

## **Community College Presidents' Initiative CCPI– STEM Talking Points**

### **The NEED**

- By 2022, skilled technical job openings in the U. S. are projected to exceed the skilled technical labor force by 1.3 percentage points or about 3.4 million
- 16 million+ skilled technical jobs require an associate degree or similar level credential/qualification
- The number of jobs requiring substantial science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) expertise has grown nearly 34% over the past decade
- African Americans make up 11% of the workforce, but only 7% of all STEM workers. Hispanics are 17% of the workforce but only 7% of all STEM workers. Sixty-nine percent of all STEM workers are White

### **The WHO**

- **Community Colleges, given our history and who we serve, are primed to fill the growing needs in the skilled technical workforce**
- Community colleges have an opportunity—and indeed the responsibility—to strengthen their curricula and faculty to positively impact the growth and diversity of the STEM technician workforce

### **The WHY**

- Community colleges, serving the most diverse student body in higher education, can have a significant role in diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM fields
- Fifty-one percent of community college students taking college credit classes are students of color

### **The WHAT**

- The National Science Foundation (NSF) Advanced Technology Education (ATE) program has a track record of supporting community colleges to meet the nation's STEM workforce needs, providing \$1.11 billion in support over 25 years
- Community college delivery of STEM programs increased but effective use of available government support is still inadequate to address the workforce shortage
- As of February 2022, the ATE program had 390 grant awards supporting 206 distinct community colleges
- Only 22% of eligible public community colleges are taking advantage of the NSF ATE funding opportunity

### **The COLLABORATIONS**

- **The Community College Presidents Initiative in STEM education (CCPI-STEM)** intends to galvanize and support community college leaders (presidents, trustees, vice presidents, deans, and lead faculty) to prepare ATE proposals and to implement and sustain ATE projects through a Leadership Team, National Advisory Board, and Regional Networks



# CCPI ATE STEM

*Achieving Excellence in Workforce Education*

- CCPI-STEM will build on the strength and successes of other ATE programs such as Mentor-Connect, Mentor Links, Mentor Up, Fortifying Community College Education-ATE (FORCCE-ATE), and Pathways to Innovation (PTI) that educate faculty about ATE funding opportunities and provide ongoing support in proposal development
- Collaboration with Project Vision, designed to broaden the diversity of institutions supported by ATE, will benefit both projects by sharing lessons and expertise
- CCPI-STEM is also collaborating with the premiere national associations that support and advocate for community colleges: the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), and the League for Innovation in the Community College (League)

## The HOW

- Regional Networks (RNs) comprised of presidents and senior administrators from the community colleges in six to eight geographic regions and will include local business and industry partners and members of professional associations
- The initial four Regional Networks and Chairs:
  - The Western Region, chaired by Dr. Frank Chong, President of Santa Rosa Community College in California;
  - The Midwest Region, chaired by Dr. Dan Phelan, President of Jackson College in Michigan;
  - The Mid-Atlantic Region chaired by Dr. Anne Kress, President of Northern Virginia Community College; and
  - The Southeast Region, chaired by Dr. Ed Massey, President Emeritus of Indian River College in Florida.
  - Additional regions will be developed as the project progresses. The RN partners will also include representatives of local and regional business and industry and members of the professional associations

## The BENEFITS

- Community College affiliation with CCPI-STEM at no cost
- Access to resource publications, webinars, podcasts, and experts with grant development and acquisition experience
- Individual and/or Consortia support
- Participation in the Annual Summit

*The National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education funding made a difference in my professional career as a PI of a National Center of Excellence, which propelled me to be a community college president. It made a difference in the regional economies and nationally in the funded sector. As a president, I once again saw the difference it made for my college, so I am excited to support this vital center to help more colleges secure funding.*  
*Annette Parker, EdD, President South Central College*

