



June 2026

Dear NAASS Colleagues,

Chris Cofer has shared why NAASS's growing relationship with the National Summer Learning Association matters. I wanted to follow up personally, introduce my role, and invite you to help shape this opportunity. Many of you know me through my longstanding involvement with NAASS and my work leading summer, pre-college, college-access, and university partnership programs at institutions including Georgetown University and The George Washington University. Throughout my career, I have remained focused on the strategic role summer can play in educational access, student success, institutional growth, and the transition into college and future careers.

Today, I lead [Ollin EDU](#), an advising and consulting practice focused on education strategy, learning systems, partnerships, summer programs, and institutional capacity building. [The National Summer Learning Association](#) (NSLA) is a client and partner of Ollin EDU, and through that engagement I serve as the field lead for NSLA's College Access and Summer Melt Professional Learning Community.

Although the PLC's name emphasizes college access and summer melt, its scope is intentionally broader. It is designed to include the full range of summer learning connected to colleges and universities: residential and nonresidential K–12 programs, enrichment experiences, pre-college initiatives, residential youth programs, career-connected learning, and summer start or bridge programs for admitted students preparing to enter college.

My goal is to make the PLC practical, participatory, and worth your time. The 2026–2027 program will include three focused virtual sessions addressing:

- Lessons from summer 2026 and priorities for 2027
- AI, emerging technologies, and the changing world of work
- Scholarships, last-dollar funding, and partnerships that expand student access

Participants will also have opportunities to contribute to surveys and field scans, learn from guest speakers, exchange practices with peers, and connect with NSLA's broader network of school districts, community organizations, funders, government agencies, and workforce partners.

The attached two-page overview provides the full calendar and explains what members will receive throughout the year.

To join:

1. PLC sign up form: [Here](#)
2. On the registration form, select **University Partnerships: Summer On-Campus Impact**
3. Forward this opportunity to colleagues on your campus whose work intersects with summer learning

I look forward to reconnecting with longtime colleagues, meeting new members, and building a stronger bridge between NAASS, higher education, and the broader summer-learning field.

Please reach out at any time with questions, ideas, or recommendations for future PLC topics and speakers.

With appreciation,

Esteban Olivares

Principal Consultant, Ollin EDU

[Higher Education PLC Lead, National Summer Learning Association](#)

esteban.olivares@ollinedu.com

ollinedu.com