

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

Volume 9, Number 2

SACAD Announces Annual Luncheon

The SACAD board of directors is pleased to announce information regarding its annual membership luncheon. The event will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2023 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Orlando World Center Marriott, Grand Cayman-West Indies Room, in Orlando Florida. The session is entitled: "Higher Education Inflection Point: Leveraging AI for Efficiency and Innovation." The presentation is described as follows: In a rapidly changing landscape, institutions of higher education are under constant and immense pressure. This session offers a holistic view of the current challenges, cultural barriers to innovation, and the urgent need for higher education transformation. It will also explore how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can play a pivotal role in enhancing efficiency and effectiveness across institutions.

Speakers for the luncheon include Dr. Hernan Londoño and Dr. Christopher Howes.



Dr. Hernan Londoño

Dr. Hernán Londoño is a distinguished figure in the realm of technology and education, currently holding the prestigious role of Chief Technology and Innovation Strategist for Education at Dell Technologies. Prior to his tenure at Dell Technologies, Dr. Londoño dedicated more than two decades to serving as a Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) within the academic

sphere. Dr. Londoño's influence extends beyond his university roles; he has also played pivotal roles on the advisory boards of leading organizations such as Vectra, Cyphort, and SANS – Securing the Human, where his strategic guidance has been instrumental. In addition to these accomplishments, Dr. Londoño currently serves on the boards of several prominent institutions and initiatives, further cementing his commitment to innovation and education. He is an esteemed member of the FBI-Infragard South Florida Advisory Board, a key figure in the Alan B. Levan Innovation Center's Community Advisory Board, a valuable contributor to the Florida International University's ATOM Think Tank, and an integral part of the Florida Atlantic University's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer

Science Industry Advisory Board. Dr. Londoño academic credentials include a B.S. and M.S. from Barry University in Computer Science, and Information Technology respectively, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Nova Southeastern University.



Dr. Christopher Howes

Dr. Chris Howes serves as the Vice President and Chief Information Officer of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. Dr. Howes joined KCTCS in 2021 and provides leadership, service, and strategic technology direction for the system. An experienced technology leader, his career includes working with technology startups, healthcare organizations, and serving in technology leadership roles at the University of Kentucky. Most recently, he served as Chief Information

Officer at Morehead State University.

Dr. Howes holds three degrees – a Bachelor's degree in computer information systems, a Master's degree in business administration, and a Doctor of Education degree in educational technology leadership, all from Morehead State University. He also serves on technology and higher education industry advisory boards.

The session is designed for presidents, vice presidents, deans, department heads, and directors in two-year degree granting institutions.

The SACAD luncheon cost is \$35 and interested parties may register and pay by check or by credit card through PayPal on the sacad.org website. Please make checks payable to SACAD for \$35 and send to:

SACAD
P. O. Box 942
Verona, VA 24482

For more information contact Dr. George D. Edwards, SACAD Executive Secretary-Treasurer at gdedwards930@gmail.com or by phone (606) 424-8867.

CURRENT MEMBERS RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

The SACAD dues for 2023-2024 are \$150.00. If you have not yet paid your membership dues for 2023-2024, you may still do so.

Please contact Dr. George D. Edwards, Executive Secretary-Treasurer at gdedwards930@gmail.com, 606-424-8867, or see the SACAD website at www.sacad.org for more information.

EDAMERICA LEAD SPONSOR AT 2023 LUNCHEON



The SACAD Board is pleased to announce that EdAmerica will once again be the lead sponsor for the Annual Luncheon to be held at the Grand Cayman-West Indies Room of the Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, Florida on December 3, 2023 from 11:30 am to 1 pm.

Edamerica focuses on advancing student success by providing services that make a difference. With their help 40,000 stop-out students have returned to college and over 1 million students got the answers they needed to register for class, apply for financial aid, or just find the cafeteria. They deliver innovative, high-touch, NIST-compliant solutions that span the student life cycle. Check out their case studies at www.edamerica.net.

CONCOURSE SYLLABUS RETURNS AS BRONZE SPONSOR



Concourse is a template-based, accessible syllabus management platform that seamlessly integrates with your current systems and saves time and eliminates frustration for faculty, staff, and students.

SACAD LUNCHEON AGENDA

Orlando World Center Marriott
Grand Cayman-West Indies Room
Orlando Florida.

December 3, 2023 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PRESIDING

Dr. John Enamait

President, Stanly Community College, NC

WELCOME

Dr. John Enamait

INVOCATION

Dr. Michael Torrence

President, Motlow State Community College TN

BUSINESS SESSION

Financial Report

Dr. George D. Edwards

SACAD Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Recognition of Sponsors

Dr. John Enamait

Recognition of Board Members and Officers

Dr. John Enamait

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Cynthia S. Kelley

President, Madisonville Community College KY

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Hernan Londono

Chief Technology and Innovation Strategist

Dell Technologies

and

Dr. Christopher Howes

Vice President and Chief Information Officer

KCTCS

*"Higher Education Inflection Point:
Leveraging AI for Efficiency and Innovation"*

DOOR PRIZES

Dr. James David Campbell

President, Northeast Alabama Community College, AL

ALABAMA

Dr. Jonathan Koh Named President of Shelton State Community College



Dr. Jonathan Koh

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees recently named Dr. Jonathan P. Koh President of Shelton State Community College. Dr. Koh has served in multiple capacities at the college since 2015, and most recently as the college's Dean of Workforce and Economic Development.

Dr. Koh began his career in education at the University of Alabama, where he served as a Research Coordinator for the University's Education Policy Center between 2012 and 2015. From there, Koh served Shelton State as Director of Grants and Governmental Relations prior to his appointment as Dean of Workforce and Economic Development.

Dr. Koh is an alum of the University of Alabama, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Higher Education Administration, and a Doctorate in Higher Education with a concentration in Higher Education Policy. His dissertation focused on a decade of nationwide trends in public community college finance as it relates to student access and state support for the nation's two-year institutions.

Born in Mobile and raised throughout the southeastern United States, Dr. Koh comes from a legacy of educators. He is the grandson of a southern, desegregation era high school principal and teacher, son of an elementary teacher and minister, and the husband of an elementary teacher, Ashley.

FLORIDA

Seminole State Commits Offers Workforce Training in Underserved Areas

Seminole State College of Florida strives to enhance the educational, economic and cultural vitality of the region by providing exemplary learning opportunities for the diverse community it serves.

The Seminole State Commits program, in collaboration with founding partners Seminole County, the city of Sanford and Orlando Health, offers workforce training and supportive services free of charge to students in underserved neighborhoods in Seminole County. The goal is to ensure all county residents have access to education and training to create a pathway to a stable, family-sustaining and fulfilling career.

The Seminole Board of County Commissioners has pledged

\$1 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the initiative, which seeks to provide employers with the workforce talent needed to ensure businesses thrive and grow.

The courses are offered as not-for-credit, continuing education coursework in high-demand fields that will lead to jobs. Because the coursework is derived from credit programs, the modules completed by the students can be articulated into credit toward a certificate or degree.

Students may pursue continuing education, not-for-credit coursework in high-demand areas to quickly gain skills, knowledge and certifications needed for employment. Examples include Microsoft Office and foundational Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) work safety certificates.

Seminole State Commits will work with employer partners to create job opportunities for students. The program will identify employer partners who have hiring needs in skill areas where Seminole State can offer short-term, condensed education opportunities with long-term goals to gain the commitment of employer partners to sponsor interns and/or hire people at their companies.

Jesse Pisors, Ed.D., Named Pasco-Hernando State College President



Dr. Jesse Pisors

The Pasco-Hernando State College District Board of Trustees (DBOT) selected Jesse Pisors, Ed.D., to serve as the fifth president of Pasco-Hernando State College (PHSC) in the college's 51-year history. Dr. Pisors will succeed Timothy L. Beard, Ph.D., whose tenure at PHSC spans nearly 17 years, including his service as president since 2015.

Pending contract negotiations, Dr. Pisors is expected to take office in early January 2024 during an approximate one-month transitional period until Beard's retirement on January 31, 2024. "We have full confidence that Dr. Pisors will continue to uphold the college's core values and will lead PHSC to further success in all future endeavors," said Lee Maggard, Chair, DBOT.

Dr. Pisors is a seasoned leader in the field of higher education with a deep commitment to facilitating transformation through education. With a distinguished career spanning over 25 years, he has demonstrated an ability to drive positive growth, enhance student experiences and strengthen community ties. Dr. Pisors has served as vice president at two public universities: Texas A&M University-San Antonio (TAMUSA) and University of Houston-Victoria (UHV).

Glen McDonald Named President of Gulf Coast State College



Mr. Glen McDonald

Mr. Glen McDonald, Gulf Coast Community College (GCCC) Class of 1986, was named president of GCCC on August 1, 2023.

Mr. McDonald replaces interim president Cheryl Flax-Hyman, who has held the position since the spring of 2022.

Prior to becoming president, Mr. McDonald served as the GCSC Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development for six years, overseeing complex projects and initiating internal strategies to improve and grow the College. Preceding his time at Gulf Coast, he held a 25-year career with nationally-recognized Applied Research Associates, Inc. (ARA). He advanced from scientist to Senior VP and supervised contract and revenue management, organizational structure, and growth.

Mr. McDonald is an advocate for community betterment and volunteers his time and talents with the Bay Defense Alliance (Vice President), the Bay Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee, the Economic Development Alliance, Florida State University Panama City's Dean's Council, the Airport Authority Board (Past Chairman), and Alignment Bay County.

Mr. McDonald holds a bachelor's degree in biochemistry and a master's degree in business administration from Florida State University.

GEORGIA

Dr. John Fuchko III Named President of Dalton State College



Dr. John Fuchko III

Dr. John Fuchko III was recently named president of Dalton State College. He began his tenure at Dalton State as interim president in June of 2023.

Dr. Fuchko's higher education and state government service has spanned more than 20 years – all of which has been focused operational and auditing roles within the University System of Georgia (USG). As vice chancellor for organizational effectiveness at USG, he oversaw enterprise risk management, compliance and ethics, athletics oversight, strategic implementation, accreditation and various other administrative functions. Prior to that role, he served for seven years as USG's chief audit officer and vice chan-

cellor for internal audit, which included responsibility for 25 campus audit shops and 80 professional staff. He also oversaw three of the USG's institutional consolidation efforts. Previously, Dr. Fuchko served in various audit and compliance positions with the Board of Regents and with the State Department of Audits and Accounts.

In addition to his professional civilian roles, Dr. Fuchko serves as a colonel in the Georgia Army National Guard. He is the commander of the 122nd Regiment (Regional Training Institute). His two decades of service have also included roles such as Commander, 122nd TSD, G2 (intelligence officer) for the Georgia Army National Guard, executive officer for the 78th Troop Command, and battalion commander for the 221st Expeditionary Military Intelligence Battalion. He has deployed twice to the Middle East, has commanded five times, and is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

A Georgia native, Dr. Fuchko holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Kennesaw State University, where he served as editor-in-chief of the campus newspaper, student government president and Board of Regents' student advisory council chair. He earned an MBA at Georgia State University, a master of science degree in strategic intelligence at the National Intelligence University, a master's in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College, and a doctorate in education at The University of Georgia.

He is married to the former Sherie Michelle Lipham of Canton, Georgia, and they are blessed with 12 children. They live in Cumming, Georgia.

He is married to the former Sherie Michelle Lipham of Canton, Georgia, and they are blessed with 12 children. They live in Cumming, Georgia.

Georgia Quick Start Named Number One in U.S.

Georgia Quick Start, a division of the Technical College System of Georgia, has once again been voted the number one workforce training program in the U.S., according to a survey conducted by *Area Development* magazine, a trade publication for professional site locators. The magazine has conducted its survey of site professionals for 14 years, and this marks the 14th time Quick Start was voted the best workforce training program in the country.

In the same survey, the State of Georgia was recognized as the best state in the country for doing business. This is the 10th consecutive year that Georgia has earned this ranking.

"At the heart of Georgia's No. 1 ranking for workforce training opportunities is its Quick Start program," the magazine reported in its Q3 2023 issue. Quick Start has delivered more than 6,630 projects, training more than 1.2 million employees since its creation in 1967. It is

currently developing training for a host of companies in Georgia's burgeoning clean energy sector.

"Companies in manufacturing, biotechnology, information technology and other sectors need tech-savvy workers with special skills, and this program has helped attract those businesses in Georgia," the magazine continued.

Quick Start has been cited as the "deciding factor" in company decisions choosing Georgia, including companies such as Kia Georgia Inc., King's Hawaiian, SK battery America, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Hyundai Motor Group, Starbucks, Hanwha Qcells USA, and many others.

Learn more at www.GeorgiaQuickStart.org.

KENTUCKY

Dr. Ryan Quarles named Kentucky Community and Technical College System President



Dr. Ryan Quarles

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) has named current Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles as their new president.

Dr. Quarles is expected to take the helm in January 2024 when he will become the fourth president of the college system since it was created by the Kentucky General Assembly in 1997. Ashland Community and Technical College President Larry Ferguson, Ph.D. has

served as acting president since February 2023 following the departure of Paul Czarapata, Ed.D.

Along with serving as Kentucky's agriculture commissioner since 2015, Dr. Quarles previously served in the Kentucky House of Representatives from 2010-2014 and finished second in the 2023 governors race Republican primary. The Scott County native graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2006 with three undergraduate majors and two graduate degrees. In 2008, he graduated with a Master's degree in higher education from Harvard University. He received his law degree from the University of Kentucky and a doctorate in higher education from Vanderbilt University in 2018.

Dr. William Scott Rule, Named president/CEO of Big Sandy Community and Technical College.

Dr. William Scott Rule has been selected by the board of directors of Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) to lead the institution as its next president.

Dr. Rule, a retired educator with 31 years of experience in higher education, most recently served as president of West



Dr. William Scott Rule

Georgia Technical College. Prior to that, he served as assistant commissioner for data, planning, and research for the Technical College System of Georgia.

Dr. Rule earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Polytechnic State University (now, Kennesaw State University), an MBA from Kennesaw State University and a doctorate from Georgia State University.

Dr. Rule's tentative start date is January 1, 2024.

BSCTC Announces ARC Grant

Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) proudly announces a \$1.5 million grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to fund allied health classroom improvement at the Pikeville Campus. This project represents a significant milestone in our commitment to addressing healthcare shortages in rural eastern Kentucky.

The project will revitalize and renovate 12,317 square feet of the Clayton Little Building on BSCTC's Pikeville Campus. This endeavor aims to create a modern, cutting-edge learning environment for our students.

BSCTC seeks to expand and strengthen three critical allied health pathways at the Pikeville Campus, which includes Nurse Aid training, Nursing, and EMT/Paramedic by September 2026.

BSCTC extends its gratitude to the Appalachian Regional Commission for generous support of this vital project, which will profoundly impact our region's healthcare education and workforce development.

LOUISIANA

LCTCS Board Announces New Chancellors for NLTCC and RPCC

Dr. Jayda Spillers was selected as the chancellor of Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College (NLTCC) and Mr. Quintin D. Taylor was selected as the chancellor of River Parishes Community College (RPCC) by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors.

Dr. Jayda Spillers's academic career has spanned 27 years across Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana at secondary and post-secondary levels of instruction in business education and administration. During her time as Vice Chancellor of NLTCC, she has increased dual enrollment, industry-based certifications, and credential



Dr. Jayda
Spillers

attainment by students across the three campuses. She has also successfully lead efforts in the initial SACSCOC credentialing process.

Mr. Quintin D. Taylor joined the LCTCS in 2012 as the Executive Director of Media Relations and was promoted to Chief Public Affairs Officer in 2017, and to his current position as Chancellor of RPCC in mid 2022. A Miami, FL native, Mr. Taylor has made his mark by establishing the LCTCS's brand and reputation as the state's workforce solution. In his role at LCTCS, Mr. Taylor is responsible for providing strategic leadership by establishing and implementing a common vision and direction for all public affairs functions and DEI.



Mr. Quintin D.
Taylor

MISSISSIPPI

Dr. Dewayne Middleton Named President of Copiah-Lincoln Community College



Dr. Dewayne
Middleton

Dr. Dewayne Middleton was recently named as the ninth president of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, effective July 1, 2024.

Dr. Middleton's extensive background in higher education includes student services, classroom instruction, federal programs, academics, athletics, and administration. He has served in his current role as Executive Vice President of the college since 2021 where he oversees all

campus vice presidents and all campus operations. Prior to this promotion, he served as Vice President of Co-Lin's Simpson County Center for seven years. In previous positions at Co-Lin, Dr. Middleton was Dean of Student Services at the Simpson County Center, an academic advisor/instructor, the Upward Bound coordinator, and assistant men's and women's basketball coach. In addition to his experience at Co-Lin, Dr. Middleton has also served as an adjunct graduate professor at Alcorn State University.

Dr. Middleton holds an associate degree from Co-Lin where he was a student-athlete for the Wolf Pack Men's Basketball team, a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in coaching and sports administration, a master's degree from Alcorn State University in secondary education, and a doctorate from Mississippi State University in community college leadership.

Mississippi Community Colleges Receive Funds for Healthcare

The healthcare industry took a hit during the COVID-19 pandemic, like many others, when individuals were forced to make lifestyle choices. While the industry adjusted to changes like new teaching mechanisms, it has not fully caught back up to what the public need requires.

In an attempt to focus efforts on increasing the workforce, the Mississippi Legislature appropriated funds to boost interest in healthcare careers. A total of \$28 million in ARPA funds to be distributed as grants were appropriated by lawmakers to alleviate the strain on healthcare services due to a continued lack of workforce.

The grants, running through Accelerate Mississippi, will address several areas of healthcare. The programs are aimed at helping students determine a pathway to a medical profession. One of these mechanisms is College and Career Navigators. These positions help guide and retain healthcare students on community college campuses.

Ashley Charitable Foundation Donates \$500,000 to ICC's Commercial Truck Driving Program

Itawamba Community College's Commercial Truck Driving program will benefit from a \$500,000 donation from the Ashley Charitable Foundation (ACF), a nonprofit organization founded by Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC and committed to supporting education and workforce development.

The funds from the Ashley Charitable Foundation will be used to further enhance infrastructure at ICC as it continues to expand its Commercial Truck Driving program with the construction of a new driving range just across the street from the Tupelo Campus. Additional phases will include the construction of a storage facility for training equipment and phase three, a state-of-the-art training lab and garage.

NORTH CAROLINA

AdvanceNC - Regional Workforce Development Partnership

Education and workforce development organizations throughout central North Carolina joined together on Thursday, September 21, 2023, to create AdvanceNC, a new coalition Governor Roy Cooper predicted would become "a mighty force" preparing North Carolinians for jobs in a vibrant, ever-changing economy.

AdvanceNC is formally described as an innovative workforce development ecosystem developing a robust talent pipeline to support unprecedented economic growth in central North Carolina.



What it boils down to is 10 community colleges, two state universities and six regional workforce development boards combining what they do best to provide opportunity for local families and develop expert workers for the exploding number of advanced manufacturing companies in the region. Though AdvanceNC focuses on 18 counties it also is being promoted as a model that can be replicated all across the state.

Community colleges have long been a driving force statewide in workforce development. The North Carolina Community College System offers a sweeping portfolio of initiatives designed to train workers for new careers and help companies develop workers already on the job. But because those apprenticeships and courses are offered by individual colleges with well-defined service areas, it's not always simple to work across borders.

During the signing ceremony, Dr. Jeff Cox, president of the North Carolina Community College System, said that reality is one reason AdvanceNC is needed. "Companies don't care anything about our little territories for individual community colleges," he said. "They don't want to know about competition between the universities and the community colleges. They want us all working together to meet their workforce needs. And that's what this represents, 100 percent."

Less than two years ago, Toyota announced it would build a new \$1.29 billion automotive battery manufacturing plant at a Randolph County location not far from Greensboro that would create 1,750 new jobs. And the company added another \$2.1 billion investment to that project just four months ago.

More big news broke just months after the initial Toyota announcement, in March 2022, when Vietnamese electric vehicle manufacturer VinFast announced a \$4 billion advanced manufacturing plant near Moncure that is expected to create 7,500 jobs. VinFast was the largest economic development project in North Carolina history -- for about five months. That's when Wolfspeed, a silicon carbide manufacturer based in Durham, announced early last September that it would invest \$5 billion to create a new manufacturing center that would bring 1,800 jobs to Siler City.

SCC Announces \$750,000 Donation From Gene Haas Foundation

Stanly Community College is proud to announce a \$750,000 donation from the Gene Haas Foundation, earmarked for the naming of the state-of-the-art machining lab that will be housed in the college's new Trades Facility. The donation reflects the foundation's commitment to advancing education and training in computer-integrated machining, engineering, and manufacturing.

The donation from The Gene Haas Foundation will strengthen SCC's capacity to attract and educate the next

generation of machinists to meet growing workforce needs. The machining lab will now bear the name "Gene Haas Machining Innovation Center," symbolizing the collaboration between the foundation and the college to further elevate the standards of education and training in the field.

Stanly Community College's machining program has a long-standing history of producing graduates who are well-equipped to meet the demands of the evolving manufacturing landscape. With the naming of the Gene Haas Machining Innovation Center, the college aims to continue its tradition of excellence and provide students with access to cutting-edge equipment and technologies.

Along with Computer Integrated Machining, SCC's new Trades Facility will provide more space for existing programs such as HVAC, Heavy Equipment Operations, Electronics Engineering Technology/Mechatronics, Welding and Electrical Lineworker. It will also allow the College to provide additional trade programs not currently offered including Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrical Systems and Building Construction Technology.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Midlands Technical College President Announces Retirement Plans



*Dr. Ronald L.
Rhames*

Dr. Ronald L. Rhames has announced his plans to retire as president of one of the largest technical colleges in South Carolina. Rhames has been a part of the MTC family for 35 years: two years as a student and 33 as an employee, which includes eight years as the college president.

Dr. Rhames is the first graduate of any South Carolina Technical College to become president of a S.C. technical college and the first African American President of MTC. As president, he provides unique insight and leadership that is innovative, visionary, and effective in addressing the challenges and opportunities of the college.

Dr. Rhames became the sixth President of Midlands Technical College on March 1, 2015. As president, Dr. Rhames is MTC's Chief Executive Officer and is accountable to the MTC Commission, the college's board of trustees. Dr. Rhames began his career with the college in 1990, previously serving as MTC's Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

The Midlands Technical College Commission will launch a nationwide presidential search for the best candidate to continue advancing the MTC mission. Dr. Rhames is expected to retire by June 30, 2024.

TENNESSEE

Dr. Carol A. Rothstein Named President of Jackson State Community College



Dr. Carol A.
Rothstein

The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) recently appointed Dr. Carol A. Rothstein as the seventh president of Jackson State Community College.

Dr. Rothstein has served as vice president of academic affairs and workforce development at Nashville State Community College since January 2021. She previously served more than 10 years at

Hagerstown Community College in Maryland and Blue Ridge Community and Technical College in West Virginia. She began her higher education career in 2010 at Blue Ridge as an admissions counselor and advanced to assistant professor and director of one of the college's branch campuses.

Dr. Rothstein earned a Doctor of Education in Leadership: Higher Education Administration at Frostburg State University, a Master of Arts in Management and Leadership, and a Bachelor of Science in Education, both at Liberty University.

Dr. Rothstein will succeed Dr. George Pimentel, who retired as president June 30, 2023 and now serves as associate vice chancellor for academic initiatives for the TBR system. Dr. Kimberly McCormick, TBR executive vice chancellor for external affairs, is serving as interim president.

Education Extending Through Extended Reality

Motlow State Community College is one of six institutions selected for a \$4,000,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant goes toward the Resource Collaborative for Immersive Technologies (RECITE), a collaborative effort between academic institutions and NSF grantees. This project is designed to promote the research, development, and usage of extended reality (XR) technology in community college education.

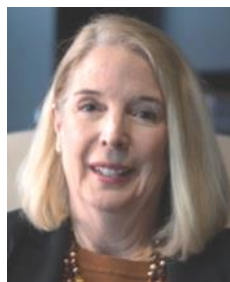
The National Science Foundation is a federal agency that funds researchers and educational professionals to promote scientific research and training. Through the NSF's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program, grants are made to advance the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. Virtual reality (VR) along with augmented (AR) and mixed reality (MR) involves using head-mounted displays or mobile devices to place users in virtual environments

where they can work, learn, or play.

Through the NSF grant, the team will focus on four primary initiatives: assess XR usage in two-year colleges, train technician educators on using XR in high-technology education, provide two-year colleges access to curated XR educational content, and broaden XR usage into other types of educational institutions.

Motlow currently provides XR equipment in the libraries of all four campuses and has dedicated VR labs at its Moore County and Smyrna campuses. Motlow has integrated VR into coursework, including history classes where students can visit ancient archaeological sites, create art, or learn new skills. The college also provides access to VR experiences for recreation and socializing, providing a new way for students in rural colleges to become more connected.

NACCE Presents 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award to Chancellor Flora Tydings



Flora
Tydings

The National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE), the nation's leading organization focused on promoting entrepreneurship through community colleges, has awarded Chancellor Flora Tydings of the College System of Tennessee its 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Since she was appointed in 2016, Chancellor Tydings has unified the Tennessee Community and Technical College System (TCTCS) under the state's "Focus on College and University Success" (FOCUS) Act of 2016, part of a statewide effort to increase the percentage of working-age Tennessee residents with a college degree or post-secondary certificate or credential to 55 percent by 2025. This recognition highlights the importance of education and leadership, and the positive impact community and technical education has on individuals and communities.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was announced at NACCE's annual conference in Nashville Monday, October 30, 2023 which was attended by educators from 43 states.

Chancellor Tydings was formerly president of Chattanooga State Community College and Athens Technical College and served as interim president at both Central Georgia Technical College and Sandersville Technical College. She earned her Ed.D. at the University of Georgia, a master's in education at Mercer University, and a bachelor of science in education at Georgia Southern University.

TEXAS

Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart Named ACC's 9th Chancellor



*Dr. Russell
Lowery-Hart*

Austin Community College District (ACC) recently welcomed Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart as its new Chancellor. Russell, as he prefers to be called, began his service as the ninth ACC Chancellor in early October.

Russell previously served as president of Amarillo College since 2014. Under his leadership, the college earned the title of the top community college in the nation through the prestigious 2023

Aspen Prize, a Community College Excellence award. He replaces the former chancellor, Dr. Richard M. Rhodes, who announced his retirement in January following 12 years of service to the college.

Dr. Pam Anglin Announces Resignation



*Dr. Pam
Anglin*

Dr. Pam Anglin has announced her resignation as president of Paris Junior College (PJC) at the end of 2023. A first-generation college student and the first female president of the College, she has served since 2003 and is a true community college success story.

Dr. Anglin led PJC to begin participating with Achieving the Dream, a national initiative for student success, in 2006 and PJC named an Achieving the

Dream Leader College in 2015. The College was twice recognized as one of the fifty fastest growing community colleges in the nation and received the 2012 Excellence in Education Award from the Texas Association of Business.

Encouraging partnership among local colleges, Dr. Anglin helped form the Texas Community Colleges Consortium for Shared Resources to pursue cost savings in new enterprise resource planning software and annual allocations from the Texas State Legislature. From 2016 to 2018 she chaired the Northeast Texas Consortium of Colleges and Universities (NETnet), which was comprised of 13 member institutions.

Dr. Anglin received her associate's degree from Grayson County College before earning her bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University and her master's from Texas Christian University. She earned her EdD in educational administration from Baylor University and studied at the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University.

VIRGINIA

New Chancellor Sets Strategic Priorities

Through a collaborative Strategic Planning session between Dr. David Doré, the new Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and VCCS college presidents, strategic priorities have been identified for moving forward. The Strategic Priorities are designed to help fill the employment gaps in Virginia.

Aspects of the plan call for "blurring the lines" between secondary and post-secondary education, between academic and Workforce programs, and between colleges and business and industry.

The three specific strategies include

- Increasing Capacity Regionally
 - * Build state-of-the-art career and technical programs and laboratory spaces.
 - * Expand FastForward (short-term, high-value, high-demand) programs.
 - * Establish career placement centers to serve every college.
 - * Expand access to online learning for adults and high school students, creating faster high-quality educational pathways to in-demand jobs with little or no college debt.
 - * Invest in marketing efforts statewide to promote the affordable education opportunities available.
 - * Make career coaches available at every public high school.
- Provide every high school student with a meaningful postsecondary credential.
- Funding what works – Scale outcomes-based funding to sustain high-value, high-demand programs.

Virginia Community College System Receives DOL Grant to Expand Training Capacity



*Dr. David
Doré*

Dr. David Doré, Chancellor for the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), said news of the \$5 million Department of Labor (DOL) award – the highest amount available – could not have come at a better time.

The new funding, awarded through the DOL's Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program, will help VCCS to design, develop, and grow training programs and work-based learning opportunities that prepare job seekers for high-demand career pathways in the growing field of data center construction and operations, as well as the broadband expansion industry. The grant money will be used by seven of Virginia's Community Colleges to expand training capacity and prepare workers in skilled labor roles. The Virginia Infrastructure Academy (VIA), now entering its

second year of operations, will be one of the key beneficiaries of the grant. Associate Vice Chancellor for Career Education and Workforce Programs Randy Stamper placed a special emphasis on broadband expansion.

While the demand for skilled labor has fallen in recent months, Virginia still has nearly 200,000 job vacancies. Dr. Doré suggests the numbers may fluctuate, but the commitment to Virginia's business community remains the same.

First Time in Five Years Virginia's Community Colleges Increase Tuition

Recognizing the impact of mandatory cost increases, which include statewide adjustments for compensation and benefits, the Virginia State Board for Community Colleges voted unanimously to increase tuition for the first time in five years. This increase of \$4.61 per credit hour (3%) will go into effect for the 2023-2024 academic year.

"We reviewed the options of further delaying a decision, which would have adversely impacted our students, or we could move forward with a tuition increase to ensure continued high-quality instruction," said Peggy Layne, Chair, State Board of Virginia's Community Colleges. "Unfortunately, this increase will not fully cover all of the cost pressures faced by our community colleges in these inflationary times."

At about one-third of the comparable costs of tuition of Virginia's public four-year universities, Virginia's Community Colleges remain Virginia's most affordable pathway to better jobs. The new rate is \$158.61 per credit hour, or \$2,379.15 for a 15 credit-hour semester. The tuition increase only applies to tuition as other mandatory fees vary at the community college level.

Virginia's Community Colleges have held the same tuition rate for five consecutive years and even delayed making a decision since May in order to wait for the General Assembly to conclude deliberations on the State Budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Since state budget deliberations are ongoing, the State Board determined a tuition increase was necessary to ensure continued quality instruction and uninterrupted services to community college students.

"Keeping Virginia's Community Colleges accessible to Virginians will remain a top priority," said Dr. David Doré, Chancellor for Virginia's Community Colleges. "We're grateful for programs like G3 tuition assistance, offered as a last-dollar support to students with a household income generally less than \$100,000 and pursuing high-demand career fields, and FastForward, a pay-for-performance program that incentivizes students to complete short-term credential training programs for Virginia's most in-demand jobs. Our community colleges will continue to do everything we can to remain affordable, deliver

high-quality instruction, and support Virginians as they pursue better jobs and better lives through postsecondary education and training."

There were no increases to the tuition differential rates charged at eight of Virginia's 23 community colleges (Brightpoint, Germanna, Northern Virginia, Piedmont Virginia, Reynolds, Tidewater, Virginia Peninsula, and Virginia Western). Tuition differential rates allow colleges to address unique and specific institutional priorities. The revised tuition rates, that are inclusive of the tuition differential, specific to these colleges will be posted on their websites.



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