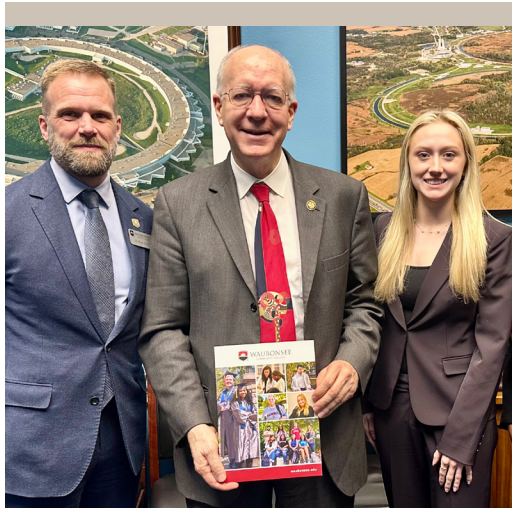




President's Report

February 2025

Dr. Brian Knetl, President



Achieving the Dream Coaches' Visit Pushes the Work Forward

Our ATD coaches were back on campus earlier this month as we continue to have discussions and dig into data that will help us improve student success. Other key steps include this month's national ATD conference and the building of our ATD Action Plan by early June. As ATD notes,

The Action Plan does three key things:

1. Tells a story of what you have done during your first year in ATD's Network that you can share with your colleagues.
2. Translates your learning into an overarching vision and strategy for improving student and institutional outcomes.
3. Describes how you will seek to improve policies, processes, and systems; maximize impact through the college-wide scaling of strategies; align and allocate resources to support implementation; and measure the impact of your student success work.



Meeting with Officials at the National Legislative Summit

The National Legislative Summit is the premier community college advocacy event in Washington, DC, bringing together more than 1,000 community college leaders. The event shines a spotlight on the importance of our nation's community colleges for Congress and the Administration. I was happy to attend with Dr. Toya Webb and Student Trustee Ashley Hatcher and grateful for the time we got to spend with our district's elected officials, including Representatives Foster and Underwood, and a larger meeting with Senators Duckworth and Durbin.

New Current Conversations Series Debuts

As the community's college, Waubonsee is always monitoring and responding to a variety external factors and impacts. To encourage questions and conversations around these impacts, the college launched a new event called Current Conversations. The first installment focused on recent executive orders, with several questions around diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

RISE and Align: Foundation Board Examines Their Role in Strategic Plan

At its recent retreat, the Waubonsee Foundation Board reviewed RISE 2030 and discussed ways to align its work around the plan's priorities. The interest in Foundation Scholarships continues to grow as nearly 500 applications were received by the Feb. 3 priority deadline – an almost 30% increase over last year.

Employees Enjoy RISE and Shine Launch Party

While employees have been involved throughout the strategic planning process, it was fun to officially launch RISE 2030 with an all-employee party on Friday, Feb. 7. After an inspiring opening performance from African dance troupe Ayodele, I went through the plan's priorities and action items before turning it over to the priority co-leads to recruit staff members to help support their work. And in keeping with the theme, everyone was able to enjoy some breakfast food and drink and a 360-degree video booth.



Coming Up

February 18-21

Achieving the Dream Conference

February 26-28

Alliance For Innovation and Transformation (AFIT) Forum

March 5

President's Lunch with Dr. Heinrich of Elgin Community College and Dr. Borowicz of Kishwaukee College

March 6

Higher Learning Commission Multi-Location Visit (Fox Valley and Downtown)

March 10

Student Senate Town Hall

March 12

John J. Swalec, Jr. President's Achievement Awards