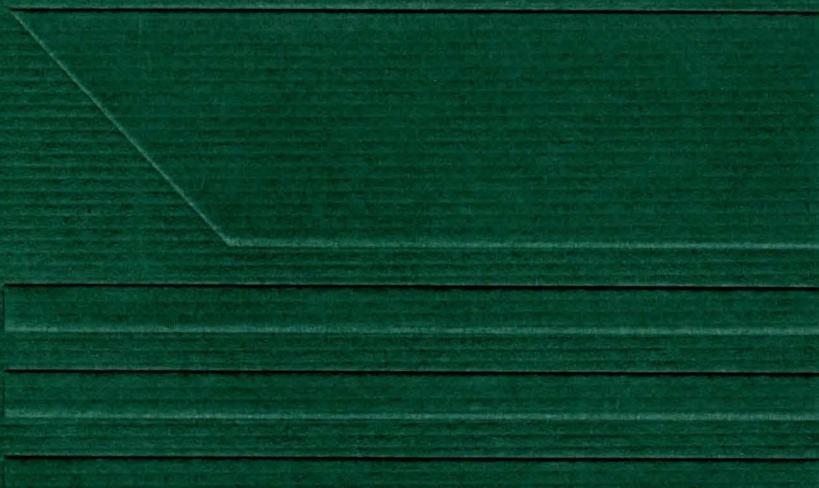


The Inauguration of Ron D. Wright, Ph.D.

As Fourth President of

The Cincinnati State Technical and Community College



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March Sixth
Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight



Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College was chartered as a state college by the Ohio Board of Regents in 1969. Originally called Cincinnati Technical College, its mission was to prepare students for immediate employment through technical associate degree programs. The College earned initial accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in 1976.

The College was founded on the principle that students learn best when they can apply newly-acquired knowledge in real-world experiences. Thus, cooperative education is the cornerstone of the College's educational philosophy. Today, over 600 area businesses partner with Cincinnati State as cooperative education employers.

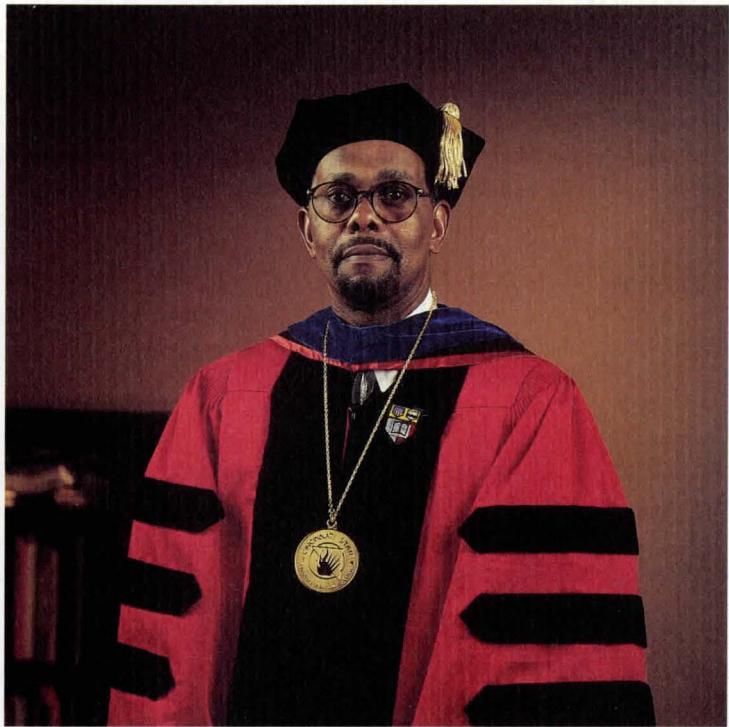
In 1993, Cincinnati Technical College began the journey to transform itself into a comprehensive community college. In broadening its mission the College hoped to make higher education more accessible to an underserved population who would not consider higher education as an option in their lives. As a community college it would also offer the associate of arts and associate of science degrees that are the first two years of a baccalaureate degree. The change was a natural one as more and more of the College's technical degree graduates were pursuing bachelor's degrees. In 1994, the Ohio Board of Regents awarded a new charter and expanded mission to the institution.

Throughout its history Cincinnati State has earned regional and national accolades. Cincinnati State is the only two-year college in the state to win Program Excellence Awards in every competition sponsored by the Ohio Board of Regents. Its cooperative education program and its reputation for retraining displaced and underemployed workers has earned it a visit by Vice President Al Gore and front page coverage in The Wall Street Journal, on "ABC World News Tonight," and in the PBS documentary, "Surviving the Bottom Line."

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College is guided by its mission to be an affordable, open-access, public institution that responds to the educational needs of the community by offering quality technical, general education, training and academic transfer courses; to provide a learning environment that values cultural diversity and a curriculum that blends both theory and practice through interactive instruction combined with cooperative education and/or clinical experiences; to contribute to the economic development of the tri-state region and foster lifelong learning opportunities for its citizens.

Cincinnati State is known for its dedication to teaching and its student-centered philosophy and practices. Small class sizes, an extensive developmental education program, a free tutoring program, counseling and library services provide the kinds of academic support needed for success for both the returning adult student and the recent high school graduate. Each student at Cincinnati State is an individual, not a number.

Cincinnati State faculty take pride in the personal attention afforded to each student, and every Cincinnati State graduate is a reflection of the College's commitment to developing human potential, one student at a time.



Ron D. Wright, Ph.D.
Fourth President
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

Ron D. Wright, Ph.D.

The development of human potential is the personal and professional goal of Ron D. Wright, Ph.D., the fourth president of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College. Throughout his professional career, Dr. Wright has fostered the belief that economic development must be an equal link with human capital development.

For Dr. Wright, the lesson is a personal one. As a high school student he knew a college education was expected of him, but he did not expect higher education to have such an influencing power on his future.

As a student at a community college, Dr. Wright discovered the opportunities that were available to him. He found, through his relationships with faculty and staff, that he could be a learner and perhaps even a scholar. As he progressed through his academic career — from associate degree to doctorate — he attributed much of his success to learning environments that nurtured individuals and lifted the least prepared as well as the accomplished.

Dr. Wright's career in community colleges began at Delaware Technical & Community College where he was an instructor and Chairperson of the Department of Human Services and Social Sciences from 1974 to 1984. Soon after earning his doctoral degree in 1987, he returned to two-year education as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Community College of Baltimore. One year later he was promoted to Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

In 1991, Dr. Wright was appointed Executive Vice President at Delaware County Community College in Media, Pennsylvania. At Delaware County, a multi-campus college of 11,000 students, he was responsible for all aspects of college operations, including development of instructional programs, curriculum review and faculty evaluation, fiscal management, student services and enrollment management.

Dr. Wright's administrative philosophy emphasizes community building. In each of his leadership posts, he has brought together institutional stakeholders and urged them to honor their collective intelligence and fully utilize their collective creativity. In doing so, Dr. Wright has proved that a learning environment, its processes and systems, can be created, and the college community will naturally refocus its resources on student outcomes.

Community colleges are the access points to higher education for most people. Dr. Wright believes that community colleges face even greater challenges. Today's community colleges must not only raise individual students to their potential but they must lift families and advance whole generations.

Dr. Wright earned an associate degree from Northeastern Christian Junior College, a bachelor's degree in applied psychology from Pepperdine University, a master's degree in counseling psychology from Antioch University, and a doctoral degree in public policy studies/program planning and evaluation from Cornell University.

Dr. Wright serves on the boards of United Way, the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Career Resource Network.

Dr. Wright and his wife Peggy have two adult daughters, Racquel and Ronda.

Inaugural Procession

Grand Marshal

Delegates from Institutions of Higher Education

The Faculty of the College

The College Administrators

The Executive Officers of the College

Dignitaries

The Board of Trustees

The President

Inauguration Program

Prelude

“Fantasia in G Major” . . . Bach

“Music for the Royal Fireworks” . . . Handel

Fanfare and Processional

Audience kindly rises for the Inaugural Procession

“Fanfare for the Common Man” . . . Copland

“Crown Imperial Coronation March” . . . Walton

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” Marcia Caulton
Cincinnati State Staff Member

Invocation Minister Richard Rose
Gray Road Church of Christ

Opening Remarks and Moderator Clyde Gray
News Anchor
WCPO-TV

Welcome Lisa J. FitzGibbon
Past Chairperson
Board of Trustees

Greetings Terrella Russell
President
Cincinnati State Chapter
Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

From the Students Brad Levy
Member, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| From The Faculty | Timothy D. Nolan <i>Instructor</i> <i>Humanities Division</i> |
| From The Public Schools | Rosa Blackwell <i>Assistant Superintendent</i> <i>Cincinnati Public Schools</i> |
| From The Community | Herb Brown <i>Vice President</i> <i>Western Southern Life Insurance Company</i> |
| From the Ohio Board of Regents | Roderick G. W. Chu <i>Chancellor</i> |
| From Government | The Honorable Dwight Tillery <i>City Council Member</i> <i>City of Cincinnati</i> |
| Investiture | |
| Presentation | William Harold Fletcher, Ph.D. <i>Professor Emeritus</i> <i>Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Arts</i> |
| | Gwendolyn Sanders, Ed.D. <i>Dean of Student Services</i> <i>Springfield College</i> |
| Investiture | Mark D. Walton '78 <i>Chairperson</i> <i>Board of Trustees</i> |
| Inaugural Address | Ron D. Wright, Ph.D. <i>President</i> |
| Closing Remarks | Gary Conley <i>President</i> <i>Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Sciences</i> |
| Benediction | The Reverend Gerald Haemmerle <i>President</i> <i>The Athenaeum of Ohio</i> |
| Recessional | |
| "Towards a New Life" . . . Suk | |
| "Coronation March" . . . Tchaikovsky | |

The audience and participants are invited to a reception in the Third Floor Conference Center.

Delegates from Educational Institutions

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|------|---|
| 1743 | University of Delaware | 1870 | The Ohio State University | 1964 | Borough of Manhattan Community College |
| | Dr. James Davis Associate Professor | | Robert J. McCoy Alumnus | | Dr. Antonio Perez President |
| 1809 | Miami University | 1876 | University of Rio Grande | 1964 | The Union Institute |
| | Dr. Myrtis H. Powell Vice President, Student Affairs | | Dr. Barry M. Dorsey President | | Peter H. Hollister Vice President for Institutional Advancement |
| 1819 | University of Cincinnati | 1887 | Sinclair Community College | 1967 | Delaware County Community College |
| | Richard E. Friedman Special Assistant to the President | | Dr. Karen Wells Vice President for Instruction | | Richard D. DeCosmo, Ed.D. President |
| 1829 | The Athenaeum of Ohio | 1911 | Ohio Dominican College | 1967 | Raymond Walters College University of Cincinnati |
| | Reverend Gerald Haemmerle President | | Jinny L. Fisher Alumna | | Don O'Meara, Ph.D. Associate Dean |
| 1831 | Xavier University | 1920 | College of Mount St. Joseph | 1971 | Chatfield College |
| | James E. Bundschuh, Ph.D. Academic Vice President | | Francis Marie Thrailkill, OSU President | | Margaret Anne Dougherty, RSM President |
| 1837 | Muskingum College | 1921 | Thomas More College | 1972 | Clermont College University of Cincinnati |
| | Carl F. Kalnow Trustee & Alumnus | | Reverend William F. Cleves President | | Jim McDonough Dean |
| 1850 | Defiance College | 1924 | Cincinnati Bible College & Seminary | 1974 | Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities |
| | Reverend Robert Bonham Alumnus | | David Grubbs President | | Barbara B. Stonewater, Ph.D. Executive Director |
| 1865 | Cornell University | 1937 | Pepperdine University | | |
| | Dr. Josephine Allen Professor | | W. L. Fletcher Chair, Board of Trustees | | |
| 1869 | Art Academy of Cincinnati | 1958 | Ohio Valley College | | |
| | Gregory Allgire Smith Director and CEO | | Dr. Robert W. Stephens, Jr. President-Elect | | |

Investiture

The inauguration of a college or university president is a ceremony steeped in academic tradition. The ceremony is customarily held during the new president's first year in office or at the conclusion of the first year. During the official proceedings, the oath of office is conferred by the chairperson of the institution's board of trustees.

Traditionally, incoming presidents are presented with a medallion of office at their installation ceremony. The medallion is a symbol of authority of the Office of the President. It will be worn by President Wright on occasions calling for formal academic regalia.

The inauguration includes a processional and recessional march of robed faculty members, administrators and special guests. The academic attire tells the level of degree the wearer has earned, the field of learning, and the institution that granted the degree. The costume consists of cap, gown and hood.

The usual cap is a square black mortarboard with a black tassel; the doctoral cap has a gold tassel. Some doctoral caps are velvet tams. Associate, baccalaureate and master's gowns are relatively plain and closed in front. The doctoral gown is cut fuller, is open in front, and has velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on the sleeves. The panels and bars are usually black.

The hood, patterned after the medieval monk's hood, goes over the shoulders and hangs down in back. The hood for the three degrees vary in length from the bachelor's, the shortest, to the doctorate, the longest. The velvet border shows by its color the field of learning. The most common are: white-arts, letters, humanities (usually seen in honorary degrees); dark blue-philosophy (the most common in doctoral hoods); purple-law; scarlet-theology; green-medicine; golden yellow-science. The same colors may be used in the panels and bars of the gown. The most distinctive part of the costume is the silk lining of the hood which bears the official colors of the institution granting the degree.

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

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Ross E. Wales, Vice Chairperson
Stephen J. Kent, Secretary
J. Roger Erwin
Barry C. Evans
Lisa J. FitzGibbon
Nancy Schellhous
Annette Smith Tarver
John F. Steele, Jr.

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Ron D. Wright, Ph.D., President
Russ Bayne, Director of Human Resources
William F. Deitzer, Vice President, Finance
John Erwin, Ph.D., Interim Academic Vice President
Terrence J. Glenn, Ed.D., Vice President, Administrative Services
Douglas A. Heesten, Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Eric Kornau, Chief Information Technology Officer

Flowers for the inauguration are provided by the Cincinnati State landscape horticulture program.
The reception is presented by the College's culinary faculty and students.
Rodney Rupp, instructor, recorded the music for the ceremony.