



Center Director Kay McClenney Announces Retirement

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Recently I announced my plan to retire from the Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE) and The University of Texas at Austin, effective April 30, 2014.

Given that I have been with CCCSE since well before its public birth, this is a significant transition for me. Yet it is well timed. The Center is strong, enjoying continuing support from community colleges across the nation and beyond, as well as from national leaders in higher education and philanthropy. The staff is highly competent and wholly committed to high performance in fulfilling the Center's mission. The National Advisory Board provides perspective and expertise that will continue to be invaluable in the coming transition and the coming years.

This message is an opportunity to express sincere gratitude: to current and past members of the National Advisory Board, for lending expertise and passion to the Center's work; to Peter Ewell, who has served both as intellectual leader and as chair of our advisory board since inception, and to Russ Edgerton, without whom none of this work would have been possible; to George Kuh, Alex McCormick, and other National Survey of Student Engagement leaders, who have been great and generous colleagues; to the philanthropic leaders who are good colleagues and friends as well as supporters of our work. I am forever grateful to the wonderful people on the Center staff—a more talented, committed group I could not hope for. And I am especially grateful to the presidents and others in the nation's community colleges for their willingness to participate actively in work that has made public their performance and their efforts to strengthen the quality of their students' educational experiences.

Continuing appreciation goes to The University of Texas at Austin and to John Roueche, retired director of the Community College Leadership Program, for making a place for the Center. Please take a moment to read the accompanying statement from Manuel J. Justiz, Dean of the College of Education, and Randy Bomer, Chair of the Department of Educational Administration, affirming their continuing support for the Center's work.

Please know that I will depart with great hope for the continuing impact of the Center on educational quality, success, and equity for millions of community college students across the country and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kay' in a cursive, script font.

Kay McClenney | Director

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