



Volume 3, Issue 2



Connecting North Carolina's
Community College Leaders



Message from NCACCT President Julie Woodson

The best news in this issue of *CC Link* are the many ways that community colleges have stepped up during these times of fear and uncertainty. Whether it's donating medical supplies and equipment to hospitals or assisting with efforts to feed at-risk school children, our colleges are working tirelessly to help their communities when their communities have needed them most. And, of course, the way colleges have quickly moved most of their courses to online learning opportunities for students – in just a few weeks – has been absolutely incredible. The “community” in our community colleges has never been more apparent or resonated so strongly.

And those “essential workers” – the first-responders and medical professionals working in our hospitals in harm's way, treating and holding the hands of patients who cannot be with their loved ones – many of those were trained at our community colleges. They are the ones who are on the front-lines each and every day. They are the real heroes in all of this, and I know you are so proud of them.

At the NCACCT, we continue to answer questions from Trustees and Presidents, or direct them to resources who can assist them. We thank you for your patience as we've rescheduled the Law-Legislative Seminar until June 15-17. We hope, by then, we will have moved past the health crisis and be ready for networking and

professional development opportunities. Until then, call, text or email if Caroline, Ashley or I can assist in any way. Stay safe and stay well! And, as always, thank you for your leadership.



2020 NCACCT Law/Legislative Seminar Rescheduled to June

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 NCACCT Law/Legislative Seminar has been rescheduled to Monday, June 15 - Wednesday, June 17, at the Raleigh City Center Marriott. If you were previously registered for the March 2020 Law/Legislative Seminar, you will automatically be moved to the June dates. Please [click here](#) for more details about this event, and contact your College Administrative Assistant if you need to add or modify a registration.



Wayne Community College Trustee Veda McNair

Wayne Community College Board Member Veda McNair is known as "The Main Thing Lady", but her background and her work at Wayne CC have covered many facets of education. [Click here](#) to read more in-depth about McNair's life and career, and her thoughts regarding North Carolina community colleges and trustees.



SBCC 2020 Award Winners

The State Board of Community Colleges has named its 2020 award winners. MC Belk Pilon, President and Board Chair of the John M. Belk Endowment, was bestowed with the I.E. Ready Award for significant statewide contributions to the community college system. Dr. Dennis King, recently retired from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, was named President of the Year, and Sara Schumaker of Blue Ridge Community College was named Staff of the Year. Additionally, Harlin Kennedy of Wilkes Community College received the Excellence in Teaching Award, and GE Aviation and Wilkes Community College were honored as Distinguished Partners of Excellence. Read more about the award winners [here](#).



Aviso Retention: Statewide Leader in Student Success Technology

Aviso Retention now partners with 33 of the 58 North Carolina Community Colleges to identify at-risk students and to provide technology-enabled holistic student support through predictive analytics, early alerting, messaging, and reporting features to increase student retention and degree completion. [Click here](#) to learn more about Aviso Retention, and how they can help colleges "recruit, retain, and complete".

This is one in a series of articles written by [NCACCT Business Partners](#). The Business Partner Program is a new initiative launched to give businesses an opportunity to share more information about products and services that are beneficial to community colleges.



NC Community Colleges Serving in Unprecedented Ways

Community colleges across the state have quickly and effectively mobilized their resources to serve the citizens of North Carolina as the COVID-19 pandemic has progressed. From donating supplies to assisting small businesses, "Community colleges are living up their name during this difficult time for North Carolina," said NC Community College System President Peter Hans. [Read more](#), and to see a detailed list of ways community colleges are helping, [click here](#).



Belk Center
for Community College
Leadership and Research

Belk Center Offers Support for Colleges

As the the landscape of education has quickly changed in the last few weeks, the NCSU Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research has shifted their focus to address the urgent needs that community colleges are facing. For more information regarding the services and resources, offered by the Belk Center, [click here](#).

ACCT Rural Community Colleges Initiative

In the upcoming year, the ACCT will be conducting an in-depth assessment of the needs of rural community colleges throughout the country as part of a grant from the Gates Foundation. This assessment will be performed through the convening of trustees and other stakeholders to learn about and highlight areas of importance, and to strategize creative solutions to challenges. Five states, including North Carolina, will be included in the study. Research will include in-person meetings and discussions in NC, and will culminate in a report to help strengthen all rural community colleges so that they can continue to support their students and their communities. [Read more](#)

Across the Nation

- [Recruitment requires a human connection](#) - CC Daily
- [Coronavirus could change where students go to college](#) - USA Today
- [Reimagining higher education post-coronavirus](#) - Inside Higher Ed

CC Link is a bi-monthly newsletter from NCACCT that features news from our colleges, items of interest and updates from NCACCT. 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 articles or updates to [Caroline Hipple](#) to be included in future newsletters.

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