

## Chancellor Board Remarks September 3, 2009

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

This month has gone by very quickly. Some highlights from my activities. I've met with the leadership of locals 1600, 1708 and AFSCME. I attended the District Convocation and the Faculty Council Retreat; both were great events as semester starters. We thank Rev. Tyson for joining us at the Convocation. I've attended two Chicago Workforce Investment Council meetings, and the City Colleges will present a report on our workforce achievements and goals. And, I've met with the PI's (the Principal Investigators) from the University of Chicago who are seeking federal funding to build the World's largest Telescope, and they are seeking to partner with the City Colleges to involve community college students in research and educational activities.

And, I had an opportunity to visit Buckingham Fountain for lunch at the Washburne Café.

The City Colleges is experiencing significant enrollment increases in the credit program, 14% higher than this time last year. While there were rumors of students being turned away, many students were re-directed to sister colleges where for the most part they were accommodated.

Congratulations to Malcolm X College and the students in the PA program who took the PANCE exam. Fifteen out of the 16 students passed. That's a pass rate of 94% (national average is 93%). Wright College has been informed by USGBC that it will receive one of five awards to community colleges in recognition of leadership in environmental education. (Awards also go to five K-12 systems and to five universities). The award will be presented at their national meeting in November. It comes with a small honorarium (\$1000) to help cover the cost of sending a representative to accept the award.

Additionally, Wright College is a recipient of the 2009 Creating a Community That Works Award presented by the North Lawndale Employment Network.

On a sad note, Marc Schuman's mother passed (91), the owner of Eli's Cheesecake, a significant partner with Wright College, in particular, and the City Colleges, in general. He truly understands

**the role and value of community colleges. Please send messages of condolences to Marc and his family.**

**Meeting with Tyree and Linenberger**

**Decision: to renew core services contract with Synch Solutions or bring positions back to CCC.**

**Contract with Synch expires June 30, 2010. Seeking three-year contract through 2013.**