

## 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 we move into a new budget cycle, marked by the success of our collective efforts, I would like to thank each of you for your participation in the budget process. I am confident that our teamwork and speaking as one voice brought about gains that we would not have otherwise achieved.

While we all recognize the significant fiscal challenges imposed by this budget on our sector, it is important to consider that community colleges fared better than many other agencies and sectors, including four-year institutions.

In terms of budgetary changes, community colleges received a nine percent reduction to State Share of Instruction funding compared to universities which received a 14 percent reduction. Moreover, the legislature's positive response to our need for greater tuition flexibility is helping to alleviate some of the financial challenges facing our sector by allowing in-need institutions to fiscally recalibrate their funding models.

As many of you are aware, this current biennium also ushers in some significant policy shifts that are sure to impact how we do business. Changes made to Ohio's construction and prevailing wage laws will affect the structure of capital projects on our campuses; and an increased acceleration of the timeline for phasing out the Tangible Personal Property Tax requires modifi-

cations to institutions' future funding plans which many of you are currently working through. The impact of some of these policy shifts, such as new policies impacting higher education remediation processes, are yet to be determined.

Even with these significant changes, Ohio's community colleges emerged from the budget process fiscally solvent and well-positioned to continue the good work we are doing to increase student success and align Ohio's future workforce with Ohio's workforce needs.

I am personally excited about our present opportunity to work with Jobs Ohio to increase the visibility of our workforce development programs and better align incentives for colleges and businesses to work together.

Job creation and alignment is a central theme of Governor John Kasich's administration and has long been a focus of community colleges. The current climate in Ohio is creating an unprecedented moment in our history to raise awareness about what we do, have been doing and how we can and will continue to do it better to help Ohio regain its economic competitiveness.

Again, thank you for all your hard work throughout the budget process. I look forward to continuing to work alongside you in the months ahead as we move Ohio and its community colleges forward.

Sincerely,  
Ron Abrams

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### PELL GRANT UPDATE

Congress has finally wrapped up a rather lengthy debate on a federal appropriations bill that maintains Pell Grant funding for the neediest of college students.

In June the ACCT encouraged community colleges across the nation to participate in the "Stand Up for Pell" national campaign aimed at protecting the Pell Grant program from a reduction. The OACC, along with many of you, responded to this call to action by sending letters to Ohio's Congressional delegation urging them to support investments in the Pell Grant program for the upcoming academic year.

Our collective efforts produced a major victory for Pell and the many community college students assisted by this educational funding.

In short, the bill provides \$10 billion for the Pell Grant program in FY 12 and another \$7 billion in FY 13. This enhancement in funding shores up an anticipated \$11 billion shortfall and maintains Pell at its current maximum award amount of \$5,550 per student per academic year.

While Pell maintained the support of Congress this time, the fight to protect Pell is far from over. Congress is expected to convene meetings of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction this fall tasked with trimming the federal deficit by another \$1.5 trillion.

The OACC will be monitoring this action closely and advocating for the maintenance of investments in the Pell Grant program.

# COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

## TERRA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JILL FICK

Terra Community College is a unique blend of attractive and welcoming grounds and buildings, state-of-the-arts labs and classrooms, and experienced and caring faculty and staff.

Because Terra knows its students now live and work in a global community, the College is committed to dynamic transformation through innovation, collaboration and leadership.

Offering more than 100 degree and certificate programs, a wide variety of non-credit classes, and KidsCollege and ElderCollege sessions, Terra is the educational destination for a wide array of students.

Degrees run the gamut from business management to nuclear power technology and from early childhood education to law enforcement. Students can also complete two years and transfer those credits to four-year colleges and universities.

The landscape at Terra is evolving, in terms of student population, physical structures and future expectations as well. It all makes for exciting times at the College.

“We have new facilities, record enrollment, and a vision for the future that motivates us to dream big,” said Dr. Marsha S. Bordner, Terra President. “I’m excited to see what our faculty, staff and students can accomplish in the next few years through collaboration and an entrepreneurial spirit.”

Enrollment numbers continue to be strong, with increases each term since 2007. It reinforces the fact that Terra is providing valuable education and skills that improve the community.

Fall semester 2010 saw an enrollment jump of 11.7 percent. As a result, for the first time, Terra broke through the 3,500-student mark. With 6.5 percent more students in the Spring of 2011 as compared to 2010, Terra’s 3,541 students comprised the largest spring enrollment ever.

The student body at Terra also continues to evolve. The College has experienced a 22.1 percent increase in the number of students aged 40+. And now there are more students in the 25-39 cohort (34.9 percent of student population) than the 18-24 category (31.1 percent).

More students are embracing flexibly-scheduled, hybrid and distance learning classes. Terra will continue to explore offerings in these delivery methods as it strives to

help its students complete their coursework on their schedules.

To continue to build on these successes, Terra has constructed a new facility and is nearly finished with a major renovation project in another.

Last fall, Terra opened its first new building in 10 years. The Skilled Trades Center is a model of the College’s continued commitment to the trades, such as HVAC, welding and automotive technologies.

With the relocation of the skilled trades programs from Building D to the new building, renovation began early this year to create two new wings for the allied health, music and arts programs. Classes are being scheduled in the new Arts and Health Technologies Center (Building D) for fall classes that begin Aug. 22, and everyone anticipates a visually stunning and academically efficient building.

The centerpiece of the Fine and Performing Arts Center is a studio complex that will allow students to experience cutting edge technology in the production and editing of musical compositions/performances. The Choral Society will rehearse in a brand new recital hall while art students will display their work in a new exhibit space.

The Nursing and Allied Health wing will house a variety of programs – all focused on providing students with training leading to solid employment. Terra’s nursing students, nearly 100 strong, will learn in an environment that simulates a hospital.

Medical Assisting students will learn what it is like to work in a doctor’s office. Terra will offer Physical Therapist Assisting on our campus for the first time this fall. Our Clinical Laboratory Science and Health Information Technology students will also enter brand new labs in August.

Planning is the key to everything Terra does. That’s why every five years, the College spends an extensive amount of time on strategic planning. The latest plan is complete and now everyone is eager to begin instituting it.

At the end of the day, the goal is to chart a rich and diverse future for Terra Community College because a thriving Terra is economically, educationally and socially vital to the communities it serves.

For more information about Terra, visit their website at [www.terra.edu](http://www.terra.edu).



*Terra Community College*

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Richard “Rich” Petrick retired from the Ohio Board of Regents (OBR) as Vice Chancellor for Finance and Data Management in 2010 after more than 20 years of service with the OBR. During his tenure at the OBR, Mr. Petrick served in a number of leadership capacities, including Budget Director and Associate Vice Chancellor of Finance.

Recently, Mr. Petrick reentered the world of higher education following his appointment to Executive Director of the Business Alliance for Higher Education and the Economy (BAHEE).

BAHEE is a 501(c)(3) and affiliate of the Ohio Business Roundtable focused on developing and implementing public policies in higher education that help to attract, cultivate, train and produce the next generation of talented innovators who will in turn grow Ohio’s economy.

Mr. Petrick brings to his new position considerable experience in higher education policymaking. As Vice Chancellor at the OBR he was primarily responsible for developing and administering the higher education operating and capital budgets. He also directed the OBR’s



*Rich Petrick  
Executive Director of  
BAHEE*

financial review of public colleges and universities and oversaw the development and use of the higher education information system, HEI.

Prior to his stint with the OBR, Mr. Petrick served the Ohio General Assembly in the non-partisan Ohio Legislative Budget Office (LBO) where he initially staffed the House Finance and Appropriations Committee and Controlling Board.

Later, as Division Chief at LBO, he supervised staff in the Education, Environmental, and Criminal Justice program areas.

Prior to 1985, Mr. Petrick was a lecturer in Political Science at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, a researcher for the St. Paul, Minnesota Police Department, and a journalist for the Lorain Journal.

Following a season of inactivity, the appointment of Mr. Petrick marks the dawning of a new day for BAHEE to resume their important charge of advancing Ohio’s economy.

The OACC greatly looks forward to partnering with Mr. Petrick to advance Ohio’s higher education system through innovative solutions that better align Ohio’s workforce with Ohio’s workforce needs.

## THE OACC IN PICTURES: 2011 SPRING EXCELLENCE AWARDS



**Above:** Contingency from Owens Community College, featuring (from left to right) Charlene Gilbert (ACE Fellow), Ron McMaster (Trustee), Diana “Dee” Talmage (Trustee), John Moore (Trustee), Allan Libbe (Trustee), Ruth McDougale (Dr. McDougale’s wife & guest), Dr. Larry McDougale (President of Owens Community College).

**Right:** (Left to Right) Gene MacDonald (Zane State Trustee) and Dr. Paul Brown (President) pose with Daniel Kieffer, an Excellence Award Nominee.



**Above:** Edison Community College Board of Trustee and OACC Chair Darryl Mehaffie congratulates Anthony Shreve who was nominated by Eastern Gateway Community College for an Excellence Award.

**Left:** The OACC honors’ Cuyahoga Community College Trustee, Nadine Feighan with an award. (Left to Right) Dr. Ron Abrams (President of OACC), Nadine Feighan (Trustee) and Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton (President of Cuyahoga Community College).



**Below:** (Left to Right) H.M. “Tre” Waldren (Executive Director, Development, Rhodes State Community College), Dr. Narcisa Polonio (VP for Education, Research & Board Leadership Services, ACCT), Vega Subramaniam (Project Coordinator, GISS, ACCT), Micki Vollmer (Rhodes State Trustee).



*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](mailto:jlewis@ohioacc.org).*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Advisory Committee Meetings:

Friday, August 19, 2011

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Location: OACC Offices

Friday, November 4, 2011

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

### Board Meetings:

All board meetings are held the last Wednesday of every third month from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the OACC Offices unless otherwise noted. The next scheduled meetings are:

August 31, 2011

November 30, 2011

### Regional Foundation/Institutional Advancement Meetings:

*(All invited)*

#### Central Region

Friday, September 2, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

#### North Region

Friday, September 16, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Lorain County Community College

#### South Region

September 23, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

### Survey Results Coming Soon!

In a recent survey of Institutional Advancement officers, when asked to whom they report, 88.9% reported to the College President.

Please visit [www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org](http://www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org) and look under the Center for Development tab for complete survey results.

## RESOURCES

### CASE Center for Community College Advancement

is now providing a lower membership structure for community colleges:

Full-time Equivalent (FTE)	Annual Base Dues
0 - 499	\$390
500 - 1,999	\$550
2,000 - 4,999	\$790
5,000 - 9,999	\$1,150
10,000 - 19,999	\$1,525
20,000+	\$1,825

CASE also offers a 25% discount on publication orders of 10 or more copies. CASE members also receive deeper discounts and I am a CASE member. In the event that I would order for the group, I would receive a bulk shipment and get the materials out to each purchaser.

Several of you have expressed an interest in the following book: *CASE Reporting Standards & Management Guidelines for Educational Fundraising*.

This book may be found on the CASE website at [http://www.case.org/Publications\\_and\\_Products/CASE\\_Store/CASE\\_Reporting\\_Standards\\_and\\_Management\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_Educational\\_Fundraising.html](http://www.case.org/Publications_and_Products/CASE_Store/CASE_Reporting_Standards_and_Management_Guidelines_for_Educational_Fundraising.html)

The book's regular price is \$70.95. With a member discount, it is \$49.95. OACC members would receive an additional 25% off for any group purchase of 10 or more copies. The price per book would be approximately \$37.50 (this total excludes shipping costs).

If you would like a copy, please let me know. We need to order seven or more to receive the discount price.

## 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 Chancellor Jim Petro.



Jim Petro  
Board of Regents  
Chancellor

It has been an honor to serve as the newly appointed Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Upon taking office in March, my staff and I immediately became engaged in State budget

discussions with several key goals in mind for higher education: to increase the educational attainment of Ohioans, to better align higher education curriculum to the needs of employers, and to provide a more seamless transition from K-12 to post-secondary education. The higher education initiatives included in the state budget provide an excellent means for Ohio to aggressively pursue these goals.

In spite of the tight financial times, higher education fared better than other sectors in the 2012-2013 State budget. A priority was placed on funding for Ohio's community and technical colleges which are seeing rapid enrollment growth. An effort was made during the budget process to retain one of our state's most powerful assets - access and affordability - placing a cap on tuition for 4-year public colleges of 3.5 percent, and allowing our community and technical colleges to raise tuition by \$200 over the previous year's rates.

We must engage as many individuals as possible in seeking attainment of degrees. The Forever Buckeye program now ensures that any Ohio high school graduate who left the state will be immediately granted in-state tuition rates if they return to Ohio.

The budget also provides funding for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant - a need-based financial aid program which provides assistance to tens of thousands of students. We also have assurance of full funding of the Ohio National Guard Scholarship for those who serve our country. And, Ohio's 4-year universities must now provide plans showcasing methods students can follow to earn a traditional degree in three years.

*"Upon taking office...I immediately became engaged in State budget discussions with several key goals in mind for higher education: to increase the educational attainment of Ohioans, to better align higher education curriculum to the needs of employers, and to provide a more seamless transition from K-12 to post-secondary education."*

The budget does much to get out of the way of innovation at community colleges and universities. Ohio's public institutions of higher education will enjoy an expanded ability to hold equity in inventions developed by faculty members - a great incentive to develop the cutting-edge products and processes of tomorrow, along with potential for new streams of revenue. Ohio's colleges and universities have new freedom in their management of capital construction projects, leading to significant cost savings. These are important steps toward driving innovation and reducing mandates and their resulting expenses.

The budget also calls for my office to develop a Charter or Enterprise University Plan that will define how

our 4-year public institutions of higher learning can become an Enterprise University, earning increased freedom from overly burdensome regulations in return for a little less dependency on state financial support. The plan will be provided to the Ohio legislature on August 15 and available on our website at [www.OhioHigherEd.org](http://www.OhioHigherEd.org).

The future for our community colleges is bright. Increased and robust partnerships between our community colleges, universities and the business community are absolutely critical drivers of economic success in Ohio. I look forward to continuing our work with Ohio's 23 community colleges, their presidents and trustees, as well as with the Ohio Association of Community Colleges to ensure the continued success of our overall university system.

*"The budget does much to get out of the way of innovation at community colleges and universities. Ohio's public institutions of higher education will enjoy an expanded ability to hold equity in inventions developed by faculty members - a great incentive to develop the cutting-edge products and processes of tomorrow, along with potential for new streams of revenue."*

# 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@ohioacc.org](mailto:kbrown@ohioacc.org) or (614) 221-6222. Additional information is available online at [www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org](http://www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org).*

## September

- 8 **OACC Southeast Regional Trustee Meeting**  
*Rio Grande Community College*
- 8 **OACC CAO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 9 **OACC Presidents Meeting**  
*OACC Offices*
- 9 **OACC CFO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 13 **OACC Northeast Regional Trustee Meeting**  
*Lakeland Community College (Kirtland, OH)*

## October

- 4 **OACC Southwest Regional Trustee Meeting**  
*Clark State Community College (Springfield, OH)*
- 6 **OACC Northwest Regional Trustee Meeting**  
*Northwest State (Archbold, OH)*
- 13 **OACC CAO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 14 **OACC CFO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 21 **OACC Presidents Meeting**  
*OACC Offices*

## November

- 1 **OACC Central Regional Trustee Meeting**  
*(TENTATIVE)*  
*TBD*
- 9 **OACC Legislative Reception**  
*Ohio Statehouse*
- 10 **OACC CAO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 18 **Joint OACC Presidents & Fall Governing Board Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 18 **OACC CFO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*

## December

- 8 **OACC CAO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 9 **OACC CFO Meeting**  
*Columbus, OH*
- 16 **OACC Presidents Meeting**  
*OACC Offices*

## OACC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### **Matt Smith**

*Chair*  
Trustee, North Central State College

### **Diana "Dee" Talmage**

*Chair Elect*  
Trustee, Owens Community College

### **Dr. Paul Brown**

*Vice Chair*  
President, Zane State College

### **Dr. Kevin Boys**

*Vice Chair Elect*  
President, Southern State Community College

### **Liz Gates**

*Secretary*  
Trustee, Belmont Technical College

### **Dr. Marsha Bordner**

*Treasurer*  
President, Terra State Community College

### **Micki Vollmer**

*Trustee Engagement & Leadership Chair*  
Trustee, James A. Rhodes State College

### **Dr. Roy Church**

*Legislative Committee Chair*  
President, Lorain Community College

### **Darryl Mehaffie**

*At-Large Trustee*  
Trustee, Edison Community College

### **Dr. Morris Beverage**

*At-Large President*  
President, Lakeland Community College

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

Clark State Community College • Columbus State Community College • Cuyahoga Community College • Eastern Gateway Community College

Edison Community College • Hocking College • Lakeland Community College • Lorain County Community College

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

Rhodes State College • Rio Grande Community College • Sinclair Community College • Southern State Community College

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