

## STATE OF THE COLLEGE 2016 with a new strategy and many successes

An exciting transformation is underway. One that has already started to elevate Houston Community College to a new standard of excellence and a model for community colleges nationwide.

This is an important time for the college and for our community. We understand the vital role we play in helping the people of our community, young and old, obtain important education and skills and supporting the businesses that drive our economy. We are Houston's community college and we are committed to becoming even better in all that we do and all that we offer for our great city.

Over the last year, we have streamlined operations to make it easier to work with the college, revolutionized the student experience and fundamentally reshaped how we work with businesses and industry partners. Although this level of change takes time – especially with an institution of this scale – the early results speak volumes and show real promise for our college and community in the years ahead.



HCC is among the top community colleges in the nation for preparing students for jobs and universities. We continue to work on new innovations, to scale our partnerships and results, and to rethink our approach – necessary steps for all high-performing organizations. We recognize the changes in technology, business, and society, and we are constantly adapting to help prepare our students for an ever-changing world.

This strategy has enabled us to make significant progress in improving the student experience before, during and after their time with us — as well as helping them secure higher paying jobs and entrance into the universities they want to attend.



### STUDENT FOCUSED

HCC students have the opportunity to receive a BS degree in Engineering right here in Houston thanks to an innovative partnership with University of Texas-Tyler.

Other partnerships include HCC and University of Texas-Health Science Center and Sam Houston State University, for our ADN graduates to pursue a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. And, we're in the process of finalizing partnerships with UH Downtown and Texas Women's University.

Students can also earn their degrees while they are in high school and taking classes at HCC.

Picture the success students can achieve when they have an HCC college advisor embedded in their high school working with their counselor so that students are more prepared for college and career, beginning with career awareness in elementary, career exploration in middle school, and career preparation in high school.

HCC has also developed innovative, high demand apprenticeships where students can work in banking at Chase, in pharmacy tech at CVS, and other high profile businesses.

Within our Center of Excellence for Digital and IT, students and the community can focus on the role that new homeland security policies play in the growing world of Cybersecurity.

### ORGANIZATIONAL ADVANCES

Graduating 22% more students than the previous year. HCC is among the top in the nation for preparing students for jobs and universities, and it is recognized as:  
#1 in awarding Associate Degrees to all minorities

#1 for international student enrollment among U.S. community colleges

#2 in awarding Associate Degrees to African American students

#2 in awarding Associate Degrees to Hispanic students

#4 in awarding Associate Degrees in all disciplines

#5 in awarding Associate Degrees to Asian American students

In addition to the success with our students, we are seeing progress all over the district - in the last two years we celebrated ten groundbreaking - Northline Workforce, West Loop, Stafford Workforce, Felix Fraga STEM, Southeast Workforce, Acres Homes, Brays Oaks, West Houston Institute at Alief Hayes, Central South and Coleman Healthcare.



Receiving the prestigious award for Excellence in Governmental Financial Reporting, the 2015 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award, recertification as an Achieving the Dream Leader College, and national recognition for our graduation rates.

Paving the way for a Board of Trustees vote this past January that was unanimously approved for a first-of-its-kind plan to waive the out-of-district fees for Dual Credit students. Starting this fall, this will allow high school students from all districts to attend HCC at no charge.

Obtaining an award from the U.S. Department of Labor for \$4.2 million to fund apprenticeship programs in Healthcare, IT industries and plumbing occupations.

Earning a revised outlook from Moody's Investors Service on the HCC system to stable and wan upgrade on the Junior Lien debt, which reflects a strong management team and the projection of continued operating health.



### INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Establishing many new and innovative partnerships with leading companies and organizations, such as Wells Fargo Bank, the Robert Garner Firefighter Foundation, engineering departments at University of Texas at Tyler and Texas A&M University, San Jacinto College, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Jones County Junior

College for an Upstream/Midstream Skill Training and Safety Collaboration, the Houston Area Construction Education Collaborative with Lone Star College, San Jacinto College and the Houston Airport System, and The Greater Houston Partnership for UpSkill Houston.

### IMPACT



Last year, HCC and its students added \$3.4 billion in income to the service-area economy — equal to approximately 1% of the Gross Regional Product.

For every \$1 spent, it represents:

STUDENTS \$2.80 gained in lifetime income for students.

SOCIETY \$12.80 gained in added state income and societal savings.

TAXPAYERS \$6.30 gained in added taxes and public sector savings for taxpayers.

### VISION FOR THE FUTURE

We are committed to:

- Ensuring quality instructional programs and courses
- Increasing student retention and persistence rates
- Servicing high demand fields through skills training and credentialing programs
- Improving the student experience

Despite our many accomplishments, our transformation is a journey and there is much more work to do. We are Houston's community college, and we are dedicated to fulfilling our duty to be responsive to the community and to be fully engaged with each other. Because this college does not belong to a few, but to the whole of our great city, and it is essential that all of our major stakeholder groups – students, society and taxpayers – benefit from their investments.

We will continue to push the boundaries and dare greatly together — so that we can achieve our vision and take HCC to new heights.

### IMAGINE HCC 2019

We are well down the road ... and we know where we are going and our pathway is clear - we have a plan to transform the college and the delivery of our services, we have a long range plan to achieve our board's important vision and we have a plan to protect and build upon our culture and our way of working. We are committed to doing whatever we must to change and be even more relevant, more strategic, more aligned.

At the heart of our strategic plan are 4 overarching themes:

- Student Success
- Organizational Stewardship
- Performance Excellence
- Innovation

This plan will be known as "Imagine HCC 2019", and we have included a summary in your bag. We are excited about what it means to the future of the college as we produce students who are prepared for whatever is next in their lives and their careers.

# DEAR NEIGHBORS,

**DISTRICT VIII**  
Eva Loredo



Thank you for putting your faith in me once again by electing me to a second term as trustee for the great District VIII. My commitment to you and to our students in the communities I represent comes from the heart. Many exciting events have happened at Houston Community College since my last newsletter. Transformation is taking shape, making HCC the College of the Future. We have created 13 Centers of Excellence that align with the academic and workforce needs of our industry and community partners. Recent developments and accomplishments include:

- The Spring 2016 graduating class (Class 15B) of the Basic Peace Officer Academy achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) licensing exam.
- The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo continues to help educate the next generation of first responders with the most recent gift of \$146,000 to support programs at the HCC Public Safety & Automotive Technology Center of Excellence. That money also includes a grant to establish a Technical Education Scholarship to help HCC students earn welding certifications.
- HCC is now the only higher education institution in Houston to have an accredited Hospitality Administration Program. The Accreditation Commission of Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA) recently awarded HCC an initial accreditation for seven years.
- Starting this fall, the HCC Honors College, which is currently based at Central campus, will expand to the Stafford and Spring Branch campuses.

- Construction for the new STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Facility at the Felix Fraga Academic Campus is moving along with a target open date of early 2017.

- Opportunities abound for motivated high school students. HCC has eliminated the fees for the Dual Credit program. Freshmen through seniors can now obtain a certificate, Associate degree, or complete two years of college credit for not cost while they are in high school.

HCC is also looking forward to the grand opening of the Logistics Center of Excellence on April 27 at the Fraga campus. We are doing wonderful things at HCC and I am extremely proud to be part of the future. Thank you for your support.

We are Houston's Community College.

Gracias y sigamos adelante!

In service,

Eva Loredo  
HCC Board of Trustees  
District VIII



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College