



Gateway to Opportunity: A History of the Community College in the United States (Paperback)

By J. M. Beach

Stylus Publishing, United States, 2011. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Can the U.S. keep its dominant economic position in the world economy with only 30 of its population holding bachelor s degrees? If the majority of U.S. citizens lack a higher education, can the U.S. live up to its democratic principles and preserve its political institutions? These questions raise the critical issue of access to higher education, central to which are America s open-access, low-cost community colleges that enroll around half of all first-time freshmen in the U.S. Can these institutions bridge the gap, and how might they do so? The answer is complicated by multiple missions--gateways to 4-year colleges, providers of occupational education, community services, and workforce development, as well as of basic skills instruction and remediation. To enable today s administrators and policy makers to understand and contextualize the complexity of the present, this history describes and analyzes the ideological, social, and political motives that led to the creation of community colleges, and that have shaped their subsequent development. In doing so, it fills a large void in our knowledge of these institutions. The junior college, later renamed the community college in the 1960s...

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