A twenty-six-year veteran of the college admissions and college counseling professions, Lloyd Thacker has emerged as a leader in the national campaign to affirm educational values amid growing commercial interference. As the founder and director of The Education Conservancy, a national, non-profit student advocacy organization, Thacker recently published College Unranked, already critically acclaimed as a seminal work on the crisis in college admissions. He has been quoted and featured in major news sources, including The New York Times, The Atlantic Monthly, The Chronicle of Higher Education, and The Wall Street Journal. His articles have appeared in various publications, including a book, Ethics, published by NACAC. He has consulted with high schools and colleges regarding appropriate college admission/counseling processes and programs.

A dynamic and visionary speaker, Thacker has commanded standing-room-only crowds during national and regional conferences of NACAC and The College Board. He is very effective in motivating admission professionals, parents and students to recognize and move beyond the complicating and inappropriate commercial intrusions in college admissions. Each speech is crafted to meet the specific needs of venue and audience; all speaking fees and book revenue support the efforts of The Education Conservancy. Thacker’s message of conscience and inspiration is confirmed by the following comments.

“That was a wonderful speech on Saturday. Kudos to you for trying something truly meaningful, and prompting us all to think deeply. Keep it up!”

- Robin Mamlet, Dean of Admission, Stanford University

“I tried to find you after your speech but the fans were rushing the stage. For change to occur, there has to be someone like you. And I’m glad it is you.”

- Jennifer Britz, Dean of Admission, Kenyon College
“You are an optimist, a visionary, an idealist determined to improve college admissions—the best kind of professional.”
   - Frank Sachs, Director of College Counseling, The Blake School.

“Your eloquent message is greatly appreciated. I cherish your idealism and inspiration.”
   - George Lynes, Dean of Enrollment, Elms College

“You were great. You need to bottle your message and enthusiasm and sell it to all of us.”
   - Linda Clement, Trustee of The College Board and Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Maryland

“We voted you MVP of the NACAC conference.”
   - Ted O’Neill, Dean of Admission, University of Chicago

“Your ideas and enthusiasm have inspired many.”
   - Peter Campbell, College Counselor, York School

“You are the conscience of the profession.”
   - Rick Shaw, Dean of Admission, Yale University

“At last, a voice for us all.”
   - Sandy Padgett, College Counselor, The Harker School

“Our college’s president thinks your ideas are brilliant.”
   - Cal Mosley, Assistant to the President, College of Saint Catherine

“What an absolutely necessary campaign. Get an agent.”
   - Sandra Hayes, Dean of Admission, Santa Clara University

Excerpts from College Unranked endorsements

“The most important effort yet to yank back the college application/admission process ... and to restore it where it belongs: in the hands of students and parents.”
   - Bob Laird, Former Director of Undergraduate Admission, UC Berkeley

“... required reading for every parent, counselor and aspiring student... more honest helpful, and important than any guidebook or ranking magazine...”
   - Leon Botstein, President, Bard College

“The truth could set you free!... Full of excellent observations and advice.”
   - Richard H. Shaw, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Yale University