



January 2018

Greetings Colleagues,

I am pleased to report that we are making significant progress creating the CCNetwork portal that I discussed in my last director letter. When completed the portal will provide a convenient mechanism to access the resources of all 22 of the Comprehensive Centers. We continue to receive feedback from various sources to guide the development. Dr. Alan Morgan, BSCP Center Senior State Policy Advisor, and I are contacting State Department leadership to seek feedback on how to best make the portal valuable for them. We are focusing on the questions of how SEAs do information searches, what type of resources are found to be most useful when considering a new policy or program, and what is their familiarity with the work products and services of the Centers. These discussions are informative and we appreciate the commitment of the participants to provide us with their ideas during the portal development process.

Strategic Performance Management work continues with the Missouri Office of College and Career Readiness

We are partnering with the with the Central Comprehensive Center to bring SPM to the Office of College and Career Readiness (OCCR) in the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The SPM process is building stronger collaboration and interconnectedness between academic and career and technology education opportunities for their students. Using our publication, *Strategic performance for your branch: Organizing people and their work in an LEA or SEA division or strand*, the OCCR leadership team and staff are forging a new way of working together with a sharp focus on student success. Dr. Allison Layland and Mark Williams from the BSCP Center travel to Missouri this month for their third, two-day consultation with the OCCR staff. The group will create milestones and action plans to make the transition from planning the strategic direction to implementing performance management.

As an important extension to the work in Missouri with the OCCR, the BSCP Center has been invited to work with the state advisory board for career and technical education to assist the board with its own strategic planning. Mark Williams, a former state director of career and technical education in Illinois and past president of the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute, worked with the Missouri career and technical education group for a year prior to the SPM project taking root in OCCR.



It is a pleasure to welcome Dr. Allison Layland to BSCP Center team

Dr. Allison Layland recently joined the BSCP Center team through our partnership with the Academic Development Institute. Her primary responsibility will be facilitating one of our major initiatives, Strategic Performance Management. We are particularly pleased to have her on board, not only for her knowledge in this area, but also to support the growth of our SPM work. Allison comes to the BSCP Center with many years of experience in different educational roles with the most recent being the education specialist for the Florida and the Islands Regional Comprehensive Center (FLICC). Her skills include project planning, facilitation and management, data analysis, technical writing, grant writing, strong technology skills, classroom instruction and management, teacher preparation and training and program evaluation. Layland received a bachelor's degree in elementary and special education from Mount Saint Mary College in New York, a master's degree in special education from James Madison University in Virginia and a doctorate in education leadership and policy studies from the University of Denver.



Thanks again for taking time to read the BSCP Center letter for the month. Our goal is to keep you informed and up to date on our work. I am hopeful that it fills your needs as readers. Best regards in the New Year and have a productive and positive year in 2018.

Sincerely,

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Building State Capacity and Productivity Center

The Building State Capacity and Productivity Center (BSCP Center) focuses work on helping state education agencies (SEAs) throughout the country, as they adapt to constrained fiscal resources and increased demands for greater productivity. As State Departments of Education are facing a daunting challenge of improving student performance with diminishing financial resources, the BSCP Center provides technical assistance to SEAs that builds their capacity to support local educational agencies (LEAs or districts) and schools, and to the other 21 regional comprehensive centers and national content centers that serve them, by providing high quality information, tools, and implementation support. The partners in the BSCP Center are Westat, the Academic Development Institute, and the Edunomics Lab (Georgetown University).

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