



Achieving the Dream™

MESSAGE TO THE ATD NETWORK: ATD Weekly Network Connection: COVID-19 Resources

Thursday, April 16, 2020



APRIL 16, 2020

### **Virtual Network Town Hall: Join us April 20**

Achieving the Dream President and CEO, Dr. Karen A. Stout, will host a Virtual Network Town Hall on Monday, April 20 at 2:30 p.m. Eastern. This is an opportunity for Network colleges to ask your most pressing questions related to supporting student success during this ever-changing environment. ATD leaders will be ready to answer your questions related to distance learning and instructional design; providing virtual student supports; leadership and strategy; and more. Join us. [Please register in advance](#). There is no fee to attend.

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ACHIEVING THE DREAM CONTINUES TO CAREFULLY  
MONITOR AND RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THE  
ATD NETWORK COLLEGES DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

### **Schedule a Virtual Consultation with an ATD Leader**

Achieving the Dream continues to offer 45-minute virtual consultations free of charge for any active ATD Network college facing immediate challenges in ensuring students have the supports to help them succeed. To date, virtual consultations have covered topics such as:

- Connecting students to non-academic supports
- Conducting successful online advising
- Financial processing without virtual infrastructure
- Recruiting students and shoring up future enrollment
- Connecting to students who have little to no internet access

Consultations can be requested with [student services leaders](#) or for [instructional designers](#).

### **New Digital Resource Allows Students to Submit Customized Appeal Letters**

Achieving the Dream is one of 17 partners in testing a new tool, *SwiftStudent*, introduced by the Seldin/ Haring-Smith Foundation as a free digital resource to help students request changes to their college financial aid packages. Through *SwiftStudent*, students can learn about the financial aid appeal process, review eligibility requirements, and customize free template appeal letters to submit to their college financial aid office. Join ATD and Abigail Seldin from the Foundation on April 28 to learn about this valuable new resource. [Register here](#).

### **Resource: Online Teaching & Learning Through Disruption**

On Wednesday, ATD concluded the webinar series, *Online Teaching & Learning through Disruption*. The four-part series provided best practices on how to support student success in a fully remote teaching and learning environment. A link to the recordings is now available on ATD's [COVID-19 Resource Responses](#).



## **ATD Colleges Are Securing New Supports for Their Students**

### **In Recognizing Students Need Support, Portland Community College Foundation Commits \$750K**

In a move that shows significant support for students, the Portland Community College Foundation has committed \$750,000 in [emergency funding to aid struggling students](#), a gift that will impact a number of lives during coronavirus. PCC, the largest higher education institution in Oregon, will use a majority of the funds to bolster its *Overcoming Barriers Emergency Grant Program* and to provide grocery store vouchers to students impacted by campus closures.

### **Chicago-Area ATD Network Colleges Recognized for their Student Support during COVID-19**

Four Chicago-area ATD Network colleges [were recognized in the Chicago Daily Herald](#) for their work to support students during COVID-19 campus closures. Oakton Education Foundation is purchasing 200 Chromebooks for student use and Harper College, an ATD Leader College of Distinction, is providing grants for up to \$500 to help students with out of school expenses.

### **Southwest Tennessee Connects Students, Employers Via Virtual Career Fair**

ATD Leader College Southwest Tennessee Community College [created a virtual career fair over the first ten days of April](#) to connect students and Memphis-area employers. The online resource included a job board with participating employers from a variety of industries, and resources for students and alumni that included the job postings, resume review, and interview preparation.



## ATD Colleges Are Finding Ways to Support Their Communities

### **Prompted by a Community Request, a Tribal College Aids the Response to COVID-19**

Bay Mills Community College's response to its community illustrates how many colleges have been able to quickly pivot to serve community needs. In late March, Bay Mills, a tribal college in Michigan, was asked to contribute to a project to design face shields for essential workers in its region. Using 3D printing, the college's advanced manufacturing program is now creating [150 lightweight shields each day](#), contributing to the effort to help its community.

### **Atlantic Cape Community College Celebrates Community College Month by Honoring Graduates on Front Line of COVID-19 Fight**

Nationally, community colleges produce more than 50 percent of healthcare workers and certify 80 percent of first responders, putting large numbers of community college graduates on the front line in the fight against COVID-19. Atlantic Cape (NJ) Community College is honoring its graduates during #CCMonth by highlighting teachers, emergency workers, and health care providers who are among the many essential workers [making a difference in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

### **Ohio Community Colleges Supply Thousands of Face Masks, Gloves to First Responders**

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, [Ohio's 23 community colleges have supplied](#) more than 200,000 face masks and gloves to hospitals and first responders in the state. The donations include nearly 46,000 PPE items from ATD Leader College Sinclair Community College. Sinclair's donations have also included nine ventilators, which are critical in supporting COVID-19 patients.

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## **@achievethe dream**

A [drive-thru testing clinic](#) for healthcare workers, first responders and essential workers who have symptoms of COVID-19 opened Monday on the campus of Ivy Tech Community College.

Community colleges are teaching institutions. It's what is getting us through the pandemic because it's what we do, regardless of format. Our faculty come equipped w/ real-world knowledge & experience; a focus on teaching means more time for every student. [#CCMonth](#) @CCTrustees