



THADDEUS STEVENS
College of **TECHNOLOGY**

*Testimony Before
the
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Appropriations Committee
February 22, 2018*

Pennsylvania's Only State-Owned, Two-Year Technical College
&
Fourth Consecutive Time Named the Top Two-Year Technical
College in Pennsylvania
(Aspen Institute)

THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

Good afternoon, I am William Griscom, President of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. The handout you have been provided includes a College fact sheet, which will serve as my statement, followed by slides which provide essential information about the College, as well as a list of efforts to increase capacity and better fulfill our mission and respond to the needs of industry.

THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

-FACT SHEET-

- Last year the College had over 1,400 companies with 3,000 jobs for 400 graduates. These companies did not obtain the skilled employees they require. These were excellent jobs with family sustaining salaries, many in the \$50-\$60,000 range.
- Current Dining Hall was built in 1978 when enrollment was 350 students. The capacity of the Dining Hall is 150 people. We run students through the facility in shifts so as not to exceed the capacity. Our current enrollment is 1,062, an almost 40 percent increase over the last ten years. Our Master Plan has the College enrollment growing to approximately 1,800 students in the next few years. The College's dormitory capacity is filled to its maximum capacity of 525 beds. Over one-half of the College's students are financially disadvantaged and must be provided housing to attend.
- Median student loan debt: \$7,300
- Applications are up (2,500) as is enrollment (7%)
- Cost per student dropped \$1,000 per student over the last two years
- Graduation Rate Increased to 70% (Unprecedented for Two-Year Colleges)
- As an institution the only debt we carry is our unfunded pension and benefit liability that all State colleges were required to book in last one or two years
- 98.8% of employers rated the performance of our graduates in the workplace as Good or Excellent
- 82.5% rated the overall preparation of our students as Satisfied or Very Satisfied
- Graduate satisfaction with their education was 4.0 out of 5.0 based on an 89% Response Rate
- Fifth in the Nation in Graduation Rate of all Two-Year Colleges; this will rise with latest increase.
- One of the highest Outcomes Ratio of any 2 or 4 year colleges in the nation in terms of Cost/Debt/to Starting Salary

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology

- Mission -

- To provide a bridge out of poverty for the poorest qualified citizens of Pennsylvania, through a high-skill high-wage technical education, in order for them to escape the cycle of poverty into which they were born. (*Based on the Will & Principles of the Founder – Thaddeus Stevens*)
- To support the critical technical workforce needs of the Commonwealth



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- Relevant Information -

- Stevens (Pell Eligible) Grant Recipients: 53% (46% of Graduates – Breaking the Cycle of Poverty)
- Minority Students: 30%
- 100% Placement Rate in Most Programs
- Student Body from 57 Counties in PA
- Students Performed Over 8,000 Hours of Community Service

- Average Student Loan Debt - \$7,356
- Private Sector Fundraising: Cash - \$ 1,079,752
- In-Kind - \$175,547
- Owned by the Commonwealth



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- Relevant Information -

- 1, 142 Students (7% Increase)
- One-Half of Students Live in Campus Dormitories
- Graduation Rate: 70%
- 400 Graduates
- Stevens Grant – Room, Board, 7 day Meal Plan, Books and Tools (Student Responsible for EFC)
- Cost Per Student (State Appropriation)

- 2016 = \$13,487.00

- 2017 = \$12,439.00

-2018 = \$12, 498.00



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- Programs -

- ARCHITECTURE
- AUTOMOTIVE
- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- CABINETMAKING
- CARPENTRY
- COLLISION REPAIR
- COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING
- COMPUTER & NETWORKING
- CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN
- ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY
- ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY
- ELECTRO-MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY
- GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS & PRINTING
- HEATING A/C VENTILATION & REFRIGERATION
- MACHINE TOOL & COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURING
- MASONRY CONSTRUCTION
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
- METALS FABRICATION/WELDING
- PLUMBING TECHNOLOGY
- RESIDENTIAL REMODELING
- SOFTWARE ENGINEERING-Fall 2017
- WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY
- WELDING TECHNOLOGY

OUR MODEL

-Performance-Based Management-

- Mission
- Goals Derived from Mission
- Performance Measures for Goals
- Dashboards of Performance Measures
- Data-Based Improvement & Decision Making

Thaddus Stevens College of Technology

-The Challenge-

- **A skilled workforce is the only sustainable competitive advantage a company has in a global marketplace.** If your workforce is not more productive, innovative and creative than those you are competing against you will lose. We have great companies in the Commonwealth, but we are asking them to compete without a full team, against companies in other countries who go to extremes, to insure their employers not only have a full team, but the best team possible.
- Two weeks ago we held our annual Career Fair, just one of the venues we use to connect our graduating class with employers. The event is held in our large gymnasium. 143 companies, the most we could squeeze in, were at this event, with 380 representatives. Another 200 plus companies, for which there was no space, were online in a virtual career fair. Employers were attempting to fill over 900 jobs with only 350 of our graduates. Last year in total we had 810 employers with 2,400 jobs seeking graduates. A number of these jobs started at annual salaries, in the \$60,000 range, with full benefits.

THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE

- *The Challenge* -

- The College's median student loan debt is \$7,200. As a result the graduates will be in a position to live the traditional American dream of owning a car, purchasing a home, and taking vacations. They will be consumers who drive the economy; and if they follow the path of former graduates, they will be productive citizens who give back to the communities in which they live.
- While this is a great position for our graduates; the lack of skilled employees threatens the economy and our standard of living.
- In order for our companies to remain competitive and grow we must provide them with the skilled employees they need.

Thaddeus Stevens College

- Efforts to Increase Number of Graduates -

- Leased 25,000 S.F. Manufacturing Facility in order to double the Metal Fabrication program and start new Welding program
- Leased additional 25,000 S.F. to expand Masonry Program
- Advanced Manufacturing Center (\$25 Million) to open in the fall of 2018, two blocks from the main campus
- Doubled Electrical Program (2011)
- Added 2nd Class of Electro-Mechanical (2015)
- Added Residential Remodeling (2015)
- Running Double Evening Program in HVAC &R (2015)
- Added Evening Program in CNSA (2016)
- Added Welding Program (2016)
- Running Evening Machine Technology (2012)
- Software Engineering (Fall 2017)
- Fall Enrollment: 1,067 (+9.4%)**
- Fall Enrollment: 1,142 (+7.0%)**