

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT FOREST PARK.

I AM CINDY HESS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FOREST PARK CAMPUS.

WE ARE VERY APPRECIATIVE THAT YOU ARE GIVING UP A PORTION OF YOUR EVENING TO JOIN US TONIGHT...PARTICULARLY WITH THIS NICE WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING THE LAST FEW DAYS.

I'M NOT A NATIVE ST. LOUISAN—I CAME HERE LAST SUMMER FROM A COLLEGE IN NORTH CAROLINA—BUT I FIND YOUR ST. LOUIS WEATHER VERY INTRIGUING!

HOW OFTEN CAN YOU SAY THAT YOU HAD SNOW, TORNADOES, HAIL AND 65 DEGREE WEATHER IN ONE WEEK? HOW DO YOU EVER KNOW WHAT TO WEAR? SERIOUSLY, I HOPE IT'S NOT SNOWING BY THE TIME WE LEAVE TONIGHT.

ANYWAY, WE ARE HAPPY YOU COULD JOIN US THIS EVENING AS WE HOST THIS FIRST IN A SERIES OF PUBLIC FORUMS ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES, LED BY OUR BOARD CHAIR, MS. DENISE CHACHERE.....AS WELL AS OUR STAFF IN THE WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, LED BY OUR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, MR. RODD NUNN.

TONIGHT IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YOU ON A MORE PERSONAL BASIS ABOUT ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S PLANS TO ADDRESS THE TRAINING AND WORKFORCE NEEDS OF MISSOURI.

YOU MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN BEFORE TONIGHT THAT WE HAVE AN ARM OF THE COLLEGE WHICH FOCUSES SOLELY ON WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. BUT HOPEFULLY, BY THE TIME YOU LEAVE TONIGHT, YOU WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR GOALS AND DIRECTIONS IN THAT AREA.

WE BELIEVE THAT WORKFORCE TRAINING IS ONE OF THE KEYS TO REVITALIZING THE ECONOMY IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AS WELL AS IN THE COUNTRY. SO WE HAVE OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US, AS WE ENDEAVOR TO PLAY A STRATEGIC ROLE IN REVERSING THE ECONOMIC DECLINE OF THE PAST FEW YEARS.

AND NOW, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, I WOULD LIKE TO TURN OVER THE  
PODIUM TO OUR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR WORKFORCE AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, MR. RODD NUNN.

AGAIN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THANK YOU FOR COMING TONIGHT,  
AND I LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU BETTER.

VICE CHANCELLOR NUNN...