



Dear Community College Colleagues:

The 2010 Community College National Legislative Summit (NLS) comes at a time when community colleges are receiving unprecedented national recognition and appreciation. Supported by President Barack Obama and Congress, community colleges are finally being recognized as significant educational and economic engines for America's local and national economies. Thanks to your support at the 2009 NLS and throughout the year, we have been able to pave the way for unprecedented federal assistance.

At last February's NLS, Education Secretary Arne Duncan announced the Obama-Biden administration's commitment to community colleges. In the months that followed, President Obama formalized this commitment by appointing Martha Kanter, longtime chancellor of Foothill-De Anza Community College District in California, to the position of Under Secretary of Education, asked Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden to become a public advocate for community colleges, and announced the historic community college initiative, the American Graduation Initiative, at Macomb Community College in Michigan.

ACCT and AACC have collaborated closely with the current administration, but it is vital that community college trustees, presidents, students and other advocates and leaders show their commitment in the nation's capital. Meetings with your Senators and Representatives are imperative to ensuring their support of pro-community college legislation throughout the coming year. Your attendance at the 2010 NLS will benefit your college through continued federal support.

We are proud to inform you that *Meet the Press* moderator and NBC White House correspondent David Gregory has agreed to be the 2010 NLS keynote speaker. And as always, the 2010 NLS will feature informative sessions on current issues and present the 2010 community college legislative priorities, on whose behalf we which we ask all attendees to advocate.

Visiting Washington early in 2010 will empower you with the opportunity to influence the national political agenda and express your appreciation of the unprecedented support that the federal government has given community colleges over the past year.

Mark your calendar today and plan to attend the 2010 Community College National Legislative Summit. Your voice and your presence are critical to ensuring the ongoing federal prioritization of community colleges.

Sincerely,

Mary F.T. Spilde
President, Lane Community College, OR
2009-2010 AACC Chair

Arthur C. Anthonisen
Trustee, Orange County Community College, NY
2008-2009 ACCT Chair