



THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE of TECHNOLOGY

*Testimony Before the Pennsylvania House of
Representatives' Appropriations Committee*

February 29, 2012

Pennsylvania's only state-owned, two-year college of technology

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

Good afternoon, I am William Griscom, President of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. I am accompanied today by Ms. Betty Tompos, our VP for Finance & Administration, Dr. William Thompson our VP for Academic Affairs and Mr. Alex Munro, the Executive Director of our Foundation and Alumni Association. The handout you have been provided includes a bullet point summary of essential facts about the College and the key performance measures by which we measure our institutional effectiveness or how well our performance matches our purpose.

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology

Key Performance Measures

- Demand: 2,815 Applicants – Accepted 1 in 5
- Graduation Rate in Two-Years: 60%
- Number of Graduates: 282 (Highest in College History)
- Placement Rate: 95%
- Graduates Employed in Pennsylvania: 95% (Brain Gain)



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Objective External Assessments of Performance

- IPEDS: TSCT continues to out perform its 28 two-year college benchmark institutions in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and New Jersey by a factor of 300-500% in key performance measures.
- TSCT selected by the Aspen Institute as the best two-year college in PA and on of the top 120 in the nation: based on performance i.e.:
 - Completion Outcomes
 - Labor Market Outcomes
 - Equitable Outcomes
 - Learning Outcomes

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

IPEDS DATA FEEDBACK REPORT 2011

The Aspen Prize Alliance

Mean: Can't Do More with 1000 Dollars?

The Princeton Review's 2011 IPEDS® is designed to help you understand how your college compares to other colleges in the nation. The report provides a comprehensive overview of your college's performance on key metrics, including graduation rates, student retention, and student success. The report is a valuable resource for students, parents, and college administrators alike.

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
Pottsville, PA



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Other Relevant Information

- Owned by the Commonwealth since its Founding in 1905
- Preferred Appropriation
- Mission: Provide a bridge through technical education for under-resourced students at little or no cost as well as tuition paying students and support the technical workforce needs of Pennsylvania
- Pell Grant Recipients: 51% (46% of 2011 Graduates – Breaking the Cycle of Poverty)
- Minority Students: 27%
- Student Body from 57 Counties in PA
- Students Performed Over 8,000 Hours of Community Service
- Fifty-six Percent of TSCT Students are 1st generation in their family to attend College
- Over 125 Employers Attended Annual Career Fair



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Higher Education in Pennsylvania: What is the Return on Investment (ROI)?

Funding: Approximately \$2 Billion

Number of Bachelors Degrees Awarded: 87,287

Number of Associate Degrees Awarded: 19,348

Note: Only 20% of the jobs in the workforce have required a four-year degree since 1950 (U.S. Department of Labor)

- There is a mismatch between the needs of Pennsylvania's economy and the output of its higher education institutions. Evidence of this can be found in:
 - The number of under and unemployed college graduates
 - The number of graduates who move to other states (Brain Drain)
 - The number of companies who cannot find qualified technical employees with concurrent high unemployment
 - The State's low job creation rate



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Time for a Paradigm Shift

Fund Higher Education in Pennsylvania based on performance measures that match the needs of the Commonwealth's economy. Don't spend more but invest what is being spent differently.

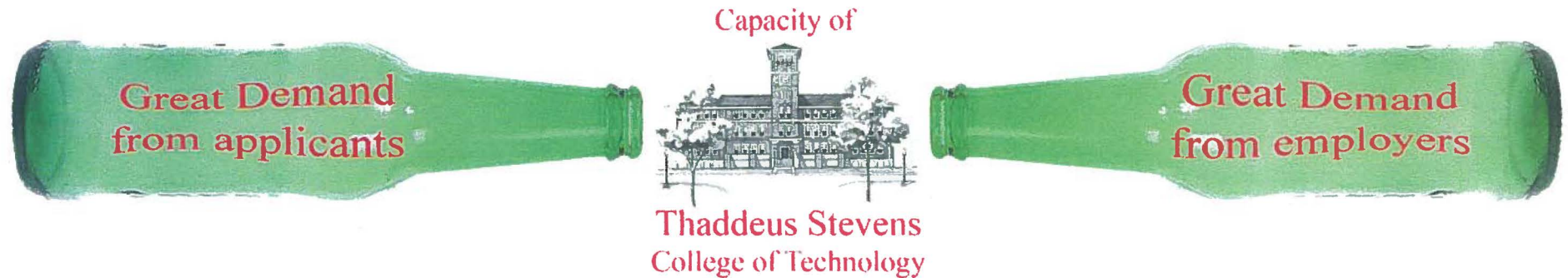
- Graduation Rate
- Placement Rate
- Placement Rate in Pennsylvania
- Starting Salaries (Priority: Family Sustaining Income)



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The Capacity Bottleneck



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One Outcome of a Paradigm Shift

- 2,000 Students = 600 Graduates per Year
- Double Current Programs:
 - Machine Technology
 - Electrical Technology
 - Metals Fabrication
 - Electronics
 - HVAC
 - Plumbing
- New Programs
 - Diesel Mechanics
 - Welding
 - Building Maintenance Technology
 - Water Treatment
 - Computer Engineering
 - Construction Supervision
 - Residential Remodeling
 - Facilities Management
- Requirements for Expansion
 - Significant Increase in Operating Budget
 - Two New Laboratory/Shop Buildings
(Total: \$20 Million)



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Funding

- Current Appropriation: \$9,815,400 (-\$1,016,600 Compared to 2010-11)
 - Reduction in Appropriation + Increased Operating Expenses = (-\$1,516,000)
 - Reduction of 20 Positions and Increased Deferred Maintenance to Compensate for Shortfall (3 Maintenance Staff for 500,000 Square Feet)
 - Increase in Appropriation for 2012-13: 12.7% to maintain status quo; significant phased increase over ten years to accommodate growth to 2,000 students
- Capital Needs: Two New Shop/Laboratory Buildings (Total: \$20 Million) and an On-going Capital Funding Plan of \$2 Million per Year



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-FIVE YEAR APPROPRIATION HISTORY-

	2007-2008 Actual	2008-2009 Actual	2009-2010 Actual	2010-2011 Actual	2011-2012 Actual	2012-2013 Proposed
Operating Revenue						
State Appropriation	\$10,930,000	\$10,293,125	\$8,550,000	\$8,550,000	\$10,332,000	\$10,332,000
State Grant	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal ARRA Funds	\$0	\$0	\$2,733,000	\$2,326,000	\$0	\$0
Total State & Federal Funds	\$11,430,000	\$10,793,125	\$11,283,000	\$10,876,000	\$10,332,000	\$10,332,000

