

November 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Discussion of Proposed Membership in Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT)

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Trustees formally discuss joining CCATT, and place the recommendation on the December consent agenda.

RELATED BOARD POLICY OR PLANNING PRIORITY (Directive/Goal/Action Plan):
B-2, Duties and Responsibilities, Board of Trustees.

RATIONALE: Trustees from several community college districts have created the Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT), and its By-Laws and dues structure, to create a statewide organization of community college trustees to enhance and focus advocacy initiatives that strengthen public support of community colleges. Several ACC Trustees have been involved in these early efforts, and the Board as a whole has received regular updates.

CCATT has also formed an alliance with the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) and the two organizations are in agreement on the legislative agenda for community colleges, and desire to have a strong, coordinated advocacy effort.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATION: An estimated membership fee of approximately \$7,200 will be paid through auxiliary funds allocated for Institutional Memberships.

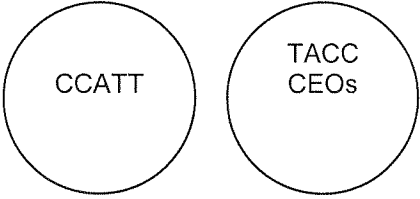
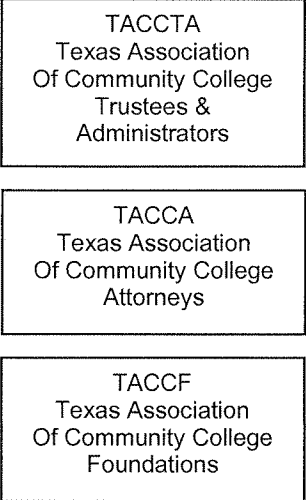
RESOURCE PERSONNEL:

Trustee Allen H. Kaplan
President Stephen B. Kinslow

ATTACHMENT:

A: Overview/Summary of CCATT

COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS TRUSTEES (CCATT)

MISSION	To unite and mobilize community college trustees to work with the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) in advocating for and further advancing education, education related legislation, and increased recognition of the impact of community colleges on the economy of Texas.	
MEMBERSHIP	Membership is limited to public community college districts which receive appropriations from the Texas Legislature for educational and general expenditures. The institution must be governed by a local board of trustees elected by the voters of the college district. The member, to be in good standing, shall pay dues as assessed by the Association. The board of trustees of each member district shall elect a representative to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Association. Each member shall have one vote, which shall be cast by the district's representative.	
TWO FOCUS AREAS:	1. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY	2. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop, with TACC, the community college legislative agenda ▪ Enhance public recognition of the critical role community colleges play in the Texas <i>Closing the Gaps</i> initiative ▪ Enhance public recognition of the impact community colleges have in growing and sustaining economic development ▪ Influence legislators and public policy leaders to increase community college funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide forums to discuss issues facing community colleges ▪ Provide leadership training which enhances the effectiveness of trustees ▪ Develop skills which enhance external fund raising in support of the community college mission
MODEL	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal agreement/Bylaws guiding TACC and CCATT partnerships 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TACC and CCATT affiliation with external groups which share common goal of strengthening Texas Community Colleges
MEETINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TACC CEOs – Quarterly ▪ CCATT/TACC – Bi-Annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual

<p>COMMUNICATION PROCESSES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CCATT/TACC Joint Legislative Committees will meet twice annually to develop agreed upon State legislative ▪ TACC Trustee Relations Committee will meet with CCATT Board Officers regularly ▪ TACC will provide Trustee directory (state wide) ▪ CCATT website for members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each organization determines.....
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COMMUNITY COLLEGES WILL DETERMINE IF TEXAS SUCCEEDS IN 'CLOSING THE GAPS'

Facts That May Surprise You

- Over half of all Texans enrolled in public higher education are in community colleges
- Community colleges provide the most transfer students to 4-year institutions - as we grow, they grow
- Community college students perform as well or better than those who begin at 4-year institutions

Community Colleges Are the Engine That Drives Economic Development

- Community colleges are the primary trainer and re-trainer of the local workforce
- The fastest-growing workplace credential in the U.S. is the two-year Associate Degree
- Community colleges offer short-term certificates, two-year degrees, industry certifications, customized training, and adult workforce education
- Community colleges are the primary training partner with organizations which seek to transition those on welfare to self-sufficiency
- Closing the Gaps Is About Economic Development
- More than just increasing higher ed enrollments, Closing the Gaps is about producing and sustaining the skilled workforce necessary to attract business and industry to Texas
- The fastest growing populations in Texas are those with the lowest participation rates in higher education
- Community colleges, by law, have the most diverse educational mission and are best poised to respond to the changing demographics in Texas:
 - rapid shift to majority minority state
 - increases in economically disadvantaged populations
 - increases among those with limited English proficiency
- Absent INVESTING in community colleges, consider the cost of not increasing higher education participation:
 - shrinking tax base less equitably distributed among the population
 - increased social services costs
 - less consumer spending
 - business constriction rather than expansion
- Community colleges are the first choice of individuals comprising these dramatic demographic changes - to attract more students, community colleges must remain low cost and accessible throughout the State.

Funding Matters: 12% of the State higher education dollars does not align with the reality of where the students are or who is pulling the heaviest load in Texas

- Community colleges are expected to have local tax support to cover the costs of facilities and operations
- The State is expected to provide the costs of instruction, but never has provided its fair share; in 2008-09 the State covers only 54% of the cost of instruction

- Decreases in State funding simply shift the costs - through increases in local taxes or increases in tuition and fees (which threatens access and affordability) - or create cuts in programs and services.

Texas Needs Your Leadership

- Community colleges are the most critical resource for Closing the Gaps
- Community colleges must be treated as EQUAL PARTNERS with four-year colleges and universities in all discussions of educational policy, educational funding, and economic development strategies
- Access and affordability matter - protect low cost of community colleges as the primary means of getting more people into higher education
- Adequately fund community colleges as an investment in the future of Texas

For More Information

- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Closing the Gaps: <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/ClosingtheGaps/>
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts: The Impact of the State Higher Education System on the Texas Economy: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/highered/>