

ED377911 1995-01-00 Community Colleges: General Information and Resources. ERIC Digest.

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ERIC Identifier: ED377911

Publication Date: 1995-01-00

Author:

Source: ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges Los Angeles CA.

Community Colleges: General Information and Resources. ERIC Digest.

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ACCESS ERIC 1-800-LET-ERIC WHAT ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES?


The community college is defined as any institution accredited to award the associate in arts or science as its highest degree. There are 1,024 publicly supported community colleges in the United States. Most offer a comprehensive curriculum including the following programs:

- - o vocational/occupational programs leading to a certificate or an associate degree in applied science
- - o 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
- - o community education and personal interest courses which do not award academic credit
- - o developmental/remedial programs designed to prepare students to enter degree or certificate programs by improving their communication or mathematical skills.


In addition, there are 445 private two-year institutions, including accredited proprietary institutions.

WHO ATTENDS PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES?


- - o Approximately 42% of the first-time, full-time freshmen in the U.S. enroll in a community college.




- o Credit course enrollment totaled 1.9 million full-time and 3.5 million part-time students in Fall 1991.




- o The average age of the student is approximately 32.



- o The modal age of the student is 19.




- o Women make up 57.5% of community college enrollments.




- o In terms of ethnicity, 72.2% of community college students are Caucasian, 9.2% are African-American, 8.3% are Hispanic, 4.5% are Asian, and 1.1% are Native American. Approximately 1% are nonresident aliens. Approximately 46.7% of all minorities enrolled in higher education are attending two-year colleges.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FACULTY?



- o 253,711 faculty members teach in two-year institutions.



- o About 53.4% are part-time instructors.



- o 64.9% of the faculty have a master's as their highest degree.



- o There are 11,819 administrators in community colleges.



- o The average salary for instructors in public two-year colleges in 1992 was \$36,000.

HOW ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES FINANCED?



- o State appropriations, tuition, and local funds comprise most of the operating funds.



- o State appropriations accounted for 46% of the operating revenue for public two-year colleges in Fall 1992.



- o Tuition accounted for 20% of the revenue in Fall 1992.



- o Local funds accounted for 18% of the revenue in Fall 1992.



- o Average charges in 1994 for tuition and fees were approximately \$1,200 at public community colleges and \$6,100 at private two-year colleges. Median tuition at public community colleges was \$1,171.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONCERNED WITH COMMUNITY COLLEGES?





American Association of Community Colleges



President: David R. Pierce



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036-1176



Internet: <initialname>@aacc.nche.edu





American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges



President: Karen Sharp



Mott Community College



1401 East Court Street



Flint, MI 48503





Association of Community College Trustees



Assistant Executive Director: Marilyn Blocker



1740 N. Street, N.W.



Washington, DC 20036





Center for the Study of Community Colleges



Research Director: Florence B. Brawer



1749 Mandeville Lane



Los Angeles, CA 90049





Community College Consortium



Managing Director: Patricia Carter



311 School of Education Building



University of Michigan



Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259





Community College Humanities Association



President: David A. Berry



Essex County College



303 University Avenue



Newark, NJ 07102





Community College Leadership Program



Director: John E. Roueche



University of Texas at Austin



College of Education, EDB 348



Austin, TX 78712-1293





ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges



Director: Arthur M. Cohen



3051 Moore Hall



University of California



Los Angeles, CA 90024



Internet: eeh3usc@mvs.oac.ucla.edu





League for Innovation in the Community College



Executive Director: Terry O'Banion



26522 La Alameda, Suite 370



Mission Viejo, CA 92691





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

WHAT PERIODICALS FOCUS ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES?





Community College Journal



American Association of Community Colleges



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036





Community College Journal of Research and Practice



Taylor & Francis, Publishers



1010 Vermont Avenue N.W., Suite 200



Washington, DC 20005





Community College Review



North Carolina State University



Box 7801



Raleigh, NC 27695-7801





Community College Times



American Association of Community Colleges



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036





Community College Week



10520 Warwick Ave., Suite B-8



Fairfax, VA 22030-3136





Journal of Applied Research in the Community College



New Forums Press, Inc.



P.O. Box 876



Stillwater, OK 74076





New Directions for Community Colleges



Jossey-Bass Inc., Publishers



350 Sansome Street



San Francisco, CA 94104



WHAT INTERNET RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?



LISTSERVS



COMMCOLL provides a forum for all community college practitioners. To subscribe, send the message "sub commcoll <your name>" to listserv@ukcc.uky.edu.





DEOS-L discusses all forms of distance education. To subscribe, post the following command to listserv@psuvm.psu.edu: "subscribe deos-l <your name>".





STWNet is an electronic forum for all aspects of the school-to-work transition, including educational reform, work partnerships, and national skill standards. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to majordomo@confer.edc.org with the command "subscribe stwnet" in the body of the message.





GOPHERSFor a list and links to many gophers maintained at community colleges, point your gopher client software to:



gopher.faytech.cc.nc.us and select "Community College Gophers".

A collection of school-to-work transition information is located at cccins.ccc.neb.edu.





USENET NEWSGROUPS





o alt.education.distance



o alt.education.research



o alt.education.disabled



o misc.education.adult



WHERE CAN I OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION? AACC Commission on the Future of Community Colleges. Building Communities: a Vision for a New Century. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges, 1988.

Baker, George A., III (Ed.), and Others. A Handbook on the Community College in America: Its History, Mission, and Management. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994.

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The statistics cited were gathered by the National Center for Education Statistics.

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Title: Community Colleges: General Information and Resources. ERIC Digest.

Document Type: Reports---Descriptive (141); Information Analyses---ERIC Information Analysis Products (IAPs) (071); Information Analyses---ERIC Digests (Selected) in Full Text (073);

Descriptors: College Curriculum, Community Colleges, Enrollment, Financial Support, National Surveys, Organizations (Groups), Student Characteristics, Teacher Characteristics, Two Year Colleges

Identifiers: ERIC Digests, Internet

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