

## A Big Welcome and Many Well Wishes

CCCSE is preparing to greet members of its National Advisory Board in person on the UT Austin campus. We look forward to seeing many of you soon as we meet to discuss issues important to CCCSE's future and the community college field at large. Before diving into those topics, it's time to welcome new faces (biographies linked), express gratitude to colleagues, and acknowledge recent position changes. See all active board members on our [website](#).

### New Members



**Dr. Carol S. Spalding**  
*President*  
Rowan-Cabarrus  
Community College (NC)  
[BIOGRAPHY](#)



**Dr. Daria J. Willis**  
*President*  
Howard Community  
College (MD)  
[BIOGRAPHY](#)

### New Leadership Positions



**Dr. Tyjaun Lee**  
*Vice Chancellor for  
Administrative Services*  
Metropolitan Community  
College (MO)  
as of August 2023



**Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart**  
*Chancellor*  
Austin Community College  
District (TX)  
as of October 2023

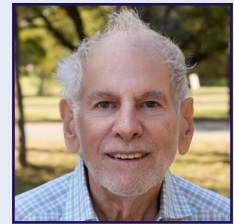
## Organizational Transitions

### The Charles A. Dana Center

Join CCCSE and UT Austin in welcoming the Dana Center's new leader, Dr. Wiggins, who plans on attending the meeting. We also wish to extend our profound gratitude to the organization's founder, Dr. Treisman.



**Dr. Afi Y. Wiggins**  
*Managing Director*  
[BIOGRAPHY](#)



**Dr. Philip Uri Treisman**  
*Founder*  
(*& University Distinguished  
Teaching Professor*)

### National Survey of Student Engagement

After Dr. McCormick's retirement last year, Dr. Kinzie has represented NSSE as interim co-director and helped conduct a search that recently named Dr. Taylor as the organization's new director. Both plan to attend the meeting.



**Dr. Leonard  
Donovan Taylor, Jr.**  
*Director*  
[BIOGRAPHY](#)



**Dr. Jillian Kinzie**  
*Associate Director*

### Educational Testing Service

Over the past few years, CCCSE has benefited greatly from ETS joining the conversations at our board meetings. Dr. Robbins embarked on new personal ventures in the summer but before doing so connected CCCSE with Ms. Stephenson. We look forward to continuing this partnership.



**Ann-Marie  
Stephenson**  
*Sr. Director, Business  
Development & Client  
Relations*  
[BIOGRAPHY](#)



**Dr. Steven B.  
Robbins**  
*Former Principal  
Research Scientist*



## CCCSE Partners in IES Grant

CCCSE has partnered with Dr. Stephanie Cawthon (The University of Texas at Austin College of Education, Educational Psychology Department) on a newly created [National Disability Center for Student Success](#), a five-year project funded by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

CCCSE will collaborate with Dr. Cawthon's team to analyze existing *CCCSE* data with a special focus on students with disabilities and to develop a special-focus item set, the results of which will be analyzed and published.

## Project With *Excelencia* in Full Swing

In May, CCCSE and *Excelencia* in Education launched the Community Colleges Transforming by Engaging Latino Students pilot project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Since then, CCCSE has co-hosted an in-person learning event with *Excelencia* in June and has led multiple virtual events in August and September. During the most recent convening, Cara Crowley, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at Amarillo College (TX), provided a keynote presentation on culture of caring.

Participating institutions (see list in [previous briefing](#)) are beginning to implement their action plans, some of which are centered around data infrastructure; student-driven focuses such as increasing term-to-term retention; institutionalized faculty engagement; and increasing representation among faculty, staff, and administrators. CCCSE will host two additional virtual events in November and December and will wrap up its participation in the project in spring of 2024.

## What We're Hearing From Students This Fall About Mental Health

An ongoing CCCSE [grant](#) from The Kresge Foundation is investigating mental health and well-being among community college students through special item sets administered concurrently with the 2023 surveys. CCCSE will release a national report in 2024 based on data collected from *CCCSE* and *SENSE* and information obtained from interviews with students currently underway this fall. Interviews have been completed at two of the three partner colleges and the third round is wrapping up presently. Through these conversations, we have heard very compelling stories underscoring the importance of mental health awareness and resources for community college students. Below is a sampling of quotes from the student participants so far.

“What the college counselor helped me with was giving me an avenue to talk, because I love my parents, but they are not people who I can really talk to about my mental health.”

“I'm on medication now, so it has been more manageable, but I don't know if I'd still be around if I hadn't gotten some stuff for my head, to chill out, and to really calm down.”

“The greatest barrier to keep me from seeking help is thinking that I got it ... I can handle it myself, but that isn't the case.”

### **Student Interviews:**

- » Alvin Community College (TX)  
September 12–13, 2023
- » Broward College (FL)  
September 19–20, 2023
- » San José City College (CA)  
October 17–18, 2023

## Free Item Set on Culture of Caring Added to *CCSSE* Administration Next Spring

Colleges that participate in the *CCSSE* 2024 administration will receive a **15-item set** that explores students' perceptions of the social and emotional support they receive from their college community across five key areas.



Self-Efficacy



Sense of Belonging



Mental Health and Well-Being



Students in Need



Stigma

## Engagement With the Field

Below are recent and upcoming attendances and presentations by CCCSE staff.

### JULY 2023

- » Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Pathways Team Learning Session on *DESSE* — Webinar
- » National Alliance of Community and Technical Colleges Conference — Participation
- » Jobs for the Future Student Success Center Network Convening — Presentation *Including co-presenters from JFF and the Ohio Association of Community Colleges*
- » Michigan Community Colleges Association Conference — Keynote
- » California State University San Bernadino — Doctoral Class Visiting Faculty Member

### AUGUST 2023

- » Phi Theta Kappa CCsmart Summit — Participation
- » Laredo Community College Convocation — Keynote
- » Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Pathways Support Partner Summer Retreat — Participation
- » Kansas State University — Doctoral Class Visiting Faculty Member

### SEPTEMBER 2023

- » National Community College Hispanic Council Leadership Fellows Program — Keynote
- » Community College Association of Texas Trustees Annual Conference — Keynote
- » San Diego State University — Doctoral Class Visiting Faculty Member
- » The University of Texas at Austin College of Education Dean's Advisory Council — Presentation

### OCTOBER 2023

- » Bank of America Jobs Initiative College Employer Learning Hub — Presentation
- » National Alliance of Community & Technical Colleges Strategic Planning Session — Participation
- » Central Texas College Student Success Conference — Keynote
- » Metropolitan Community College (MO) District In-Service — Keynote
- » Delaware Technical Community College Convocation — Keynote
- » National Council on Student Development Conference — Keynote
- » NISOD Monthly Themes Webinar — Presentation *Including co-presenter from Delta College (MI)*
- » Harvard Graduate School of Education Bravely Confronting Racism in Higher Education Panel Discussion — Panelist
- » National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships National Conference — Presentation *Including co-presenter from the Community College Research Center*

## COMING SOON

In early November, CCCSE will release a national report focused on elements of successful transfer. Data are from *SENSE 2022*.

## Recent Press



Adkins, C., García, L. L., & Noonan-Terry, C. (2023). [What we're learning about the dual enrollment student experience](#). *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*.



Duguid, S. (Host). (2023, October 4). [Women in Educational Leadership: Turning Points and Student Engagement](#) [Radio show episode]. In *Empowering Women in Educational Leadership*. Voice America.

**Guests:** CCCSE's Executive Director Dr. Linda García and Associate Director of Publications Dr. Courtney Adkins