Reverse Transfer on a National Scale: Why? How?

Registrars and Provosts Meeting

Charleston, West Virginia

March 11, 2015

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What is reverse transfer?

It is the **transfer of credits from a four-year institution to any two-year institution** from which a student transferred. It doesn't matter if the student transferred to another associate degree granting or bachelor's level institution first, attended public or private institutions, or transferred across state lines. **If eligible, the student is awarded an associate degree.**

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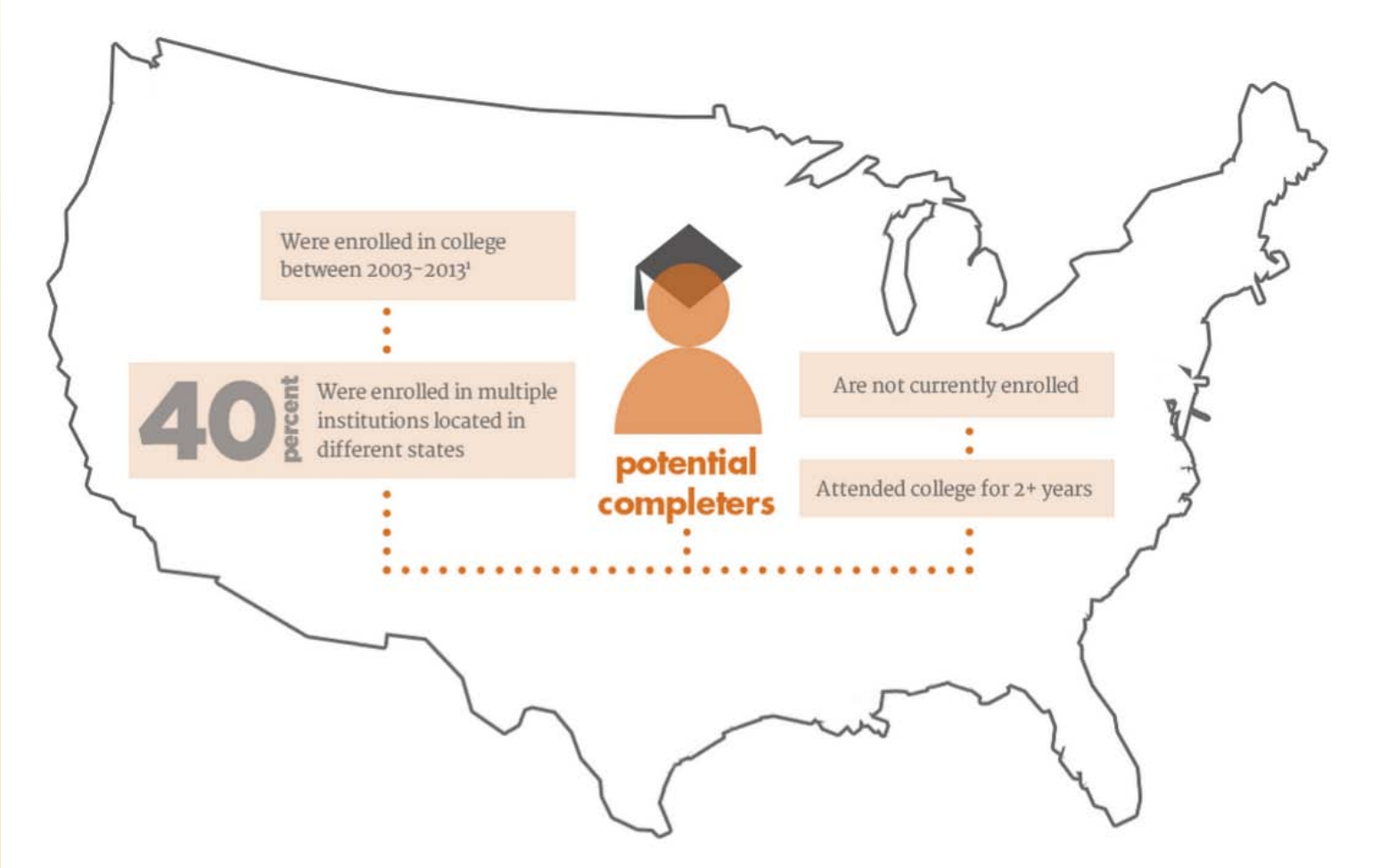
It’s a big issue…



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How many students could it potentially impact?

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How About in West Virginia

- Total Students from 2003 to 2013?
  - 26,652
- Students' Age Breakdown?
  - 59% under 30 in 2013
  - 52% female

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NSC Reverse Transfer Project

Key milestones

- Invited to participate in RT meeting at 2013 AACRAO
- Proposal by Registrars subcommittee, Spring 2013
- NSC response submitted with 3 phase approach, Summer 2013
- Search for funding began, Fall 2013
- Funding sources for Phase I identified, Winter 2014
- Development of Phase I began, Summer of 2014
- Lumina Grant Proposal for Phase II Awarded, Fall 2014
- Beta Testing for Phase 1 begins with schools from Texas, Missouri and Wisconsin, March 2015

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Group of Registrars Approached NSC

- Over 3,600 institutions use the NSC services
- Over a billion transactions per year
- Trusted partner that already had much of the data that would be needed to provide a technologically streamlined process to facilitate reverse transfer
- The project fits into the NSC Mission: "*We serve the education community by facilitating the exchange and understanding of student enrollment, performance and related information.*"
  - *Brenda Selman, Registrar Univ. Missouri Columbia*

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Support from many quarters

> "The Clearinghouse Reverse Transfer project is a major step in improving higher education outcomes, which will benefit us as a nation. More students will get the degrees they deserve. Community colleges will be recognized for the value they add to education. And – by granting more degrees – states will be better positioned to attract new business.
>
> – Dr. Walter G. Bumphus, President and CEO, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)

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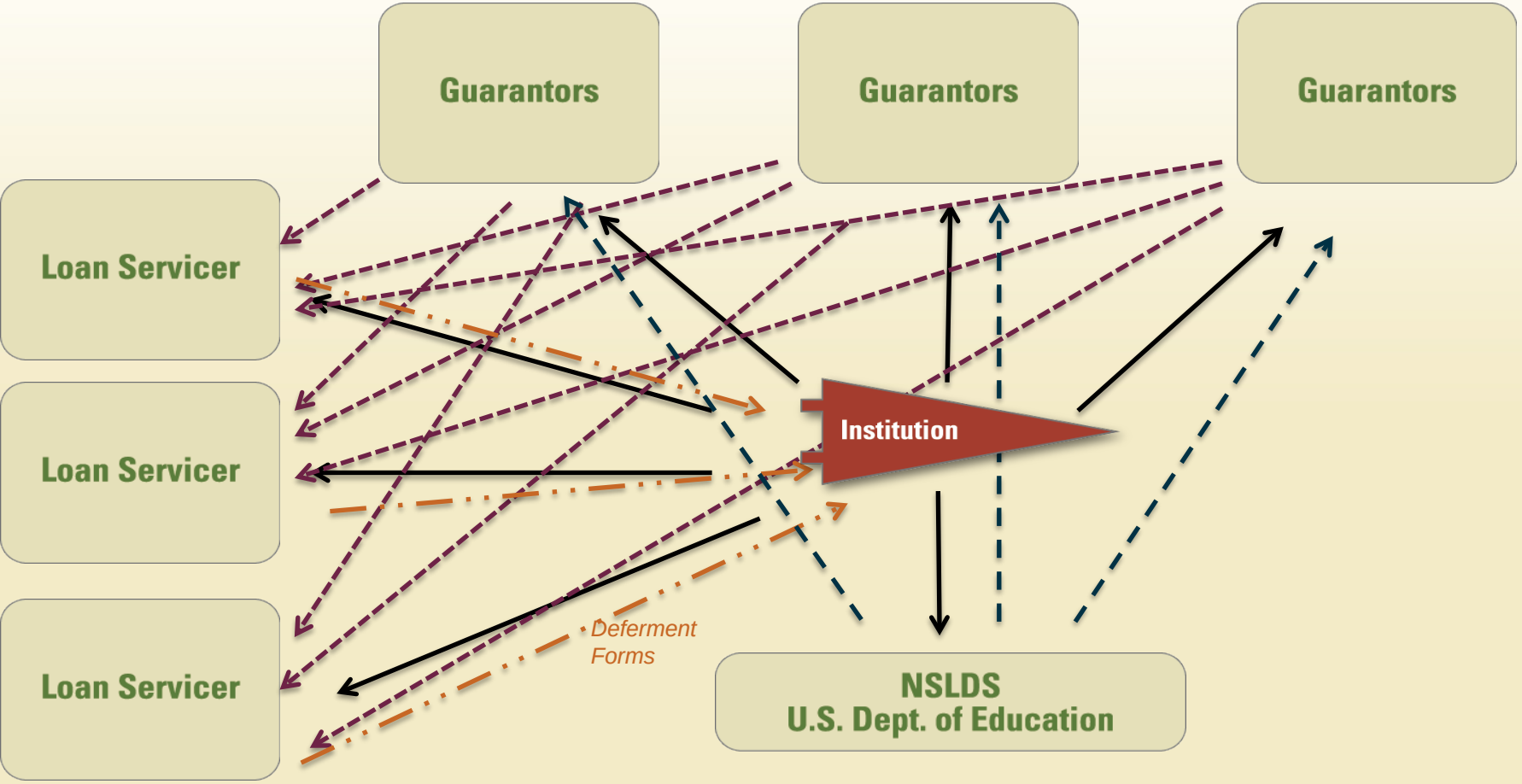
“The FinAid World” Before the Clearinghouse



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Reverse Transfer
Registrars Proposal Objectives

- Increase associate degree attainment for students
- Ensure that all eligible students have the opportunity to be awarded a first associate degree that reflects their educational efforts and allows them to compete more successfully in other academic arenas and the workforce
- Create a standardized, streamlined, technologically enhanced process that will assist four-year and two-year institutions in transferring student credits more efficiently, securely, and successfully
- Leverage existing infrastructure with a trusted partner by taking a national approach to facilitate the reverse transfer processes

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NSC Reverse Transfer Project Phases

- **Phase 1-** Facilitates the submission of files from the Host Institution, notification of Degree Granting Institution(s) and downloading of files by DGI(s) Cost: $650,000 – Fully Funded
- **Phase 2** - Creates a Student Data Mart at NSC which allows for cross checking of all student data held by NSC and provides mobile student access to all their data including who has accessed it and for what purpose Projected Cost: $3.55 million – 1.35 million committed
- **Phase 3** - Provides the ability to do pre-degree audits prior to notifying DGIs of file presence

* **Service will be provided at No Cost to Participating Institutions**

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Reverse Transfer Project Data Elements

- First Name*
- Middle Name*
- Matriculation Term (to the 4 yr. host institution)*
- Course - Term
- Course - Course Number
- Last Name*
- Birth Date*
- Social Security Number*
- Course – Session
- Course - Subject Description

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Reverse Transfer Project Data Elements

- Course – Credits
- OPEIDs of Potential Degree Granting Institutions (2 yr.)
- OPEID of Host Institution (4 yr.) *
- Student consent flag
- Permanent Address (street, city, state)*

*NSC already receives

- Course – Title
- Course – Grade
- Course grade points
- College Student ID *
- State Level Student ID*

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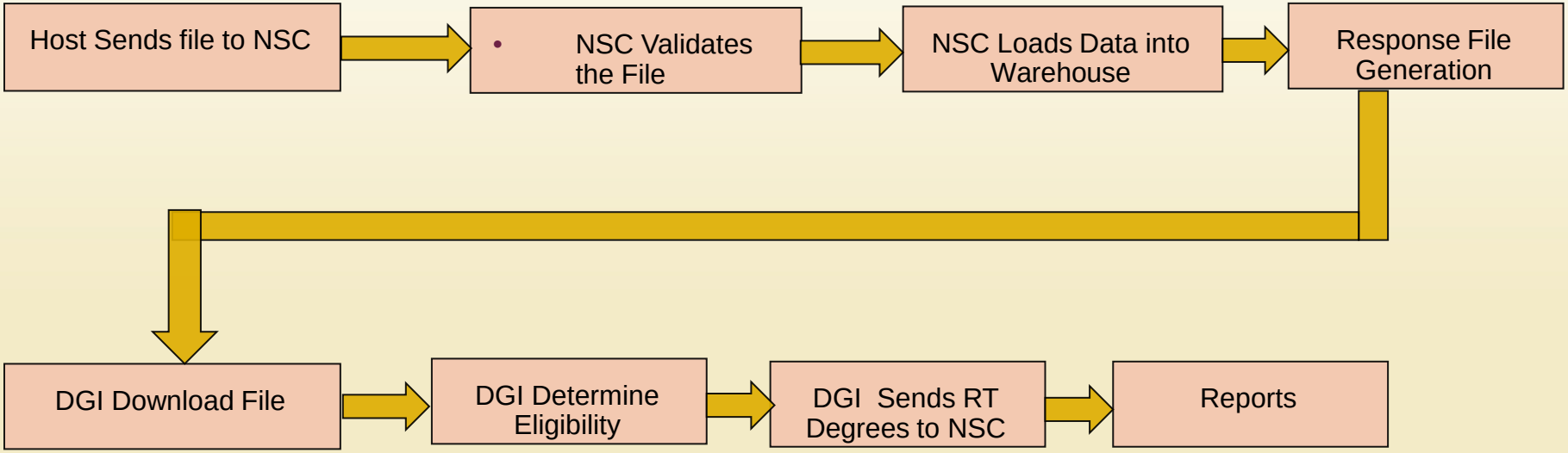
RT Process Flow



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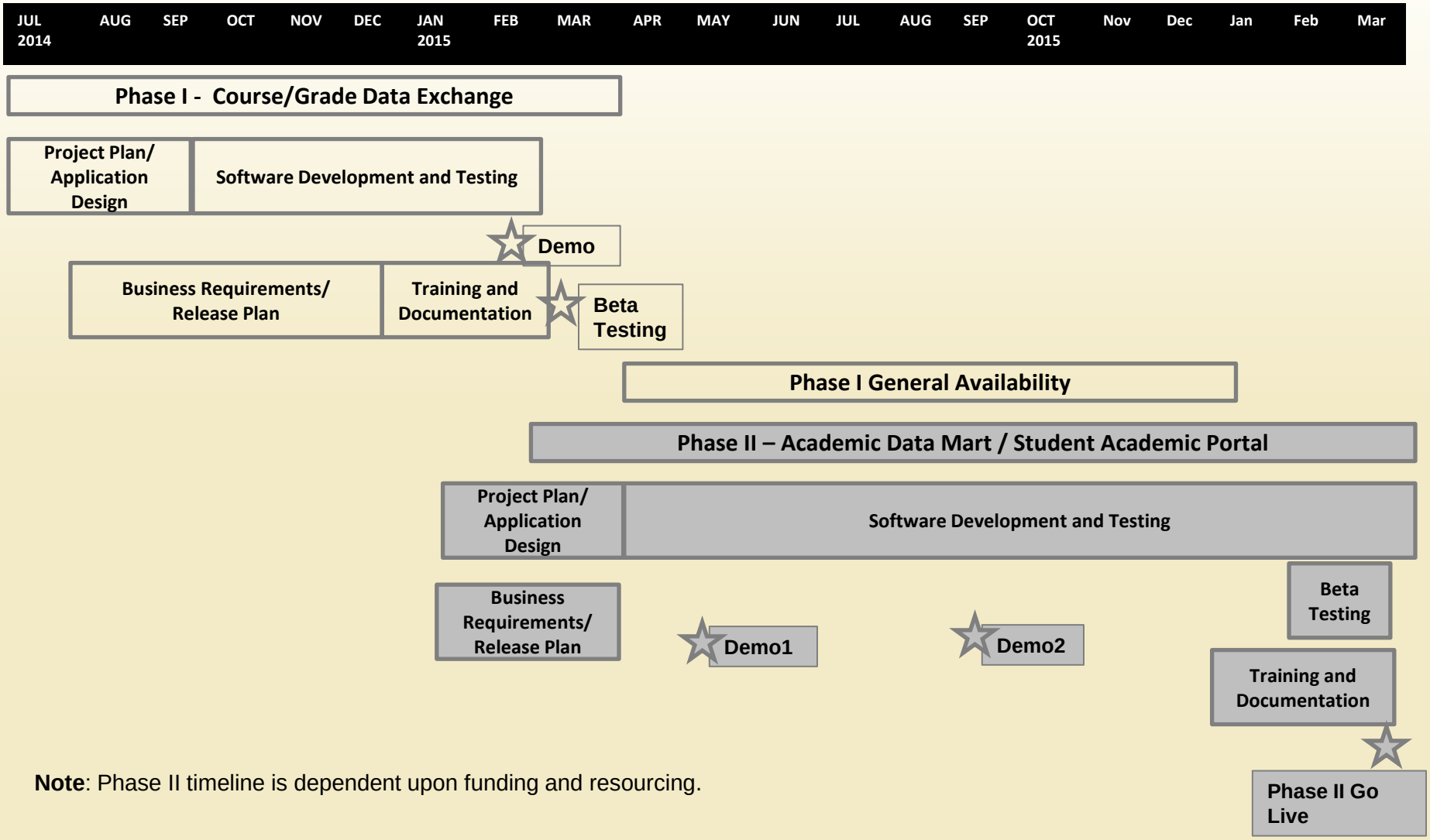
Reverse Transfer – Timeline and Project Status



Note: Phase II timeline is dependent upon funding and resourcing.

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NSC Reverse Transfer Project Funding Partners so far….

- University of Texas – Austin
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
- Ohio State University
- Stanford University
- University of Maryland – College Park
- University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- University of Kansas

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NSC Reverse Transfer Project Funding Partners so far….

- Lumina Foundation & Lumina Grantees in Missouri &Texas
  - Missouri Dept. of Ed., UM Columbia, UT Austin & Lone Star College System
- Lumina Foundation
- Current Partner Commitments
  - Institutions $300,000
  - NSC $400,000
  - Lumina $1.3 Million

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NSC Reverse Transfer Project

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