

ED353009 1984-06-00 Two-Year Colleges. ERIC Digest.

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WHAT ARE TWO-YEAR COLLEGES?



* community colleges--publicly supported institutions offering comprehensive programs of career-related, remedial, and freshman and sophomore studies, along with community services.



* technical institutes--institutions offering primarily preparation for technological occupations.



* junior colleges--institutions offering primarily freshman and sophomore studies. The term "junior college" was originally used to refer to any two-year college. As a result, a college that offers a comprehensive curriculum adapted to its community may be named junior college although it has the characteristics of a community college.

WHAT ARE THE DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES?



* democratic--low tuition, open admissions, and geographical and social accessibility



* comprehensive--offering many types of curricula for a wide range of students



* community-centered--locally responsive, offering programs for individuals of all ages and educational levels



* dedicated to life-long education--offering programs for individuals of all ages and educational levels



* adaptable--to student differences, community needs and social change

WHERE ARE TWO-YEAR COLLEGES LOCATED? HOW MANY ARE IN THE U.S.?



* Institutions offering short-cycle, postsecondary education exist in many countries, including Canada, Norway, Australia, Japan, Yugoslavia, Kenya, Great Britain, the Republic of China, and Latin America.



* 1,219 community, junior, and technical colleges are located in the U.S. and its territories.



* 1,064 of the two-year colleges in the U.S. and its territories are public institutions; 155 are private institutions.

WHAT PROGRAMS DO THESE INSTITUTIONS OFFER?

Two-year colleges vary widely in their program offerings.



Most offer one or more of the following programs:



* vocations/occupation programs leading to a certificate or an associate degree in applied science



* transfer/liberal arts programs designed for students who plan to obtain a baccalaureate degree; these programs lead to an associate degree in science or the arts



* community education and personal interest courses which do not award academic credit



* developmental/remedial programs designed to prepare students to enter degree or certificate programs by improving their communication and mathematical skills

WHO ATTENDS TWO-YEAR COLLEGES IN THE U.S.?



* 40% of the first-time, full-time freshmen undergraduates in the U.S. whose goal is the bachelors degree, enrolled in community, junior, or technical college in Fall 1983.



* Two-year colleges enrolled 1.8 million full-time and over 3 million part-time students in credit courses in Fall 1983.



* Fall 1982 enrollment increased 3% over Fall 1981.



* The median age of community college students is between 18 and 22.



* The average age of community college students is between 28 and 31.



* Women make up to 53% of community college enrollments (1983).



* The percentage of minority group students who enroll in postsecondary institutions that are enrolled in community colleges is as follows: Blacks 43.5%; American Indians 55%; Asians/Pacific Islanders 45%; and Hispanics 55.5% (1982).



* 63% of the credit students enrolled in Fall 1983 attended part-time.



* In 1982, 19% of foreign students who attended college in the U.S. enrolled in two-year colleges.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FACULTY?



* 251,606 faculty members teach in two-year institutions.



* About 57% of the faculty are part-time instructors.



* There are 18,228 administrators in community colleges; a 2% drop from the number of administrators in 1982.



* The average salary for assistant professors in public two-year colleges in 1982-83 was \$20,761; an increase of 7.4% over 1981-82.



* 275 two-year colleges had collective bargaining agreements. Bargaining agents were recognized at 283 two-year colleges.

HOW ARE PUBLIC TWO-YEAR COLLEGES FINANCED?



* Property taxes, state appropriations, and tuition comprise most of the operating funds.



* State appropriations accounted for 47.6% of the operating revenue for public two-year colleges in 1981-82.



* Tuition accounted for 16.2% of the revenue in 1981-82.



* Average charges in 1983 for tuition and fees were approximately \$588 at public community colleges and \$2,752 at private two-year colleges.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONCERNED WITH TWO-YEAR COLLEGES?



American Association of Community and Junior Colleges



President: Dale Parnell



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036





Association of Canadian Community Colleges



Executive Director: J.P. Robert LaRose



211 Consumers Road, Suite 203



Willowdale, Ontario



Canada M2J 4G8





ERIC Clearinghouse for Junior Colleges



Director: Arthur M. Cohen



8118 Math-Sciences Building



University of California



Los Angeles, CA 90024





Center for the Study of Community Colleges



Research Director: Florence B. Brawer



1047 Gayley Avenue



Los Angeles, CA 90024





League for Innovation in the Community College



Executive Director: Terry O'Banion



23276 South Pointe Drive



Laguna Hills, CA 92653





Association of Community College Trustees



President: William Meardy



6928 Little River Turnpike



Annandale, VA 22030





Community College Humanities Association



President: Don Schmeltekopf



Union College



1033 Springfield Avenue



Cranford, NJ 07016





Community College Social Science Association



President: Mike Zalampas



Jefferson Community College



Louisville, KY 40202



Many other groups formed around circular areas and special interests are active in the two-year college field.

WHAT PERIODICALS FOCUS ON TWO-YEAR COLLEGES?



Community College Review



P.O. Box 5504



Raleigh, NC 27650





Community and Junior College Journal



AACJC



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036





New Directions for Community Colleges



Jossey-Bass Inc., Publishers



433 California Street



San Francisco, CA 94104





Community/Junior College Research Quarterly



Hemisphere Publishing Corporation



1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W.



Washington, DC 20005





Community Services Catalyst



College of Education



Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University



Blacksburg, VA 24061



WHERE CAN I OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

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The statistics cited were gathered by the following: the American Association of

Community and Junior Colleges; the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions; the National Center for Educational Statistics; the Chronicle of Higher Education; and the American Council on Education.

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