

G. Edward Hughes, Ph. D.
President/CEO

G. Edward Hughes became the founding president and chief executive officer of Gateway Community and Technical College on December 1, 2001. Under Dr. Hughes' leadership, Gateway has transformed into a comprehensive two-year college with emphasis on workforce development and training, transfer education, and adult education and services. Hughes is known as an innovative leader and educator and community collaborator. With him at the helm, Gateway received regional accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities, effective January 2008. The college also has seen dramatic growth and was the seventh fastest growing two-year college in its category in the United States in 2005-06.

Prior to coming to Gateway, Dr. Hughes became one of the youngest college presidents in America in 1985 when he assumed the presidency of Hazard Community College at age 34. His 16-year leadership at Hazard Community College (HCC) is viewed as transformational and included regional, state and national recognition for programs and services. He is currently the senior public college or university president in Kentucky. A life-long educator, Dr. Hughes has served as a teacher, program coordinator, and academic and student affairs administrator in community and technical colleges in Arkansas, Illinois and Tennessee. Prior to coming to Kentucky, he served as dean of academic and student affairs at North Country Community College in Saranac Lake, N.Y.

Dr. Hughes holds a Ph.D. in higher education from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. He earned a master of arts degree in psychology from Middle Tennessee State University and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Catawba College, Salisbury, N.C.

Dr. Hughes has provided national leadership in the community college field. He was of the original four college presidents who helped establish the Rural Community College Initiative (RCCI), a 10-year national program of The Ford Foundation in the 1990s. He is a past member of the board of directors for the Institute for Community College Development at Cornell University. He has served as the Chairman of the Presidents Academy of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). He previously served as president of the Southern Association of Community, Junior and Technical Colleges and the Community Colleges of Appalachia.

Dr. Hughes' civic leadership record includes serving as chairman of the former Urban Learning Center in Covington, Ky.; founding chairman of the Life Learning Center in Covington; and president of the board of the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra. He is past chair of the board of governors for the Metropolitan Club. He is a member of the following boards: Regional Stewardship Council for Vision 2015, Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, North Central Area Health Education Center, Northern Kentucky Council of Partners, and the Gateway Community and Technical College Foundation. He is chairman emeritus of the Challenger Learning Center of Kentucky in Hazard and served as chair for the Northern Kentucky United Way Campaign in 2003.

