

# 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

Out with the old and in with the new.

This is an often-used saying around the turn of the New Year and I think it's quite appropriate as we look

at issues that will be affecting community colleges and, indeed, all of higher education.

Two issues swirling around state government will have great impact on our 23 community colleges: The upcoming Capital Bill and the proposed Mid-Biennium Budget Review.

### Capital Bill

Gov. John R. Kasich's administration has said it anticipates offering to the Legislature a Capital Bill in February or March.

As part of that offering, the Kasich administration has expressed its intent to move away from the formula that has traditionally provided capital funding to higher education. Office of Budget and Management Director Tim Keen has said that he expects the Capital Bill to be "restrained" in size and that the emphasis will be on renovations and repairs

to existing assets and not new construction.

On Dec. 13, Gov. Kasich and key members of his administration met with university and college presidents in Columbus to describe his approach to the Capital Bill.

Currently, a committee to be convened by Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee and to be made up of myself as the president of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges and Inter-University Council of Ohio President Bruce Johnson as well as Lakeland Community College President Morris Beverage, Zane State College President Paul Brown, Miami University President David Hodge and University of Toledo President Lloyd Jacobs will be meeting to develop a process for determining priorities for the Capital Bill. Recommendations are due to the Kasich administration by Feb. 15. Legislative consideration of the measure is expected to take place this spring.

The OACC will actively advocate for the needs of all of its members.

### Mid-Biennium Budget Review

The Kasich administration is also expected to offer to the

Legislature for its consideration a bill called the "Mid-Biennium Budget Review."

While not expected to be an appropriations bill, the Mid-Biennium Budget Review measure is expected to continue Gov. Kasich's desire for state government reform.

The proposal is expected to include provisions for:

- Streamlining programs and service delivery across a variety of state agencies.
- Enabling efficiencies within agencies that require changes to state law including, but not limited to, shared services.
- Making accounting changes that would improve processes and tracking. And,
- Any technical corrections that are necessary.

OBM indicates that the measure is expected to be introduced in the Legislature in February. Kasich administration officials say they hope the Legislature enacts the provisions by June 30.

The OACC will monitor developments surrounding this measure and bring you the latest on provisions that impact our members.

Sincerely,

Ron Abrams

## OACC TO HOLD 4TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE SYMPOSIUM

Mark your calendars for March 1 and March 2 for the Ohio Association of Community Colleges' Statewide Symposium in Columbus.

Come hear Katie Hern & Myra Snell, initiative leaders with the California Acceleration Project, present a two-day, interactive workshop to community college faculty from across the state.

The symposium is a continuation

of the Student Success Agenda conversations and will move the conversation from "data-driven" discussions to "how-to" techniques on helping students succeed in the classroom.

The California Acceleration Project, an initiative of the California Community Colleges' Success Network, is doing groundbreaking work on examining curricular sequences as a factor in Student Success.

Details of this informative two-day session are still being developed. Check the OACC Web site at

[www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org](http://www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org) soon for all the latest details and to register.



**Come and be a part of this important conversation!**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the President  
Front Page

OACC Holds Symposium  
Front Page

College Spotlight  
Page 2

ACCT Legislative Summit  
Page 3

OACCPA Update  
Page 3

Center for Development  
Page 4

Capital Insider  
Page 5

Upcoming Events  
Page 6

# COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT: COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CSCC MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE

## Columbus State strives for greater student success amidst new partnerships

By David Wayne, Media Relations Coordinator  
Columbus State Community College

While many students and community leaders have focused on the rapid growth of the Columbus State student body (increasing from 22,000 to nearly 32,000 in six years), the college is concentrating on increasing student success—measured by the number of students graduating with associate degrees, earning certificates for specific job skills, transferring successfully to four-year colleges and universities, or completing noncredit job-training programs.



And success is growing across the college.

During the past academic year, a record number of students (nearly 2,000) earned associate degrees, making Columbus State one of the top community colleges in the nation for the number of associate degrees awarded.

Dr. David Harrison oversees the college as Columbus State's fifth president. "Today's students must be more prepared for an ever-changing technological job market," says Harrison. "Community colleges are the front door to higher education and we must meet the growing demand that we improve completion and graduation rates so that our students succeed in whatever career move they want to achieve."

The focus on student success has led to the formation of a number of partnerships with colleges and universities, as well as high schools across central Ohio.

One of the most prominent is the Preferred Pathway Program with The Ohio State University.

"This partnership builds on Columbus State's open-door admissions and services to diverse students," says President Harrison. "More selective admissions at public and private universities and pressures on affordability have limited access to the bachelor's degree for many Ohioans."

Through the Preferred Pathway Program, students who have earned an associate degree will be guaranteed admission to Ohio State. To support those students, faculty from the two schools work together to broaden the Columbus State curriculum so that students have the academic foundation to succeed in a range of Ohio State baccalaureate degree programs. In addition, Ohio State and Columbus State advisors collaborate in advising

students well before they transfer.

The college has also established strong transfer programs with Franklin University, Ohio University, Otterbein University, and many others. The agreement with Franklin and OU are innovative 3+1 programs, where students pay Columbus State's lower tuition for three years yet still receive bachelor's degrees.

Columbus State and Ohio Wesleyan University—a selective liberal arts college in Delaware, Ohio—have even launched a new transfer program that is helping Columbus State graduates transfer to OWU.

The partnership with Ohio Wesleyan grew from Columbus State's newly expanded presence in Delaware County. Columbus State opened its Delaware Campus (the college's second campus) opened in 2010. That expansion also compliments nine suburban centers helping serving four central Ohio counties.

The new campus also helped attract The Ohio State University. OSU vacated a building it had leased in Delaware (as part of its Marion Campus) and now offers classes at Columbus State's Delaware Campus, expanding opportunities for Columbus State and Ohio State students.

Columbus State also is expanding partnerships with high schools in Columbus, Gahanna, Reynoldsburg and other districts to help students become college ready before they set foot on a college campus—and offering college-level classes to advanced high school students.

A new joint venture with Reynoldsburg High School offers a college-prep math course. The yearlong class is designed to teach seniors the math skills needed so that they do not have to waste time—and money—taking remedial classes when they get to college. If the pilot program is successful, it will be expanded to other schools and may be expanded to include English.

Another centerpiece for student success is in noncredit workforce development programs to help residents retrain and retool their job skills to better meet the needs of industry. One highly successful program recently has been in the logistics field. With funding from the U.S. Department of Labor, Columbus State has trained more than 300 people (most had been unemployed at least six months) for work in the rapidly growing logistics field—and most of the program's graduates are now working.

Also to meet community needs, work is under way to completely renovate Union Hall. The \$15 million project will add square footage and completely remake the 35-year-old structure, which is home to most of the college's medical programs.

All of the progress is a giant leap from Columbus State's roots. When it opened in the basement of Central High School in 1963 it offered just three, two-year programs for 67 students. Now with more than 200 degree and certificate programs—and with tuition rates that have not increased in six year (the only college in Ohio that can make that claim)—Columbus State is poised to expand its impact as the force behind the Central Ohio workforce.

## OHIO'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES GO TO WASHINGTON



From Feb. 13 through Feb. 16, community college leaders will be gathering in Washington, D.C. to learn about the latest policy priorities for community colleges at the Association of Community College Trustees Community College National Legislative Summit.

Community college leaders will be able to advocate with their congressional delegations on a host of issues ranging from increasing student success to financial resources for higher education to many others.

The 2012 Community College National Legislative Summit comes on the heels of tight budgetary times for higher education at the federal level and in communities across this great nation. As community colleges have faced difficult budgetary times, they have been working against the backdrop of record-high numbers of students seeking to further their education and workers looking for retraining.

Attendees will have the opportunity to highlight the importance of community colleges to our nation's economic strength with their representatives in Congress and in the Senate.

The OACC will sponsor a breakfast for OACC attendees on Wednesday, Feb. 15, from 7-8:15 a.m. in the Maryland A Room at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

The OACC will also be arranging meetings with Ohio's two United States senators – Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman. Details are pending. Keep an eye on OACC communications for further details.

It's important that trustees and community college presidents meet face-to-face with their representatives to be able to discuss the issues of the day. Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn about the community colleges federal legislative priorities through seminars and other break-out opportunities.

So, please consider attending the 2012 Community College National Legislative Summit. Your participation will be critical to ensuring that support for community colleges remains a viable federal priority.

## OACCPA UPDATE

By Nichelle Knox, Board Office Coordinator Cuyahoga Community College

The 2011 OACCPA 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held July 13 – 14, 2011 at the Central Ohio Technical College in Newark. I thank everyone who was available to attend. I know schedules are tight, especially in the summer, but this is a great opportunity to not only put a face with a name but to share best practices amongst ourselves.

Central Ohio Technical College was a fabulous host and we thank President Bonnie Coe and Jan Tomlinson so very much for providing a well-engaged event.

At this meeting, one item discussed was the consideration of a networking opportunity via conference call in the coming months and allowing for the addition of a hands-on workshop as part of our professional development activities. If you have any thoughts or comments on this subject, kindly send them to me at [Nichelle.Knox@tri-c.edu](mailto:Nichelle.Knox@tri-c.edu).

Officers elected for the 2011-2012 academic year are:

- President, Nichelle Knox, Board Office Coordinator Cuyahoga Community College
- Vice President, Julie MacLaine, Executive Assistant Zane State College

- Secretary, Leah Konopka, Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees  
Lakeland Community College
- Member-At-Large, Vacant
- Immediate Past President, Stephen Williams, Executive Assistant to the President  
North Central State College

If anyone is interested in accepting the Member-at-Large position, please let me know!

Responsibilities are primarily to fulfill the role of any officer who should become unable to fulfill their position.

Back row standing: Linda Shinn (Columbus State CC), Steve Williams (North Central State College), Heather Lanham (Edison CC), and Leah Dickinson (OACC)

Front row seated: Leah Konopka (Lakeland CC), Keshia Brown (OACC), Jan Tomlinson (Central Ohio Technical College), and Julie MacLaine (Zane State College)



# CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT

A CLOSER LOOK AT FOUNDATIONS ...

*In each issue, we will examine promising practices at our college foundations. In this issue, we focus on board development. Here is an excerpt from an evaluation of The Lakeland Foundation's "Next Generation" Program.*

By Bob Cahen, [bcachen@lakelandcc.edu](mailto:bcachen@lakelandcc.edu)  
Executive Director of The Lakeland Foundation

**The Next Generation Program** has proven successful in what it has done for the participants, for The Lakeland Foundation and for the community. While we've already seen substantial successes, the relationships we've built should result in continuing gains for many years to come.

Here are some of the factors that led to creation of the program:

1. Our Foundation and other nonprofits in our area seemed to have few younger people – under 40 or so – on their committees and boards.
2. Boards and committees seemed to draw primarily from a group of “known” 50+ year olds who were also mostly men.
3. Whether younger or older, it was clear that most board members knew little about fundraising, didn't want to do it and often didn't even see it as a part of the job of a committee or board member.
4. What fundraising they did often focused on going to the same people, the same foundations and the same corporations.

## **The Concept**

The Next Generation concept looks like this:

1. Recruit a cohort of “up and coming” young people selected based on – more than anything – their desire to make a difference in the community by serving on appropriate nonprofit boards or committees.
2. Train the members of the cohort concerning the nonprofit world generally and in nonprofits in our geographic area. (It was amazing how little they knew about this sector.)
3. Train the members of the cohort especially in fundraising; ensure that they know the importance of fundraising for nonprofits and for nonprofit volunteer leaders.
4. Work to have the members know each other and support each other through the learning process and the placement process.

## **Evaluation**

Here are some things we've learned:

1. The community includes a good number of quality younger people who want to make a difference, want to serve on boards and committees and are not afraid to do fundraising.
2. These people are in fact often “blocked” from serving on many boards and committees. That's not because the “powers that be” don't want younger people involved; it's often because they don't know younger people; it's often because they go with people and companies they already know...which are usually in their own demographic group.
3. If younger people in fact are accepted onto boards and committees, they are often not listened to, not taken seriously...resulting in frustration.
4. In fact, it often makes sense to put at least two of our Next Generation graduates on a particular board or committee so they can support each other.

## **Noted Fundraising Expert Headlines Center's December Event**

*By Libby Villavicencio, [lvillavicencio@ohioecc.org](mailto:lvillavicencio@ohioecc.org)  
Executive Director Center for Development*

Several community college fundraising professionals gathered on Dec. 1 at the OACC offices to hear from nationally-renown fundraising expert Gail Perry. ([www.gailperry.com](http://www.gailperry.com))

Sponsored by the Ohio Association of Community College's Center for Development, the session with Perry covered such important topics as Defining and Sharing Messages; Fundraising in Today's Environment and the role of boards in fundraising.

A much sought-after keynote speaker and workshop leader, Gail presents frequently at national and international conferences around the country and internationally. Gail is the author of the book “Fired Up Fundraising: Turn Board Passion into Action.”

The Perry event was one of many that the Center will have in the coming months that will appeal to foundation executive directors and development and grant officers.

Other upcoming Center events (Check the Center for Development and OACC website for more details!):

- Feb. 27: Comprehensive Foundation Board Development
- March 23: Prospect Research and Evaluation
- April 27: Building Business Partnerships
- May 21: Annual and Special Events
- June 29: Planned Giving



# CAPITAL INSIDER

*A Perspective on Ohio Politics from the Viewpoint of Key State Leaders*

*Each quarter, The Forum invites state leaders to share their views and opinions on policies and issues that have a direct impact on Ohio's community colleges.*

*We are pleased to welcome Jim Petro, Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, to The Forum to share his insight and perspectives the importance of attaining a college degree.*



*Jim Petro  
Chancellor*

If your New Year's Resolution is more about fattening your wallet than thinning your waistline, then I have a suggestion for you. Put "Finish College" at the top of your 2012 New Year's Resolution list.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, people who have earned an associate's degree will earn approximately \$5,000 more annually than those with only a high school diploma. Bachelor's degree holders earn almost \$20,000 more per year than those with only a high school diploma.

Right now, there are several thousand well-paying jobs available in Ohio that continue to be unfilled because the potential workforce does not have the education they need to qualify for those positions.

The University System of Ohio can provide the support needed to help you keep your resolution and finish college. The **Forever Buckeyes** program immediately extends in-state resident tuition rate to any Ohio high school graduate who left the state but returns

to enroll in an Ohio College. Ohio high school graduates are always welcome to attend college in Ohio.

The state also has a robust **credit transfer system**. This means many courses and programs taken at one Ohio public institution will be recognized as equivalent credit at other Ohio public institutions. So even if you don't live near the college you attended 20 years ago, you can enroll in a college that is closer to where you are located now and complete your degree. In 2010 and 2011, more than 40,000 students transferred within the University System of Ohio and saved an estimated \$46.1 million by completing credit at a lower cost institution.

Every course and every certificate is a building block in attaining career or technical certificate, an associate's and baccalaureate degree. The ability to transfer credit from one college to another enables students to follow diverse paths to attain their degree.

*"... people who have earned an associate's degree will earn approximately \$5,000 more annually than those with only a high school diploma."*

**Career-Technical Credit Transfer (CT<sup>2</sup>)** is another helpful program. It allows high school and adult career-technical students who successfully complete technical programs to receive college credit.

If you haven't started college yet, now is the time. The University System of Ohio can help with that too. Starting in 2012, public colleges and universities

in Ohio are required to offer **three-year degree plans** for 10 percent of their programs. That number will grow to 60 percent in 2014. A three-year degree also will help students complete their college education. A shortened time-frame to obtain a degree, in addition to the savings, will help students avoid or clear some of the hurdles they may encounter.

Completing your college education is a good resolution to put on your list. Keeping that resolution could help you accomplish some of those other resolutions, too, like "find a better job," "earn more money," "get organized," "get out of debt," "enjoy life more," and "learn something new."

## About the University System of Ohio

The University System of Ohio is the state agency that coordinates higher education in Ohio. The agency is directed by its Chancellor, who is a member of the Governor of Ohio's cabinet. The Chancellor, with the advice of the nine-member Board of Regents, provides policy guidance to the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly, advocates for the University System of Ohio and carries out state higher education policy.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. For more information, or to use the OACC Conference Room for your next meeting, contact Leah Dickinson at [ldickinson@ohiocc.org](mailto:ldickinson@ohiocc.org) or (614) 221-6222. Additional information is also available at [www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org](http://www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org).

### January

20 OACC Presidents' Meeting  
*OACC Offices, Columbus, Ohio*

### February

15 Ohio Delegation Breakfast at the ACCT National Legislative Summit  
Maryland Room A, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
*Washington D.C.*

17 OACC Presidents Meeting  
*OACC Offices, Columbus, Ohio*

### March

1-2 OACC Statewide Symposium  
*Details and Location, TBD, Columbus, Ohio*

14 OACC "One Voice" Legislative Day  
*Columbus, Ohio*

16 OACC Presidents Meeting  
*OACC Offices, Columbus, Ohio*

### April

20 OACC Presidents Meeting  
*OACC Offices, Columbus, Ohio*

26 All-Ohio Academic Luncheon  
*Columbus, Ohio*

### May

18 OACC Presidents Meeting  
*OACC Offices, Columbus, Ohio*

24 Excellence Awards Dinner (Held during the Annual Spring Conference)  
*Columbus, Ohio*

24-25 OACC Annual Spring Conference  
*Columbus, Ohio*

## OACC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Matthew P. Smith

*Chair*  
Trustee, North Central State College

### Diana H. (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 Comm. 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

*Legislation Committee Chair*  
President, Lorain County Community College

### Darryl D. Mehaffie

*At-Large Trustee*  
Trustee, Edison Community College

### Dr. Morris Beverage

*At-Large President*  
President, Lakeland Community College

## OACC STAFF

### Ron Abrams

*President*  
[rabrams@ohiocc.org](mailto:rabrams@ohiocc.org)

### Sarah Mouncey

*Administrative Assistant*  
[smouncey@ohiocc.org](mailto:smouncey@ohiocc.org)

### Mike Snider

*Project Coordinator*  
[mnsnider@ohiocc.org](mailto:mnsnider@ohiocc.org)

### Leah Dickinson

*Director of Operations*  
[ldickinson@ohiocc.org](mailto:ldickinson@ohiocc.org)

### Jeff Ortega

*Director of Public Affairs*  
[jortega@ohiocc.org](mailto:jortega@ohiocc.org)

### Libby Villavicencio

*Executive Director, Center for Development*  
[lvillavicencio@ohiocc.org](mailto:lvillavicencio@ohiocc.org)

175 South Third Street • Suite 560 • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • Office: 614-221-OACC (6222) • Fax: 614-221-6239

Belmont 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