

## Ten Takeaways

### 11/9/18 ICCTA Trustees Roundtable Compiled by ICCTA vice president Bob Thompson

#### **Q. *How can we work together to promote trades & workforce development?***

1. Working well with unions can be key to helping our institutions. On under-performing campuses, we see a re-purposing toward more trade alignment, including health care.
2. Some colleges admit they don't do a very good job working with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and other organizations like the Illinois Manufacturing Association, the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, and others that we don't recognize as important partners. Re-dedicating to these efforts will provide opportunities for future expansion and success.
3. At many colleges, truck driving, HVAC, electrical, fire science, culinary arts, medical, multi-craft, and nursing programs are thriving. Some eight-week programs are being considered to get students into a hungry workplace.
4. Focus on what you do best and leave the rest to other community colleges. Form alliances under expanded opportunities through cooperative agreement programs. For example, Kishwaukee College is partnering with Sauk Valley Community College's Small Business Development Center to offer services in Rochelle. Some radiology technology programs are great for attracting out-of-district students under Cooperative Agreement Programs. There are even co-op programs at Highland Community college, which include Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois, and Blackhawk Technical College in Wisconsin.
5. Ensure your president or a board member sits on area economic development councils.

#### **Q. *How does your Board interact with the student body?***

6. Offer Trustee Scholarships or other scholarships, with receptions honoring students who are high achievers. For exposure to all students, try making certain courses include student attendance at one trustee meeting during the semester. Join in the fun of fall and spring festivities at your college, and don't miss a chance to meet with parents and siblings of your graduates at your commencement reception. You'll never see parents in a better mood about your college!
7. Having a good student trustee can be vital to learning how your student population feels about your college, its staff and its programming. Listen close to their reports and react positively to the contributions.
8. You've heard of "Pizza with the Prez?" Well, get ready for the latest interactive trustee and student program coming soon to your college. Get your sombreros ready and join the fun at "Tacos with the Trustees!" (hot sauce not included)

**Q. What additional options for Trustee Education can ICCTA explore and expand?**

9. Responding to ICCTA's recent member survey, we can strive to have more offerings of interest to new and seasoned trustees. There are four areas of great need for trustee knowledge:

- A. State-mandated trustee leadership education;
- B. Understanding college finance;
- C. Board Member 101 (the fundamentals of being a trustee); and
- D. Lobbying/understanding the legislature.

10. Consider developing an ICCTA Trustee Handbook covering board orientation and more.