AACC Letter

November 11, 2011
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Policy and Advocacy

1. WELCOME, BIENVENUE, WILKOMMEN
International Education Week (IEW) is November 14–18, 2011. Join AACC in celebrating the valuable role community colleges play in “Inspiring Students Locally to Succeed Globally.” AACC encourages member colleges to get involved by helping us place a national spotlight on those individuals from our community colleges who demonstrate the IEW 2011 theme. Nominate one of your faculty, staff, students, or private sector partners to receive national recognition. E-mail your nominations (one paragraph; 3–5 sentences) to Wayne Wheeler. AACC will showcase participants on its website and social media platforms during IEW 2011. To support your college in its IEW 2011 activities, AACC has created an online toolkit of ideas and resources to help you raise awareness of the importance of international education.
AACC Contact: Wayne Wheeler

Grants and Partnerships

2. MINI-GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES
In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Computer Science Collaboration Project (CSCP) is offering mini-grant funding as an incentive for collaborative projects to efficiently increase the participation of K–12 youth with disabilities in computer science. The deadline for applications is November 30, 2011.
AACC Contact: Kevin Christian

3. MAKE CONNECTIONS IN COLOMBIA
Participate in the Colombia Alliance Program (CAP), funded by USAID. Ten grants, ranging from $50,000 up to $8.5 million, will be awarded for projects that leverage development assistance and resources to address global challenges through strengthening, enhancing, or creating alliances between international and local NGOs, the government of Colombia, colleges and universities, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, and the private sector. Deadline is December 15, 2011.
AACC Contact: Wayne Wheeler

4. SCHOLARSHIP SENDS STUDENTS PACKING
David L. Boren Scholarships provide up to $20,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in
Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East, where they can add important international and language components to their educations. Community college students are strongly encouraged to apply, as the scholarship strives for diversity in both applicants and recipients. Deadline to apply is February 9, 2012.

AACC Contact: Wayne Wheeler

**Program Initiatives**

5. **PLUS 50 COMPLETION STRATEGY EARN HIGH MARKS**

For adults age 50 and up, getting back on the job can be a tough proposition, especially if their skills are outdated. A Lumina Foundation grant-funded program through AACC is making strides at helping plus 50 adults return to college, complete degrees or certificates, and be more competitive. Known as the [Plus 50](#) Completion Strategy, the first year of the project earned [high marks from evaluators](#), who found that colleges were doing well at attracting and retraining plus 50 students and seeing that they finish degrees and certificates. Each of the eight colleges had Plus 50 students working toward degrees and credit certificates in their workforce programs. Noncredit certificates were awarded to 1,480 program participants, and 167 program participants were awarded credit certificates. Degrees were completed by 174 program participants and employment was achieved by 210 participants.

AACC Contact: Mary Sue Vickers

6. **GET ON THE HONOR ROLL**

The [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) is now accepting applications for the 2012 President’s Higher Education [Community Service Honor Roll](#). The Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement. It promotes the civic mission of higher education, highlights the role institutions play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement, and recognizes institutions that achieve meaningful, measureable outcomes in the communities they serve. Applications for service performed during the 2010–2011 academic year are due December 9, 2011.

AACC Contact: Gail Robinson

7. **SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE**

Your institution is invited to become a member of the [Service members Opportunity Colleges](#) (SOC) Consortium, a U.S. Department of Defense program administered by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. As a SOC partner, your institution will have an advantage when competing in the military market for education contracts and memoranda of understanding; have a voice in partnerships that help set and maintain policies, principles, and criteria for institutions serving military students; and build better institutional partnerships in the local military and veteran community. There is no fee to join.

AACC Contact: Tabitha Whissemore

**News and Social Media**
8. “CREATING A VETERAN-FRIENDLY COLLEGE AS PART OF YOUR BRAND”
A new generation of military veterans is returning home, and community colleges are ideal places to meet their needs. Read in Community College Times about some promising practices that will help institutions better engage student veterans.
AACC Contact: Matt Dembicki

9. “COLLEGES GET CREATIVE TO FUND IMPORTANT FACILITIES UPGRADES”
Read about how Valencia College partnered with University of Central Florida to complete a building project when state funding dried up in the October/November digital Community College Journal. All AACC members have free access with a simple login. Read, download or print stories, and share articles with your colleagues electronically.
AACC Contact: Sarah Lawler

Resources
10. FREE RESOURCES TO SEED YOUR COLLEGE’S GREEN INITIATIVES
AACC’s Sustainability Education and Economic Development (SEED) Center has three new resources:

- Webinar: Alternative Fuel Vehicles: New Technology, Refined Workforce Programs, November 30, 2011, 1:00 p.m. (ET). Learn about future workforce development opportunities in this industry and from two model colleges with cutting-edge hybrid vehicle training initiatives, including effective train-the-trainer efforts.
- Webinar: Community Colleges Leading Rural-Based Green Economy Initiatives, December 8, 2011, 2:00 p.m. (ET). Learn how the U.S. Department of Agriculture is supporting these efforts, how community colleges are preparing a qualified workforce to support these sectors, and how regional partnerships are leading to the job growth.
- SEED’s Resource Center has expanded to include two new sectors: transportation and fuels and sustainable agriculture, food and land. The Resource Center is a curated collection of information organized around seven green economy sectors. Resources are designed for community college educators and administrators to prepare students and workers for careers in the green economy. Developed and vetted by a technical advisory group of community colleges, nonprofits, and private industry leaders, these new collections include curricular materials, employment industry projections, information about certification, and innovative practice models.

AACC Contact: Katya Nekrasova

11. FIELDBOOK FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTORS
Discover how using Web-based instruction can motivate students and produce positive learning outcomes. The book is filled with teaching tips, Internet resources, and sample teaching material. Read a full description, preview the book, and order online here, or call 800-250-6557.
AACC Contact: Sarah Lawler

12. NEW WEBSITE EXPLORES BENEFITS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PATHWAYS
The Community College Research Center (CCRC) has launched the website for the Center for Analysis
of Postsecondary Education and Employment (CAPSEE). Over the next 5 years, the center will study the employment and earnings benefits associated with a broad range of postsecondary education pathways. In collaboration with five state partners (Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, and Virginia), CAPSEE researchers will link employment and college data for hundreds of thousands of students in order to obtain a detailed understanding of how well a variety of postsecondary pathways work. CAPSEE’s research will also shed light on labor market outcomes for students working while in college, attending for-profit versus public colleges, and transferring as opposed to starting out at 4-year institutions.

AACC Contact: Jim Hermes

13. SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAMS WORK
Developmental summer bridge programs—typically held in the summer between high school graduation and fall matriculation in college—involve intensive remedial instruction and college success courses for students entering college with low basic skills. A National Center on Postsecondary Research (NCPR) report finds that students in bridge programs were more likely to pass college-level courses in math and writing. These programs are increasingly popular with colleges, and the NCPR study is the first to use a rigorous randomized design to assess their effectiveness.

AACC Contact: Jim Hermes

14. IS YOUR CAMPUS SECURE?
Government Training Inc. has released a book to help secondary and postsecondary institutions develop an emergency response plan. From natural disasters to terrorist attacks, the School Security Handbook covers every eventuality.

AACC Contact: Deanna D’Errico

Events and Services

15. NAVIGATING THE PATH FROM WORKFORCE TRAINING TO COLLEGE LEADERSHIP
Future Leaders Institute/WDI is an intensive seminar, occurring January 24–25, 2012, in Miami, Florida. It is designed for workforce training and continuing education professionals looking to move into a higher level of leadership. This institute offers practical lessons and scenarios as well as the opportunity to network with the nation’s rising community college leaders. FLI is held in conjunction with AACC’s Workforce Development Institute.

AACC Contact: Courtney Larson

16. SAVE THE DATE FOR PASI 2012
The 2012 AACC Presidents Academy Summer Institute is scheduled for July 7–10, 2012, in beautiful Jackson Hole, Wyoming. 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 CEOs and presidents.

AACC Contact: Tavia Cummings