



Ohio Association of Community Colleges

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

Helping more college students be successful.

It's not only the right thing to do, it also is the thrust of the new funding model that community college and university presi-

dents worked to develop for the 2014-2015 state operating budget that is to be unveiled by Gov. John R. Kasich in February and presented to the Ohio General Assembly for its consideration.

The governor asked Ohio's college and university presidents, under the leadership of Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee, to develop this new method of funding public institutions of higher education to move away from an enrollment-centered basis to one that is geared towards completion of credentials and other factors.

As more and more of the jobs of today and tomorrow require an education beyond high school, we need to make sure more students complete credentials with value in the job market.

The funding formula for community colleges developed and supported by Ohio's public higher education leadership calls for a greater portion of funding to be tied to course completion than the current formula in the first year of the proposed two-year state budget. At the same time, the proposal maintains a commitment to the access mission at our 23 community colleges.

This bold funding shift for the first year of the biennium that runs through June 2015 will give Ohio's community colleges the time necessary to improve the formula even more for the budget's second year.

Student Success Center

The OACC is dedicated to the advancement and implementation of sound policy and initiatives that work to ensure the success of community college students across the great state of Ohio.

Rooted in the belief that every person should have access to a high-quality college education, the OACC supports the mission of the state's community colleges to successfully prepare students for transfer and for

degrees and certificates. To that end, the OACC exists to advocate for Ohio's community colleges as well as serve as a resource for its member institutions.

In order to build on and expand the OACC's work with several initiatives of the Gates Foundation, the OACC applied for and received a grant from the Kresge Foundation to create the Ohio Community College Student Success Center which will:

- 1) Support our colleges as they reform remedial education,
- 2) Build institutional capacity for data-driven decision making and
- 3) Scale the evidence-based practices that have emerged from the various initiatives past, present and future in Ohio's community colleges.

Other Completion Initiatives

The OACC has joined forces with the **Ohio College Access Network** on the **AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches Initiative**.

The Completion Coaches initiative is designed to make an impact on college retention by providing hands-on guid-

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Ohio Association of Community Colleges

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OACC AND UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS MEET WITH GOVERNOR KASICH



Ohio's university and college presidents met with Gov. Kasich on Sept. 11 to hear the governor lay out his case for university and college operating funding to be based more on completion.

Ultimately, the Higher Education Funding Commission, which OACC leaders participated in, made what many consider were bold recommendations.

COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT: EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By Ann Koon
Director of Public Information
Eastern Gateway Community College

Eastern Gateway Community College opened a facility this fall in downtown Youngstown, less than three years after the college expanded its service district and changed its name.

Originally named Jefferson Community College, Eastern Gateway now serves its largest student body ever thanks in part to enlarging its district from one county to four counties (Columbiana, Jefferson, Mahoning and Trumbull). The fall headcount grew 3 percent, the largest recorded growth in the state. The college's enrollment in Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties grew from 174 in fall 2009 to 909 in fall 2012.

The new Valley Center site rests in the heart of downtown Youngstown. Renovation work continues on the space that includes classrooms, high tech labs, a math emporium, information commons, student commons, and student services offices. Classes began in the new space this fall, moving from a nearby career center.



EGCC's main campus in Steubenville

town Warren, but the demand for class space and other support services for the growing student body prompted the move to secure the college's own space.

To accomplish the venture, Eastern Gateway partnered with Higher Education Partners-EGCC Ohio. HEP-EGCC Ohio and college officials worked for nearly a year to find a permanent location for the Valley Center, which opened in 2009 in an education wing of a Youngstown medical center. In December 2011, the center was relocated to the fourth floor of the Choffin Career and Technical Center, where classes and labs quickly filled up.

The agreement between Eastern Gateway and HEP EGCC Ohio is the second of its kind in Ohio. (The first was with Cincinnati State Technical and Community College). In broad terms, it is a public private partnership that makes the college responsible for academic operations while putting HEP in charge of building renovations and certain operational aspects of the project.

“We're tremendously excited about the opportunity to solidify

our presence in downtown Youngstown,” said Dr. Laura Meeks, EGCC president. “Our goal is to offer affordable and accessible higher education to the Mahoning Valley residents. We continue to work to prepare students for the workforce needs of the region as well as preparing students to transfer to a four-year college or university.”

Eastern Gateway is also working with HEP-EGCC Ohio to relocate its Warren Center to a larger facility in downtown Warren.

“Anticipated growth at our Warren Center prompted our board of trustees to enlarge the college's agreement with HEP for the relocation of our Warren Center next year,” said Dr. Meeks.

As part of the college's relocation of the Valley Center to a permanent site, Eastern Gateway unveiled the new Gateway Grant, an economical opportunity to make higher education even more accessible for qualified high school graduates from Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties. The Gateway Grant will help more area residents reach their dreams of a college education and could save the qualified full-time student \$3,150 annually.

The college also is offering a Half-Off Tuition Grant for new students taking classes at its Valley Center in spring 2013.

“Now that we have brought a community college education closer to residents in the Mahoning Valley, we are trying to ease any economic barriers by providing these two new grants to residents in our service district,” said Meeks.

The Student Success agenda, in force on the Jefferson County Campus for many years, has spread to the college's other sites. This is especially true with Eastern Gateway's Developmental Education initiative for the redesign of all remedial math and English courses. The new curriculum that involves increased use of learning technologies and labs with less lecturers is now used at the Valley Center. This allows for more individualized, self-paced learning. The math redesign, for instance, uses MyMathLab modules, a 24-hour help line, and more hours of assistance with instructors at the Student Success Center.

During 2012, faculty already saw promising results from students in the newly designed courses. Students are more engaged and attendance is up. Students are doing more math themselves rather than just watching faculty do the math. These changes hold the promise of students earning better grades, completing more than one developmental education course within the semester, and moving more seamlessly on to college-level work.

ABRAMS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ance and assistance to 3,100 first-time community college students in need of remedial work and Pell-eligible on ten campuses in Ohio.

Also, OACC teamed up with the **Ohio Board of Regents** on developing the **Complete College Ohio** recommendations. The Complete College Ohio recommendations provide wide-ranging proposals to graduate more students. The report can be viewed here: <https://www.ohiohighered.org/completion>.

The Driving Success Initiative, a two-year grant funded initiative supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will allow the OACC to develop a research and evaluation program to identify policies and practices that have the most impact on Student Success.

EcoSummit 2012 Wrap Up

Finally, thanks to all of the community colleges that assisted the OACC with its presence at the **2012 EcoSummit** held in October in Columbus. Your efforts — and especially the efforts of **Lorain County Community College, Hocking College, Cincinnati State Technical & Community College, Cuyahoga Community College, Owens Community College** and **Columbus State Community College** for assisting with our booth equipment and with technical support— helped the OACC with its first ever trade show appearance, part of our statewide marketing program. The OACC booth was even recognized with a **Green Ribbon Award for Sustainable Booth Design** by EcoSummit organizers.

HUNDREDS OF FACULTY ATTEND OACC DECEMBER SYMPOSIUM ON STUDENT SUCCESS



OACC President Ron Abrams Addresses Symposium

More than 200 educators and others from community colleges across Ohio gathered in Columbus on Friday, Dec. 7 to discuss the latest in promoting student success at the **OACC's Statewide Symposium: Moving Forward Together**.

Community college faculty and others got to discuss many topics at the conference, held at the Columbus State Conference Center, including ways in which colleges can help more struggling students complete credentials with a value in the labor market.

Ruth Silon, the executive director of the OACC Student Success Center, reviewed the center's first few months of activity, which has included meeting with the Student Success staff of every community college in Ohio to learn more about their efforts.

The OACC Student Success Center plans to help community college faculty have further development opportunities and also to collect more information about the Student Success efforts in Ohio in the months ahead.

Also, another symposium is planned for the spring with topics and details still to be determined.



(Above) — AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches Discuss Their Experiences.



(Below) — OACC Student Success Center Executive Director Ruth Silon Talks to Symposium Participants.

Find out more about the OACC Student Success Center at www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org!

Connect With The Ohio Association of Community Colleges On Social Media!



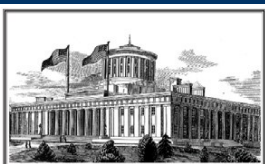
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CAPITAL INSIDER

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.

John Minor, President

and Chief Investment Officer of JobsOhio, offers his insight in this issue's "Capital Insider" column.

As 2012 drew to a close, Ohio emerged as one of the top three states for job creation.

Steady economic growth throughout the year has helped Ohio realize a gain of more than 73,000 jobs and a decreasing unemployment rate (6.8%) that is at its lowest since 2008.

All of that is good news, but much remains to be accomplished. The rest of the story is that while the unemployment rate has improved and the size of our labor pool is showing some signs of growth, much remains to be done. Fortunately there are a number of great opportunities to continue adding to the jobs gains in Ohio.

A linchpin for the state's economic success – and to regaining lost jobs – is a well-trained workforce, something Ohio has been long recognized for possessing. But technologies and business needs are rapidly changing. Company executives from within and outside the state are telling JobsOhio about their increasing need to fill higher-skilled jobs, especially those in advanced manufacturing and engineering.

Gov. John Kasich is aggressively addressing this issue and has made it a priority. He has been active in connecting businesses and the education community so that curriculums are designed around true workforce needs and produce graduates who are ready to step into waiting jobs for which they were trained.

Employing a model inspired by Germany's workforce training system, Gov. Kasich recently held a meeting in Columbus on this topic with U.S. German Ambassador Peter Ammon, representatives from JobsOhio, executives of companies with close ties to Germany, and with community college officials, including OACC President Ron Abrams.

One common theme we heard is the need to engage students at a young age and to have the businesses and schools work together to build career paths for students even before high school.

Additionally, Gov. Kasich convened a 25-member Executive Workforce Board, composed of leaders in business, education, and government.

With a goal of making Ohio's workforce training system more efficient, the board will take a three-pronged approach:

- Develop a better method to forecast the business community's needs
- Streamline delivery services of these programs
- Establish performance measurements for the training system.

This Workforce Board will also work

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closely with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. Together, they will focus on fine-tuning the state's workforce training programs, expanding job training includes both unemployed and currently employed, and involving K-12 in the vocational-training process.

Another impactful initiative is Ohio Means Internships. This program supports the state's institutions of higher education to partner with up to 1,500 employers to provide paid and credited internships and co-ops to students.

Great partnerships are already in place across the state between businesses and higher education such as Cincinnati State's "Electronic Repairman Training" program for AK Steel workers. Another example is Columbus State Community College's LogisticsART certification, providing a ready-pool of qualified employees for Ohio's robust logistics and distribution sectors.

I encourage the leadership at the state's community colleges to actively collaborate with businesses and economic development communities. And, if you haven't already, I recommend:

- Meeting with your regional JobsOhio Network partner
- Learning how your local workforce agencies are helping recruit and train workers, and what they are hearing about what companies need
- Engaging with your high schools and technical and vocational schools – find out what companies are telling them are the workforce needs for today and the future.

One person or entity cannot address the state's workforce needs; we all have a role in this challenge. Ohio has the people. Let's work together to give every Ohioan the tools they need for meeting the job needs of the 21st Century.

John Minor

President and Chief Investment Officer, JobsOhio



OACC PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

The 2012 Ohio Association of Community Colleges Presidential Assistants 8th Annual Meeting was held July 12 – 13, 2012, at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland. 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.

Lakeland Community College was the perfect host. I personally thank Leah Konopka Hartmann and Dr. Morris W. Beverage, Jr., President. In preparing for this meeting, the group completed a Behavior Style Profile. At this meeting, Dr. Beverage gave a presentation on Behavior Styles using the results from our individual profiles. We discovered a lot about ourselves; our behavior, how we prefer to receive and process information, and how we navigate our personal and professional lives.

I provided information on the Trustee website utilized at Cuyahoga Community College by its Board. The Cuyahoga Community College District Board of Trustees is now paperless. Board members utilize their college iPad to review all materials related to their Board Committee Meetings and Board Meetings in advance of the Board Meeting as well as during the meeting.

Officers elected for the 2012-2013 academic year are:

- | | |
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| President | Nichelle Knox
Board Office Coordinator
Cuyahoga Community College |
| Vice President | Julie MacLaine
Executive Assistant
Zane State College |
| Secretary | Leah Konopka Hartmann
Assistant to the President and Trustees
Lakeland Community College |

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Member-At-Large | Lynda VonDeylen Cramer
Executive Administrative Assistant
Northwest State Community College |
| Past President | Stephen Williams
Executive Assistant to the President
North Central State College |

Helpful resources are also available online to current presidential assistants by visiting the OACCPA Web site at <http://www.edisonohio.edu/index.php?page=oaccpa-home>.

Special thanks to Lynda VonDeylen Cramer who agreed to host the 2013 OACCPA 9th annual meeting at Northwest State Community College.

I wish you all a Happy New Year!

Nichelle Knox
Cuyahoga Community College

(At press time, Nichelle has accepted another position in the college. The OACC wishes her well. The OACCPA will select a new president at the 2013 OACCPA 9th Annual Meeting.)



*Back (From L to R): Lynda VonDeylen Cramer, NW State; Steve Williams, NCSC; Leah Konopka, Lakeland; Leah Dickinson, OACC
Front (From L to R): Jan Tomlinson, COTC; Nichelle Knox, Jaclyn Kostos, Tri-C*

ACCT NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT COMING IN FEBRUARY!



Your chance to impact federal policy towards community colleges is coming up.

Get ready for the **2013 Community College National Legislative Summit**, sponsored by the **American Association of Community Colleges and the Association of Community College Trustees**, to be held **Feb. 11-14 in Washington, DC**.

Hundreds of community college officials from across the country – including several dozen from Ohio – will descend on the nation’s capital to highlight for their congressional delegations the importance of community colleges to our nation’s economic strength.

Items dealing with the federal budget are certain to be front at center at this event.

You can find out more information and register for the event at the ACCT Web site: www.acct.org.

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 or (614) 221-6222. Additional information is available online at www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org.

January

10 CAO Meeting

OACC Offices, Columbus

11 CFO Conference Call

18 OACC-HR Meeting

18 Presidents Conference Call

25 OCSAO Meeting

Columbus

February

8 CFO Meeting

Columbus

8 OCSAO Meeting

Columbus

14 CAO Meeting

OACC Offices, Columbus

15 Presidents Conference Call

March

1 OACC Statewide Symposium

TBD, Columbus

7-8 OCSAO Meeting

Columbus

8 CFO Meeting

Columbus

15 Presidents Meeting

OACC Offices, Columbus

15 OACC-HR Meeting

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. Barbara Gellman-Danley

Treasurer

President, Rio Grande Community College

Darryl D. Mehaffie

At-Large Trustee

Trustee, Edison Community College

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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