

SPECIAL ISSUE—ACCT: Your Partner In Challenging Economic Times

COMMUNITY COLLEGES PROPOSE STIMULUS PACKAGE TO PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA'S ADMINISTRATION

ACCT President and CEO J. Noah Brown issued a Call to Action at the 2008 ACCT Community College Leadership Congress in New York, urging community college leaders to take steps today that will ensure the success of their institutions tomorrow. "With the current world economic markets on the decline," Brown said, "financial pressures on states and localities increasing, and a new presidential administration on the horizon, community college leaders must speak with one voice like never before to make the important contributions of their institutions known, and to demand the support they deserve."

On December 15, 2008, ACCT with AACC issued a joint economic recovery and stimulus proposal to President-elect Barack Obama's Transition team. The proposal is endorsed by 43 state community college systems and associations. In this time of economic uncertainty, the proposal outlines three key areas which will provide immediate relief and stimulus for students and community colleges. President Brown met with Transition Team leaders on December 17 to discuss the proposal.

The proposal includes:

1. Maintaining College Access and Affordability
 - A. Providing an additional \$3 billion to retire the entire current estimated shortfall for federal financial aid programs available to community college students.
 - B. Increasing Pell Grant maximum by \$700.00 per student. This would provide up to \$5,400 available to students based on need.
2. Enhancing Community College Infrastructure
 - A. \$5 billion to assist community colleges to address growing facilities, infrastructure, and equipment needs.
3. Preparing for High-Paying and High-Demand Jobs
 - A. \$1.5 billion to help community colleges fund the creation and expansion of job training programs for the workers in such key areas as advanced technology, energy and health care.

For the full proposal, go to <http://www.acct.org/advocacy/latest>.

TAKE ACTION! USE YOUR VOICE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As the federal government prepares to allocate funds to stimulate the national economy, now is an opportunity for community college trustees to speak out about the vital role our colleges play in local, state, and national economies, contributing workforce training and accessible higher education to communities throughout the country.

What Can You Do?

Communicate now with your local, state, and national representatives as well as President-elect Obama and let them know what your colleges contribute to its community in real terms—numbers of students served, economic impact—and also let them know your needs.

How Can ACCT Help You?

1. ACCT's Public Policy Office keeps a close watch on legislative actions that affect community colleges. Visit www.acct.org and click "Advocacy" on the left-hand menu for the latest legislative updates.
2. Receive immediate e-mail updates on legislative actions as they

happen. Join ACCT's Latest Action in Washington (LAW) e-mail alert service. To join, simply send an e-mail to publicpolicy@acct.org with "LAW E-Alert" in the subject line.

3. Take advantage of the Community College National Legislative Summit (NLS) February 9 - 11, 2009 in Washington, D.C. By attending this national gathering you will demonstrate support for your College by meeting with the offices of your Senators and Congressional Representatives and get your message across in the most productive way possible: in person, you will learn about Washington politics from those in the know. Go to <http://www.acct.org/events/legislativesummit> to register today.

4. If you are unsure how to contact your legislators, ACCT's online Policy Center makes it simple: Simply go to the ACCT Web site, click Advocacy, click Policy Center, and then enter your ZIP code. The names and contact information for all of your representatives are only three clicks away, so act now!



Profile: Arne Duncan, Secretary Designee, U.S. Department of Education

President-elect Obama has named Arne Duncan Secretary Designee of the U.S. Department of Education. Secretary Designee Duncan has had a distinguished professional career, having been appointed to the role of Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Public Schools by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley in June, 2001.

Secretary Designee Duncan also has substantial experience as a board member and a supporter of healthy communities. He serves on the Board of Overseers for Harvard College and the Visiting Committees for Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration. He also currently serves on the Boards of the Jobs for America's Graduates, Scholarship Chicago, and the South Side YMCA among many other boards and organizations.

ACCT is excited about working with Secretary Designee Duncan throughout the years of the incoming administration. We have extended an invitation for Secretary Designee Duncan to speak at the February 9-11, 2009 National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C.



Profile: Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (D-CA), Secretary Designee, U.S. Department of Labor

President-elect Obama has nominated Rep. Hilda L. Solis to serve as Secretary of Labor. Representative Solis has a long history of supporting labor issues and has been an avid supporter of community colleges throughout her career. Her first elected position was as trustee of Rio Hondo Community College in California.

First elected in 2000, Rep. Solis currently is serving her fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. She represents California's 32nd Congressional District, which includes portions of East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley.

Rep. Solis is Vice Chair of the Democratic Steering & Policy Committee and serves as a Senior Whip, as well as a Regional Whip for Southern California. She is also serving her third term as the Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Task Force on Health and the Environment.

2008 ACCT CONGRESS RECAP - Thank you for making the Congress such an outstanding success!

Concurrent Session Handouts

Select presentations from the 39th Annual Community College Leadership Congress in New York are now available for download on the ACCT Web site. Go to <http://www.acct.org/events/annualcongress/08> to get PowerPoints and session handouts.

Poverty Discussion Paper Online

As America faces a significant economic downturn, will community college governing boards be able to continue expanding efforts to combat poverty? Community colleges play a major role in the fight against poverty because they serve as economic engines in communities nationwide. What should the future agenda for combating poverty in America involve?

The Role of Community Colleges in Combating Poverty, a special discussion paper issued by ACCT to serve as a foundation for the 2008 Congress, introduces these questions and suggests some ways in which we can begin

to answer them. The paper, handed out at the 2008 ACCT Leadership Congress in New York, is intended to provoke thoughtful discussion and further investigation into what works, and to suggest innovative approaches to serving disadvantaged and at-risk students and underserved populations while strengthening the financial well-being in the communities they serve.

We encourage you to use this paper as a tool and resource to encourage discussions on this important topic.

To download the paper, go to http://www.acct.org/Poverty_Pub_FINAL.pdf.



2009 ACCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND DIVERSITY COMMITTEE ELECTION PROCESS

All ACCT Nominating Committees will meet during the NLS to interview and select nominees for the ACCT Board of Directors and Diversity Committee. The NLS is scheduled for Feb. 9-11, 2009 in Washington, D.C. Nominating Committee meetings are scheduled on Sunday, February 8, from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Each member of the Board of Directors and Diversity Committee at the time of election must be a member of a Voting Member. Voting Members are defined as governing and advisory boards of accredited community-based postsecondary educational institutions that primarily offer programs other than baccalaureate, graduate, and professional degrees, including boards of state systems that include such institutions. No more than one (1) member from any member board may serve as an elected member of the ACCT Board of Directors (or Diversity Committee) at the same time.

Candidates who plan to come before a nominating committee are required to notify the ACCT president at the Washington, D.C. office in writing of intent to run. Notification must be received with a return receipt postmark date of Wednesday, January 7, 2009 or by e-mail (preferred method) by the close of business on Wednesday, January 7, 2009.

EVENTS

2009 National Legislative Summit

Now more than ever, community college leaders must come together in Washington and speak with their national representatives about the importance of increasing support for our two-year institutions.

Do not miss the opportunity to meet and learn from legendary CBS news anchor and *Face the Nation* host **Bob Schieffer**, who memorably moderated the last presidential debate, will give the keynote address. Incoming U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has been invited to speak at the Summit.

Go to <http://www.acct.org/events/legislativesummit/> to register for NLS today!



GOVERNANCE
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

Governance Leadership Institute for Trustees and CEOs-Biloxi, Mississippi

Be sure to register for ACCT's Governance Leadership Institute for trustees and CEOs. The focus will be on leadership and governance during difficult financial times and the crucial leadership role of the board of trustees.

The GLI is a unique opportunity for you to interact and gain important and useful knowledge that will make you better able to weather a touch economy.

The GLI will take place April 26-28 at the Beau Rivage Hotel Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi. **To register, go to <http://www.acct.org/events/institute>.**

Governance Leadership Institute for New Trustees-Washington, D.C.

A must attend for new trustees and their presidents who need to know more about the basics of boardmanship or existing trustees needing a refresher.

Effective training and orientation for new board members is an essential component for a successful board and helps to foster strong trustee/president relationship.

In response to this need, ACCT has designed the first in what we hope to be a long line of annual Governance Institutes specifically for new trustees and presidents.

The GLI will take place June 12-14 at the L'Enfant Plaza

NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT ON TRUSTEES

ACCT's groundbreaking study of trustees - The Citizen Trustee: A Profile in Leadership - is progressing. We have entered more than 1,268 trustees who have participated by submitting a completed survey. Make sure your board is included. If you have not yet completed the survey, please contact us at narcisa_polonio@acct.org.

A preliminary executive summary is available on the ACCT Web site at <http://www.acct.org/Citizen%20Trustee%20Initial%20Findings.pdf>.

2009 ACCT CONGRESS

Join us for the 2009 Congress in San Francisco!

We look forward to having you join us next year in San Francisco, October 7-10, 2009 for the 40th Annual Community College Leadership Congress. This landmark anniversary promises to be one of the most significant congresses to date.

How do boards of trustees provide leadership during economically turbulent times in an increasingly interdependence world economy? This year's Congress theme will be "Thinking Globally, Acting Locally."

We are pleased to announce that Lumina Foundation President Jamie P. Merisotis will join us in San Francisco as a keynote speaker. The Lumina Foundation has made a significant commitment to community college interests.

ACCT will begin to accept proposals for presentations in early 2009. Keep an eye on www.acct.org for more information or contact Narcisa Polonio, npolonio@acct.org or Christina Sage, csage@acct.org or 202 7754667.



ANNUAL ACCT ASSOCIATION AWARDS

ACCT congratulates all the 2008 Association and Regional Awards recipients who received their awards at the 2008 Congress!

ACCT Association Award Recipients

- **2008 M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award:** Kay Albiani, Trustee, Los Rios Community College District, Calif.
- **2008 Charles Kennedy Equity Award:** Dallas County Community College District, Tex.

- **2008 Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Award:** Karen E. Rafinski, Clark State Community College, Ohio
- **2008 William H. Meardy Faculty Member Award:** M. Elaine Tagliareni, Community College of Philadelphia, Penn.
- **2008 ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award:** Evelyn DeFeis, Passaic County Community College, N.J.

For the full list of Regional Awards recipients, go to www.acct.org.

1233 20th Street, NW
 Suite 301
 Washington, D.C. 20036
 202.775.4667
 866-895-ACCT (2228)
www.acct.org

Take Action! Use Your Voice to Make a Difference

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Your Partner in Challenging Economic Times

Beyond the immediate actions that need to be taken during the presidential transition, it is time for community college leaders to make a concentrated effort to promote the importance and value of our institutions within our own communities and beyond. The Call to Action describes eight specific actions you can take to educate your communities about the value of community colleges, an important step in assuring the ongoing appreciation and support for the good works of two-year colleges during challenging economic times. The Call is posted on the ACCT Web site. We encourage you to download the Call and to share with the stakeholders in your community.

To download the Call to Action, go to <http://www.acct.org/ACCT%20Call%20to%20Action.pdf>.

Happy New Year!



Happy Holidays from ACCT's staff! We look forward to serving you in 2009.

If you need to reach any of us, please visit ACCT's staff page at <http://www.acct.org/about/staff>.

NEW FUNDRAISING MONOGRAPH

The Trustee's Role in Fundraising: From Arm's Length to Knee-Deep, the first of several new monographs, has just been issued. We encourage all trustees who have felt the effects of the current economic downturn to use the book as you begin to develop new fundraising strategies.

For more information, and to order the new monograph and other ACCT publications, go to <http://www.acct.org/resources/publications/bookstore.php>.

