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January 13, 2017

American Association of Community Colleges

Issue # 078



Dear Tina,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and that you have returned to work as re-energized as I am. Over the last month, I have been asked often by our members, "In light of a presidential transition, what should I be aware of as it relates to our sector?" I thought that it would be fitting to start the year off outlining what I refer to as "Top of Mind" issues. These are the issues that I believe we must keep in the forefront of our minds as we continue to make student access and success a priority.

[Review my Top of Mind issues.](#)



MUST READ

["Infrastructure Plan Would Create Many Jobs That Require Some College"](#)

According to a new analysis, President-elect Donald Trump's \$1 trillion proposal to revamp the nation's infrastructure could create as many as 11 million new jobs over the next decade, including positions that would require at least an associate degree or postsecondary certificate. Get the details in [Community College Daily](#).

["Paid Internships are Coming to Low-Income Students"](#)

The Career Ready Internship Grant will help 2-year colleges provide paid internships for students. Learn about it at the [21st Century Center](#).

MUST DO**Register for the AACC Convention**

Join us in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 22–25, 2017, for the [premier networking opportunity](#) for community colleges. New to the agenda this year are ED Talks, a new faculty engagement track, and working sessions where you can join other leaders around a mutual topic of interest. Early-bird registration for the 97th Annual Convention ends on January 27. The early bird gets the worm so [register today](#).

Be Recognized at the Annual Hail & Farewell Luncheon

The [Hail & Farewell Luncheon](#) is the association's opportunity to bid farewell to retiring CEOs and hail new and 25-year CEOs. Held during AACC's annual convention luncheon program on April 23, 2017, Hail & Farewell (H&F) is a celebration of leadership. The deadline for submitting your materials is March 3. Individuals that have registered for the New CEO Academy must still complete the H&F form to participate in the luncheon recognition. So, if you're a new CEO, you have been a CEO for 25 years, or you're retiring, let us know so that we can celebrate your milestone. [Submit your form today!](#)

Serve on an AACC Commission

If you want to get more involved on the national level, sign up to join one of nine commissions. CEOs, vice presidents/vice chancellors, associate/assistant vice presidents/vice chancellors, and provosts from AACC member colleges are eligible to apply. Appointments range from 1 to 3 years. Commissions meet twice a year, and have access to information on the latest trends and issues affecting community colleges. [Sign up today](#). The deadline for applying for a commission appointment is May 5.

Register for the Presidents Academy Summer Institute

Join CEOs from across the country for the [Presidents Academy Summer Institute \(PASI\)](#), an annual professional development program that provides intensive focus on current challenges, emerging trends, and opportunities unique to the position. The 2017 PASI theme is "The Stories We Tell." Join community college CEOs in New York, July 22–25, to address those issues that are at the forefront of your mind. [Register here](#).

MUST KNOW**2017 AACC Board of Directors and Presidents Academy Elections**

Members will vote to elect new AACC directors and members of the Presidents Academy Executive Committee in February. Voting credentials will be emailed on January 30, and you will receive your ballot from aacc@simplyvoting.com. Make sure the email address for the ballot is not blocked by your service provider. Your college's membership must be current to receive your voting credentials and your ballot. Make sure your college's membership is current.

Doing Great Work in College Readiness

Do you have a great college/K-12 partnership that has resulted in improved readiness or acceleration of degree completion? If you're interested in engaging in a national dialogue to share your programs and result, we want to hear from you. AACC and AASA, the School Superintendents Association, are partners on college readiness initiatives. This marks the third year of the partnership where community college CEOs and school superintendents come together to share what works, and how promising programs can be scaled. The next meeting will take place March 12–13 in Washington, DC. If you'd like to be considered for participation, please contact [Dr. Tammy Reichelt](#).



Where's Walter

Today, I attended an education listening session with President-elect Trump's Transition Team (DC). On January 12, I was joined by Chief of Staff Angel Royal in convening a meeting of our facilitators to discuss AACC's leadership activities for the coming year (DC).



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Pictured: Missoula College (Montana)

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