Free Community College Education for two years? Are you crazy?

Did any of us expect the US President to announce on January 9th at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville that "Community college should be free for those willing to work for it." [http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/16/obama-college-plan-lacks-substance/21868653/]

In his State of the Union address on January 21, according to reports from the White House, President Obama will disclose a proposal to make two years of a community college education free ... if every state is willing to participate.” This plan would be similar to the Tennessee Promise which Governor Haslam [TN] signed in 2014 to offer free community college tuition for two years.

NEWS Outreach beyond the CCCAP:

AIA Announces National Survey sponsored by AIA, NCARB, ACSA, AIAS, NOMA ... and the CCCAP!

Perhaps you received via email on January 7th from the AIA National regarding the largest national survey ever conducted of the profession. The goal of the survey is to collect data on the “profile of the architecture profession.” This survey was sent out to a random selection of AIA members.

In October 2014, CCCAP met with Damon Leverett AIA, to introduce him as the new Managing Director, Diversity & Emerging Professionals Engagement at AIA National to the mission and working of the CCCAP. He immediately invited us to join his team to develop this survey. He wished to include architecture students from “backgrounds diverse in culture as well as careers” and we provided him with email addresses of twelve CCAP students and of the registered CCCAP members.

It is an honor to be recognized as member of this team ... especially in a message that was distributed across the country to 1/3 of the AIA membership. Attached is a copy of the message.


CCCAP Selected to Present a Session at the AIA National Convention 2015 in Atlanta

Following the excitement and energy of the CCCAP Work Session in Chicago in June 2014, the CCCAP Board submitted a proposal to present for the AIA National Convention the following year.
Over 650 proposals were submitted, and, after two cuts, CCCAP’s proposal on “WIDENING THE PIPELINE TO THE PROFESSION: THE CCCAP” was approved.

A panel including myself, John Padilla, AIA who is a graduate of San Antonio College and University of Houston as well as Secretary 2015 AIA National and Andrew Vernooy, AIA who is Dean at Texas Tech University SOA and Jud Kline FAIA will present current data and future opportunities.

The session is scheduled for Thursday, May 14th at 3:30 pm. Let’s fill the hall!

**Example of Successful Transfer Arrangement between a CCAP and a SOA**

This is a personal story.

Every CCAP likes to hear articulation success stories. They are not only encouraging but also useful as impressive evidence to present in our own efforts to establish transfer opportunities. David Edwards [Spokane CC] shared his successful negotiation with his college and Washington State University SOA. On September 3, 2014, he emailed me the following message:

“Just two days ago the final signature was added to the MOU for the articulation agreement with Washington State University (WSU). It is official! I will send you the link as soon as they have it up on our website or the WSU website. I feel like I should send out a birth announcement and tell people how many pounds all the paperwork weighed and how long a process this was!”

So, here is our good news,

For almost twenty years I tramped over to the University of Maryland College Park SOAP, to inquire about setting up some fashion of transfer between their program and mine at Montgomery College. [We are less than 20 miles apart.]

On Monday, January 12th, a pivotal document was completed between the UMCP SOAP recruitment director and me. This document defines the process by which Montgomery College Architecture Major graduates can transfer directly into UMCP SOAP as juniors. Students with an AAS degree in Architecture who are accepted into UMCP are immediately accepted into the SOAP with their design studio status to be determined by their design portfolio. This is a breakthrough.

This is not how I thought this would go down. It is better. Why?

1. Students who do NOT have an AAS with an Architecture Major are not included in this acceptance. They must complete any/all General Education requirements at UMCP.
2. This is not a course for course transfer. It is a package deal which depends and supports the quality of “foundation” architecture learning that occurred at MC.
3. This is a public document to be included on UMCP SOAP website accessible to all inquiring.

I am glad to share the document. I have already contacted two other schools to inform them of this news with hopes to repeat the process. I am glad to share the documents if you are interested.
NEWS Reach within the CCCAP:

Membership in the CCCAP

Currently, the CCCAP has 27 FULL MEMBERS: Spokane Community College, Norwalk CC, Hillsborough CC, Tarrant County College, Southwest Tennessee CC, San Antonio College, College of DuPage, Lake Superior College, Lake Washington Institute of Technology, Clover Park Technical College, City College of San Francisco, Onondaga CC, Kirkwood CC, Oakland CC, Des Moines Area Technical College, Central Ohio Technical College, Lewis + Clark CC, Austin CC, Cuesta College, Dutchess CC, College of Lake County, Montgomery College, Community College of Philadelphia, Los Angeles Harbor College, Del Mar College, West Valley College, and Sinclair CC.

The annual dues are $325 for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 membership and include free attendance at the CCCAP Conference 2015 in Atlanta, free participation in the Student Design Competition, promotion of information with ACSA, and access to portions of CCCAP website which are members-only including our directory, course descriptions, curriculums, best practices, and more.

The CCCAP is representing you ... the community college architecture program ... and only you. As we gather together, we represent architectural educators whose graduates are eager to join the architectural community.

Website Development

We currently have a website at www.cccap.org. A web designer is being interviewed to revamp our website. We expect the new site to be launched by April 2015.

Based on feedback from our two work sessions and with the support of the CCCAP Board, the website needs to expand. The website needs to serve as a sharing space for course assessments and successful assignments, to provide information about student club activities and community service experiences, act as a directory of the CCAPs nationally, and provide space for a job bank for CCAP educators and even internship opportunities for our graduates.

NEWS Within the CCCAP in 2015:

Student Design Competition: REVISED!! M-S-XS HOUSE [800 sq. ft.]

The CCCAP is sponsoring the First CCCAP Student Design Competition. All entries will be exhibited at the CCCAP Conference 2015 Atlanta.

The design project is created by Jane Ostergaard and Mark [both College of DuPage.] The project can be done a team or an individual and can easily designed as an independent/out of the classroom design. The site can be selected by the competitor. Energy conservation as well as ease of construction are important factors.

National leaders in “small” design such as Sara Susanka are being invited as judges with prizes like iPads for the winners.

The competition details are attached. Encourage your students to enter!
The goals of this competition are to provide CCAP students with a design/presentation project focused on a global issue of conflict and an open forum for design creativity as well as an opportunity to demonstrate our students’ many skills and enthusiasm.

**Call for proposals for CCCAP Conference 2015 Atlanta May 13, 2015**

On Wednesday, May 13th, we will meet in Atlanta on the day prior to the start of the AIA National Convention. This year the morning of the conference will focus on updates and presentations with an afternoon of individual sessions. Start your funding request now for attendance at the Conference.

AIA Learning Units will be available for the sessions as well as opportunities to share your success stories.

**Attached is the format for submitting a proposal for a session at the Conference. We expect that there will be eight to ten one-hour/two-hour sessions. The deadline for submittal of the proposals is February 13, 2015. A committee of CCAP Full Members will make the selection and will contact winning entries before March 2, 2015.**

We each have remarkable stories of success within our programs. Please consider how you can offer your experiences to your fellow CCAPs.

**Wrap-up:**

With these images in our collective mind, the CCCAP can forge ahead with your input and membership. Therefore, we launched our FULL MEMBERSHIP to all who responded to our survey and even to those community college architecture programs who did not submit responses to the survey.

**Fill out the attached FULL MEMBERSHIP application form and join the CCCAP as a FULL MEMBER with the benefits it offers to all of us. Let’s all be the change that we want to see … join the CCCAP.**

I look forward to hearing back from you. Don’t let the academic year pass without joining the CCCAP.

... **Randy** Steiner, AIA [Montgomery College, MD]
President and Founder, Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs Inc. [CCCAP]

**NOTE:** Please pardon any incorrect spellings of names and/or schools.