



State of Connecticut
Department of Higher Education

CONTACT: CONNIE FRASER • 860/947-1801 (W)
860/986-3508 (CELL)
CFRASER@CTDHE.ORG

News Alert

***State Leaders to Adopt Principles to Guide Connecticut & its Education System
Cecilia Rouse, Member of the White House Council of Economic Advisors,
Will Address Signing Ceremony***

HARTFORD, April 8 – A signing ceremony at which state leaders will endorse a Declaration of Cooperation outlining a set of principles to guide Connecticut and its educational systems will take place **Monday, April 12** from **2:00 – 4:00 pm in Room 1D of the Legislative Office Building** in Hartford. Dr. Cecilia Rouse, Member of the White House Council of Economic Advisors, will deliver the keynote address, ***“The Economic Importance of Education, Cradle to Career.”***

Following Dr. Rouse’s talk, state and congressional leaders will gather to sign a poster-sized display of the guiding principles, the first such education declaration ever issued in Connecticut. More than 40 Connecticut leaders, including congressional and state legislators, are expected to participate.

The event is organized by Connecticut’s P-20 Council which was created last year by an Executive Order issued by Governor M. Jodi Rell to build collaboration across early childhood, K-12, higher education and workforce training in seeking ways to increase the number of Connecticut residents who hold a postsecondary degree or other credential. The Council is co-chaired by Michael Meotti, Commissioner of Higher Education, and Mark McQuillan, Commissioner of Education and includes representatives of all education systems as well as state agencies, businesses and philanthropic and community-based organizations.

Given the fiscal realities facing Connecticut and the work of the P-20 Council, Dr. Rouse’s talk is particularly timely. Her research focuses on labor economics and the economics of education. She currently is on leave from Princeton University where she is the Theodore A. Wells ’29 Professor of Economics and Public Affairs. She has been a senior editor of *The Future of Children* and the *Journal of Labor Economics*.

P-20 Council members intend that the signed Declaration of Cooperation will underscore the importance of the state’s education and training systems working together to raise college and career readiness for the benefit of all Connecticut residents. More information on the P20-Council is available at www.ctdhe.org/P20/default.htm.

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