

PRESIDENT NEWKIRK BEGINS OUTREACH IN THREE RIVERS REGION



Dr. Charlene Newkirk started as the chair of the Three Rivers Regional Network in August 2023 and by September she had made initial contacts with all the community presidents in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Newkirk is president of the [Community College of Allegheny County](#) (CCAC) Southeast Region.

Newkirk has served at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as a Campus President since March 2009. She assumed responsibility as the Southeast Region President overseeing the Boyce and South campuses, as well as the Braddock Hills Center. Her expertise and passion in the institutional areas of student access and success was renewed three years ago, when her responsibilities expanded to include joint leadership with the Northwest Region President.

“Our institution is really all in on this,” she said. She hopes the info she shares about CCAC’s outcomes from the five ATE grants it has received since 2014 will prompt other presidents to become affiliated with CCPI-STEM and to encourage their faculty members to submit ATE grant proposals.

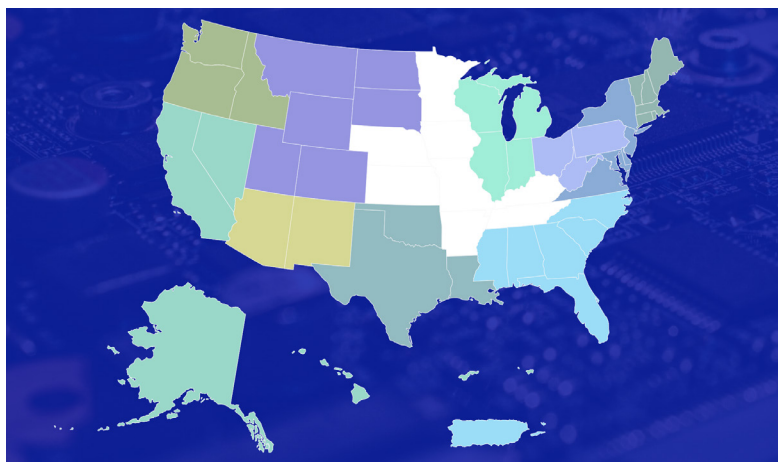
CCAC’s current ATE grant—[Increasing Student Access to Industrial and Scientific Equipment Training through Authentic Remote Learning Experiences](#)—will soon be offered in the Center of Innovation and Technology that the college is opening in October.

This fall Newkirk will speak to all the Pennsylvania community college presidents during a meeting of the [Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges](#). Following this meeting she plans to reach out to the trustees of community colleges in Pennsylvania.

In September she introduced herself and Bonita Richardson, executive assistant to the president and board of trustees at CCAC, to community college presidents in Ohio and West Virginia via email.

“I believe in building cheerleaders,” Newkirk said. So in October she will be attending the ATE Principal Investigators’ Conference with [Community College of Beaver County](#) (CCBC) President Roger Davis and an industry partner for CCBC’s ATE project, [Process Technology: Flexible Entry/Flexible Exit Curriculum Adaptation](#).

Newkirk hopes the lessons they learn will help them engage community college educators throughout the Three Rivers Regional Network in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.



This material is based upon work supported by The National Science Foundation under ATE grant #2132510. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

