



# SHEEO

STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

## Lessons Learned from Previous Communities of Practice

---

Dustin Weeden  
Senior Policy Analyst  
SHEEO

## Joining a Community

- One of the primary goals of the SHEEO's Community of Practice project is to foster cross-state connections
- Ongoing network after the meeting concludes
- During the meeting, seek opportunities to build connections and hold yourself accountable
  - Arrange follow-up calls before you return home
  - Review the attendee list and plan to make connections while we are all in Denver
- Be proactive

## CASE Method

Copy

And

Steal

Everything

## Develop Action Plans

- Short-term action items
  - Accomplishing “low-hanging fruit” can help build momentum
- Long-term action items
  - Set milestones

## Advice from previous Community of Practice Attendees

- Expect intermittent momentum
- Strive to bewhelmed! There is complexity in this work and we need to take time to wrestle with it and have arguments
- Watch for windows of opportunity; something that may not seem feasible could be at the right moment
- Often easy to get 90% agreement and spend months arguing about the last 10%

## Capacity Challenges

- With so many other responsibilities, attendees found it hard to implement new ideas
- Seek opportunities to attach the new ideas to existing projects
- Develop a long-term plan and understand progress will take place over time
- Be willing to frame goals differently based on political realities in your state (e.g. new SHEEO appointed after election)

## Resources for When You Return Home

- SHEEO Postsecondary Data Website
  - Convening presentations and white paper
  - State data resources—Strong Foundations reports, white papers, presentations
  - <https://postsecondarydata.sheeo.org/>
- SHEEO Postsecondary Blog
  - Additional information on topics covered at the in-person convening
  - Posts on relevant state data topics
  - <https://postsecondarydata.sheeo.org/blog/>

## Regional Convenings

- Opportunities for follow-up engagement were mentioned by several previous CoP attendees
- Four regional convenings over the next 18 months
- Two primary goals for the regional meetings
  1. Reengage state teams that are attending this convening and provide follow-up assistance
  2. Engage states that were not able to attend this convening