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CC: Chris BaucomChris.Baucom@act.org
Lori BaldwinLori.Baldwin@act.org
Date: 4/3/2013 11:40:39 AM
Subject: CWRC group 1 updates

Hello, all --

Hope this note finds everyone well. I wanted to share a few updates with you as a follow up from our meeting in Portland.

1. We will be working with Tony Garife and Fred McConnel to set up state team calls this month. We want to hear about the progress being made!
2. As you may recall, Oregon suggested to us that we reach out to AACC (American Association of Community Colleges) regarding the ACE (American Council on Education) approval of the NCRC for college credit. Tom Lindsley has been working on that since I shared that request with him in February after our Portland meeting. Below is a the most recent AACC newsletter with a nice mention of ACE's approval of the NCRC for college credit.
3. We are also completing the draft documents to help define our working relationship and support for the Round I CWRC states. We plan to send a draft for your review and comment next week.
4. We moved the NCRC State to National charts live on your state admin pages on the CWRC website. However, we are still in progress on working to provide you with the data on individuals who have taken three tests but have not earned a certificate. This data is a bit more complicated to set up. However, we are working on it and hope to have that report available to you this spring.
5. We are working through final steps on the CWRC survey plan. Thank you all for sending us your top survey questions. That feedback was most helpful.
6. We are working to bring on board our newest group of states this spring. I will be sure to share who they are when we complete the on boarding process.
7. And finally, a shout out to Jasper County, Missouri, for achieving their CWRC goals!

Please let me know if you have any questions. It is truly an honor to work with all of you!

Regards,
Debra

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AACC STAFF

MEMBERSHIP

Illinois's Monetary Award Program is shrinking, making it more difficult for some disadvantaged students to pay for college. At the same time, New Jersey's NJ STARS scholarship program is still alive because of compromise.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

Want to be profiled on the AACC website? Member institutions can submit their colleges for inclusion in AACC's weekly [Community College Spotlight](#).

PRECONVENTION WORKSHOPS

A special focus on leadership development makes AACC's [preconvention workshops](#) a must if you want to be prepared for anything that may come your way. Workshops take place April 19–20, 2013, in San Francisco.

POLICY and ADVOCACY

1. PROGRESS ON FY 2013 FUNDING

Earlier this week, the House voted to keep the government funded through the end of the federal fiscal year. This took the form of passage of a full-year continuing appropriations resolution (CR) for FY 2013. The current CR that expires March 27. The House bill, [H.R. 933](#), provides detailed spending bills for the Departments of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, shifting funds within these bills to priority programs to blunt the impact of sequestration. Funding for all other federal agencies and programs for FY 2013 remain largely at FY 2012 levels, less approximately 5% required by sequestration. The Budget Control Act of 2011 exempted several programs from sequestration, particularly Pell Grants, for FY 2013. Check the [Advocacy website](#) for updates.

AACC Contact: [Laurie Quarles](#)

2. SEQUESTRATION RESOURCES

While the full effects of sequestration will not be felt immediately, all nonexempt, nonsecurity federal projects, and activities for FY 2013 were subject to across-the-board cuts of approximately 5%. These cuts will impact numerous priority programs for community colleges and their students, including Work-Study, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, TRIO, GEAR UP, Titles III-A Strengthening Institutions and Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions, as well as Perkins CTE, Adult Education, TAACCCT grants, and NSF- ATE grants. AACC will disseminate guidance from various federal agencies that becomes available to help colleges better understand the full impact of sequestration. AACC Contacts: [Cori Baime](#) and [Laurie Quarles](#)

PROGRAM INITIATIVES

3. CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Community colleges now can recognize and award 3 hours of college credit in applied critical thinking to individuals who earn specific levels of the [ACT National Career Readiness Certificate](#). The credit will expand postsecondary opportunities for returning service members, dislocated and emerging workforce and career and technical education students. Earning the credential enables an individual to demonstrate foundational competencies across three critical skill areas linked by research to workplace success: reading comprehension, applied mathematics, and locating information.

AACC Contact: [Gail Schwartz](#)

4. FEMA SEEKS INTERNS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is seeking summer interns for the [Pathways Internship Program](#). The program allows students to gain real, paid work experience while pursuing a college degree. Under the program's option, students hired under the program may be transitioned to a federal career or contract position. Deadline to apply: March 11, 2013.

AACC Contact: [Tabitha Whissemore](#)

GRANTS and PARTNERSHIPS

5. SALUTE EXEMPLARY TEACHING; NOMINATE A PROFESSOR TODAY

The [U.S. Professors of the Year](#) program honors the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country. It is the only national program to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. The Carnegie Foundation and CASE will name national-level winners in four categories, one of which is Outstanding Community College Professor. Deadline for entries: April 15, 2013.

AACC Contact: [Norma Kent](#)

NEWS and SOCIAL NETWORKING

6. "FOR N.C. MANUFACTURER, LOCAL COLLEGE IS A PARTNER IN PROGRESS"

In 1990, when Jerry Pedley needed skilled manufacturing workers in order to grow his company, Central Carolina Community College. Pedley still looks to CCC as his primary source for workforce training. Read more about it in *Community College Times*.

AACC Contact: [Matt Dembicki](#)

7. "THE ADVOCATES"

Read about leaders fighting for access, funding, and what's right for America's community colleges.

February/March issue of *Community College Journal*. All staff on AACC member campuses have to the digital magazine with a [simple login](#).

AACC Contact: [Sarah Lawler](#)

RESOURCES

8. 2013 FAST FACTS

The nation's 1,132 community colleges enroll nearly half of all undergraduates in the United States—13 million students. Learn more from AACC's 2013 [Community College Fact Sheet](#).

AACC Contact: [Tabitha Whissemore](#)

9. NEW WEBSITE FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS

As part of its work with the U.S. Department of Labor, AACC would like to make colleges aware of [System Strategies](#)—a powerful new Web-based resource designed by the Employment and Training Administration to help workforce development professionals, frontline staff, academic institutions, and policymakers identify and implement effective practices to support improved outcomes for workforce system customers. It provides access to the most recent and relevant workforce strategies and case studies, as well as toolkits developed by workforce development practitioners and peer experts to help you design and develop policy, write grant proposals, conduct research, and more.

AACC Contact: [Katya Nekrasova](#)

10. MORE FEMALE STEM STUDENTS IN JUST ONE YEAR

In a free webinar by [WomenTech Educators](#), learn proven, research-based recruitment and retention strategies so you can see more female students succeed in your STEM classes and have a richer educational environment. The webinar is scheduled for March 20, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. (ET).

AACC Contact: [Sarah Lawler](#)

11. INTRODUCING THE JOINT SERVICES TRANSCRIPT

The Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard are moving to a Joint Services Transcript this year. Are you prepared? The American Council on Education will host a series of free [webinars](#) to help you learn about the transcript process for service members, veterans, colleges, and universities. The first webinar is scheduled for March 20, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. (ET).

AACC Contact: [Kevin Christian](#)

EVENTS and SERVICES

12. BOOK YOUR STAY IN SAN FRANCISCO

Annual AACC Convention hotel rooms are going fast. [Book your stay](#) in San Francisco now in our online reservation system at the hotel of your choosing.

AACC Contact: [Tavia Cummings](#)

13. SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE

“[Are WE Ready to Serve?](#) Innovations and Resources to Ensure a Military-Friendly Campus,” a pre-convention workshop in collaboration with American Council on Education, will explore the challenges and opportunities presented by the expanding number of student veterans at community colleges. Participants will highlight promising practices and available resources and will identify national programs and current partnerships that may help turn your college into a veteran-friendly institution. The workshop will be held on March 20, 2013, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

AACC Contact: [Carolina Zumarán-Jones](#)

14. GROW LEADERS ON YOUR CAMPUS

Have you identified midlevel administrators who are ready to move into a higher level of leadership on your campus? AACC's [John E. Roueche Future Leaders Institute](#) will give them the skills they need to move your campus forward. The next session is June 23–28, 2013, in Baltimore, Maryland.

AACC Contact: [Jennifer Tinch](#)

15. GET IN THE TRENCHES OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Join the Council for Resource Development for a [2-week intensive training](#), June 2–14. Hosted by the University of Maryland, this boot camp will give new or changing development staff members the tools to bring in funding. Participants will meet federal agency representatives, hear from seasoned professionals, and work with colleagues from other colleges. You'll see the ROI in a matter of months.

AACC Contact: [Mary Heiss](#)

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