

NEWSLETTER

December 2018

Volume 4 Number 2

SACAD LUNCHEON ANNOUNCED



Mr. Rodger Patience

The Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees is pleased to announce the plans for the Annual Luncheon. The speaker for the annual luncheon will be Mr. Rodger Patience, Director and Faculty member on EAB's Academic Performance Solutions Team. His presentation is entitled "*Influencing Change*."

The Educational Advisory Board (EAB) is a group that helps education leaders solve their most significant problems. EAB utilizes a process of discovering best practices and then customizes solutions for education clients through their technology and services.

Rodger Patience brings more than 15 years of experience in health care, working with hospitals and health systems across the country to drive significant change in access, cost savings, and revenue. In addition, Rodger has 10 years of experience in development operations at Chicago-area nonprofit organizations such as the Field Museum of Natural History.

Since joining the firm, he has taught workshops and presented research at leading health care organizations and universities on topics such as leading amidst uncertainty, change leadership, accountability, foundations of finance, and the art of data-informed conversation.

The luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 11:30 am to 1:15 pm at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, the Rivergate Room, Level 1 of the convention center, New Orleans, Louisiana. The cost for the luncheon is \$35 and individuals may register for the luncheon through the regular SACSCOC registration process. For more information, contact Dr. George D. Edwards, Executive Secretary-Treasurer at gdedwards930@gmail.com.

LIMITED NUMBER OF SACAD LUNCHEON TICKETS AVAILABLE

The response by representatives of member institutions for the annual SACAD luncheon has been very good. For those who registered for the luncheon through the SACSCOC Convention registration process, your nametag will provide entrance to the luncheon.

For any individual who has not registered for the luncheon, reserve your ticket by contacting Dr. George D. Edwards at gdedwards930@gmail.com.

The ticket will be \$35 and available at the door. No tickets will be available after December 3, 2018.

SACAD HOSTS CONCURRENT SESSION

The Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees will host a concurrent session at the SACSCOC Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 1:30 to 2:30 pm in the Ernest Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. The session is entitled "Principles of Effective Influence for Change Leaders."

In the session, a framework of principles of effective influence, based on Education Advisory Board research, will be presented. Mr. Rodger Patience, Director and Faculty Member on EAB's Academic Performance Solutions Team, will lead the session. A panel of college administrators to include Dr. Devin Stephenson, President of Northwest Florida State

Continued on page 2

SACAD Annual Meeting

December 9, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Rivergate Room, Level 1
The Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, Louisiana

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

PRESIDING

Dr. Patricia A. Lee
President, Williamsburg Technical College, SC

WELCOME

Dr. Patricia A. Lee

INVOCATION

Dr. Jane Hulon
President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, MS



BUSINESS SESSION

Financial Report
Dr. George D. Edwards
SACAD Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Recognition of Sponsors

Dr. Patricia A. Lee

Recognition of Board Members and Officers

Dr. Patricia A. Lee



INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Karen Bowyer
President, Dyersburg State Community College, TN

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mr. Rodger Patience
Director and Faculty
EAB's Academic Performance Solutions Team

"Influencing Change"



DOOR PRIZES

Dr. James David Campbell
President, Northeast Alabama Community College, AL

(Continued from page 1)

College; Dr. Natalie Harder, Chancellor, South Louisiana Community College; and Ms. Valerie Jones, Vice President of Instruction, Odessa College will provide examples of effective change management.

LEAD SPONSOR AT LUNCHEON

The SACAD Board is pleased to announce that EdFinancial will once again be the lead sponsor for the Annual Luncheon to be held at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans on December 9, 2018 from 11:30 am to 1:15pm. The luncheon is scheduled in the Rivergate Room, Level 1, of the convention center .

EdFinancial is a company that for more than 20 years, has provided servicing solutions for higher education. Over the years, they have changed and evolved in response to the needs of their customers. Edfinancial leverages its expertise in customer service and federal financial aid to deliver third party solutions that help colleges increase operational efficiencies and improve service to students.

Their suite of services includes:

- * Call center solutions for admission, financial aid, registrar and bursar offices
- * Proactive outreach for enrollment/retention
- * Financial aid outsourcing
- * Default prevention software and services
- * Consulting

Today, Edfinancial works with over 150 colleges nationwide. Community colleges account for more than half of the customer base. Please visit their website at www.edfinancial.com/HES/CaseStudies to review recent community college case studies and learn how their experience, talent and technology can promote student success at institutions like yours.

CURRENT MEMBERS RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

The SACAD dues for 2018-19 are \$150.00. If you have not yet paid your membership dues for 2018-19, you may still do so.

Please contact Dr. George D. Edwards, Executive Secretary-Treasurer at gdedwards930@gmail.com , 606-424- 8867, or see the SACAD website at www.sacad.org for more information.

ALABAMA

GRAMMY-AWARD WINNING MUSICIAN JOINS CALHOUN PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY



Chris Vrenna

So, what would lure a Grammy-award winning drummer who has played with the likes of Nine Inch Nails, Marilyn Manson, Metalica, Gnarl Barkley, and U2 to come to Calhoun Community College with a desire to lead the College's music technology program? Ask Chris Vrenna, and he will tell you that a rotator cuff injury and required surgery resulted in him trading in his life on stage to his new life in the classroom.

For Vrenna, his love of music began early in life. Growing up with a father who loved marching bands, Vrenna learned early on to appreciate the "art" of drumming. After graduating from high school, Vrenna would spend much of his adult life as a professional musician, which would include a performance with Nine Inch Nails in front of 300,000 fans at Woodstock, in 1994; selling out venues like Madison Square Garden; and winning a Grammy. However even with such an impressive musical resume, Vrenna said that his parents' dream was that he finish his college degree. "A few years ago, that's what I did. If they were both alive, they'd be really proud of me."

Inspired to teach by his involvement in an after-school program for at-risk youth sponsored by the Hollywood Arts Foundation, Vrenna realized that his passion for music could be combined with his love of teaching. His first official teaching position was with a school in Madison, Wisconsin, where he spent five years before seeing the position vacancy at Calhoun. Impressed by the program and what he saw at the Alabama Center for the Arts, Vrenna joined the Calhoun faculty in August, 2018.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM HOSTS MANUFACTURING SKILLS STANDARD COUNCIL'S NATIONAL BOARD AND LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Recently the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) served as host for the annual Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC)'s National Board and Leadership Meeting in Point Clear, AL. Alabama is the first state in the nation to offer MSSC credentials at community colleges statewide, and the ACCS was selected to host this year's gathering due to this pioneering effort.



"Under the leadership of Governor Kay Ivey and Jeff Lynn the ACCS state-wide implementation of the Certified Production Technician (CPT) has exceeded any and all expectations," said Leo Reddy, CEO of MSSC. "Alabama is now the only state in the union to achieve state-wide, post-secondary, implementation of the nation's leading certification system to prepare front-line workers with 21st century skills in advanced manufacturing."

The partnership between ACCS and MSSC, gives Alabamians the ability to be certified as a Certified Production Technician (CPT) or Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) through the completion of approved coursework and training. Courses can be offered for credit as part of a degree program or as a non-credit offering. Additionally, the courses are available to high school students participating in dual enrollment across the state. The certifications focus on manufacturing processes and production, safety, quality, and maintenance among other important subject areas needed for success in the technology-intensive industry.

ACCS AWARDED \$1.75 MILLION GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) awarded the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) a new \$1.75 million grant this month through their POWER Initiative to support economic growth in coal-mining communities in 10 central and west Alabama counties.

The grant will fund the ACCS's STRONG project -- Support Real Opportunities for New Growth -- which seeks to increase awareness about job opportunities in the field of advanced manufacturing and provide students and workers with life skills, remedial education, technical skills and certificate training to prepare them for post-secondary education or direct placement into jobs.

FLORIDA

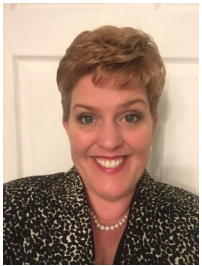
PENSACOLA STATE BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW STEM BUILDING

The groundbreaking for Pensacola State College's new state-of-the-art STEM building was recently held on the Pensacola campus.

Construction on the first phase (South Wing) of the facility will begin in January 2019 – following the abatement and demolition of the existing Mary Ellison Baars Building.

Ajax Building Corp is the project's general contractor, and Florida Architects has designed the building. The more than 70,000-square-foot STEM facility will replace the Baars Building which was constructed in 1956. More commonly referred to as Building 1, the facility was named for the matriarch of the Baars family in recognition of their role in making the property available for the College's Pensacola campus.

PSC STUDENT SELECTED A FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM SCHOLAR STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Jennifer Ojeda

2018 has been a banner year for Pensacola State College student Jennifer Ojeda. Along with being recognized for academic achievement and traveling internationally, she was selected the Florida College System Chancellor's Clark Maxwell Scholar of the Month for September.

The award recognizes outstanding FCS students who demonstrate leadership skills, academic success and/or commitment to community service. Students are recognized monthly by the Florida College System Chancellor with a \$150 scholarship, certificate and highlighted in the newsletter.

Twenty-three years after graduating high school, Ojeda returned to further her postsecondary education at Pensacola State. A senior pursuing a Bachelor of Applied Science in Business and Management degree, with a concentration in Human Resources Management, Ojeda said her passion for helping and serving others led her to seek a career in human resources.

In 2017, Ojeda earned an associate degree in business administration at Pensacola State — graduating magna cum laude. She matriculated into the College's Bachelor of Applied Science in business and management, where she has maintained a 4.0 grade point average.

A Robinson Honors Program Scholar, Ojeda also was recently inducted into Sigma Beta Delta, the National Honor Society recognizing academic achievement in business, management and administration.

GEORGIA

WIREFRASS TECH SELECTED AS A CHARTER INSTITUTION

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College has been selected to participate in the charter cohort of the Excellence in Academic Advising comprehensive advising strategic planning process. Created jointly by NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising and the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education, Excellence in Academic Advising establishes the aspirational standards for institutions to evaluate and improve academic advising and acknowledge the central role of advising in promoting student learning, success, and completion.

In this first year, Wiregrass will partner with an Excellence in Academic Advising Fellow who will guide the school through an institution-wide, process to improve its academic advising efforts. Using EAA's nine "Conditions of Excellence in Academic Advising," Wiregrass Tech will refine, validate, and establish the standards or benchmarks to guide a reflective self-study and strategic assessment of academic advising.

The Wiregrass' ARC provides students with the opportunity to meet with a professional advisor for the purpose of gaining assistance in planning their educational career, learning needed skills for academic success, and learning how to access the variety of resources and services available to them on the campus. The ARC is responsible for all first-term, pre-program Allied Health, Associate of Science, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Care and Education, and Culinary Arts students. The ARC also advises all Technical and Industrial and Professional Services students their first term, and all Business Education and Computers Science students up to 60% of program completion. The ARC has seven full-time, and three part-time advisors.

The ARC at Wiregrass will soon be advising current students for Spring Semester, beginning January 9, 2019.

KENTUCKY

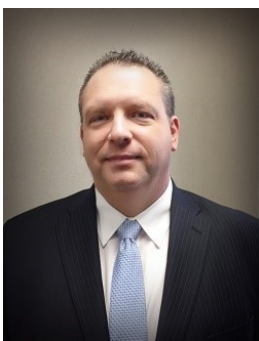
SKCTC RECEIVES \$80K ARC GRANT

Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKCTC) has been awarded an \$80,000 POWER grant by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). This grant will help the college secure investors and develop projects for downtown revitalization in multiple counties throughout southeast Kentucky.

The project will include investment case studies and yield a set of recommended investments as well as a communications strategy to help market these opportunities to

local communities, developers, and philanthropies. The project is a collaboration between a number of POWER grant recipients in Southeast Kentucky, and is a partnership between SKCTC, the University of Kentucky, and the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky, among others.

NEW PRESIDENT SELECTED FOR ASHLAND COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Dr. Larry Ferguson

Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) President Jay K. Box recently announced the appointment of Dr. Larry Ferguson as president of Ashland Community and Technical College (ACTC).

Ferguson recently served as vice president and acting chancellor for KCTCS. He is the former KCTCS vice chancellor for Economic Development and Workforce Solutions and has served in a number of leadership positions at ACTC.

Ferguson earned a doctorate of philosophy in educational leadership with a specialization in e-learning from Trident University. He earned a master of science degree in strategic leadership and a bachelor of science degree in organizational leadership, both from Mountain State University. Additionally, he earned an associate degree with a focus in communications from ACTC.

Ferguson began his duties as ACTC president on October 1, 2018.

BIG SANDY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO BENEFIT FROM \$2.5 MILLION EDA GRANT

The federal government has awarded an advanced manufacturing technology grant to three KCTCS institutions including Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC). The Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced the recipients of the grant at the 2018 SOAR Summit.

The EDA is the only federal government agency focused exclusively on economic development. The agency plays a critical role in regional economic development efforts across the U.S. The Commerce Department, which houses the EDA, states that the grant will provide additional funds to help communities severely affected by the declining coal industry and create 261 jobs.

BSCTC strives to continue to bring manufacturing and advanced technology to eastern Kentucky and this grant will allow that work to continue. American Metal Works, Silverliner and the new Advanced Technology Center, which will open in the spring on the Pikeville campus, are some of the projects the college has been involved in to help retrain the workforce.

"We pride ourselves on our continued focus to train the workforce in this area. With this grant from the EDA, we can continue to provide training for advanced manufacturing," said Dr. Sherry Zylka, BSCTC President/CEO. The grant will also provide grant funds to Southeast Community and Technical College and Hazard Community and Technical College.

KCTCS ANNOUNCES NEW CHANCELLOR



Dr. Kristin Williams

Dr. Kristin Williams has been named chancellor of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). She is no stranger to the system. Williams previously was president of Henderson Community College, has served as interim president of Hazard Community and Technical College and was chief academic officer at Hopkinsville Community College. Prior to joining KCTCS, she was vice president at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, Florida.

The KCTCS chancellor is the chief academic officer for the system providing leadership, service and support for academic affairs, economic/workforce development, institutional research and effectiveness, distance learning initiatives and external collaborative relationships.

Williams earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture, a master's degree in higher education leadership and a Ph.D. in educational leadership all from the University of Florida.

MADISONVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR QUALITY

Madisonville Community College (MCC) recently received notification of a national ranking from the personal finance website, WalletHub. According to analysis of publicly available data on costs and financing, educational outcomes, and career outcomes, MCC was ranked 16th in the nation from over 700 institutions reviewed.

According to WalletHub, the data used in the rankings included information reported to the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Department of Education, among other sources. Metrics like the student loan default rate, graduation and retention rates, the amounts of scholarship awards available, and the success of MCC graduates in their careers all contributed to the ranking.

In addition to MCC's ranking, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) was ranked as the 6th best community college system in the country.



LOUISIANA

LCTCS CELEBRATES 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Voters in October 1998 approved a constitutional amendment forming the statewide network of community and technical colleges, a proposal pushed by then-Gov. Mike Foster.

The system recently commemorated the 20-year benchmark at its annual conference in New Orleans. The goal was to bolster educational opportunities and increase workforce training capacity. It has grown to 12 open-access, two-year colleges around Louisiana.

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System says it has awarded more than 327,000 credentials to students since its creation.

MISSISSIPPI

CO-LIN SELECTS DR. JANE HULON AS EIGHTH PRESIDENT



Dr. Jane Hulon

The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees named Dr. Jane Hulon as its eighth president. Dr. Hulon previously served as the Vice President of the Wesson Campus. She assumed the role of president, July 1, 2018, from Dr. Ronnie Nettles, who announced his retirement in November, 2017.

Her experience includes academic, career-technical, student services, institutional development, information technology, business services, athletics, workforce and other non-credit areas.

Dr. Hulon is serving in her tenth year at the Vice President's level at the College. In her current role as Vice President of the Wesson Campus, she supervises all instructional and instructional support programs located on the Wesson Campus and works closely with the leadership at the Natchez Campus and Simpson County Center. In addition, she has been responsible for overseeing the SACSCOC Accreditation Process for the institution.

In past positions at Co-Lin, she has served as the Vice President of Instructional Services, Academic Dean of Instruction, and Director of Planning and Research. Dr. Hulon has also held instructional, research, and administrative positions at several locations including: East Mississippi Community College's Golden Triangle Campus, Mississippi State University, Mississippi Department of Education, Jones County Junior College, and Jones County Schools.

Dr. Hulon attended Jones County Junior College and received both a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Education Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Southern Mississippi. She earned her Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Mississippi State University.

NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES ALLOCATES \$5 MILLION FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

The State Board of Community Colleges approved the allocation of \$5 million to help students affected by Hurricane Florence.

The funding was approved by the General Assembly in a special session October 15, 2018. Of the \$5 million, \$4.9 million will be allocated for emergency grants to help students at 21 community colleges serving federally designated disaster counties, and \$100,000 will be used by the NC Community College System Office for emergency grants for other eligible students.

The funds will cover grants of up to \$1,250 to each eligible postsecondary student who has suffered financial hardship caused by damage and destruction from Hurricane Florence. The funds may be used to cover any expenses that support a student's continued enrollment, including costs related to transportation, textbooks, tuition, fees and living expenses. Colleges will begin accepting applications from students November 1, 2018.

NEW PRESIDENT AT FORSYTH TECH APPROVED



Dr. Janet Spriggs

Dr. Janet Spriggs was selected as the new president of Forsyth Technical Community College. Dr. Spriggs has 22 years of service in the North Carolina Community College System.

Dr. Spriggs most recently served as the chief operating officer of Rowan-Cabarrus Community College. Previously, she served Carteret Community College from 1996 to 2011 in increasing roles of responsibility. She was one of 40 leaders selected from across the nation as a 2018-19 Aspen Presidential Fellow for Community College Excellence.

She holds a doctorate in higher education administration from Northeastern University, a master's degree in computing technology from Nova Southeastern University and a bachelor's degree in computer information systems from Roger Williams University.

Dr. Spriggs will begin on January 1, 2019.

SOUTH CAROLINA

NEW AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR ONLINE OFFERINGS-SCTECHCONNECT

As part of efforts to increase accessibility and enhance affordability, the South Carolina Technical College System SCTCS developed an awareness campaign to promote all the System's existing online offerings under one brand umbrella – *SCTechConnect*. This awareness campaign is designed to promote online offerings through the state's 16 technical college as an affordable, flexible option for meeting higher education goals. The campaign included television, radio, billboards, online marketing and social media outreach.

The www.sctechconnect.com website serves as the hub of the campaign. All outreach efforts direct prospective students back to the site. While on the site, the potential student can explore success stories, high level description of available offerings, take a quiz to see if they are a good candidate for online courses and find the college closest to them in order to register and begin their online education.

In its first quarter, the site has experienced a conversion rate of 18% more than four times that of the national average.

TOUR DE TECH: SOUTH CAROLINA



Across South Carolina, prospective and continuing students alike are too often forced to make hard financial decisions to ensure they can continue their educational endeavors. While the SC Technical College System's 16 colleges across the state strive to remain affordable and accessible for all South Carolinians with low tuition and numerous financial assistance programs, our students at times must make the difficult decision to take a class or pay a bill.

To help answer this need, System President Dr. Tim Hardee combined his passion for cycling, love of South Carolina and commitment to education and began Tour de Tech. He toured the state by bike visiting each of our sixteen college campuses on a two-week adventure with routes covering the Upstate, Midlands and Lowcountry. Tour de Tech South Carolina spanned 800 miles and was designed to raise much-needed scholarship funds for our students while also increasing the visibility of our state's educational gem - the South Carolina Technical College System and its 16 colleges.

The Tour was a huge success raising nearly \$90,000 for student scholarships and garnering a great deal of local and statewide press.

PALMETTO PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PILOT

In 2017, the General Assembly funded a new scholarship program as a pilot for the residents of Williamsburg County that attended Williamsburg Technical College incoming local-area high school graduates from 13 to 30 percent.

This year, the General Assembly expanded the pilot to include \$3.9 million for a Palmetto Promise Scholarship Pilot as part of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget. It now includes 33 additional districts and it is intended to assist recent high school graduates in some of South Carolina's poorest counties in accessing higher education via the state's technical colleges. The Palmetto Promise Scholarship is a "last-dollar" scholarship.

Subject to funding by the General Assembly, the scholarship must cover the cost of tuition, mandatory fees, program fees, and books, up to a maximum of \$2,000 in the fiscal year, minus any gift aid such as Pell Grants, Tuition Grants, LIFE Scholarships and Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA), which must be credited first. The scholarship covers two semesters or until the student earns a diploma or associates degree, whichever comes first.

To qualify, an applying student must have earned a high school diploma or GED between 2013 and 2018 while residing within one of the eligible school districts and must complete the Promise Scholarship application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Once enrolled, to continue to receive the scholarship, the student must enroll in at least six credit hours during the semester, maintain a 2.0 grade point average and participate in a mentoring program.

The program is expected to boost enrollment at some of the state's rural technical colleges and result in more high school graduates entering higher education. Efforts like these will help move the state further toward the CHE's goal of reaching 60% of the state's working-age population in possession of a post-secondary degree or credential by 2025.

TENNESSEE

THEC RECOMMENDS INCREASE IN STATE APPROPRIATIONS

The TN Higher Education Commission (THEC) at their November meeting recommended a recurring increase of \$64 million in state appropriations for all of public higher education. This recommended increase recognizes growth in outcome productivity and continues the shift in funding from students to the state.

Although at several of the 13 community colleges student tuition makes up half of the total operating revenue. With this increase of \$64 million, 69.3% of the Outcomes Formula Appropriations Calculation is funded. The 13 community colleges are recommended to receive \$16,126,100 of the proposed increased funding. The production of associate degrees at the community colleges increased 8% in 2017-18 compared to 2016-17. The growth in degrees may be attributed to the growth in enrollment when the TN Promise Scholarship Program began in 2015 at the community colleges.

ADULT RECONNECT SCHOLARSHIPS - AVAILABLE FOR FIRST TIME FALL 2018

Adult Reconnect Scholarships were available for the first time at the community college in the fall of 2018. To qualify the adults had to be independent students or at least 24 years of age, enroll in at least 6 hours of credit courses and not have an associate or bachelor's degree. Enrollment of adult students increased by 41% at some of the community colleges.

The TN Promise and the Adult Reconnect Scholarships are both last-dollar scholarships which are funded by the TN Lottery.

TEXAS

ACC AND UHCL SIGN ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Presidents from Alvin Community College and the University of Houston-Clear Lake signed an articulation agreement on July 18 that will facilitate students wishing to transfer from an Associate Degree program to a Bachelors Degree.

This agreement establishes a transfer protocol that will create a clear pathway for ACC Associates of Arts graduates who want to obtain a Bachelor's Degree at UH-Clear Lake.

This articulation agreement will benefit students who have earned an Associates Degrees in General Studies, Psychology, Computer Information Technology to Bachelors programs in Communication, Criminal Justice, Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Psychology.

UH-Clear Lake President Dr. Ira K. Blake said the agreement will allow students to transition into a Bachelor's program.

ACC launched its Pathways Program in 2016. Closely based on the current national Pathways Project led by the American Association of Community Colleges, the Pathways Project is an initiative to help achieve the 60x30 goal set by Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to have 60 percent of 25 to 34 year old Texans

earn a certificate or degree by 2030.

APPROXIMATELY 1,000 GUESTS JOIN BLINN IN CELEBRATION OF THE WALTER C. SCHWARTZ BUILDING AT REL LIS

State and community leaders, representatives from The Texas A&M System and various state agencies, and more than 1,000 students, faculty, and members of the community joined the Blinn College District in celebrating the grand opening of Blinn's first building at the REL LIS Campus. The ceremony included remarks from Dr. Mary Hensley, Chancellor of the Blinn College District; Charles Moser, Chair of the Blinn College District Board of Trustees; John Sharp, Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System; Charles W. Schwartz, Chair of The Texas A&M System Board of Regents; Ruth R. Hughs, Texas Workforce Commission Chair and Commissioner Representing Employers; Senator Lois W. Kolkhorst; and Representatives John Raney, and Kyle Kacal.



The 83,000-square-foot Walter C. Schwartz Building features 19 classrooms and eight laboratories, and will allow students to learn cutting-edge, high-demand skills in an environment that encourages collaboration between public institutions and private companies.

Each program at the REL LIS Academic Alliance creates a seamless pathway for students to earn a bachelor's degree in related fields from an A&M System University. Blinn's new facility is named after the late Walter C. Schwartz, who served as Blinn's 11th president from 1984 until he was named the College District's first chancellor in 1994. During his 46-year tenure with the College, he helped to oversee Blinn's growth from approximately 300 to more than 12,000 students.

Dr. Schwartz was a graduate of Brenham High School, Blinn College, the University of Texas, and the University of Houston. He served as Dean of Students from 1959-1984.



VIRGINIA

NEW PRESIDENT AT J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Paula P. Pando, of Atlantic Heights, NJ, became president of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, September 1, 2018. That announcement was made by Dr. Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges. Pando's selection concludes a national search that attracted 102 applicants.

Dr. Pando became the college's fourth president, succeeding Dr. Gary Rhodes, who retired on September 1, 2018 after serving in that role for 16 years.



Dr. Paula Pando

"Dr. Paula Pando's life is a uniquely American success story," said DuBois. "She was very young when her family came to the U.S. from Chile. She had to learn a new language and a new culture, and she has excelled ever since. She has built an impressive career, focused on helping people find and leverage opportunity, and I expect her to be a terrific president for Reynolds Community College."

Dr. Pando has worked in higher education for more than 21 years. She began her career in 1994 as the director of campus activities and programs at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, NJ. Beginning in 2000, Dr. Pando worked as a consultant for a New York firm, facilitating sensitivity and diversity training, among other topics.

In 2003, she joined Hudson County Community College, in Jersey City, NJ, as the associate dean for student services. She has since risen through the ranks, holding three different vice presidencies, including her previous role as senior vice president for student and educational services.

In 2017, Dr. Pando was among 38 leaders from across the country selected for the Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence, a rigorous 10 month applied leadership program. She also holds a doctorate from Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ; a master's degree from Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, NJ; and bachelor's degree from Stockton University in Pomona, NJ.

VCCS ALIGNMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

To better facilitate opportunities for individuals, and to better serve the needs of business and industry, Virginia's Community College System (VCCS) is realigning its organizational structure at the State level. The new organizational structure will place responsibility for credit,

non-credit and credential-based programs, as well as academic and student services within a unified organizational structure, led by Dr. Sharon Morrissey, Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research.

Today's economy transcends the labels of credit and non-credit. The VCCS's new organizational structure reflects this important change. Chancellor Glenn DuBois stated that "Virginians deserve to receive the education and training that best meets their needs and their aspirations, regardless of where it is delivered in our colleges and by whom. Businesses deserve to receive people who are skilled and credentialed, without concern for our administrative structures."



Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees
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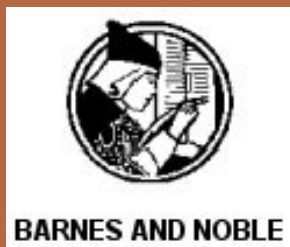
Email: gdedwards930@gmail.com

SACAD gratefully acknowledges the sponsors for the annual luncheon

Silver Level



Bronze Level



Participating Level

