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January 22, 2016

American Association of Community Colleges

Issue # 054



Dear ,

As Washington, DC, prepares for a winter storm of epic proportions, we've got a storm of innovation brewing in New Orleans at our annual Workforce Development Institute. Being at WDI has given me the opportunity to hear about some amazing partnerships between community colleges and industry. I'm always impressed by the adeptness of our colleges to meet workforce needs. Keep up the great work!



## MUST READ

### [“Preparing for Oregon Promise Students”](#)

Oregon is getting ready for an influx of students who will be attending community college tuition-free. One college is putting emphasis on the first-year experience. Read about it in the [21st Century Center](#).

### [A Boom in Certificates](#)

Nearly 40% of the 1.2 million credentials awarded by community colleges in 2014 were certificates. Get the details in the latest [DataPoints](#).

### [“A Wide Disparity in Transfer Rates”](#)

There's a great deal of variation among states in the percent of community college students who transfer to a 4-year institution and the percent of transfer students who earn a bachelor's

degree within 6 years, according to a new report. Learn more in [Community College Daily](#).

## MUST DO

### Be Recognized at Hail & Farewell

The annual [Hail & Farewell Luncheon](#) will take place April 10 at AACC's convention. It's the association's opportunity to wish a fond farewell to retiring CEOs, as well as hail new and 25-year CEOs. To be recognized during the luncheon, send in a recognition form and headshot by February 29, 2016, 4:00 p.m. (ET).

### Early-bird Registration Rates are Ending

Save money on your AACC convention registration by [registering today](#). Early-bird rates end today, January 22. All convention speakers must register.

### Save the Date for PASI

The AACC [Presidents Academy Summer Institute \(PASI\)](#) will take place July 16–19, 2016, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. PASI is an annual professional development program for CEOs and presidents of member community colleges, providing intensive focus on current challenges, emerging trends, and opportunities unique to that position. Registration information will be available soon.

## MUST KNOW

### Inside Higher Ed Survey of Presidents

*Inside Higher Ed (IHE)* is working with Gallup on the 2016 Survey of College and University Presidents. You should have received an e-mail from Gallup, on behalf of *IHE*, seeking your participation in the survey. Please take the time to participate in this important online survey. The results can provide a great deal of useful information and insights about the state of higher education. Gallup will send reminders several times until the survey closes at the end of January. If you are a community college CEO, did not receive a link to the survey, and wish to participate, e-mail [Doug Lederman](#) and he'll arrange to have the link sent to you.

### AACC Board of Directors Election

Voting for the AACC Board of Directors will begin February 1. In order to be eligible to vote, annual membership dues must be paid before that date. Not sure if your college has paid its dues? Contact [Wayne Horton](#) in Membership Services at 202-728-0200, ext. 236.



I participated in AACC's Workforce Development Institute in New Orleans, Louisiana, January 20-23.

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Pictured: Orlando Taylor, vice president of strategic initiatives and research at Fielding Graduate University (FGU), and Katrina Rodgers, president of FGU, with Walter Bumphus, who received the inaugural Marie Fielder Medal.

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