



Eastern-in-the-News



EASTERN TAPS 23-YEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE VET TO SERVE AS NEW PRESIDENT

Moorefield, WV — June 21, 2010 —Dr. Charles D. Terrell will become the fourth President of Eastern WV Community and Technical College effective July 1, 2010.

Named to the post by the college's Board of Governors following an extensive national search, Terrell brings to Eastern's leadership more than two decades of community college teaching and administrative experience.

"We look forward to Dr. Terrell joining Eastern's family," said Scott Sherman, Chair of Eastern's Board. "He has a strong passion for students and more importantly, for student achievement and success.



Eastern's New President, Dr. Charles D. Terrell.

"The Board of Governors feels that he will also do well in interacting with, and involving the communities we serve," Sherman noted. "In selecting Dr. Terrell as President, we have found a person who demonstrates the energy and enthusiasm to lead the college forward."

Terrell joins Eastern after five years in Roanoke as Vice President of WorkForce Development Services and Lifelong Learning at Virginia Western Community College. Before that, he served for six years as Assistant Professor and Director of

Workforce Development and Continuing Education at Southside Virginia Community College, in Alberta.

Customizing Services

In both of those positions, Terrell bred success by customizing the college's services to the community's learning and training needs. For learners in classroom and online certificate and degree programs, Eastern's new president said, that meant perfecting and putting into action "effective and workable strategies that contribute to student retention and success."

Those approaches increased enrollment not only among the recent high school graduates who traditionally see college as a path to a better future, but also among adult learners and other students looking to strengthen their skills in the job market — and who might be the first in their families to go to college.

Terrell's record of success also includes building and strengthening relationships with business and industry employers by giving them direct input and involvement in the development of workforce training programs delivered through the community college.

"That way, the college stays in tune with the changing economic climate in the community and region," he pointed out, and "becomes and continues to be a valuable partner and contributor to economic development."

Unmet Community Needs

So when he takes the Eastern helm next month from retiring President Bob Sisk, "the first agenda item for me is to be a good listener," Terrell said, "to learn the

culture of the college and the community.” He wants “to understand the unmet needs that exist in the region,” and how Eastern, “as a strong community partner,” can build on and expand the areas and activities where it is already succeeding.

“I’ve learned that colleges are more than classrooms,” Terrell emphasized. “They are communities where life and learning join together.

“Eastern has an excellent Board that is committed to the success of the college. And I am impressed with the talented faculty, staff and students,” he said, “who are eager for and active in the college’s continuing growth.”

Terrell’s own higher learning began in Greenville, North Carolina where he received a B.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from East Carolina University in 1979. That background and degree qualified him for jobs as a town planner and administrator, and he spent nearly a decade in local government in North Carolina and Virginia, including several years with an agency on aging. He also worked part-time as a church Youth Activities Director.

Professional Background

In 1991, Terrell earned a Masters degree in College and Community Counseling from Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia, and on that foundation started his community college career. During the next ten years, while teaching student development, sociology and contemporary social problems, he also continued his graduate education, completing a doctoral degree (PhD) in Education at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2001.

From 2003 to 2006, Terrell served as a board member, and Middle Atlantic Regional Director, of the National Council for Continuing Education and Training, and from 2006 to 2008 as a member of the organization’s executive board. He is a graduate of Harvard University’s intensive Management Development Program, and among other professional involvements, a member of the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship.

“Higher education is not a sport — but as in sports,” Terrell pointed out, “faculty, staff, and students are central players striving to reach specific goals. My goal is to be a good coach — inspiring, energizing, and facilitating the performance, learning and development of every player.

“Because in our arena, when students are successful,” he emphasized, “the whole team wins.”

For more information about Eastern’s financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education, call toll free: 877-982-2322; or check the College’s website: “www.eastern.wvnet.edu”.

Serving the residents of Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton and Tucker counties, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, is a comprehensive and equal opportunity community and technical college bringing the resources and assets of Education That Works to the families, communities and employers of the Potomac Highlands.