



Council of Presidents Update

April 2026

June Joint Councils Meeting: Planning is underway for the June Joint Councils Meeting, to be held at the Sunseeker Resort in Port Charlotte on June 2–5, 2026. CIA has three afternoon sessions planned, including a panel on HLC accreditation moderated by Nate Southerland, Ph.D., Provost, Santa Fe College, with panelists Roger Yohe, Ph.D., Interim VPAA, Palm Beach State College, and Becca Harris, Ph.D., AVP of Curriculum/Academic Enhancement, Florida Southwestern State College—institutions that have successfully navigated the HLC accreditation process. We will also welcome guest speaker Ryan Specht-Boardman, Senior Director of Higher Education Solutions, Competency-Based Education Network, who will share insights on developing competency-based programs, a focus area identified by the U.S. Department of Labor. During the business meeting, we will receive reports from committee chairs and vote on the next slate of CIA leaders and representatives.

History Faculty Workgroup Update: The History Faculty Workgroup has received feedback from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) on its proposed framework for teaching history and is currently incorporating the Department’s comments. They are also curating a list of recommended textbooks and materials.

Curriculum Workgroup Update: The Curriculum Workgroup survey results are included in the COP packet. The workgroup is scheduling its next meeting prior to Joint Councils to review the findings and establish priorities to be presented during the CIA business meeting.

Institutional Effectiveness / Institutional Research Workgroup Update: The Institutional Effectiveness/Institutional Research Workgroup met on April 8, 2026, and currently includes 17 members. CIA has charged the workgroup with identifying best practices for tracking student outcomes, with particular emphasis on job-placement measures relevant to Workforce Pell Grants.

Resources Webpage: AFC has created a shared CIA resources webpage to house documents and materials reflecting the council’s work. This will support continuity and a smooth annual leadership transition.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Belmont
Council of Instructional Affairs Chair, 2025–2026