

## The Value of Conducting an Annual Board Retreat

Friday, September 28, 2007  
10:30 -11:45 a.m.

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## What is the value of holding retreats?

- Investing in the Professional Development of the Board
  - Fostering productive engagement
  - Learning
  - Creating a common vision
  - Defining goals, strategies and priorities
  - Identifying best practices
  - Team spirit

## Reinforcing Cultural Values & Group Cohesion

- Creating a culture and value system centered on principles of vision, courage and humility
- Dealing with differences



## Acknowledging the Stewardship Role of the Board

- Taking stock of the Board's contribution
  - Conduct an audit of procedures
  - Review roles and responsibilities
  - Establish a learning agenda around emerging issues and needs
  - Understand fiduciary responsibilities
  - Establish limitations and boundaries

## Preparing for the Next Stage of Growth and Advancement

- Board/President Relationship
  - Skills enhancement
  - Defining leadership needs
  - Defining the scope of the job
  - Long-terms goals

## Planning for the Future

- Broadening and learning experience including fact finding
- Information sessions to discuss challenges and opportunities
- Define a vision for the next stage of development



## Empowerment

- Defining the new and emerging leadership role for the Board
- Celebrating the accomplishments of the College
- Establishing priorities for the Board

## How to Motivate the Board

- Hints on how to get the Board's buy-in
  - Commitment from the President and Chair
  - Plan ahead
  - Neutral location
  - Involve all in establishing an agenda
  - Incorporate social activities
  - Focus on learning and training – professional development, not fixing
  - Don't blame

## ACCT Board Leadership Facilitators

- A team of national experts on community college governance will facilitate and guide
- Topics:
  - Review of the Roles and Responsibilities of the Board
  - Establishing Priorities and Goals for the First Year/New President
  - Policy Governance
  - Board Self-Assessment and CEO Evaluation
  - The Role of the Board in Strategic Planning
  - The Role of the Board in Accreditation
  - The Role of the Board in Advocacy
  - The Board and the Foundation



## What Clients Say

- “Frankness of conversation”
- “Openness.”
- “I enjoyed the ability to put everything on the table.”

## Even More of the Clients Thoughts

- “I learned much more about how to be an effective trustee.”
- “Now we have too much to do, but it's good – I think.”

## More !

- “I would encourage boards of trustees to regularly hold retreats with a facilitator, even when you don't have problems. Even with 17 years of experience I still learned a lot.”
- “Understanding where each member of the Board was on various matters. We opened more lines of communication.”

## ACCT Retreats

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