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“The AASCU ‘Reimagining the First Year’ experience offers an opportunity to engage in a national conversation about a question of vital concern for all institutions of higher education,” said Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Susan Davenport. “Simply put, this is about how best can we serve those constituencies who need us the most. Stockton is proud of the resources it has already developed for these incoming students. It has also invested, and will continue to invest, in recruiting efforts that seek to diversify our student body. But we could do more, and would welcome the opportunity to learn from our peers.”

Stockton will participate in a learning community along with the 43 other state colleges and universities selected for RFY. The learning community will enable participants to attend national conferences and educational webinars, receive one-on-one mentoring, access online tools and resources, and share ideas, successful strategies and lessons learned with each other.

“We are pleased that these AASCU institutions will commit their enormous talent and knowledge to the success of this initiative, which I believe will have a profound effect on undergraduate education in the 21st century,” said George Mehaffy, vice president for academic leadership and change at AASCU. “The state colleges and universities we selected for RFY represent a broad swath of the institutional landscape and exhibit strong leadership and other qualities that are conducive to effecting broad-scale and sustainable change. Together, with the engagement of all campus stakeholders – from students to academic leadership – we will strive to transform the first-year student experience and ensure student success,” he added.

AASCU will kick off the RFY initiative with academic leaders attending the association’s 2016 Academic Affairs Winter Meeting in Austin, Texas from Feb. 4-6. RFY is being funded by generous grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and USA Funds.

About AASCU:

[The American Association of State Colleges and Universities](#)