

Celebrating Forty Years of Community College Innovation



League for Innovation in the Community College



Founded in 1968 by B. Lamar Johnson and a dozen community and technical college presidents in the United States, the League for Innovation in the Community College has proudly served community college institutions for four decades. The League's mission to catalyze the community college movement is fulfilled through conferences, institutes, web resources, research, publications, services, projects, and initiatives with our more than 850 member colleges and campuses, 160 corporate partners, and numerous other agencies in our continuing efforts to make a positive difference for students and communities.

The timeline on these pages offers a sample of the League's activities throughout our history. In total, League activities include sponsoring some 200 conferences, institutes, seminars, and workshops; publishing more than 170 reports, monographs, periodicals, and books; leading approximately 130 League projects funded by \$50,000,000 in grants; and providing numerous web resources and services to the community college field.



Across four decades, the League has focused on initiatives in diversity, equity, and inclusion; information technology; leadership development; learning and student success; research and practice; and workforce development. We invite you to join us as we celebrate 40 years of innovation and look to a future that promises an expanding role for community and technical college education around the world.

1968

1969

1970

1971

Founding of the League for Innovation

New Dimensions in Division Chair Leadership

League-IBM Conference

Systems Approach to Education Workshops

English Composition Workshop

Instruction Efficiency Project

Student Personnel Staff Training Program

New Developments in the Teaching of Physics

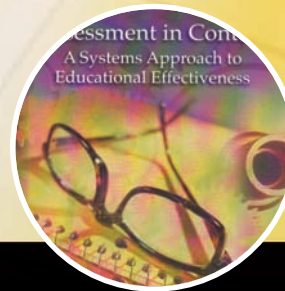
Division Chair Conferences

## Learning and Student Success

From the first League project—a workshop for English composition instructors—to current activities, the League has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning and student success. Numerous League projects and publications have focused on effective instructional design, techniques for successful teaching and learning, strategies to help ensure achievement of underprepared students, the role of student development professionals in supporting and facilitating student learning, and a systems approach to education.

In the 1990s, many community colleges embraced the concept of the Learning College, which then-CEO Terry O'Banion explained “places learning first and provides educational experiences for learners anyway, anyplace, anytime.” Leading this work, the League published O'Banion's *Creating More Learning-Centered Community Colleges* (1997) and *Launching a Learning-Centered Community College* (1999), and began the *Learning Abstracts* series (1998) to foster continuing conversations about learning.

At the turn of the millennium, the League received major support for two projects focused on the Learning College: The Learning College Project and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Outcomes Project created networks of institutions intently focused on learning and on providing meaningful evidence of that learning. In 2003, to consolidate and expand these networks, the League launched the annual Learning College Summit, a working retreat for colleges committed to strengthening the institutional focus on learning.

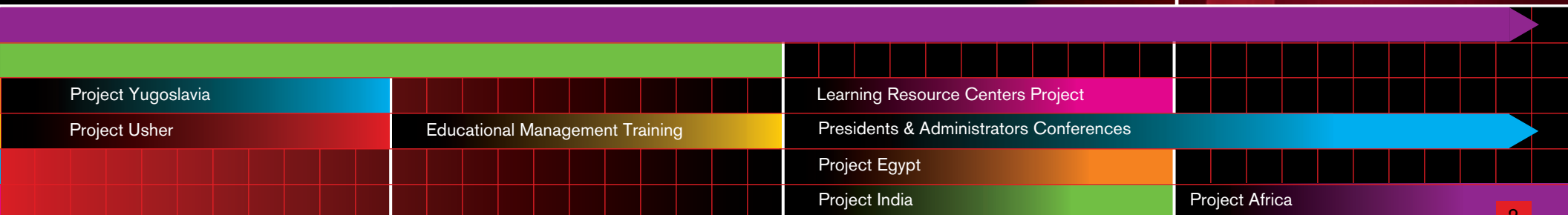


1972

1973

1974

1975





## Leadership Development

The League's early work also focused on leadership development, initially through leadership workshops for division chairs, student personnel staff, and educational managers. From 1974 through 1986, the League held ten summer conferences for community college presidents and administrators, followed in 1987 by the launch of the League's Community College Leadership Project in collaboration with The University of Texas at Austin and with funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

The Community College Leadership Project led to the launch of *Leadership Abstracts* and to the League's Executive Leadership Institute, the Expanding Leadership Diversity Project, and the Community College Leadership Institute, all focused on preparing women and minorities for leadership positions. In its twenty years, 42 percent of Executive Leadership Institute graduates have become community college presidents.

Beginning in 1980, supported by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, the League collaborated with American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges on Leaders for the 80s. With a goal of increasing the number of women holding community college presidencies, the project led to the creation of what is now the National Institute for Leadership Development.



1976

1977

1978

1979

Health Instruction Exchange

Human Beings & Their Environment

Community College Productivity Center

National Institute on Energy Education

League National Conference

Mid-America Network

Project Jordan

Solar Energy Systems Training Project

Materials for Part-Time Staff

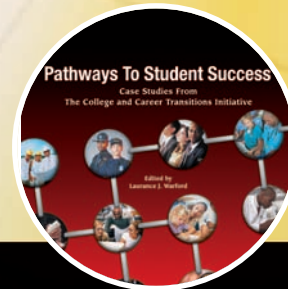
Energy Management Project

## Workforce Development

The League's interest in corporate relationships with community colleges began early and grew at a rapid pace in the 1980s with advances in technology and technology education. Our current workforce development initiative stems from the 1990 formation of the Business and Industry Services Network (BISNET) for the exchange of knowledge and information about workforce training.

At the League's Community College Business and Industry Forum in 1992, representatives of 23 corporations urged the League to lead a national effort to assist community colleges in serving the training needs of business, industry, government, and labor. In a subsequent national study, the League found that 96 percent of the 725 responding institutions provided workforce training for employees of those four groups.

Today, the League's workforce development initiative includes multiple activities to help community colleges address the need for a globally competitive workforce. For example, with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the League's Project SAIL provides a community college marketplace for purchasing, leasing, or sharing asynchronous programs for specialty industry training. The College and Career Transitions Initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, has strengthened the role of community and technical colleges in easing student transitions between secondary school and postsecondary institutions and employment.

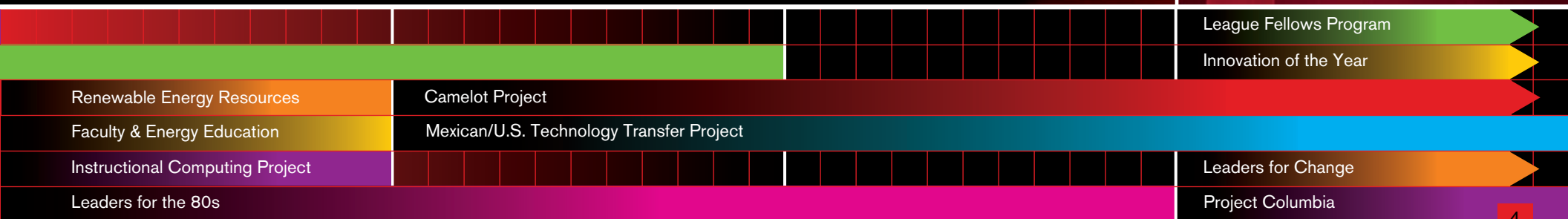


1980

1981

1982

1983



## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Fully supporting the open door of democracy's college, the League has long held diversity and inclusion as major values. This commitment is reflected in leadership programs designed to increase representation of minorities and women in executive leadership positions, and in projects such as "Systems Approach in Community Colleges With High Minority Enrollment" and "Integrating Women's Studies Into the Curriculum." Publications such as *Programs for Handicapped Students* (Travis, 1978) and *Community College Programs for Older Adult Learners* (Charles and Bartunek, 1989) help illustrate the range of diversity in the community college.

More recently, two publications on the Digital Divide and the League's collaboration with the National Center for Accessible Media's Dissemination Project to Community Colleges reflect the League's continuing commitment to access, as does the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion stream at the annual *Innovations Conference*.

Although based in the United States, the League is an international organization with members in 13 countries. In this international role, the League provides opportunities for the exchange of ideas, challenges, and solutions among community colleges, colleges of applied arts and technology, further education institutions, regional education and training centers, polytechnics, and similar educational organizations around the world.



1984



1985



1986

1987

Alliance for Business Literacy Education

The Community College & the Computer

Computer-Based Education Courseware

Community College Leadership Project

Institute for Leadership Development

Interactive Videodisc Demonstration Centers

Outreach Success Services for High School Students

Computer Science Resource Laboratories

Guidelines for Computerized Student Information Systems

Camelot II

Leadership Abstracts

Student Retention Database Project

Transfer of Instructional Technology Project

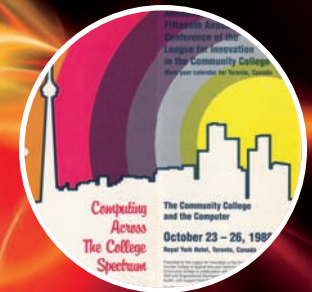
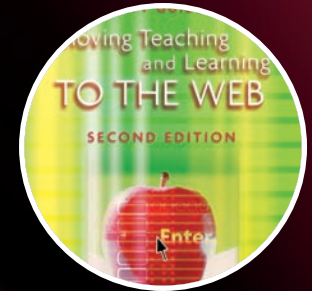
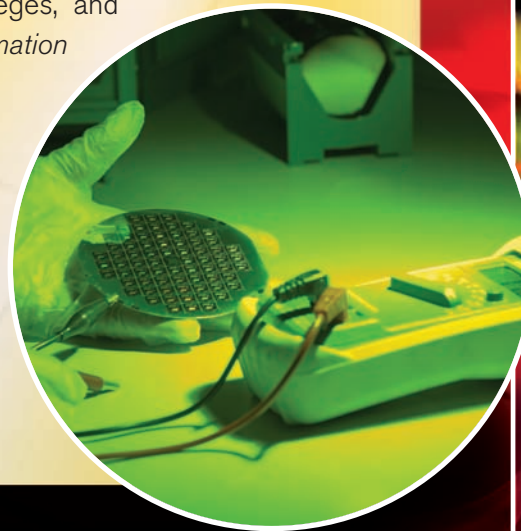
Integrating Women's Studies Into the Curriculum

## Technology

As far back as 1971, the League began connecting the community college field with technology corporations, helping ensure that the community college voice would be included in conversations about product development and services for postsecondary education. These connections ultimately became the League's Corporate Partner Program, which today has over 160 corporate partners who exhibit at League conferences, participate in League projects and publications, and work with staff and members to form community college focus groups and advisory councils for their organizations.

In 1985, in partnership with a number of leading computer technology corporations and with support from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, the League launched The Community College and the Computer. The five-year project designed and developed computer applications for improving student learning and institutional management, developed guidelines and other information on computers and community colleges, and sponsored what became the League's annual *Conference on Information Technology*, now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year.

In all, League technology projects have spanned the use of IT in community college assessment, instruction, curriculum, student tracking, administrative support systems, instructor training, strategic planning, use of the internet in learning, online learning, asynchronous learning networks, and website development.



1988

1989

1990

1991

Executive Leadership Institute

American Association of Retired Persons Project

Educating for Global Responsibility

Community Forums: Critical Community Issues

Peace Studies Project

Project Synergy

Expanding Leadership Opportunities

Expanding Leadership Diversity

Regional Faculty Resource & Training Center Project

Community College Leadership Institute

Apple Community College Alliance

Leadership 2000 Conference

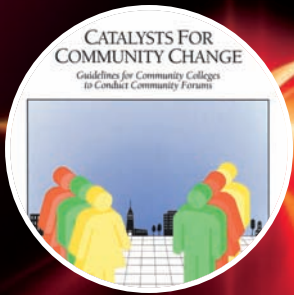
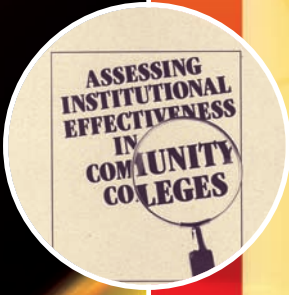
IBM IT Transfer Centers

## Research and Practice

In the early years of the new millennium, the League's Learning College work popularized among community colleges the now-common "how do we know" question, but League members began asking similar questions decades earlier. Projects and reports from the 1970s dealt with increasing productivity and management effectiveness. Twenty years later, publications such as *Assessing Institutional Effectiveness in Community Colleges* (Doucette and Hughes, 1990) and *How To Do More With Less* (Beckman, 1996) continued addressing issues of efficiencies and accountability.

League institutions have compiled numerous resource inventories and directories on topics including student assessment, mathematics placement, peer tutoring, faculty evaluation, and energy management systems. League projects and publications also established guidelines for developing computerized student information systems (1984), for library and automated systems (1986), and for conducting community forums (1993). The 2007 publication, *Hoping for the Best While Preparing for the Worst* (Villadsen and de los Santos), explores ways community colleges prepare for and rebuild after disasters and emergency situations.

The "how do we know" question is crucial for learning, and League publications such as *The Cross Papers* have provided faculty with strategies and tools to improve their own teaching and their students' learning. The LENS program developed by Humber College, Dallas County Community College District, and Johnson County Community College offers a comprehensive resource for faculty development, and *Getting Results*, six online, multimedia modules produced by WGBH-Boston in association with the League, funded by the National Science Foundation, is the most recent League faculty development project.



1992

1993

1994

1995

Scholar-in-Residence Program

Workforce Training Survey

Distance Education Resource Guide

League Electronic Bulletin Board

Business & Industry Alliance

INVEST Learning Demonstration Centers

Houghton-Mifflin Technology Partnership Awards

League Website

Apple Competition for Excellence

IBM Survey of Internet Usage

Workforce 2000 Conference

Conference on Information Technology

Tech-Prep Project

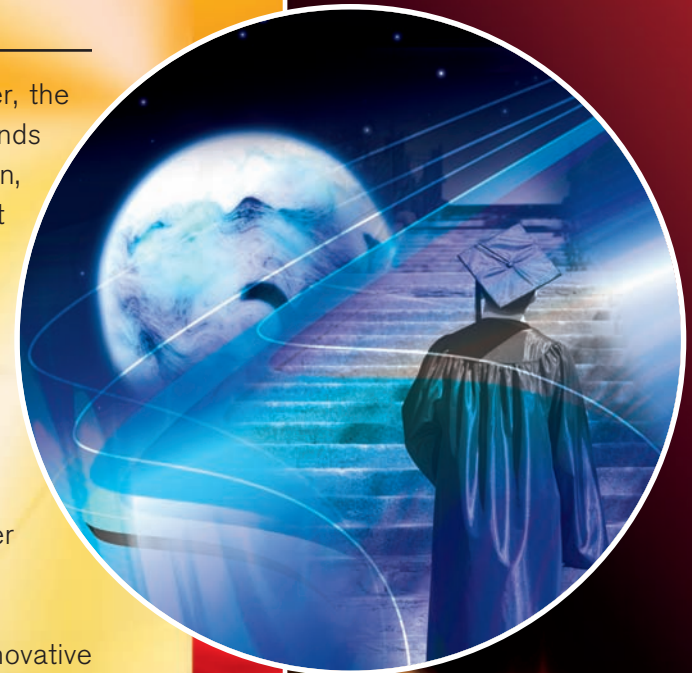
League Alliance

## 40 and Forward: Looking to the Future

A 40-year history of innovation represents a solid foundation for the League. However, the nature of the organization—from our vision, values, and mission to our very name—demands that we keep looking forward, with eyes open for the next community college innovation, the next way we can better serve the community college field's efforts to improve student learning, meet community needs, and ensure institutional success.

The League's triennial Road Ahead studies identify community college leaders' expectations for trends in the community college field in coming years, and provide the League and our members, corporate partners, and friends with important data for planning initiatives and programs. Through projects, publications, events, and initiatives, the League has worked continuously with member institutions and other organizations to anticipate new issues, challenges, and opportunities for this essential sector of higher education.

With the most innovative community colleges in the world as members, the most innovative businesses in the world as corporate partners, and the most innovative sector of postsecondary education in the world as a constituency, the League for Innovation in the Community College is poised to spend the next four decades, and beyond, continuing our role in leading and facilitating community college innovation, experimentation, and institutional transformation.



1996

1997

1998

1999

Corporate Partner Program

The Cross Papers

Technology & Learning Community (TLC)

Road Ahead Trends Study

*Learning Abstracts*

Microsoft Terry O'Banion Student Technology Award

Asynchronous Learning Networks Project

21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Project

*Innovations Conference*



## Alliance Membership

With more than 850 member colleges and campuses, the League Alliance comprises the most innovative community and technical colleges in the world. Administrators, faculty, and staff at these colleges share their programs, policies, and practices with each other through League conferences, publications, projects, and services; are eligible to nominate students for the Terry O'Banion Student Technology Award, sponsored by Microsoft and the League, and to participate in the League's Innovation of the Year competition; and to explore significant issues facing community college leaders through the CEO Survey Service. Alliance members receive complimentary copies of League publications; member pricing on conference and institute registration fees, publications, and job postings; and other benefits. For more information, visit <http://membership.league.org>.



## Alliance iAdvantage: The Power of iStream

League Alliance iAdvantage opens the door to a wide array of professional development opportunities for League members. Through the League's iStream, members have access to a powerful, portal-based, multimedia resource that provides anytime, anyplace access to resources such as videostreamed keynote and special session presentations from League conferences; digital versions of League publications; the LENS program; and a monthly thematic update that bundles related iStream resources for professional development activities. For more information, visit <http://www.league.org/istream>.

2000

2001

2002

2003

Learning College Project

League Connections Electronic Newsletter

LENs Project

College & Career Transitions Initiative

PT3 Project

21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Outcomes Project

Project SAIL

National Center for Accessible Media Project

Certificate of College Competencies Project

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2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

HSE.cc Project

STEM Transitions Project

CTC e3 Project

Innovation Showcase

Basic Education Online

Making Opportunity Affordable Project

Getting Results



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