AACC Letter

March 16, 2012
Issue #783

Policy and Advocacy

1. AACC ELECTRONIC BALLOT DEADLINE IS MARCH 19
The 2011-12 AACC Board of Directors has worked diligently over the past several months conducting an extensive review of the AACC Constitution to ensure that the document is clear and concise, and that the language is free of ambiguity. According to the AACC Constitution, written notice of any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to the date of the AACC Annual Meeting. A hard copy letter and a follow-up e-mail were sent to all voting members, with an explanation of the recommended changes. This correspondence also included instructions to login to cast your electronic ballot. Please vote, if you have not done so. If you have misplaced your login information, send an e-mail request with the name of the president and community college for which you are making the request in the body of the e-mail.

AACC Contact: Angel M. Royal

2. AACC FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE WEBINAR
Join the AACC government relations team as they provide an overview of issues Congress has been discussing in the first three months of 2012 and of what is to come. Register now for the free webinar, March 21, 2012, 2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. (ET). The team will provide up-to-the-moment information on FY 2013 funding for Pell Grants and other key programs, the second round of TAACCCT program grants, workforce legislation, and more. Ample time will be provided for Q&A.

AACC Contact: Jim Hermes

Program Initiatives

3. PLUS 50 INITIATIVE EXPANDS
As students age 50 and up turn to community colleges to prepare for new jobs or complete a certificate or degree, college staff is finding that baby boomers have unique needs. They’re getting help in meeting those needs from the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC. Over the next three years, AACC plans to expand the initiative to 100 colleges where plus 50 students will get job training and complete certificates or degrees in health-care, education, or social service professions. As part of the expansion, community colleges will receive grants from AACC for their plus 50 programs. The RFP for
grant funds will be issued in spring 2012. To join the mailing list for the Plus 50 e-newsletter or to be notified when the RFP is available, contact Mary Sue Vickers. AACC Contact: Mary Sue Vickers

4. ADVANCE THE HUMANITIES
The Community College Humanities Association (CCHA) is seeking applicants for a 2-year, multidisciplinary mentoring project, “Advancing the Humanities at Community Colleges,” funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Teams from 18 competitively selected colleges will develop and implement new or revised introductory humanities courses, modules, or programs on diverse cultural and civic themes. College teams and their mentors will work in literature, history, philosophy, religion, and civic engagement to incorporate new scholarship and texts that emphasize cultural understanding and building community into their curricula. Applications are due April 25. Contact David A. Berry at CCHA for more information.
AACC contact: Gail Robinson

5. CELEBRATE WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
AACC marks the celebration of Women’s History Month. Please send us materials of any special programs or events that your college hosted to celebrate the contributions that women have made to society and history.
AACC Contact: Kevin Christian

Grants and Partnerships

6. TAKE THE RURAL JOBS ACCELERATOR CHALLENGE
The Obama Administration today announced a $15 million multi-agency challenge to spur job creation and economic growth in distressed rural communities. The Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge is expected to give out approximately 20 awards, depending on the number of eligible applications. To be eligible for an award, projects must benefit rural communities, but the applicant is not required to be located in a rural area. A webinar will be held March 20, 3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. (ET).
AACC Contact: Nelson Oliver

7. SPREAD YOUR GREEN EXPERTISE
With support from AACC’s SEED Center, the Center for Green Schools at U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) seeks to recruit and train five mid-career professionals to serve as Community Green Chairs. These volunteer chairs will work with USGBC National to support green building education and training efforts at community colleges and will lead the development, implementation, management, and growth of Community Green program activities in their region. Deadline to apply is April 6, 2012.
AACC Contact: Katya Nekrasova

8. FUNDING AND GUIDANCE THROUGH GATEWAY TO COLLEGE
Gateway to College National Network has funds available for partnerships between colleges and K–12 school districts to implement the Gateway to College dropout recovery program. In fall 2012, up to 10 college and K–12 partnerships will be awarded multi-year contracts worth between $325,000 and $440,000. In addition to start-up funds, successful applicants will receive training, technical assistance, professional development opportunities, and program evaluation. Contact Ashley Wilkins, coordinator of partnership development, for more information. The initial application process will close
on April 30, 2012.
AACC Contact: Tabitha Whissemore

9. OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH AARP FOUNDATION

- The AARP Foundation Women’s Scholarship Program is helping win back opportunity for low-income 50+ women by funding education, training, and skills upgrades that can lead to better employment and increased financial security for women and their families. The program helps facilitate the entry of women into programs they may otherwise be unable to afford, ultimately helping them recover from the recent recession. The scholarship application period for academic year 2012–2013 closes March 30, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. (CT).

- The foundation also is seeking Washington, DC–based people to review applications for the Women’s Scholarship Program, May 10 and 11, 2012. E-mail or call 202-434-2110 for more information.

AACC Contact: Tabitha Whissemore

10. PROMOTE LATINO STUDENT SUCCESS
Excelencia in Education is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Examples of Excelencia. This is the only national initiative to identify and promote programs and departments with significant evidence of improving educational achievement for Latino students in higher education. Selected programs will receive a financial award of $5,000, recognition at special events and in media and online communications, as well as inclusion in the 2012 edition of What Works for Latino Students in Higher Education and in the Growing What Works database. Nominations will be accepted online until 5:00 p.m. (ET) on April 16, 2012.

AACC Contact: Kevin Christian

News and Social Media

11. "LEARNING FASTER IS THE GOAL OF THE OPEN LEARNING INITIATIVE"
The Open Learning Initiative, a system of courses developed by Carnegie Mellon University, offers community colleges a way to enhance student learning—and, ultimately, help students learn more in less time. Read more online in Community College Times.

AACC Contact: Ellie Ashford

12. "WHY YELL WHEN YOU CAN TALK"
How to keep union meetings civil and productive is covered in the February/March digital Community College Journal. All staff on AACC member campuses and subscribers have free access with a simple login. Read, download, or print stories, and share articles with your colleagues electronically.

AACC Contact: Sarah Lawler

Resources

13. INSIDER’S GUIDE TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION
This helpful guide covers the most pressing issues community college leaders face every day. Preview
the book and [order today online](#) or by calling 800-250-6557.

AACC Contact: [Sarah Lawler](#)

**14. LAST CALL FOR SEED WORKSHOP STIPEND**

Have you been building campus sustainability programs? Learn about best practices from the most innovative green higher education leaders in the country. They've developed successful clean energy workforce programs and secured millions of dollars in grants and resources. Register for "A Green Campus: Saving Money and Building Reputation," a preconvention workshop at AACC's Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida. [Ask about a SEED stipend](#) to attend for free.

AACC Contact: [Katya Nekrasova](#)

## Events and Services

**15. JOURNEY TO QUEST**

Plan to attend the 3rd Annual QUEST Higher Education Conference at the Baltimore City Community College, April 12–13, 2012. The theme is "Designing Innovative, Inspirational and Inviting Educational Programs to Retain and Graduate African American Males in Higher Education." Contact [JaHon Vance](#) for more information.

AACC Contact: [Kevin Christian](#)

**16. ASCB SEeks COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY**

The American Society for Cell Biology Minorities Affairs Committee is looking to bring in more community college junior faculty into its programs. Applications are being accepted for the 7th Annual Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop in San Antonio, Texas, June 9–10, 2012. Applications are due May 9.

AACC Contact: [Kevin Christian](#)

**17. SHAKE THAT MONEY TREE**

Council for Resource Development presents its 11th Annual Presidents Fundraising Academy, September 16–18, 2012, in Richmond, Virginia. This academy is for first-time presidents and those presidents who are getting more involved with fundraising as part of their job. It’s designed to provide the necessary tools to build a comprehensive and systemic institutional advancement program that will result in acquisition of significant private sector resources in support of the college's strategic plan.

AACC Contact: [Mary Heiss](#)

**18. AACC ANNUAL CONVENTION**

AACC’s can’t-miss community college leadership event, the 92nd Annual Convention, will be in Orlando, Florida, April 21–24.

- Registration closes on Friday, March 23, so don’t delay—[register today](#).
- Can’t travel to Orlando this year? Bring the meeting to your desk. AACC’s Virtual Meeting features 50+ hours of educational sessions produced by your peers at community colleges. It’s an affordable and easily accessible way to bring professional development to your desk or to your team.
You've seen them on TV and heard them on the radio. Come to Florida to see them live—Mika Brzezinski, James Carville, and Mary Matalin! Register today.

AACC Contact: Delinda Frazier