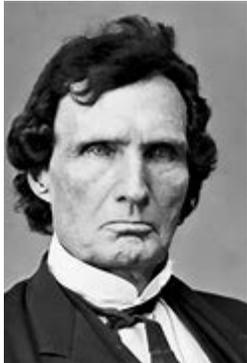




## August 3, 2018 FFNF Highlights

### Thaddeus Stevens (TSCT) College of Technology

William E. Griscom, Ed. D., President

- Thaddeus Stevens is Pennsylvania's only state-owned, two year-year technical college. It was founded in 1905. Only Pennsylvania residents are admitted.
  - The college's mission is to provide a bridge out of poverty for the poorest qualified citizens of Pennsylvania, through a high-skill high-wage technical education. This is based on the will and principles of the founder – Thaddeus Stevens. The College supports the critical technical workforce needs of the Commonwealth.
  - Stevens was born into poverty. He was born with a club foot. He was teased and discriminated against by adults and children. His abusive father died when Stevens was 12 years old. His mother was his greatest advocate and role model. He excelled in education but always discriminated against because of his low social rank and disability. He hated un-earned privilege. He had a successful law career in Gettysburg and later in Lancaster, PA. He was a strong advocate for the poor, downtrodden and oppressed. As a PA Representative he became the Savior of free public schools. He was a US Representative during the Civil War and the beginning of Reconstruction. His legacy continues today because of the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments to the Constitution. A codicil to his Will established a school for indigent, orphan boys to be trained in industrial pursuits. All shall be admitted and fed at the same table.
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- Act 187 of 2002 provided the foundation for the success of the college. Prior to this Act, the college was suffering from too much governmental bureaucracy. This Bill separated the college from governmental control. They are now in control of their own finances. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the employer. In 2002 there were approximately 400 students.
  - The college is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees establishes goals and outcome measurements. The Board delegates operations to the President with limitations and guidelines. Performance outcomes are the basis of determining institutional effectiveness and the means for evaluating the President.

- State appropriations total \$14 million. The total operating budget totals \$26 million.
- Enrollment today is 1,200 students. The graduation rate is at 70%. The placement rate in Major of study is 88.4%. Overall, 98.34% of students continue their education after placement. The median student loan debt is \$9,000. The median starting salary is \$40,000. Student satisfaction is good. Employers satisfaction is 98% satisfied or very satisfied.
- 54% of the students at Stevens are grant students. The students are Pell Eligible covering tuition, room board, tools and books. The performance of grant students compared to overall student body is comparable or higher. One-half of students live on campus. 30% of students are minority students. Students perform community service as a part of their curriculum.
- There are 23 technical programs plus adult training programs in welding, foundry and facilities maintenance. Block scheduling is utilized. The faculty consists of 100% full-time, highly qualified instructors. The school is small but agile and can respond quickly to opportunities.
- Hands-on experiential learning is available. As an example, the Housing Project has built 150 homes in the City of Lancaster since 1950.
- The College has identified two strategic challenges: 1) Finding under-resourced students who are academically qualified to attend. Students must master college level algebra and have a grade 14 reading level to be accepted. The current approach to this challenge is remediation. The long-term approach is forming K-12 partnerships. 2) Increasing capacity.
- K-12 Initiative includes a number of introduction opportunities for prospective students: Adopt-A-Kindergarten; Open House; Game Day; Easter Egg Hunt; Middle School summer camps; Burrowes; After School enrichments; Advantage Lancaster Partnership; Lancaster Science Factory; Lancaster County STEM Initiative; Early enrollment with McCaskey and in the future a community learning center. The Steinman Community Learning Center is in the process of being built.
- Enrollment should be 10,000 students to meet the demand of the jobs that exist in Pennsylvania today. There are 1,400 employers with 3,000+ available jobs for 400 graduates to choose from. This is the national "Skills Gap".
- Increasing capacity is strategic challenge #2. The College has leased 25,000 sq. ft. of a manufacturing facility in order to double the Metal Fabrication Program and to start a new welding program. An additional 25,000 sq. ft. has been leased to expand the Masonry Program. The Advanced Manufacturing Center will open in the fall of 2018, located two blocks from the main campus.
- There is a mismatch between the output of higher education and the needs of the economy. Information on performance of programs is not available. Higher education is saddled with significant capital debt resulting from massive building projects funded through bonds. Currently there is an

amenities war between higher education facilities. There is a high ratio of administrators to faculty and students. There are a large number of majors which offer no opportunity for a job in the field or a family sustaining wage. There has been an exponential increase in the cost of tuition, room and board resulting in over a trillion dollar of student loan debt. Compare this to Stevens - Stevens is fiscally conservative. There is no debt; low staff and administrative ratios relative to student enrollment; low student loan debt; limited faculty, staff and administrative amenities.