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January 27, 2017

American Association of Community Colleges

Issue # 079



Dear Tina,

Greetings from Newport Beach, California. This week, I'm attending AACC's Workforce Development Institute, along with college leaders and community college partners in business, philanthropy, and the federal government. From the presentations that I attended, it is clear that community colleges will continue to play a critical role in training our nation's workforce. I'm proud of the work being done at our colleges to close the skills gap and keep America competitive.



#### MUST READ

#### **“More Colleges Are Using Free Educational Resources”**

At Maricopa Community College, students and faculty are more engaged in teaching and learning in courses that use open educational resources (OER), which are free or low-cost teaching and learning materials, and students are more likely to complete degrees faster. Learn more about OER in [Community College Daily](#).

#### **“New Skills for a Changing Workforce”**

The New Skills for Youth initiative aims to prepare students for well-paying jobs, with the help of community and technical colleges. Read about it at the [21st Century Center](#).