partner Portal</p> <p>An-Phuong Ha, Product Owner, ASU Learning Enterprise</p> <div data-bbox="922 667 1511 779" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>The Accelerate ASU Partner Portal is a trove of resources for school leaders, counselors and teachers. During this time, you'll get an orientation to the portal, including how best to navigate within it and learn about some of the key resources for all of your ULC needs.</p> </div>
10:15 a.m.	Networking break
10:45 a.m.	Deep dive discussion tables
12:00 p.m.	 Lunch
1:00 p.m.	<p>Breakout session one</p> <p>From data to action: Using AI and advising to scale student engagement in dual enrollment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taylor Stupka, Partnership Manager, Accelerate ASU • Kent Peterson, Impact Manager, CollegeTrack • Isaac Keoua Vigilla, Dean of Studies, Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i High School <div data-bbox="922 1031 1511 1220" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Do you have tons of data and are not sure what to do with it? Participants will explore how schools can turn dual-enrollment data into action — using key indicators (such as course completion, GPA trends, and milestones) to monitor progress, promote equity, and strengthen student outcomes. The session highlights how advising "humanizes" data and how emerging tools (including AI) can make data collection, analysis and student communication more manageable at scale — so teams can move from "we have data" to "here's what we'll do next."</p> </div> <p>Beyond labels: real strategies for diverse learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Cacciatore, Partnership Manager-Accelerate ASU • Maggie Eubanks, Head of Schools, Palmetto Bay Academy • Taylor Jacobs, Director of Curriculum and Implementation, Autism Academy • Anthony Terrill, Director of Education, Gateway Academy <div data-bbox="922 1247 1511 1430" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>One of the most-requested sessions in feedback from last year's conference, participants will learn how Accelerate ASU partners are expanding access to college-level coursework for neurodiverse students across a variety of educational settings — through inclusive program models, instructional flexibility, and strong facilitator support. The session also shares both concrete classroom moves that help students with IEPs/504s build readiness, confidence and agency in Universal Learner Courses, as well as how Accelerate ASU designs courses to support all learners.</p> </div>
2:15 p.m.	 Break
2:30 p.m.	<p>Breakout session two</p> <p>Design magic: How courses are created to foster student success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Bixler, Director, Accelerate High School Pathways, Accelerate ASU • Lenora Ott, Senior Director of Learning Design, ASU Learning Enterprise • Rochel Phairow, Online Course Manager, ASU Learning Enterprise <div data-bbox="922 1602 1511 1766" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Have you ever wondered what the special sauce that makes Universal Learning Courses so special is? Come get an inside look at how Learning Enterprise at ASU designs and launches Universal Learner Courses — from the first idea through development and delivery. Attendees will unpack the core steps, cross-campus partnerships and upcoming pathways that shape course quality and student success, with time for open Q&A.</p> </div> <p>Engage, inform, connect: Effective outreach and communication strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Cacciatore, Partnership Manager, Accelerate ASU • Kim Ohlig, Marketing Director, Universal Pathways, ASU Learning Enterprise • Kristin Hersant, Global Marketing Officer, ASU Learning Enterprise <div data-bbox="922 1797 1511 1961" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>This session helps partners strengthen how they talk about Accelerate ASU — so messaging to families, students and staff is clear, motivating and consistent. Participants will explore how authentic storytelling can build understanding and excitement, leading to stronger student engagement and increased opportunity and enrollment, while also previewing practical tools in the Accelerate Partner Playbook and hearing proven approaches from current partners.</p> </div>
3:45 p.m.	Gratitude and networking on the lawn