**Advanced Professional Certificate: Charting a Direction for Online Learning**

*A Certificate Course Offered by the Online School for Girls, Cal-ISBOA, and Marlborough School and Castilleja School*

This “blended” course helps curricular leaders and administrators do a “deep-dive” into online and blended learning, and the opportunities and challenges that online and blended learning presents for independent schools.  The course covers both the strategic decisions that schools face and the practical implications of implementing online and blended programs in a school.  Great focus is spent on pedagogical and financial implications for schools.  During the course, participants are exposed to national leaders and experts in online learning, including (and most importantly) from experts within the independent school community.

This course has monthly online assignments and interactions and two in-person, day-long workshops (9:00am-2:30pm). Programs will be held in both northern and southern California:

Northern California (in-person workshops at Castilleja School)

Online Start Date – October 11, 2013

First In-Person Workshop – October 25, 2013

Second In-Person Workshop – April 24. 2014

Last day of Online Course Work – May 1, 2014

Southern California

Online Start Date – October 11, 2013

First In-Person Workshop – October 24, 2013

Second In-Person Workshop – April 23. 2014

Last day of Online Course Work – May 1, 2014

*Audience:*

Administrators and curricular leaders at independent schools who are tasked with developing both the strategic direction and the practical planning for online education and blended learning at their schools.  This course is also appropriate for schools that are currently piloting programs in online or blended learning.

We strongly encourage schools to send teams of 3-5 administrators/curricular leaders to this program, as we have found that a team is needed in order to create a full plan and begin to implement it.

*Course Cost:*

The cost for the course is $1295 per participant.

*Course Overview:*

The course spans over six to seven months with monthly online activities and two in-person, day-long workshops.

Unit 1:

* The Landscape of Online Learning in America *and* Online Independent Schools

Unit 2:

* In-Person: Narrowing the opportunities and threats -- becoming mission driven with online learning

Unit 3:

* Developing a Vision for Online and Blended Learning

Unit 4:

* Addressing the Classroom Opportunities - Time, Space, and Flexibility

Unit 5:

* Creating Courses - Standards, Advice from the Field, and Varied Approaches

Unit 6:

* Financing for Online and Blended Learning - What are the drivers?

Unit 7:

* Engaging Your Community - Communications and Planning around Online and Blended Learning

Unit 8:

* In Person: Tying it all Together into a Plan

*Outcomes:*

As a result of having taken completed this course, a participant will:

* understand the landscape of online and blended learning and the place of independent schools in the landscape;
* develop a vision for online and blended learning for their campus;
* understand how online and blended learning impacts pedagogy and curriculum choices and decisions;
* understand standards for online and blended courses and have guidance in developing standards for your campus;
* work through financial considerations and drivers for budgeting; and
* be able to engage a campus community in discussions on online and blended learning.

*Course Facilitators:*

**Lorri Palko** serves as the Director of Finance and Operations for the Online School for Girls.  Previously, she served as Associate Head of School – Operations at Atlanta Girls’ School where she led all internal business and financial operations. Prior to working in schools, Lorri worked in the business sector for twenty-years, having served as president of two manufacturing companies, each with annual sales of over $200 million and over one thousand employees. Lorri achieved revenue growth, improved profitability, and increased market positions through a collaborative leadership style focused on the growth of employees and the community while being a steward of long-term financial sustainability.

**Brad Rathgeber** is the Executive Director of the Online School for Girls, responsible for the day-to-day management of the School, including academics, professional development, and extension programs. Brad is one of the founders of the Online School for Girls and was the first President of the Board, having worked to create the School while an administrator at Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Maryland.  Brad has presented at many national and international conferences on online learning, and has been quoted on the topic in the *Washington Post,* *Wall Street Journal*, and on PBS.