

CAPELLA EDUCATION CO

FORM 8-K

(Current report filing)

Filed 08/12/11 for the Period Ending 08/11/11

Address	225 SOUTH 6TH STREET 9TH FLOOR MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402
Telephone	(612) 659-5360
CIK	0001104349
Symbol	CPLA
SIC Code	8200 - Services-Educational Services
Industry	Schools
Sector	Services
Fiscal Year	12/31

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) August 11, 2011

Capella Education Company

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-33140
(Commission
File Number)

41-1717955
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

225 South 6th Street, 9th Floor
Minneapolis, Minnesota
(Address of principal executive offices)

55402
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (888) 227-3552

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
-
-

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers.

On August 11, 2011, we announced that Michael Offerman, Capella University Chancellor and President Emeritus, will retire effective September 30, 2011. A news release dated August 11, 2011, announcing Dr. Offerman's retirement is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated August 11, 2011

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: August 12, 2011

CAPELLA EDUCATION COMPANY

By /s/ Gregory W. Thom
Gregory W. Thom
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Media Contact:**

Michael Walsh
Capella University
612-977-5661
michael.walsh@capella.edu

Capella University Chancellor Dr. Michael Offerman Announces Retirement

MINNEAPOLIS, August 11, 2011 - Capella Education Company (NASDAQ: CPLA), a provider of online post-secondary education through its wholly owned subsidiary Capella University, today announced the retirement of Michael Offerman, EdD, Capella's president emeritus and chancellor. Dr. Offerman has held numerous positions at Capella University over the last 10 years, most notably serving as president from 2001 to 2007. His retirement will be effective as of the end of September. Dr. Offerman will remain Capella University's president emeritus.

"Mike Offerman's vision and dedication helped establish Capella as a leader in higher education," said **Kevin Gilligan**, chairman and CEO of Capella Education Company. "Mike is a nationally respected voice because he has been unafraid to challenge the status quo and push for increased accountability and transparency across higher education. Mike's focus on outcomes and adult education has helped make Capella University what it is today. We wish Mike well in his much deserved retirement," Gilligan concluded.

"The last 10 plus years at Capella University has been a wonderful and exciting gift," said **Offerman**. "Few people have an opportunity to help create a new university of any kind let alone one that is pioneering innovation in serving adult students online with a strong commitment to high quality learning outcomes. The thing that inspired me to come to Capella after more than 20 years in more traditional universities was the passion that I saw demonstrated every day by Capella learners, faculty and staff. The amazing thing is that the passion remains as strong today as the first time I encountered it. I move on to the next phase of my life with a sense of pride, joy and gratitude for having the opportunity to be a part of the Capella family."

"The best representation of Mike Offerman's legacy at Capella is the thousands of adult learners who have improved their lives thanks to a Capella University degree," said **Deborah Bushway, PhD**, interim president of Capella University. "This Saturday when Capella graduates from

around the world walk across the stage at the Minneapolis Convention Center to receive their degree, they will be a living testament to Mike Offerman's leadership. I look forward to continuing a great relationship with Mike going forward."

Offerman has an extensive background in adult and distance learning and will continue to be a frequent speaker at national conferences on these topics. He has led a national consumer information and accountability effort for colleges and universities serving adult students at a distance known as Transparency by Design, which publishes the website, College Choices for Adults. Prior to joining Capella, Offerman held continuing education leadership positions at the University of Arizona and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He was also dean of the Division of Continuing Education at the University of Wisconsin-Extension and founding executive director of the University of Wisconsin Learning Innovations Center. Offerman received a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Iowa, a Master of Science in Higher Education Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a Doctor of Education in Educational Policy Studies at Northern Illinois University. He has served on a number of national boards including the American Council on Education, the University Continuing Education Association, and the editorial board of Change Magazine.

About Capella University

Capella University (www.capella.edu) is an accredited online university* that has built its reputation by providing quality online degree programs for working adults. Nearly 80 percent of Capella students are currently enrolled in master's, specialist, or doctoral degree programs in business, counseling, education, health administration, homeland security, human resource management, human services, information technology, nonprofit management and leadership, nursing, psychology, public administration, public health, public safety, and social work. Capella also offers bachelor's degree programs in business, information technology, nursing, psychology, and public safety. Within those areas, Capella currently offers 135 graduate and undergraduate specializations and 17 certificate programs. More than 38,000 students were enrolled as of June 30, 2011, from all 50 states and 59 other countries. Capella is committed to providing high-caliber academic excellence and pursuing balanced business growth. Founded in 1993, Capella University is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Capella Education Company, headquartered in Minneapolis. For more information, please visit <http://www.capella.edu> or call 1.888.CAPELLA (227.3552).

Visit the Capella **Facebook** page at <http://www.facebook.com/CapellaUniversity> .

Follow Capella on **Twitter** at <http://twitter.com/CapellaU> .

* Capella University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), www.ncahlc.org .

Capella University, Capella Tower, 225 South Sixth Street, Ninth Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55402, 1.888.CAPELLA (227.3552), www.capella.edu .

Learn more about earning an online degree:

online education (http://www.capella.edu/online_education.aspx)

online degree (<http://www.capella.edu>)

accredited online university (http://www.capella.edu/about_capella/accreditation.aspx)

online college (http://www.capella.edu/online_college_degree_programs.aspx)

###