

**From: Cheri Dalton**Director of Media Relations & Publications • cdalton@odessa.edu

(For immediate release)

Williams elected to American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors

ODESSA (Sept. 10, 2014) — Odessa College may be Odessa's community college, but OC is gaining increasing recognition at the national level.

Dr. Gregory D. Williams, president of Odessa College, has been elected by the American Association of Community Colleges membership to serve on the 32-member board of directors of that organization.

"Being elected to this national board signifies the recognition and respect that Odessa College, as a premier community college, is receiving from the leadership of our peer institutions in the United States," Williams said after attending his first AACC meeting in August in Washington, D.C.

"This is a moment in the history of community colleges where we are all being asked to do more, and we have been challenged to help our students accomplish more. I am happy to serve in this effort at this moment. Our country needs us all and this is a part of my contribution to our nation."

Williams added, "It is also an excellent opportunity to impact the vision for higher education at the community college level in our nation. I am proud to represent Odessa College and community colleges as a whole by serving on the AACC board."

According to the AACC 2014 Fact Sheet on the AACC website, America currently has 1,132 community colleges.

The Board governs the AACC and acts on behalf of the institutional members to create and re-create a vision for AACC and to determine and assure appropriate organizational performance. It also is committed to guaranteeing accountability of AACC to the membership.

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Members' terms begin July 1 and they can serve for three years. They may serve two terms, but not consecutively. Meetings are held at least three times each year – in the later summer in Washington, D.C., at the AACC's Fall Meeting in Washington, D.C., and during the annual AACC Convention each spring.

For more information or requests for interviews, contact Director of Media Relations Cheri Dalton, 432-335-6530 or cdalton@odessa.edu.