

# Matthew Reed, Ph.D

A seasoned senior-level community college leader and national thought leader on public higher education with policy experience at the statewide level. A thoughtful, equity-minded leader who establishes a great working environment and ensures that everyone works towards a common goal. The kind of leader who never loses sight of the big picture.

## Executive Experience

**New Jersey Council of County Colleges,** Hamilton, New Jersey AY 2022-3

*The NJCCC is the statutorily designated statewide coordinating body for New Jersey's 18 county (community) colleges.*

## Senior Executive Officer

I am serving in this role while on sabbatical from Brookdale. Reporting directly to the SHEEO, I am the chief policy and academic affairs officer for the Council. I monitor state and federal legislation, working closely with the Council and its lobbyist to ensure that the county colleges' needs are understood and accounted for in legislation. I'm also responsible for the statewide review processes for general education and Perkins approvals, and serve as the liaison to statewide affinity groups in academic affairs, institutional research, and assessment. I played a formative role in developing this year's budget request to the state legislature; we'll know the outcome in a few months.

**Brookdale Community College,** Lincroft, New Jersey. 2015-present  
*Brookdale is a comprehensive, multi-campus community college serving Monmouth County, New Jersey. It has over 9,000 credit students annually, with an operating budget of slightly over \$80 million. Out of 18 community colleges in the state, it ranks second in degree production. Its offerings run the gamut from automotive tech and Nursing to liberal arts transfer. It offers several degree programs entirely online, and has started several Middle College High School programs throughout Monmouth County.*

## Vice President for Academic Affairs

Chief Academic Officer for a college of over 9,000 students. Acting President when President is absent. Responsible for over 180 full-time tenure-track and tenured faculty, over 300 adjunct faculty, the library, the Teaching and Learning Center, Perkins, academic support, and academic policy.

#### Notable Achievements:

- Cut online/onsite achievement gap in half.
- Increased graduation rates and retention rates every year.
- Championed development/adoption of OER across curriculum, saved students over \$1 million in textbook costs per year. Now over 30% of classes use OER.
- Successfully championed “directed self-placement” in English.
- Established “guided pathways” in allied health and business.
- Shepherded “Undecided” major, featuring an innovative career guidance course.
- Established a highly successful Hospitality Management program.
- Fostered creation of new Middle College High School programs, and developed an innovative “bifurcated grading” model to work around “bloc scheduling” conflicts.
- Established new University Partnership programs at Higher Education Centers.
- Co-authored successful Title III grant application, 2017.
- Developed Academic Master Plan with focus on equity gaps.
- Chaired statewide Chief Academic Officers affinity group, 2020-1.
- Co-chaired statewide General Education Coordinating Committee, which developed a gen ed reform platform approved by the NJ Secretary of Higher Education.
- Served as Incident Commander during COVID lockdown, 2020.
- Brought Rutgers partnership to the main campus, resulting in double-digit retention gains in the Business program.
- Negotiated first “3+1” transfer agreements in Brookdale history, and its first articulations with HBCU's.
- Successfully collaborated with faculty to move courses online during COVID.

**Holyoke Community College**, Holyoke, Massachusetts.

2008-2015

*Holyoke Community College is a comprehensive community college of approximately 7,000 students located in the lowest-income city in Massachusetts. Despite that, in my final year as CAO, it was recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of six community colleges nationally with outstanding transfer relationships with flagship universities. It had one of the highest community college graduation rates in the state, and was particularly strong in Nursing and liberal arts.*

#### **Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Chief Academic Officer. Direct supervisor of an assistant vice president, six deans, and two grant directors. Responsible for over 130 full-time tenure-track and tenured unionized faculty, over 400 adjunct faculty, and the library and academic support center. Project Director for a \$1.8 million Title III grant. Report directly to the President of the college.

#### Notable Achievements:

- Shepherded creation and rollouts of new developmental math sequences.
- Achieved five-year goals of Title III grant in four years.

- Presided over five consecutive years of improved course completion rates.
- Established Faculty Council, improving communication on campus.
- Initiated onsite degree-completion program with Elms College.
- Increased diversity of faculty and staff through strategic hiring.
- Reduced achievement gaps while maintaining academic standards.
- Instituted widely-recognized General Education Assessment Committee.
- Reorganized Academic Affairs to streamline administration and preserve full-time faculty.
- Represented the college to external groups on a regular basis.
- Participated in very successful NEASC reaccreditation at HCC.
- Participated in two NEASC visiting teams.

**County College of Morris**, Randolph, New Jersey.

2003-2008

*CCM is a comprehensive community college serving Morris County, New Jersey. It has approximately 8,000 students, and is known for its strength particularly in transfer. It was a pioneer in accelerated remediation, with its English 007 course ("license to remediate") helping students bypass lengthy and expensive developmental courses.*

### **Division Dean of Liberal Arts**

Responsible for managing seven academic departments in the humanities and social sciences, with approximately 80 full-time unionized faculty and over 100 adjunct faculty.

Notable Achievements:

- Restructured Teacher Education program, resulting in 25% enrollment growth.
- Shepherded first cross-divisional major from concept to fruition.
- Increased faculty participation in online instruction, without resorting to mandates.
- Managed Bildner Diversity grant.
- Participated in contract negotiations with FACCM, the faculty union.
- Established unprecedented 96-credit articulation with College of St. Elizabeth.

**DeVry University**, North Brunswick, New Jersey.

1997-2003

**Dean of General Education**

2002-2003

**Associate Dean of General Education**

2001-2002

Responsible for a department of 25 full-time and 60 adjunct faculty.

Duties included hiring, evaluating, and terminating faculty; monitoring and improving student retention; coordinating outcomes assessment; course and instructor scheduling; and fielding student complaints and issues.

## Community and Board Participation

- Selected as Fellow for Inaugural Class of Aspen Institute Presidential Fellows, 2016-7
- Board of Trustees, Monmouth Museum, Middletown, NJ 2017-present
- Board of Directors, National Humanities Alliance, 2022-present
- Tournament Judge, New Jersey Forensic League, 2019
- Tournament Judge, Jersey Shore Debate League, 2015-8
- Tournament Judge, Junior First Lego League, 2013-5

## Selected Publications

**Book: Confessions of a Community College Administrator** (Jossey-Bass, 2013).

A “how-to” that has been taught in community college leadership programs.

**Column: “Confessions of a Community College Dean,” for InsideHigherEd.com**

2007-present

Most popular blog on IHE, with widespread readership throughout higher education and education policy circles.

“When Ladders Disappear,” **New Directions for Community Colleges**, vol. 2020, issue 191, 2020.

“The Indispensable Work of Community Colleges: The Conversations We Should Be Having,” (with Kate Drezek McConnell) **Liberal Education**, vol. 104, no. 2, Spring 2018

“Community Colleges, Shared Governance, and Democracy,” **PS: Political Science and Politics**, April, 2017.

“Learning to Listen as We Lead,” **Diversity Digest**, vol. 9, no. 2, 2005

“Apathy and Its Discontents,” **New Political Science**, vol. 23, no. 3, September, 2001.

“Back to Square One: Reinventing Political Science as a Humanistic Pursuit with Career-Minded Students,” APSA, Atlanta, GA, 1999. **Winner, Best Presentation Award, APSA Undergraduate Education Section**

## Selected Speaking Engagements and Panels

“How Higher Education Got Here, and Where It’s Going,” Community College of Rhode Island faculty workshop, January 2023.

“Divided We Fall: Political Polarization in America,” Brookdale Community College Speakers’ Series, June 2022.

Keynote Speaker, "Community Colleges During COVID," University of Maryland Graduate Center, 2020.

Guest Speaker, "Community Colleges and the Advancement of Educational and Economic Opportunity in America," Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA, 2018, 2019, 2020.

Keynote Speaker, "Community Colleges and Democracy," Michigan Center for Student Success Conference, Lansing, MI, 2019.

Panelist and Chair, Screening and Discussion of "Fail State" Documentary, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, 2018.

Panelist, "Challenges and Opportunities to Address College Food Insecurity," Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 2018.

Invited Speaker, "Community Colleges and Democracy: The Conversation We Should Be Having," American Association of Colleges and Universities National Conference, Washington, DC, 2018.

Keynote speaker, "Untapped Opportunities for Community Colleges," Arkansas Community College System Conference, Little Rock, AR, 2017.

Keynote speaker, "How the Light Gets In: Opportunities for Community Colleges," New Hampshire Community College System Conference, Portsmouth, NH, 2017.

Kickoff presentation, National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, Nashville, TN, 2017.

AAWCC Leaders Institute, invited speaker, Middletown, NJ, 2016.

Keynote presentation, "Self-Fulfilling Hope," New Jersey Council of Community Colleges, Edison, NJ, 2016.

Keynote presentation, "Education When Information is Free." Chair Academy, Seattle, WA, 2015.

Keynote presentation, "Administration as the Art of the Possible." TASS conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2015.

Panelist, "What if Graduate Programs Listened to Community Colleges?" League for Innovation in the Community College annual conference, Boston, MA, 2015.

Keynote panelist, National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship annual conference, Charlotte, NC, 2013.

Panelist, "Obama's Proposal: Will Performance Ratings Hurt Student Access?" Education Writers of America Higher Education conference, Boston, MA, 2013.

"Dean Dad's Advice for New Deans," League for Innovation in the Community College annual conference, Dallas, TX, 2013.

Year-end Wrapup Speaker, Massachusetts Community College Leadership Academy, 2013.

"What We Talk About When We Talk About Performance," NEASC annual conference, Boston, 2013.

Keynote speaker, NEACRAO (New England Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers) annual conference, Newport, RI, 2013.

"And the Next President of the United States Will Be..." invited talk to senior citizens, CCM Celebrates Seniors, 2007.

"The Graying of New Jersey," invited talk to senior citizens, CCM Celebrates Seniors, 2006.

"What the Candidates Won't Tell You," invited talk to senior citizens, CCM Celebrates Seniors, 2005.

"Technology-Driven Challenges to Higher Education," invited talk given to Faculty Development Committee, Union County College, Cranford, New Jersey, March 2005.

Chair, "Putting the Educational Spotlight on Civic Involvement," APSA, Washington, DC, 2000.

"Back to Square One: Reinventing Political Science as a Humanistic Pursuit with Career-Minded Students," APSA, Atlanta, GA, 1999. **Winner, Best Presentation Award, APSA Undergraduate Education Section**

### **Podcast, Documentary, and Video Appearances**

*Higher Voltage*, 2022. (podcast)

*#DigLead Book Club*, 2020. (YouTube interview with Josie Ahlquist)

*GatorCast*, 2020. (podcast)

*Mortar Board*, 2020. (podcast)

*#EndCCStigma*, 2019. (podcast)

*Fail State*, 2017. (documentary film)

*Higher Ed Social*, 2016. (podcast)

TEDx Talk, "Education When Information is Free," 2015.

## **Teaching Experience**

**County College of Morris**, Randolph, MJ

**Kean University**, Union, NJ

**DeVry University**, North Brunswick, NJ

**Rutgers University**, New Brunswick, NJ

Courses taught:

Introduction to American Government

Ideology, Politics, and Culture (Emergence of the Modern Era)

The Rule of Law (upper-level seminar)

Ancient Political Thought

The Legal Environment

Debate and Critical Thinking

Composition

## **Education**

**Ph.D., Political Science. Rutgers University, 1997.**

Coursework in Political Theory, American Government, Public Law, Women and Politics.

Dissertation: "A Universe Two Stories Deep: Social Criticism and Masculinity in Postwar America."

Advisor: Wilson Carey McWilliams

**B.A. *cum laude*, Williams College, 1990.**

Departmental Honors in Political Science.