Policy and Advocacy

1. ON MAY 7, PRESIDENT OBAMA RELEASED HIS FULL FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2010 budget request. For community colleges, the cornerstone of the Obama budget is to make the Pell Grant program an "entitlement" and move to 100% institutional participation in Direct Lending, thereby ending the Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL). The Administration is also proposing to restructure and expand the Perkins Loan program. A new $2.5 billion incentive grants program would be created to spur states to promote college success and completion, and the $2,500 American Opportunity Tax Credit would be made permanent. For more information, click here.
AACC Contacts: David Baime and Laurie Quarles

2. AS PART OF THE ONGOING "NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING" PROCESS THAT WILL IMPLEMENT KEY CHANGES to the Higher Education Act, AACC has been represented on four of the five negotiating committees. This week, AACC withheld its support for the work of one of those committees, which had been charged with a broad range of items ranging from campus security to institutional disclosures. AACC's primary objection related to draft regulations advanced by the Department of Education that would have unreasonably denied the newly created year-round Pell Grant to too many community college students. The year-round Pell Grant was one of AACC's top priorities in last year's reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA). Because of the lack of consensus, the Department of Education will now engage in the regular rulemaking process; however, that will be influenced by the weeks of negotiations on the rules that were ultimately rejected.
AACC Contact: David Baime

3. THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Office of Postsecondary Education has issued a call for new PBI (Predominately Black Institutions Program) applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. The deadline for the application transmittal is May 29. For additional information and application procedures, click here.
AACC Contact: Kevin Christian

Program Initiatives

4. AACC'S PLUS 50 INITIATIVE EXPANDS TO HELP OLDER WORKERS - The Plus 50 Initiative is intensifying efforts by community colleges to help workers age 50 and over train for new jobs and sharpen marketable skills. Reflecting changing economic circumstances for many older workers who thought they were poised for retirement but now must remain on the job, the expansion focuses specifically on the initiative's training, retraining, and career development area. The expansion partners existing and more experienced Plus 50 Initiative colleges with dozens more community colleges that now become "affiliates" of the Plus 50 Initiative. The existing grantees will receive
augmented funding and the new affiliates will receive "seed" grants. Click here to read the full press release.

AACC Contact: Mary Sue Vickers

5. MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, which commemorates Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. The month marks the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States in 1843 and the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 by Chinese immigrants. Educational resources and images are available at the official Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Web site, a collaboration of the Library of Congress and the National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

AACC Contact: Lynn Barnett

6. THE FUND FOR IMPROVEMENT OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (FIPSE), U.S. Department of Education, has announced the U.S.-Russia Program: Improving Research and Educational Activities in Higher Education competition. The program emphasizes the development of innovative projects and partnerships between Russian and American higher education institutions that promote educational and academic exchanges of students and teaching faculty, contributing to the advancement of education and science in both countries. The funded projects are expected to use the educational study content as a vehicle to learn languages and cultures, share knowledge and to form long-term relationships between the two countries. The program is open to all disciplines, professional fields and vocational programs, as well as cross-disciplinary studies at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

To apply, contact Krish Mathur, U.S.-Russia program manager or click here.

AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

7. THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION HAS PROVIDED FUNDING to learn more about the process of student transfer from two-year to four-year technology programs. You can help in this important project by responding to a brief, 25-item survey that should take no more than 10-15 minutes. Please click here to view the survey and respond today. If you have questions, contact Gloria Rogers.

AACC Contact: Norma Kent

8. NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION (ACE) FELLOWS PROGRAM. Open to leaders in both two- and four-year colleges and universities, the ACE Fellows Program is a key leadership development program in higher education. The ACE Fellows Program seeks candidates who have a solid record of achievement and leadership experience at or above the level of department chair or program director, or in another position that requires them to assume institution-wide leadership responsibilities. ACE Fellows spend an extended period of time on another campus, working directly with presidents, enabling participants to immerse themselves in the culture, policies and decision-making processes of another institution. This unique program condenses years of on-the-job experience and skills development into a single year. The 2010-2011 ACE Fellows application deadline is Nov. 2. For more information on this comprehensive program, click here.

Contact: Andrea Warren Hamos, associate director, ACE Fellows Program at fellows@ace.nche.edu.

AACC Contact: Courtney Larson
9. ANSI ANNOUNCES A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A PILOT CERTIFICATE ACCREDITATION PROGRAM. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a private non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system, invites organizations that issue education and training certificates to U.S. workers to apply for the Institute’s pilot Certificate Accreditation Program (ANSI-CAP). To apply, contact Ivory Lathern at 202/331-3621.

AACC Contact: Carolyn Teich

10. APPLY NOW TO SERVE ON ONE OF SIX AACC LEADERSHIP COMMISSIONS. Please remember that only CEOs from AACC member colleges are eligible to serve. If you would like to be considered for nomination, please send your application request to Heather Lee Anne Owens, board coordinator at nominee@aacc.nche.edu or call 202/728-0200, ext.255. Click here for more information on AACC Commissions. The 2009 Commission nomination process closes May 25.

AACC Contact: Heather Owens

New Resources

11. THE CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE HAS RELEASED A GROUND-BREAKING NEW PROTOCOL for calculating the carbon reductions from urban forestry and will offer a free Webinar focused on developing urban forestry projects. The Webinar is designed for cities, universities, utilities and other organizations undertaking urban forestry programs. The presentation is scheduled for May 20, 10:00-11:30 a.m. (PDT) and will include a 30-minute presentation followed by Q&A. Space is limited.

Reserve now.

AACC Contact: Sarah Lawler

12. A NEW WEB SITE HELPS CALCULATE THE BENEFITS OF EDUCATION. Just how much does more education influence earning power, crime reduction, voting tendencies and life expectancy? The Common Good Forecaster site uses Census data to help quantify the benefits of education by state and county. A joint project of the United Way and the American Human Development Project, the site illustrates the linkages among key social and economic factors. Click here to visit the site.

AACC Contact: Norma Kent

13. IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON FORBES.COM, JOHN ZOGBY, president and CEO of Zogby International, argues that the United States must support international student exchange, noting that there’s "no substitute for real human interaction and submersion into other cultures." Click here to view the full article.

AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

14. A NEW WEB SITE, INCLUDES A COLLECTION OF RESOURCES for internationalization leaders in the United States. The portal is a collaborative effort among the 11 charter members of the Inter-associational Network on Campus Internationalization (INCI), which includes AACC. Featured are Web and print resources on institutional and cultural change, policies and funding; strategic planning; faculty and staff development; curriculum; education abroad; hosting international students and scholars; international collaboration; community engagement, outreach and advocacy; assessment
and evaluation and much more. Click here to access the portal.

AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

15. HIGHER EDUCATION ON THE MOVE: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN GLOBAL MOBILITY, published by the Institute of International Education with support from the AIFS Foundation, explores the effects of recent developments in higher education, the world economy and government policy on global student and scholar mobility. Global higher education mobility is a rapidly growing phenomenon, with over 2.9 million students seeking an education outside their home countries. This number represents a 57% increase since 1999, the greatest surge in international student enrollments in recent decades. For more information or to purchase copies, visit www.iiebooks.org.

AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

16. COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE A HARDER TIME PAYING FOR COLLEGE and are more likely to have unmet financial need than students in four-year institutions, according to a fact sheet recently issued by The Institute for College Access & Success. The fact sheet, which derives its data from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study conducted by the National Center for Educational Statistics (U.S. Department of Education), looks at only full-time community college students who applied for aid during 2007-08. Sixty percent of community college students nationwide are enrolled part time. Among other financial barriers, the fact sheet notes that community college students are less likely to receive grants from the state or their colleges and have limited access to support through federal work-study awards. Click here to view the full document.

AACC Contact: Norma Kent

Grants and Partnerships

17. HIGHER EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (HED) WILL PROVIDE UP TO $600,000 over three years to develop a higher education partnership with Mentouri University in Algeria. The project, Algeria: Strengthening Higher Education Preparation for the Workforce, is intended to enhance English language studies, strengthen the business curricula and establish a career development center resulting in assistance to undergraduates and alumni in the development of relevant skills for the local workforce. This award is supported by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United States Department of State. Applications are due June 15. For more information see www.hedprogram.org.

AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

18. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: CAREGIVER TRAINING AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES. The International Longevity Center-USA and the Caregiving Project for Older Americans, with support from MetLife Foundation, invites proposals from community colleges and other two-year institutions under the 2009 Community College Caregiver Training Initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to encourage the development of new and novel programs to train both family caregivers and in-home care workers, promote skill development, advance the quality of care and provide opportunities for career development. Click here to download the RFP. Deadline for submissions is June 8.

AACC Contact: Sarah Lawler

Events and Services
19. JOIN US MAY 20, 4:00 – 5:00 P.M. FOR A FREE WEBINAR -- EDUCATION FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY: Opportunities, Resources and Models -- cosponsored by AACC, the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education, the Association for Career and Technical Education and Green for All. The event will cover such topics as types of green jobs; professional development, certification and curricular material for high school and community college teachers; partnership models among businesses, government, non-profits, education institutions and educators to create more effective entry, re-entry and professional development for workers. To register, click here.
AACC Contact: Carolyn Teich

20. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION will hold two more Regional Recovery and Reemployment Forums through early June 2009. The last two forums are scheduled May 27 - 29 in Atlanta, GA and June 2 – 4 in San Francisco, CA. For more information and access to registration information, click here.
AACC Contact: Carolyn Teich

21. THE NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE AND STUDENTS in Transition will host its 22nd International Conference on The First-Year Experience, July 20-23 in Montreal, Canada. For additional information and to register online, click here.
AACC Contact: Kevin Christian

22. JOIN AACC’S DELEGATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS TO CHINA IN FALL 2009 to promote understanding and develop partnerships between AACC members and the Chinese Educational Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) vocational and technical institutions. The trip will include a conference in Beijing (Oct. 17-20) followed by an optional post-Beijing trip (Oct. 19-24) to visit Chinese vocational colleges in Xi’an, Shanghai, Ningbo and Hangzhou. Participants can either participate in the Beijing conference only or the Beijing conference and optional visits. Participating colleges will have an opportunity to host Chinese presidents and vice presidents in spring or fall 2010 for a two-week training program. For more information and to express interest in participating, see www.aacc.nche.edu/china or contact Judy Irwin.
AACC Contact: Judy Irwin

23. AACC AND THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (IIE) will co-sponsor a community college-only trip to Vietnam Sept. 22-26. The trip will include fairs in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) and Danang, as well as other recruiting activities. See costs and a proposed schedule. Note that IIE-Vietnam will offer participating colleges a special discount to join their all-inclusive (two-year and four-year colleges and universities) fairs the following week. Colleges interested in participating should contact Judy Irwin at jirwin@aacc.nche.edu.
AACC Contact: Judy Irwin