



This is the first issue of CC Link, a bi-monthly newsletter from NCACCT that will feature news from our colleges as well as provide updates on NCACCT activities and events. We welcome news items from Trustees, Presidents, Public Information Officers and others in the community college system who have updates that would be beneficial to share. Please send any items of interest to info@ncacct.org to be included in future newsletters.

## 2018 NCACCT Law/Legislative Seminar

Seats are filling fast for the 2018 NCACCT Law/Legislative Seminar in Raleigh! With a focus on community college governance and legislative advocacy, attendees will hear first-hand from community college leaders and North Carolina legislators about the challenges and opportunities facing our colleges, and how trustees and presidents can make a difference for their college. Click here for more information or to register.



# **JCC Wins Bellwether; Three Other NC Colleges Finalists**

Johnston Community College recently won the prestigious Bellwether Award and three other NC community colleges were named finalists (Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, Forsyth Technical Community College and Fayetteville Technical Community College). The Presidents of all four colleges are pictured above (Dr. David Johnson, Dr. Carol Spalding, Dr. Gary Green and Dr. Larry Keen.) The Bellwether recognizes outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the future. Read

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Jennifer Haygood, Acting President of the Community
College System, was recently named one of the top 100
most influential business leaders in North Carolina by
Business North Carolina magazine. The magazine says its
goal was "to cite influential folks who are making a
significant impact in their enterprises, industries and, in

many cases, the broader community." Read more



### **Hipple, Harrell to Focus on NCACCT Priorities**

Caroline Hipple, who has served for the last two years as NCACCT's Events Coordinator, has been named the association's Director of Communication and Events. She will lead efforts to develop communication strategies to provide additional timely and meaningful information to our Trustees and Presidents as well as work to develop new training opportunities at NCACCT Seminars. Previously, Hipple worked for eight years with Wake County Government as an HR Program Assistant and Benefits Specialist.

Jim Harrell, who has been ranked in the top 10 among Lobbyists in North Carolina, will work with NCACCT on a contract basis to assist with legislative advocacy. Harrell is a former legislator and is well respected by legislators and others who work to develop public policy in North Carolina. His mother, Barbara Harrell, is a trustee at Surry Community College.

"In January, the NCACCT Executive Board approved a Strategic Plan for 2018 to focus on three major areas: Communication, Quality Trustee Training and Legislative Advocacy," said NCACCT President/CEO Julie Woodson. "Therefore, it has been important to build a team to focus on those three priorities. Caroline has been an integral, trusted and highly skilled part of the NCACCT team for two years. She will do an excellent job in increasing our efforts in the areas of communication and trustee training. Jim is among the most highly ranked lobbyists in North Carolina and has an understanding and heart for our colleges. Together, we will work to inform, engage, empower and advocate on behalf of our Trustees, Presidents and colleges across the state."

#### In the News

- Why an Honors Student Wants to Skip College and Go to Trade School -The Wall Street Journal
- Reinventing Community College Online in California NPR
- Community Colleges are Crucial to Early Childhood Education US News and World Report

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