Session III: Cultivating a Ready Workforce
February 10-11, 2020

Wednesday, February 10
**All Times Eastern**

Morning Session

9:00 – 9:15 am  Welcome & Opening

9:15 – 9:30 am  Coffee Talk
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville

9:30 – 10:30 am  Breakout Discussion: Medicine Wheel, Work Styles
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact

10:30 – 11:00 am  Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm  The Covid-19 Labor Market Rebound: When, How, and For Whom
Dr. Marianne Wanamaker, Associate Professor of Economics, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville and Former White House Senior Labor Economist and member of the Federal Workforce Policy Advisory Board

Afternoon Session

1:45 – 2:00 pm  Coffee Talk
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville

2:00 – 3:00 pm  National and Regional Trends in Ready Workforce
Dr. Katie Cahill, Associate Director, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy
Dr. Tim Ezzell, Assistant Research Professor, ISSE and Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

3:00 – 3:15 pm  Break
3:15 – 4:30 pm  The Role of Education in Economic Development and Ready Workforce
Dr. Erin Hardin, ASPIRE: Appalachian Students Promoting the Integration of Research in Education
Dr. Courtney Taylor, Executive Director of The Communiversity & Workforce Development, East Mississippi Community College
Dr. Celeste Carruthers, Editor-in-Chief of Economics of Education Review
Moderated by: Dr. Tim Ezzell, Assistant Research Professor, ISSE and Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

4:30 – 5:30 pm  Breakout Discussion: Creating New Narratives
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Thursday, February 11
**All Times Eastern**

Morning Session

9:00 – 9:05 am  The Day Ahead
Jessica Mosley, Program Manager, Appalachian Leadership Institute

9:05 – 9:20 am  Coffee Talk
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact


10:20 – 10:40 am  Break

10:40 am – 12:00 pm  Organizations Leading the Way
Nick Erwin, Director of Human Resources, Bellisio Foods, Inc..
Faith Knutsen, Director of Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Leveraging Innovation Gateways and Hubs Toward Sustainability (Ohio)
Jeff Whitehead, Executive Director, Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP) (Kentucky)
Moderated by: Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Afternoon Session

2:00 – 3:00 pm  Book Discussion: Hollowing Out The Middle
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact

3:00 – 3:15 pm  Break

3:15 – 5:45 pm  Team Challenge: Discovering Blue Oceans
Dr. Tim Ezzell, Assistant Research Professor, ISSE and Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville