

## **Cary A. Israel**

Cary A. Israel is president of Collin County Community College District, a multi-campus operation with over 40,000 students. Under his leadership, Collin County Community College is nationally recognized for its outstanding and innovative programs. The College was named a National Bellwether winner for its Learning Communities Program, received Campus Compact's National Collaboration Award for outstanding partnerships with business and industry, earned (for the fifth consecutive year) the "Certificate of Achievement and Excellence in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officers Association, and has received the coveted "Best of the Web" award from the Center for Digital Government for its downloadable catalog/schedule system. The first dual admission agreements in the State of Texas were also signed with the University of North Texas, the University of Texas at Dallas, Southern Methodist University, and Texas Woman's University.

In response to the crises-level need for classroom K-12 teachers, CCCC was the first community college in the State to gain approval for their teacher certification program and received a \$689,347 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for their "Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to use Technology" (PT3) program. Also under Israel's leadership, the District was designated as one of six CCNP (Cisco Certified Network Professional) Training Centers in the United States, named one of the first 18 campuses in the nation as a Microsoft IT Academy, designated an international CIW (Certified Internet Webmaster) Faculty Institute site by Prosoft Training and the National Workforce Center for Emerging Technologies, named the only Regional Academy for Security and Wireless training in the state of Texas, and chosen by Oracle Corporation to become a Workforce Development Program partner. In addition, under President Israel's leadership, a 54.5-mile 48-strand fiber optic network was constructed connecting all District facilities. Additionally, all campus facilities have wireless capabilities.

In spite of the tremendous time commitment of leading one of the largest community college districts in Texas, President Israel finds time to contribute his talents as a leader on a national, state and local level. He is a founding member of the Texas Campus Compact, a member of the Texas Association of Community College Presidents, and serves on the University of North Texas Bill J. Priest Graduate Advisory Committee. President Israel is also on the Board of Directors of the North Texas Commission, the Medical Center of Plano, the Plano Chamber of Commerce, the Plano Economic Development Board, and the Plano Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, he sits on the President's Advisory Committee for City House and is a member of the Plano Rotary club.

Israel previously served as president of Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey, president of the Illinois Community College System, and president of Front Range Community College in Colorado. He was named the CEO of the year by the American Association of Community College Trustees for the Eastern Region and received the National Leadership Award from the National Council for Continuing Education and Training. Cary Israel received a Bachelor of Arts degree with highest honors from Michigan State University and Juris Doctorate from the University of Detroit Mercy Law School.