

JOHN AVENDANO, Ph.D.

QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE

Dedicated, loyal, and visionary professional with over 30 years of progressive leadership and administrative experience in higher education with an emphasis on community colleges. A leader in local, regional and statewide associations with numerous recognitions of distinction, and significant accomplishments at three different leading community colleges. A student-centered and collaborative leader with successful experience in program development, student success, building alliances with business and industry, K-12 institutions and senior institutions, fundraising, contract negotiations, strategic planning, campus expansion and employee recognition.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

July 2009 - Present

President/CEO

Kankakee Community College, Kankakee, Illinois

Areas of Responsibility:

All aspects of the college's strategic plan focused on academics, student development, fiscal management, operations, community representation, and Foundation advancement and growth.

Significant Accomplishments:

- Directed two successful strategic plans with involvement of local and regional leaders in business and industry, superintendents and principals, healthcare professionals, economic development professionals, the entire campus community, alumni, current students and community residents.
- Expanded facilities to provide greater access to the northern and southern regions of the district with the addition of the North and South Extension Centers.
- Expanded facilities to meet the needs of manufacturing and new renewable energy technologies with the addition of the Manufacturing & Industrial Technology Center and the Advanced Technology Education Center.
- Proposed campus renovation and funding plan to upgrade older facilities including a new Student Success Center.
- Strengthened the academic performance of all athletic teams with the addition of the Athletic Tutoring Program, which resulted in numerous Academic All Americans.

- Strengthened Honors programs such as Phi Theta Kappa, resulting in multiple years as a Five-Star Chapter and Regional Chapter of the Year. Also expanded the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honors Program and Recognition.
- Expanded the visual arts on campus with the introduction of a Sculpture Garden funded through the KCC Foundation and private donors.
- Expanded transfer options through a number of articulation agreements with public and private institutions.
- Grew the KCC Foundation from \$3.8 million endowment to nearly \$9.0 million endowment by June 2019.
- Grew and preserved the fund balance to over 35% despite two consecutive years of a budget impasse in the State of Illinois.
- Increased institutional morale with each administration (4x) of the Noel Levitz Employee Satisfaction Survey.
- Kankakee Community College was voted the “Greenest Community College” in the United States by The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education in 2017.
- Introduced co-curricular and leadership transcripts for students.
- Introduced an Early College program for area high school seniors.

February 2004 – June 2009

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Development
Illinois Central College, East Peoria, Illinois

Areas of Responsibility:

Administrative and leadership responsibilities for all aspects related to academic affairs, curriculum, programs, accreditation and support services for student development and services

Significant Accomplishments:

- Served as a team lead for strategic planning with a focus on high school markets, new student housing and expanded student life programming.
- Served on negotiation team through three collective bargaining agreements which yielded a new faculty evaluation system, new faculty promotional/advancement opportunities, and stronger relationships.
- Initiated the first Early College Program for Illinois Central College.
- Expanded dual credit offerings to over 1700 students in the district.

- Developed and implemented the new Athlete Monitoring Program which resulted in numerous Academic All Americans and Academic All American teams.
- Developed and led the New Student Orientation Program focused on student success and completion.
- Increased the high school yield for enrollment management to over 28%.

April 2003 – February 2004

Vice President of Student Development and Services

Illinois Central College, East Peoria, Illinois

January 1995 – April 2003

Dean of Student Services

Illinois Central College, East Peoria, Illinois

Areas of Responsibility:

Admissions/Records, Advisement, Athletics, Career Center, Counseling, Disability Services, Enrollment Management, Financial Aid, Fitness Center, Health Services, International Study Abroad Programs, Job Placement, New Student Orientation, Physical Education, Student Activities, Testing, TRIO Programs (Student Support Services and Upward Bound), Veteran's Affairs

July 1993 – December 1994

Associate Dean of Student Life

Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois

Areas of Responsibility:

Athletics, Child Care, Enrollment Management, Financial Aid, Job Placement, Recruitment, Student Activities

Significant Accomplishments:

- Developed an institutional recruitment plan for high school market and returning adults.
- Increased institutional enrollments and established a strong high school market yield.
- Developed and implemented a service learning and leadership program for the Lucille Gustafson Scholarship Program (similar to a Promise Program).
- Initiated and developed a corporate membership and sponsorship for area business and industry at the Waubonsee Fitness Center.

January 1991 – July 1993

Director of Enrollment Management

Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois

Areas of Responsibility:

Child Care, Enrollment Management, Job Placement, Recruitment, Student Activities

- July 1987 – January 1991 **Coordinator of Recruitment**
Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois
Areas of Responsibility:
Development, coordination, and implementation of all aspects of a recruitment plan for high school graduates and the adult population.
- January 1987 – July 1987 **Fitness Center Manager / Instructor**
Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois
Areas of Responsibility:
Administration and evaluation of stress tests for Fitness Center clientele; Development of individual exercise prescriptions for students and community members; Management of day-to-day operations for Fitness Center.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Foundations, December 2003**
Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
Dissertation: *Student Involvement: Assessing Student Satisfaction, Gains, and Quality of Effort*
- M. S. in Adult Continuing Education, May 1991**
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois
- B. S. in Physical Education Emphasis in Fitness Leadership, August 1986**
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois
- Associate in Science, May 1992**
Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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| Illinois Council of Public Community College Presidents (ICCCP) | 2009 – Present |
| - Past President | 2018-2019 |
| - President | 2017-2018 |
| - Vice President | 2016-2017 |
| - Secretary/Treasurer | 2015-2016 |
| South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium (SMHEC) | 2009 – Present |
| - Chair | 2014-2016 |
| Illinois Council of Community College Administrators (ICCCA) | 1987 – Present |
| Illinois Community College Chief Academic Officers (CAO) | 2004-2009 |
| Illinois Community College Chief Student Services Officers (ICCCSSO) | 1991-2009 |
| - President | 2004-2005 |
| - Vice President | 2003-2004 |
| - Secretary/Treasurer | 2002-2003 |

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Grundy-Livingston-Kankakee Workforce Board	2009 – Present
Riverside Medical Center Board Member	2009 – Present
Economic Alliance of Kankakee County Board Member	2012 – Present
- Chair 2016-2018	
- Cornerstone Services, Inc., Advisory Committee	2014 – Present
- Kankakee Urbanized Area Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP)	
- Steering Committee	2014 – Present
Pioneering Healthier Communities Chair	2011 – 2017
Kankakee County Chamber of Commerce Board Member	2012 – 2016
Morton Economic Development Council Board Member	2007 – 2009
Morton Chamber of Commerce Board Member	2008 – 2009
Human Service Center Board Member	2008 – 2009
WTVP Channel 47 Public Television Board Member	2004 – 2009

DISTINCTIONS

Skyway Conference Hall of Fame Inductee	2018
Illinois State University – College of Education Hall of Fame	2014
Phi Theta Kappa Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction	2013
Waubonsee Community College Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee	2012
Waubonsee Community College Distinguished Alumnus Award	2011
East Aurora High School Distinguished Alumnus Award	2010
Honorary LEX member; Kankakee Community College Chapter	2010
Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished Administrator Award	2009
Waubonsee Community College Fab 40 Award	2007
Peoria Chamber of Commerce 40 under 40 Leaders	2000