

The Forum

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWS AND INFORMATION

FROM THE DESK OF OACC PRESIDENT DR. RON ABRAMS



Dr. Ron Abrams
OACC President

As deliberations on the Fiscal Years' 12/13 state operating budget progress, community colleges are positioned to continue moving toward our goals of improving student access and success, and expanding job creation initiatives across Ohio.

Much of the work in which we have been engaged through the Strategic Plan is reflected in the expressed visions of Governor John Kasich and Chancellor Jim Petro. Their policy agendas support our goals of continuing to improve access and affordability, raising the educational attainment of our constituents, and aligning the skills and training of our graduates with the needs of employers. This shared vision also maintains support for funding performance.

The proposed budget also contains a slight shift of State Share of Instruction (SSI) funding toward community colleges as recognition of the rising demand for our services.

While the shift in funding is not nearly adequate to replenish funding lost through one-time federal stimulus dollars, the proposed 9% reduction to our sector is significantly less than anticipated. In comparison, our four-year counterparts are receiving closer to a 14% reduction.

While we had also hoped that the substitute budget bill (Sub. House Bill 153)

would provide us with some additional tuition flexibility, the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) is moving forward optimistically with advocacy efforts in both chambers of the Ohio legislature in hopes of gaining additional changes that will help our colleges remain fiscally solvent.

There is still light at the end of the tunnel. I would encourage us all to focus on the gain we have made in SSI funding. This gesture affirms that our contribution to the State is vital and more importantly, that Ohioans and our students are depending on us to help them weather these challenging economic times.

Together we will continue to make strides toward our goals and policy objectives, and the OACC will continue to advocate on your behalf. I ask for your continued assistance of our efforts through your own engagement with policymakers. Collectively, we are helping to plant the seeds for goodwill toward community colleges that will inevitably lead to a groundswell of support benefiting students, institutions, and our sector as a whole.

As always, the OACC is here to serve your needs. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,
Ron Abrams

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS & THE KASICH ADMINISTRATION

As the new administration continues to settle in and get to work, one area of great interest to Ohio's community colleges is how Governor Kasich and his team will handle the appointment process for new college trustees.

With many institutions currently working to fill vacancies on their board and get new trustees confirmed, knowing who to speak with and where to find additional information on this process can be helpful. To that end, information has been included in this section for institutions looking to get new trustees appointed and confirmed, as well as for future use.

The new Board and Commissions Director for Gov. Kasich is Jeff Polesovsky. He may be reached by phone at (614) 644-0860, or

by email at Boards.Commissions@governor.ohio.gov.

As part of the appointment process, colleges must complete an application for each nominee that is to be submitted to Mr. Polesovsky. A downloadable copy of the application is available online by [clicking here](#).

Completed applications may be returned by fax at (614) 466-9354, by mail to 77 S. High Street, 30th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215, attention of Jeff Polesovsky or Boards and Commissions, or by email at Boards.Commissions@governor.ohio.gov.

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COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

BELMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

LAURA DOTY

Belmont Technical College offers a comprehensive array of credit and non-credit programming at the main campus in St. Clairsville, OH. In addition to the main campus, courses are also offered at locations in Monroe and Harrison Counties.

In a recent edition of *Community College Week* Belmont was recognized as one of the fastest-growing public two-year colleges with enrollment just under 2,500. According to Integrated Postsecondary Education System data, Belmont's enrollment grew by 21 percent from fall quarter 2008 through fall quarter 2009.

To serve the multiple needs of area citizens, the College offers the Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) transfer degrees as well as more than 28 applied associate degrees and 13 certificate programs. In addition, the Workforce and Economic Development Department offers classes for those seeking a specific skill-set quickly and without completing a degree or certificate.

Although many students live locally, Belmont's Health Science programs attract students from other parts of the state and country as well. Notable is their Building Preservation/Restoration (BPR) program which prepares students for careers nationwide, teaching them basic trades that are used to preserve and restore historic structures.

Belmont's BPR program is one of the oldest and most recognized programs of its kind in the nation. The program's emphasis on "hands-on" learning has established its curriculum as a national model for traditional trade's education.

Recently, Belmont BPR students worked on a project in the local community to restore the historical downtown St. Clairsville Public Library's front windows. BPR students not only have opportunities to work on local projects but also national preservation and restoration projects. Some previous national projects completed by Belmont students include work on the Octagon House in Washington, D.C. and Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater in Bear Run, PA.

1997 graduate Carol Richerdson represents just one of the many success stories that has emerged from Belmont's BPR program. "The BPR program exposed me to many wonderful opportunities," said Richerdson. "I chose to enroll at Belmont because I wanted to experience new things and go new places. I enrolled in a course that took us to different historic places and that class changed my life. One of the locations we visited was the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello in Charlottesville, VA, where I currently work as a restoration

specialist. As I approach my 13th year at Monticello, I am appreciative of BTC's BPR program because I have a great job that I love."

Belmont students are not the only ones providing success stories. Faculty also has noteworthy accomplishments. After attending class sessions December 6-10, 2011 in Washington, D.C. and passing a four hour test, Belmont Associate Professor of Information Technologies, Jackie Driscoll, was certified by the International Council of E-Commerce Consultants as an Ethical Hacker.

"It is certainly an asset for Belmont that Jackie Driscoll has achieved this innovative certification," said Dr. Brenda Lohri-Posey, Executive Dean of Academic Affairs. "Mrs. Driscoll researched and developed the curriculum for the Cyber Security and Computer Forensics program and is the lead professor for the security and computer forensic courses."

The Associate of Applied Science, Information

Technology - Cyber Security and Computer Forensics program is Belmont's newest Information Technology degree. This degree is designed to propel students into an entry-level position in network security. Through the program, individuals gain a wide range of experience, networking skills, and cross-training.

The many success stories of both faculty and students can be attributed to the mission, vision and values adopted

by BTC. Belmont's mission is to provide affordable higher education to students in a learner-centered environment and offer educational opportunities in college preparation, technical education programs and transfer degrees. The College also provides community leadership that promotes programs for economic development, career advancement, workforce development and community education that are responsive to business and industry.

BTC's vision affirms that they will be responsive to regional and state needs by providing higher education and leadership for growth and change. The values of BTC acknowledge that they are a learning organization that embraces a culture of continuous knowledge acquisition, integrity, openness, caring and respect for all. Further, access, affordability and quality are operational values that inspire them to be their best. They are continuously transforming in order to respond to changing community, regional and state needs.

For more information about Belmont Technical College, please visit their website at <http://www.btc.edu/>.



Belmont Technical College

HONDA MARKS 10-YEAR INVOLVEMENT WITH ALL-OHIO

The OACC recently hosted its 2011 All-Ohio Academic Scholarship Program (AOASP). Established in 1997, the AOASP provides statewide recognition and scholarships to community college students demonstrating leadership, high academic achievement, and community service involvement.

In recognition of the value these students bring to Ohio, Honda Manufacturing of America (Marysville, OH) has provided more than \$150,000 in scholarship donations to the AOASP award recipients since 2002. This makes Honda the largest single donor in the history of this program.

This year marked Honda's 10th year sponsorship of the AOASP. Once again, in recognition of outstanding community college students, Honda awarded the AOASP with a \$105,000 grant which funded this year's program and will fund the AOASP for the next two years.

Honda's generous contribution ensures that each student recognized receives a scholarship, and in some cases, enables organizers to increase the scholarship amounts awarded to students, starting this year.

This year, 10 First Team members, 10 Second Team members and 36 Third Team members were honored and received awards and scholarships in the following amounts: \$1,000 for First Team members, \$500 for Second Team members and \$250 for Third Team members. For Third Team members

this represents a \$150 increase from the amount members received last year.

To date, more than \$200,000 in scholarships has been awarded to hundreds of outstanding two-year college students through the AOASP.

"The All-Ohio Academic Program is a wonderful event that not only recognizes the success of community college students in the classroom, but also their accomplishments and hard work outside the classroom," said Libby Villavicencio, Executive Director for the Center of Development. "The support provided by Honda will ensure

the continuation of this important program and also enables us to expand the scholarship offerings."

The OACC looks forward to continuing the AOASP into the future and would like to once again thank Honda for its generosity and enduring partnership.

HONDA

The Power of Dreams



THE OACC IN PICTURES: AROUND OHIO



Above: Eastern Gateway Community College nursing students wear red for National Wear Red Day, to promote heart health and create awareness for women's heart disease. Participating, front, from left, are Ericka Guz (instructor); Leah Bell, Becca Grubick, Stephanie Foresha, Rosetta Tate, Sara Henry, and Rhiannon Faulkner; back, Yvonne Dehnart, Glenda Romeo, Anthony Tassej, Amanda Jenkins, Katie Hanle, Shelley Johnston, Debby Generous and Stephanie Kimble.



Above: Cincinnati State Community College President Dr. O'dell Owens (left), recognizes faculty and staff who have been with the college for 10 years.

Left: On October 8, 2010, Terra State Community College held the official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Skilled Trades Center. Pictured, from left to right, are Board Chair Susan Starr, President Dr. Marsha S. Bordner, Chancellor Eric Fingerhut and Board Vice Chair Carl Koebel.

Below: Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) recognizes employees and community visionaries with COTC's inaugural Legends of Loyalty award during the College's 40th anniversary celebration on January 29, 2011. Pictured from front, left to right, are Ann Fryman, accepting on behalf of her late father, COTC founding Board member, Howard E. LeFevre; Alex Roletta, first accounting faculty member; Kay Duncan, former registrar; Sarah Reese Wallace, COTC Board member, who accepted the award on behalf of her father, founding and long-time Board member J. Gilbert Reese; John Merrin, former director of enrollment; Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D., COTC president; Amy Bishoff, resource planning analyst; Cathie Clippinger, resource planning analyst.



If you have photos you would like included in future issues, please send them electronically to OACC Director of Public Affairs Jacquelin Lewis at jlewis@ohioacc.org.



WORKFORCE

EMSI Resources

The research firm Economic Modeling Specialists Inc. (EMSI), has compiled some great resources and information that are available for your use. For your convenience, links to some of the more recent postings are included below.

- [*Fastest Growing Occupations*](#)
- [*Top Grossing Training Programs*](#)
- [*A Different Take on Today's Labor Market*](#)

Ohio's Workforce: Industry Sector Employment

Manufacturing is 19.3% of annual payroll in the state. Healthcare & Social Assistance 16.1%. Collectively, these industries make up over 35% of the payroll for Ohio's workforce.

Study: Students Need More Paths to Career Success

Only one-third of jobs created in the coming years will need a bachelor's degree or higher. Roughly the same amount will need an associate's degree or an occupational credential. To view the report, [click here](#).

Recent Moves

- Tre Waldon is the new Rhodes State College Executive Director of Development
- Jayme Maley joined Eastern Gateway Community College as Director of Institutional Advancement
- R.J. Konkoleski was named Director of Development for Belmont Technical College
- Diane Hopper recently joined Cincinnati State Technical and Community College as Development Director
- Effective July 1, Nicole Roades, Southern State Community College, is transitioning from Executive Director of Planning to Vice President for Institutional Advancement
- Madeline Iseli, Sinclair State Community College, is the new Vice President of Advancement and formally the Chief of Staff

RESOURCES

The Foundation Center Online Directory

The Foundation Center is willing to provide a special bulk discount for us to purchase annual subscriptions to use Foundation Directory Online Professional (FDO). For additional information and to review the details of FDO, [click here](#). Contact the Center's Executive Director Libby Villavicencio if you are interested.

Grants News Digest

If you haven't done so already, sign up for email alerts from *Community College Times*, a publication of the American Association of Community Colleges. You can sign up [here](#).

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Ron Abrams

President, OACC

Michael A. Bernal

Chairman and CEO, Regent Systems, Inc., Dayton

Barbara Gould

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Dr. John O'Donnell

President, Stark State College of Technology, Canton

Rico A. Pietro

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Partner, Schottenstein, Zox, and Dunn, Co., LPA, Columbus

Dr. Rea Waldon

Executive Director, Ohio River Valley Women's Business Council

Senior Vice President, Urban League of Greater Cincinnati

GET CONNECTED





CAPITAL INSIDER

A Perspective on State and Federal Politics from the Viewpoint of Key Leaders & Insiders

Each quarter, *The Forum* invites key leaders and insiders to share their views and opinions on policies and issues that have a direct impact on Ohio's community colleges. This quarter we are pleased to welcome Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives William Batchelder.



As Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and a lifelong resident of Ohio, I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to live in this great state where I raised my family. There are many things about Ohio that are a source of pride for me and for many other Ohioans, from our long history of innovation to our talented, resilient citizenry. But one of the greatest things about living in Ohio is our rich, diverse higher education system that has guided some of our brightest minds.

As you know, the backbone of the competitive 21st century economy is based on our ability to successfully train our workforce and give citizens the tools to thrive in their careers. The economic stability of our state is very much dependent on the quality of jobs and industries that are available here, and one of the major drivers behind a strong, capable workforce is a comprehensive education designed to prepare students for the challenges they will face on a daily basis.

I cannot speak more highly about Ohio's higher education institutions—from four-year universities to community colleges—that offer a variety of options to meet every Ohioan's needs. As a state, we are blessed with some of the finest college and university systems in the nation, which is a testament to our eagerness to build a brighter future for Ohio by fostering a world-class higher education system.

In particular, the role of community colleges in our state economy is significant. From Youngstown to Cincinnati, people from

all across our state are enrolling in community colleges and confirming a very valid reality: four-year institutions aren't for everyone.

Although four-year institutions receive a lot of the discussion as "traditional" means of higher education, our two-year community colleges are critical components of Ohio's educational standard. In fact, community colleges are responsible for educating a large bulk of our state's professional trades in some of our most prominent sectors.

"The role of community colleges in our state economy is significant. From Youngstown to Cincinnati, people from all across our state are enrolling in community colleges and confirming a very valid reality: four-year institutions aren't for everyone."

There are currently 23 community colleges in Ohio that serve more than 300,000 students each year. These institutions play a vital role in fostering a creative, capable workforce that can lead our state into the modern economy. About half of Ohio's job openings are middle-skill jobs, which require more than a high-school diploma but less than a bachelor's degree. In order to meet this degree of specialized training, community colleges are key players in our state's educational portfolio because they train some of our most vital workers, including firefighters, police officers, EMTs and healthcare workers.

In addition to developing a strong labor force, community colleges also satisfy the important task of giving many unemployed Ohioans the opportunity to go back to school to earn a degree or to broaden their skill set. Community colleges offer convenient

campus locations, relatively low tuition and comprehensive courses, which all allow individuals the flexibility to study at any point in their lives. For many Ohioans, it would be impossible to enroll in and afford a four-year college education while also running a household, working full-time or part-time, or paying a mortgage and other financial obligations. The responsive nature of community colleges has made it possible to continue your education without neglecting your other responsibilities.

Many community colleges also offer career training through customized courses that provide students with specific skills and remedial training to make them more competitive and marketable in the workplace. Making it convenient for Ohioans to enhance their job skills has made it possible to keep our citizens resilient despite the economic downturn.

I wholeheartedly believe that investing in education today will create a superior workforce tomorrow, and it has always been and continues to be one of my top priorities to keep our centers of higher education strong so we can foster a nationally recognized workforce. Our colleges and universities hold the key to our state's success, and we should not let this potential atrophy or go to waste.

Over the next two years, the Ohio Legislature will be considering numerous proposals to make our state more competitive and create the sort of job market that can sustain the high-quality graduates our community colleges produce. I look forward to working closely with Ohio's community colleges as we strive to bring about a state economy where our talented graduates can find rewarding careers right here in our borders and remain competitive in the 21st century.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. For more information, or to use the OACC Conference Room for your next meeting, contact Kesha Brown at kbrown@ohiocc.org or (614) 221-6222. Additional information is available online at www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org.

May

- 20 **Presidents' Meeting**
OACC Offices
- 26-27 **OACC Annual (Spring) Conference**
Embassy Suites, Columbus, Ohio
- 26-27 **Center for Development Annual (Spring) Conference**
Embassy Suites, Columbus, Ohio
- 26 **OACC Excellence Awards Gala**
Columbus, Ohio

June

- 17 **Presidents' Meeting**
OACC Offices

July

- 15 **Presidents' Meeting (TENTATIVE)**
OACC Offices

August

- 19 **Presidents' Meeting (TENTATIVE)**
OACC Offices

OACC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Trustee, Edison Community College

Matt Smith

Chair Elect
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Vice Chair
President, Lakeland Community College

Dr. John O'Donnell

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President, Stark State College of Technology

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Belmont Technical College • Central Ohio Technical College • Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

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Marion Technical College • North Central State College • Northwest State Community College • Owens Community College

James A. Rhodes State College • Rio Grande Community College • Sinclair Community College • Southern State Community College

Stark State College of Technology • Terra State Community College • Washington State Community College • Zane State College