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Regards,
Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor
CCCO Division of Workforce and Economic Development


The US Department of State hosted the US-Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research. Vice Chancellor Ton-Quinlivan delivered the keynote address.

The Forum was a deliverable from President Obama’s May 2013 visit with Mexican President Nieto on policies that advanced mutual economic prosperity. Mexico’s “Proyecta 100” report set the goal to go from 14,000 Mexican students studying in the US to 100,000 by 2018. A focus will be at the sub-baccalaureate level. For example, if Mexican polytechnic institutes were to offer a certificate in Cultural Competence for Healthcare Workers, would that help US students and US employers? American employers are already recruiting out of Mexican institutions for this skillset. Conversely, Mexican officials had interest in a “Business Fundamentals and English for Technicians” certificate to help their workers better communicate with American companies. If your campus has interest in exploring this student exchange and economic...
development partnership, please contact Enrique Perez of Rancho Santiago CCD, chair of the International Consortium for Educational and Economic Development. A variety of Mexican ministries will underwrite this student exchange - to send Mexican students to the US as well as to scholarship students from the US to study in Mexico.

Economic Summit Blog: "New Face of CTE and Why Legislative Support Matters"

Pasadena City College President Mark Rocha comments to the blog -- entitled “The New Face of CTE and Why Legislative Support Matters” - issued by the co-chairs of the Workforce Action Team of the California Economic Summit. Here is an excerpt: “Due to a steady decline of investment in career technical education (CTE) brought on by recessionary factors, Californians are finding it more difficult than ever to obtain critical training for job skills that today’s employers demand. In fact, community, civic and business leaders continually identified workforce as an important issue during 16 regional forums held last year to identify key areas for improving job creation in the state. That’s why the 2013 California Economic Summit, convened last November, named workforce as one of its seven priority issues and why an action team is working year round to advance workforce development... " Read more

Regional Collaboration in Action

See two models in-action demonstrating regional collaboration success. The models differ vastly in their geographies, complexities, sector/employer bases, numbers of community colleges, and economic conditions. Adapt their practices to create what would work for your region.

Welcome New Dean of Innovation and Quality Practices

Gary Adams has joined the CCCCO Workforce & Economic Development Division (WEDD) as Dean of Innovation and Quality Practices. Gary has worked in the Governor's Office (pre Governor Brown), the Californian Legislature, and the California Student Aid Commission. He more recently managed large-scale business process
improvement and systems integration projects for both Deloitte Consulting and Blackboard. He recently moved back to California from the East Coast. His portfolio will include the consolidation of the multiple WEDD grant-related systems in order to streamline and further align reporting with the Doing What MATTERS for Jobs and Economy framework.

New Grant Opportunities

- Approximately $3 million for grants is made available through the Proposition 39 Pre-Apprenticeship Support, Training and Placement program administered by the CA Workforce Investment Board. The grants will fund projects that fill critical workforce skills gaps by creating opportunities to earn industry-valued credentials and enter into apprenticeship or direct employment in the energy efficiency or construction sector. Applications are due 3/28. More information can be found here.

- The Walmart Foundation is providing $150,000 for the Job Ready, Willing and Able Initiative Mentee RFP, due 3/19. JRWA is structured as a mentor and mentee effort with supports from CWED’s networks to focus on middle skill training in new and existing industries for unemployed students and community members, empower them with industry-recognized credentials and connections with assistance and benefits that advance the long-term health and stability of the community. More can be found on AACC's homepage.

- The US Department of Labor has released the Solicitation for Grant Applications for $150M in Ready to Work Partnership grants for sector partnerships to “prepare and place the long-term unemployed into good jobs.” This grant competition will support and scale innovative partnerships between employers, nonprofit organizations, and the public workforce system to develop a pipeline of talented U.S. workers, and help those experiencing long-term unemployment gain access to employment services that provide opportunities to return to work in middle- and high-skill jobs. For more information about this grant funding and how to apply, click here.

- AACC seeks colleges and mentors for STEM mentoring and grant program. AACC announced a national grant competition for the MentorLinks: Advancing Technological Education (ATE) program, developed with the support of the National Science Foundation. MentorLinks is designed for community colleges seeking to improve technician education programs in the STEM fields. Colleges should be interested in working with an experienced community college mentor who has successfully planned and implemented a major change in a high-technology program. MentorLinks colleges will receive $20,000 for the 2-year grant period, plus travel support for the project director to attend three national project meetings and ATE conferences. AACC also seeks applications from 2-year college professionals who are interested in serving as mentors to work with MentorLinks colleges selected through this program. Mentors will receive an honorarium and travel support to attend a mentor training and orientation meeting, national project meetings, and to conduct college site visits. Deadline to apply: April 30, 2014. AACC Contact: Ellen Hause