

## TOGETHER WE ARE HOUSTON'S Community College

This is an important time for Houston Community College. As Houston's Community College, administrators, staff and faculty remain committed to becoming even better and offering more to this great city – and beyond.

Over the last year, HCC has made extraordinary progress streamlining operations to make it easier



to work with the college, revolutionizing the student experience, and fundamentally reshaping how the college works with businesses and industry partners. The District is committed to ensuring quality instructional programs and courses, increasing student retention and persistence rates, servicing high-demand fields through skills training and credentialing programs, and making the student experience the best in the nation.

One of the most significant things about education is that each year there is an opportunity for a fresh start. Over the summer, our employees, faculty and staff met to reflect on what we've done well in the



past and on where the most significant impact has been made. They also reviewed what things need to be improved and are well on the way to making more positive experiences for our students. The goal is not only to make HCC a finer, more solid institution, but also to attract the best students, faculty, and staff.

The first phase of Transformation culminated with the development of the strategic plan for the future – IMAGINE HCC 2019. We are excited about what it means to the future of the college as we continue to prepare students for whatever is next in their lives and careers. HCC will continue to be Houston's Community College by including the diversity, the people, and the strategies that lead to student success.

Phase two of Transformation is now underway, with the goal of moving HCC toward a stronger future. We want every student to complete workforce and academic programs to become a contributing member of the community. We want to be responsive to community needs and to ultimately drive economic development in the Greater Houston area.

HCC continues to be recognized as tops in many areas, and is proud to be ranked again as one of the "TOP 100" Community Colleges in the country, moving up in several categories within the 1,905 community colleges that were eligible to participate in the survey. Our online catalog was recognized by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations as the Gold Medal winner. And, in a culture where so much of every student's success depends on access to the internet, HCC was ranked among the top 10 higher education institutions in the nation for the fastest internet speed.

HCC has also been selected as a recipient of the 2016 INSIGHT Into Diversity "Higher Education Excellence in Diversity" (HEED) Award. The HEED Award is the only national recognition honoring colleges and universities that exhibit outstanding efforts and success in the area of diversity and inclusion throughout their campuses. The HCC student population represents 151 nationalities.

The Student Loan Report has ranked HCC #3 in Best Colleges for Federal Work Study Employment, having placed 739 students in jobs through the Federal Work Study program in 2016. The average amount earned per job was \$5,500.



Chancellor Cesar Maldonado recently launched the new internal engagement campaign, HCC FORWARD. This initiative will serve as the internal vehicle to reinvigorate the institution's culture by reinforcing the mission, core values and competencies

### HCC FORWARD STANDS FOR:

- Focus on Students
- Optimism & Passion
- Reliability
- Workforce Preparedness
- Academic Excellence
- Responsiveness
- Dedication to Innovation

This is one of the most important cultural endeavors ever undertaken at HCC.

Culture is a set of beliefs, values and behaviors. Beliefs that we can learn and share. Values that matter to us. Behaviors that we strive for. HCC is committed to developing the best, most positive culture of any college system in the nation.

Together we will move FORWARD. Together we will succeed. Thanks for your support and commitment of our great institution.

## NATIONALLY RANKED



For awarding Associate degrees in liberal arts

For awarding associate degree to all minorities



For awarding Associate degrees in all disciplines

For awarding Associate degrees to African American students



For awarding Associate degrees to Hispanic students



For awarding Associate degrees to Asian students



For awarding Associate degrees in science/science technicians

For awarding Associate degrees in communications

# DEAR NEIGHBORS,

DISTRICT V

ROBERT GLASER



As anyone who has ever worked in business knows, changing a culture is not an easy task. One of my duties as Vice Chair of the Houston Community College Board of Trustees, and as your Trustee for District V, is to advocate for our institution to better serve both our students and our community. Doing so will result in a positive influence on the future of Houston and the surrounding area.

With the assistance of my fellow trustees and the leadership team at HCC, we are moving forward to putting into practice values and philosophies we have set to achieve greatness. We are indeed, changing the culture here at HCC to better serve our community as we move well into the 21st century.

- Houston Community College continues to be number one among the 1,905 community colleges nationally in awarding associate degrees to all minorities and number one in awarding associate degrees in liberal arts, according to Community College Week "Top 100 Colleges" report. HCC has also jumped from fourth to second in the total number of associate degrees awarded.
- Houston Community College was selected as a recipient of the prestigious 2016 INSIGHT into Diversity Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award. The HEED Award is the only national recognition honoring colleges and universities that exhibit outstanding efforts and success in the area of diversity and inclusion throughout their campuses. Additionally, Insight into Diversity, named HCC as having the most diverse campus in Texas and number 10 in the world, with 151 nationalities represented.
- Full and part-time HCC students who use METRO to get to class can now ride the bus and rail line at a 50 percent discount. HCC and METRO are offering a Student METRO Q Fare Card which can be picked up at student services offices on our campuses.
- HCC is making it easier for individuals who don't have time during the week to attend classes by offering the "Fast Track Saturday" Business Certificate program at the West Loop Campus. This program funnels directly into the HCC Weekend College. Students can attend classes on Saturdays to get their certificate in one year



and transfer into the HCC Business Administration- Management Specialization to earn an associate degree if they so choose. I will push to expand this program, and add other innovative programs at our West Loop Campus in order to serve even more area residents in attaining their educational goals while still working "full time" during the week.

- In order to better serve the greater Houston community and support student success, we have extended library hours across the district to seven days a week. Visit [hccs.edu/libraryhours](http://hccs.edu/libraryhours) for more information about specific operating times and schedules for library facilities in District V.

The HCC VAST Academy recently received a generous \$10,000 donation from the Arena Energy Foundation to support students in the program. VAST, which stands for Vocational Advancement and Skills Training, is a nationally recognized program and has been helping students with intellectual or developmental disabilities transition into college life and independent living for more than 25 years.

These types of investments and accomplishments continue to make HCC the college of choice and I thank you for your commitment to HCC. With your support, HCC is creating opportunities and will expand these opportunities to those in our community who wish to advance themselves through education and vocational training. Start here- go anywhere.

We are Houston's Community College.

In service,

Robert Glaser  
Vice Chair, HCC Board of Trustees  
District V

## The HCC Vision

**HCC will be a leader in providing high quality, innovative education leading to student success and completion of workforce and academic programs.**

**We will be responsive to community needs and drive economic development in the communities we serve.**