James L. Applegate
Vice President for Program Development, Lumina Foundation
James L. Applegate serves as vice president for program development at the Lumina Foundation. In this role, he leads development of Lumina Foundation’s funding programs supporting achievement of “Goal 2025” to dramatically increase educational attainment in the United States, especially for low-income, first-generation, minority and adult students. That work includes strategic implementation of effective practices and policies supporting increases in the number of prepared students entering higher education, the number of students succeeding in college, and in the productivity and capacity of the system to provide many more people high-quality credentials. Prior to coming to Lumina, he served as senior fellow and vice president for academic affairs at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. Applegate was a professor of communication at the University of Kentucky. He was elected president of the National Communication Association. As a consultant, he has conducted over 250 seminars and workshops for corporate, academic and government organizations to improve communication policies and practices. Applegate earned his B.A. from Georgetown College (KY) as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

Braulio Colón
Executive Director, Florida College Access Network
Braulio Colón is the executive director for the Florida College Access Network (Florida CAN!), a statewide network promoting college readiness, access, and success for all students, particularly first-generation, limited-income, and underrepresented students through research, communication, advocacy and community support. Prior to joining Florida CAN (formerly ENLACE Florida), he served as general manager for communications and public partnerships for the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library System and also served with the Florida Department of Education as the southwest regional field director supporting state K-12 reform initiatives through strategic communications, public relations and resource development efforts. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in mass communications, a Bachelor of Arts in Africana studies, and a Masters of Arts in public administration, all from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Scott Evenbeck
Founding President, The New Community College at the City University of New York (CUNY)
Scott Evenbeck is founding president of the New Community College of the City University of New York (CUNY), joining CUNY in 2011. He had served as professor of psychology and founding dean of University College at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI). He joined the faculty of IUPUI in psychology, after completing his Ph.D. degree in social psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Evenbeck has been involved for many years in the design, implementation and assessment of programs for students in their first years of university study. He has played a major role in various pre-K-16 initiatives to support student academic achievement and in retention initiatives for Indiana higher education. Evenbeck has served as a resource faculty member at the Summer Quality Academy of the Institute for Higher Education Policy and for the General Education and Assessment Institute of the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). He served as a member of the advisory board for the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. Evenbeck has been on accreditation teams for three regional associations, with focus on general education, assessment and programs for entering students.
Jeremiah Newell

**Director of Multiple Pathways, Mobile Area Education Foundation**

Jeremiah Newell is the director of multiple pathways for the Mobile Area Education Foundation. In this role he serves as the program director for the RAMP to Graduation Initiative, a dropout prevention, intervention, and recovery initiative designed to help students reach their goal of graduation and postsecondary success. Newell coordinates the Research Alliance for Multiple Pathways (RAMP), a systemic dropout prevention collaborative. His work includes developing data systems to identify off-track youth, evaluating community and school district policies that may force youth to drop out of school, performing needs assessments to identify gaps in services for youth in the community, and developing high quality education pathways that prepare all students for college and work. Newell is the City of Mobile’s representative to the Mayor’s Education Policy Advisor’s Network (EPAN) for the National League of Cities. At the state level, he serves on the executive committee of the Governor’s Commission for Quality Teaching, a core group of professionals who help set the direction of education policy for the State of Alabama, and he is also a member of the Alabama Select Commission on High School Graduation and Student Dropouts.

John Wilcox

**Executive Director & COO, Corporate Voices for Working Families**

John Wilcox is Corporate Voices’ Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer. He is responsible for driving the implementation of Corporate Voices’ strategic initiatives and growth opportunities. As COO, Wilcox is responsible for Corporate Voices’ internal operations, including project and program management, financial oversight and reporting, staff management and development, as well as information technology, legal and administrative issues. Wilcox also manages Corporate Voices’ family economic security work, which focuses on engaging the business sector on issues affecting low-wage working families. Recent examples of this work include original research on workplace flexibility for low-wage, hourly workers; an annual Earned Income Tax Credit Employer Guide that encourages employers to act as intermediaries between their low-wage workers and a range of state and federal social support services; and a workplace lactation toolkit designed to help employers give their low-wage, hourly employees positive choices about infant health and nutrition. Wilcox has worked in the nonprofit sector for the majority of his career, most recently as general counsel to the Center for Policy Alternatives, a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) focused on public policy and leadership in the fifty states. He holds a J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis and a B.A. from Dickinson College.