

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. James Underwood

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key-Community College Oral History project

Interview # EC-A-L-2013-048

Dr. James Underwood, a career educator with community college experiences in Nebraska, Arkansas and Illinois and is currently President of Kaskaskia College. He was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key-Community College* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 22, 2013 Location: Kaskaskia College, Centralia, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Phil Pogue ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: Susan Burke, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Betty Workman and Rozanne Flatt, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 15 pgs Total Time: 1:14 / 1.23 hrs

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Dr. James Underwood, Education is Key-Community College, #EC-A-L-2013-047

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. James Underwood grew up on a small farm ten miles south of Clarinda, Iowa. He earned an Associate of Arts degree from Central Community College in Columbus, Nebraska, a BS degree from University of Nebraska in Kearney, and an MBA and Doctorate from the University of Arkansas. He has been in Community College education for forty-three years, including Central Community College, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, Richland Community College, Northeast Community College (Nebraska), and at Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Illinois. His experiences include teaching business/economics classes, Vice President of Administrative Services, Vice President of Finance/Administration, Vice President Instruction, and College President at Kaskaskia College. He also is a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the US Army. This interview covers the experience of community College operations in Nebraska, Arkansas, and Illinois, along with the history of Kaskaskia Community College. District #501 was the first to earn Class I status following the Community College Act of 1965.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Kaskaskia Community College; Centralia Junior College; Pell Grants; Monetary Award Program (MAP) Scholarship; Illinois Community College Board; Kaskaskia Educational Foundation; University Alliance Model Agreements

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