



12-12-12 – ACICS' Centennial Year

Over the course of the year, ACICS celebrated 100 years of Advancing Excellence in Education with thought leadership events, a week of community service, and a souvenir publication. The examination of our past has strengthened our commitment to quality education for future generations of students.

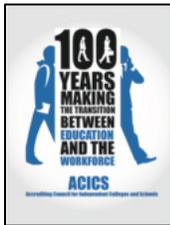
Highlights



WORKFORCE SKILLS REALITY CHECK

December 2011

We launched our Centennial year by unveiling research at the National Press Club on what the private post-secondary sector will look like moving forward and how we prepare students for the changing workforce.



STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

December 2011

Last December, we asked students attending our member schools to participate in our poster competition, resulting in more than 80 creative submissions. Clayton Stewart of Westwood College's Houston South Campus created the winning design.



WE SERVE COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK

May 2012

ACICS held We SERVE (Students Empowered to Respond and Volunteer Everywhere) community service week, an initiative encouraging faculty, students and staff to apply their knowledge and skills by serving their neighbors. In total, 194 schools participated in 210 projects totaling 13,616 hours by 3,162 volunteers!



CENTENNIAL GALA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

December 2012

The 2012 Professional Development Conference and Centennial Gala recognized our founding schools, honor roll schools and We SERVE winners, among others. We also unveiled "Setting Standards: 100 Years of Accredited Career Education," a new illustrated volume chronicling our history, and "A Century of Excellence," a mini-documentary capturing our first 100 years produced with original artwork and historic materials from the ACICS archives.

Moving Forward



NEW STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTABILITY

2013 – First Quarter

Increased accountability means that accreditors must assume new and greater responsibilities – and ACICS is expanding its oversight. Over the past 18 months, ACICS has made substantial reforms to its standards, practices and program of accreditation, including:

- Stronger Expectations for the Success of Students
- Independent Verification of Compliance
- Public Disclosure of Compliance

We will be sharing these new standards with Capitol Hill, the media, the Department of Education, think-tanks and thought leaders.

UNDEREMPLOYED GENERATION RESEARCH PROJECT

2013 – Second Quarter



For our second thought leadership project, ACICS will conduct research that addresses the elements of underemployment in terms of education, work duties, field of employment, wages, and permanence of the job. The findings will explore the nature of underemployment, key factors and considerations, and its consequences on the Millennial Generation. These research results will inform the development and modification of our standards for independent career colleges and schools, and will be shared with policy audiences, media, higher education interest groups and our member schools.

About the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Founded in 1912, the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools is one of the most respected and longest established national accreditors of academic institutions in the United States. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). ACICS accredits more than 900 private post-secondary institutions offering certificates or diplomas, as well as institutions offering associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees in programs designed to educate students for professional, technical or occupational degrees. For more information, please visit www.acics.org.



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