

2025 CCATT Report 11-13 October 2025

Wednesday, Board of Directors Dinner: Actually started Wednesday evening with a Board of Directors dinner.

Thursday, Board Meeting: Including with presumptive electees Jonathan Hill and John Betancourt were in attendance.

First Time Attendees Lunch: Board Liaison Jody Nolen from Frank Phillips College. She is also the HR director along with some additional duties. Shared Lindey Vanek's information with her.

Pre-Conference Session: State & Local Advocacy Ray Martinez, III, Jacob Cottingham, and Nicole Eversmann, all of TACC described the necessity of getting to know local state Reps & Senators and connected them to Texas Association of Community Colleges.

Ken Starr Lectuer: Headed back to Waco for the event. Ashley Cruseturner has really mastered his conversational style. This was the same Justice Kavanaugh that our Scholars met with a couple of three years ago in his chambers. Fortunately, the protesters were well behaved and the Highlands were filled to the rafters.

****Friday, Tri-Agency Workforce:** Commissioner Mike Morath of the TEA (Texas Education Agency) & Commissioner Wynn Rosser of THECB (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board). The Texas Workforce Commissioner position is vacant. Dr. Brenda Kays of Kilgore College was moderator. It is MOST unfortunate that this session was not videotaped. There was so much good info and collaborative discussion it was amazing! Very encouraging talk of smoother transfer from two to four year schools. Innovation as well.

Also, Commissioner Rosser is a product of Kilgore College, so we may actually have our best community college ally at THECB ever.

Exhibitor Host/Gallagher/Cumming Group: Steve Risser, enjoyed meeting him. Brian Nicholson from Waco was a no show. CM Agent for public school, project manager for colleges.

CCATT Business Meeting & Lunch: Jonathan Hill and others elected to CCATT Board of Directors!

Breakout Session, Policy Considerations for Board Liaisons The other sessions were covered by my fellow attendees. McLennan is SO far ahead of many other colleges in this session!

****Breakout Session, Enrollment Management:** Dr. Jenna Cullinane Hege, Vice Chancellor At Austin Community College explained how ACC used their arbitrage from the new funding model for a "1st dollar" no cost tuition scholarship. Most colleges use Pell as 1st dollar, and their own monies as last dollar. All I proposed was to adjust tuition downward since we are not FULLY subsidizing dual credit anymore. That new funding was instead absorbed into our ever growing operating budget. Austin has obviously been more innovative is creating new credentials for the new funding model.

Saturday Plenary Session: Dr. Christy Ponce, ACCT national president of the year. There was a change in the schedule, and I am not sure where Rep. Oscar Longoria wound up.

**** Favourite sessions!**

K. Paul Holt, District 6 Trustee