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ASHE RECEIVES RESEARCH TO PRACTICE GRANT FROM LUMINA FOUNDATION

Las Vegas, Nevada (July 31, 2018) –

The Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) is pleased to announce that it has received an \$80,000 grant from Lumina Foundation. These funds will support collaborative initiatives leading up to and at the 2018 ASHE Conference. Dr. Lori Patton Davis, President of ASHE and Indiana University Professor, is the Primary Investigator for the grant project. Under the theme “Envisioning a Woke Academy,” ASHE endeavors to provide opportunities for members to engage with ideas and activities that promote critical consciousness and educational research that is equity-minded, which is to say, focused on cultivating inclusive postsecondary institutions across the higher education landscape, and generating opportunities for community engaged scholarship to support communities whose lives and experiences are largely absent from the higher education research landscape. The funded initiatives will enable ASHE to identify and engage learners in scholarly and community-based activities, connect researchers to communities, and build their capacities to perform ‘woke’ research that makes a difference and informs policy.

There are four proposed components of this grant. ASHE and the National Institute for Transformation and Equity are partnering to launch the ASHE-NITE Report Series, which will include a collection of national reports on critical underserved populations in postsecondary education and promising practices for creating equitable and inclusive campus environments. The reports will provide recommendations for higher education research, policy, and practice. The grant will also support implementation of the inaugural ASHE Institute on Community-Engaged Research to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The two-day institute will provide training and professional development to ASHE members who are committed to incorporating critical, community-engaged research methodologies into their current or emerging research agenda. In Tampa,

Florida, ASHE will partner- with the Hillsborough County Public Schools to host a film screening of the “Tell Them We Are Rising” documentary and a panel discussion on HBCUs and college completion. Also, in Tampa, ASHE will host its first major effort to connect its members with concerted efforts to support and center women and girls of color. The community forum will focus on those affected by mass incarceration as well as those who have fallen victim to over-policing in schools, ultimately influencing their pathways to college and attainment of a college degree.

Each of the four components in this project address a wide range of populations, most notably, populations that have neither had equitable access to college nor opportunities for college completion and degree attainment. Although each component is different, collectively they center populations which include adult students, incarcerated or formerly incarcerated students, students of color, low-income and first-generation students, immigrant and undocumented students and Indigenous populations. “A key premise of this project centers on the creation of equitable campus environments. In order to identify a shared agenda for future policy and community-relevant research, researchers must have the opportunity to engage community, and vice-versa, and learn from, each other,” says Patton Davis. “Through this grant, Lumina Foundation is signaling the importance of developing better connections between researchers and the communities they intend to serve, by providing funds that contribute to productive, collaborative, and equity-minded relationships.”

About ASHE

The Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) was incorporated in 1976 as a 501c3 nonprofit scholarly organization. Today, ASHE has 2,200 individual members interested in higher education research. Members work at colleges, universities, state and federal agencies, and policy centers. The Association is considered the premier organization for scholars of higher education. ASHE is headquartered in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

About Lumina Foundation

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. The foundation envisions a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation’s need for talent through a broad range of credentials. Lumina’s goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.

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