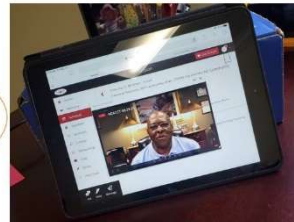




Volume 3, Issue 4



Connecting North Carolina's
Community College Leaders



2020 Virtual Leadership Seminar

Last week, over 350 Community College trustees, presidents and other advocates gathered virtually for the 2020 NCACCT Leadership Seminar. While the event looked very different this year, our community college family proved in yet another way its ability to adapt and adjust to new challenges, while still maintaining the same passion for learning, bias towards action, and enthusiasm to share successes and best practices.

A special thanks to our speakers and presenters for leading the sessions, and to our Platinum Sponsors [Moseley Architects](#) and [LS3P Associates](#) for helping make this event possible. We look forward to the time when we can gather together again in person!

Legislature Appropriates Remaining Federal COVID Funds

The legislature was back in session this week to appropriate remaining federal COVID funds. The General Assembly had hoped for additional federal flexibility on the use of the remaining funds, especially the authority to use those funds for revenue replacement. However, Congress has not enacted any additional COVID legislation. Therefore, because these funds must be spent by December 30, 2020, the General Assembly returned to session to designate appropriations for various COVID-related projects. Since the General Assembly adjourned sine die, the Governor has 30 days to sign or veto the bill. If the Governor does not enact within 30 days, the bill becomes law. Following are the community college appropriations and provisions:

System Provisions

- **PPE -- \$5 million** to the Community College System Office for allocation to colleges to purchase PPE and testing.
- **Healthcare & First Responder Equipment -- \$5 million** to the Community College System Office for allocation for equipment costs for healthcare workforce and first responder programs necessary to the State's COVID-19 response.
- **Purchasing Flexibility** – Allows community colleges (and other agencies) to obtain in the open market necessary supplies, equipment, materials, printing, or services to address the COVID-19 pandemic, including purchases that exceed purchasing benchmarks, without the authorization or approval of the Department of Administration. Also requires a report on COVID-19 expenditures to be made as a matter of record, and if the expenditure exceeds the benchmark, the report must also be made to the Division of Purchasing and Contract.

Individual Community Colleges

- **CVCC & Gaston College: \$14.3 million** for the PPE Initiative partnership between the CVCC-Manufacturing Solutions Center and Gaston College-Textile Tech Center, Conover, Gaston County, and the private sector to create a launch pad for prototyping and testing reusable PPE products for entrepreneurs and existing manufacturers. The Office of State Budget & Management (OSBM) will allocate the funds as follows:
 - \$9,000,000 to Conover to be allocated for:
 - \$7,250,000 to construct a facility to house testing labs, rapid prototyping, and a textile sourcing library.
 - \$1,250,000 for a clean-room upfit at the CVCC-MS.
 - \$500,000 for equipment, materials, and logistics for a rapid prototyping pilot line to create product and train a workforce for US PPE manufacturers.
 - \$5,300,000 to Gaston County to construct an Incubator and Extrusion Center for Advanced Fibers at the Gaston College Textile Tech Center.
- **Cleveland CC: \$1 million** for PPE, equipment, and training to be allocated by the Community College System Office.
- **Sampson CC: \$250,000** to address impacts related to COVID-19 to be allocated by the Department of Commerce.

These funds are from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), and therefore, must be **spent by December 30, 2020**, and in accordance with the **purposes outlined in HB 1105 (if enacted) as well as compliance with federal guidance on the permissible expenditures of CRF funds.**



Fayetteville Technical Community College Trustee Billy Wellons

Fayetteville Technical Community College trustee Billy Wellons has served on many boards throughout his life - but says no other place has had the same impact as the community colleges. [Click here](#) to read more about Wellons' background and lessons learned over the last 17 years serving on his local board.



ACCT Rural Project

Over the last couple of months, North Carolina Community College Presidents and Trustees from rural communities have been meeting (via Zoom) with representatives of the national trustees association to discuss specific issues impacting their colleges. Beaufort Community College President Dr. David Loope and Board Chair Rev. Bob Cayton have taken the lead to invite and facilitate the Zoom meetings on behalf of the NCACCT.

As reported earlier, the ACCT received a grant from the Gates Foundation to study issues impacting rural colleges in five different states, and North Carolina was one of the states chosen. This project will engage rural community college presidents, trustees, and other stakeholders to gather new information about the challenges faced by these colleges and to develop potential state and federal policy solutions to support their long-

term viability. The ACCT will develop and release a report in the spring of 2021.



Pearson releases Global Learner Survey in the COVID-era

Pearson, the world's learning company, released a study in August that said more than three out of every four learners globally say the COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed education as we know it. Those findings appear in the second annual Global Learner Survey, which captures the opinions and views of learners worldwide. [Click here](#) to read more about the takeaways for schools and governments as they address the challenges and opportunities in this new era.

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.

State Board Searching for Next System President

The State Board of Community Colleges has begun the search for president of the NC Community College System. The board's President Search Committee finalized a position profile for the system presidency after receiving input from the NCACCT and the NCACCP.

According to the profile, the next president should have a passion for the mission and philosophy of the NC Community College System. The job description calls for an experienced leader with a commitment to public higher education, open access, affordability and academic excellence.

The next leader will succeed Peter Hans, who was recently named president of the University of North Carolina System. Bill Carver, former president of Nash Community College, became interim president of the community college system on August 1. For more information about the search and the presidential profile, [click here](#).



Ron Lingle Appointed to State Board of Community Colleges

The NC Senate voted this week to appoint Ron Lingle, the former president of Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville, to a vacant seat on the State Board of Community Colleges. Lingle will replace Stephen Rosenburgh of Mecklenburg County, who resigned after being appointed to the Board of Transportation. Sen. Harry Brown, R-Onslow, spoke highly of Lingle saying he was “one of the best community college presidents in the state for many, many years.”

Number served by ApprenticeshipNC tops 15,000

The number of people served by North Carolina’s apprenticeship program has nearly doubled in the past three years, according to [a new report](#) from the NC Community College System. ApprenticeshipNC, which is part of the community college system, works with businesses, industry groups and other organizations to establish registered apprenticeships in North Carolina. [Read more](#)

Across the Nation

- [Advantages of Community Colleges during pandemic](#) - US News & World Report
- [Community Colleges are key to Covid-19 recovery](#) - JFF
- [Community Colleges in the spotlight](#) - The Chronicle of 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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