

Volume 9, Number 1 Fall 2001 Abstracts

Tuition Increases, Demand and Academic Performance

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A study of the trends related to demand and academic performance at an eleven-campus higher-educational system was made over a 14-year period during which tuition increased at varying rates. The results indicate the presence of tuition-dollar thresholds that constitute the financial tolerance level beyond which demand starts to decrease. The study also identified specific and similar trends in several educational performance indicators, suggesting that performance improves as tuition increases. The relationship between demand and performance trends is discussed.

The Past, Present and Future Role of Federal Vocational Legislation in U.S. Community Colleges

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Over the twentieth century, vocational education has played an increasingly prominent role in the United States. This article examines the historical development and current status of federal support for vocational education at the postsecondary level. It considers the role federal laws have played in creating today's postsecondary vocational education programs, particularly in emphasizing student transition from secondary to postsecondary education through initiatives such as Tech Prep and in ensuring greater accountability. Looking to the future, the article considers the federal government's potential for supporting enhanced growth and quality by examining three issues: 1) the funding split between the secondary and postsecondary levels, 2) the need for a new vision for postsecondary vocational education, and 3) the importance of an accountability system based on valid indicators and measures of performance.

Transfer: An Integral Function of the Florida Community College System

[Patricia Windham](#), Florida Community College System

Community colleges have a rich history of providing both academic and vocational education. The past several years have seen changes in the type of instruction provided that could be interpreted as backing away from the academic component of this historical mission. As colleges work to ensure that they are serving the workforce needs of their communities, they also need to ensure that vital functions such as transfer are not diminished. This article documents the continued importance of the transfer mission in Florida and provides background

information on the policies that have been implemented to ensure a smooth transition from one sector to another.

Faculty Evaluation as Viewed by Faculty Leaders

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Demands for accountability have placed renewed national attention on the performance and development of tenured faculty. Building on two previous studies of post-tenure review practices in community colleges, the authors examined perspectives of faculty leaders about the status and effectiveness of current evaluation procedures in the 930 member institutions of the American Association for Community Colleges. Results from the current study closely resembled findings from research conducted over 10 years ago. In particular, faculty reported that policies existed in all of the institutions surveyed, but the effectiveness of the policies was suspect. Recommendations for ways to improve and refine the current evaluation culture are provided, including the need to have meaningful outcomes and a direct link to faculty development.

An Appraisal of Collaboration: Community Colleges as Vanguard

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This article identifies the programming, policy decision-making, and planning practices that occur between academic and student affairs professionals at public two-year colleges nationwide. Based on the responses from chief academic and chief student affairs officers (CAOs and CSAOs), perceptions about collaboration were assessed in their relation to how important these practices are to enhancing student success. An examination of administrators' perception differences and the identification of practices that serve as both positive and negative predictors to collaboration are shared. Significant perceptual differences about collaboration based on gender, position, years of experience, previous administrative and teaching experiences, and educational background are identified. Implications of collaboration for institutional planning and policy development are considered.

Models for Faculty Evaluation and Promotion in the Community College: Recent Literature

[Dana S. Peterman](#), ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges

Book Review by [Marc Cutright](#), "In Pursuit of Excellence: The Community College of Denver" (2001).