Commencement

Even as we direct more attention to student success and helping more achieve their goals, we are approaching the time where we celebrate the completion and success of our graduates who have overcome many obstacles, worked hard and persevered to reach their educational goals. We look forward to congratulating them on Friday evening during our annual graduation ceremony. Immediately after the Board meeting and prior to the graduation, we will gather for dinner with the faculty and administration in celebrating all that has been accomplished during this academic year. Following is the schedule for the evening.

**Friday, June 8, 2012, Central Campus**

- 4:30 p.m. | June Board Meeting | Room 106
- 5:30 p.m. | Dinner | Hallway 100
- 6:30 p.m. | Prepare for Processional | Room 203/4
- 7:00 p.m. | Graduation Ceremony | Patriot Center

Construction Update

The State Architect’s Office (SAO) received 15 responses to the Request for Qualifications for a construction manager for the new campus in Mt. Orab. Jim Buck and I evaluated these 15 proposals, as did the SAO. As a result, four firms remain on the short list for further consideration. At this writing, we are still awaiting word on the scheduling of the interviews from the SAO. Once scheduled, we will ask that members of the long-term planning/facilities committee participate in the interviews that will once again be conducted by the State Architect’s Office.

We have identified a list of individual stakeholders in Adams County that we will approach to help us pursue and evaluate potential partners that might help us accelerate the construction of our Adams County campus. It is our intention to meet individually with these stakeholders and then to conduct an additional focus group with broader participation. We are awaiting a Hanover Research study on colleges that have been successful obtaining federal grants (EDA, ARC, etc.) to construct facilities as these may be additional opportunities for us to accelerate our plans for Adams County without the contingency of enrollment growth in Mt. Orab.

Career-Technical Partnerships

We are engaged in significant efforts to develop stronger partnerships with several of Ohio’s career and technical schools in and around our service area as a part of our established vision and our specific goals for this year. We are nearing formal agreement with one career technical partner to jointly offer...
associate degree programs, which prior to this effort, would not have been possible at either institution. We have been invited to a regional meeting of several career and technical schools to see how we might accomplish this on an even broader scale. It seems that both sectors are interested in working together to provide more educational opportunities for workforce development without unnecessarily duplicating programs or facilities.

**Upcoming Events**

Board members are invited and encouraged to attend any of the following upcoming events:

- ADN Pinning | June 7 | Central Campus in Hillsboro
- ABLE Recognition | June 14 | 6:45 p.m. | Auditorium | Central Campus
- Phi Theta Kappa Induction | June 15 | 6:30 p.m. | Central Campus

**President’s Activities and Involvement**

Since my last report, I have been involved in the following meetings and events:

- Leadership Clinton Classes
- Rotary Club Meetings
- Campus Spring Fling Events
- Paraprofessional Advisory Committee
- Brown County Chamber Spring Recognition Dinner
- Great Oaks Business Council
- Clermont Chamber Economic Forecast Breakfast
- Highland County Chamber Coffee and Commerce
- Senator Rob Portman Reception
- OACC/OCAN Discussions
- Ohio Chamber of Commerce Meeting
- Area Artist Exhibition
- OACC Presidents’ Monthly Meeting
- Great Oaks Collaboration Meetings
- OACC Annual Conference
- Grant and Southern Hills Career Centers Collaboration Meeting

**Academic Affairs**

**Nursing Program Rankings**

Congratulations to both the Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing faculty, students, and staff. The April 2011 – March 2012 NCLEX Program Reports from the National Council of States Board of Nursing were recently released. Southern State’s PN program maintained a No. 1 ranking out of 1,366 PN programs. The ADN Program ranked 695 of 1871 (top 37 percent) for this year. This is much improved over the past year when a 1634 ranking of 1798 programs was noted. The hard work of converting
curriculum and completely changing the program is showing great dividends and all involved are to be commended.

**Respiratory Care Community Support**

The Southern State Community College Respiratory Care Program held a Great Strides 5K walk/run for Cystic Fibrosis at the Fayette Campus May 19 with approximately 60 people in attendance. The Respiratory Care Program has raised $3,777 to date. There are several pending donations with the anticipation of raising well over last year’s amount of $4,000. The Respiratory Care Program is still accepting donations, which may be made online at [http://www.cff.org/great_strides/Collins](http://www.cff.org/great_strides/Collins). In addition, the Respiratory Care Program raffled gift cards valued at $140 for Summer Breeze Tanning, Serene Spaces Massage & Day Spa and The Rusty Keg in Washington Court House thanks to a donation from Brian and Kelly Pettit of Washington Court House.

**Respiratory Care Professional Development**

The Respiratory Care Program held a conference May 5 titled *RTs: Present Practice Meets Future Trends* with plans to hold a conference annually. There were 36 respiratory therapists who attended the conference with the possibility to earn up to five continuing education units for licensure renewal. The final presentation for the day was a Lunch & Learn session “Clinical Preceptor/Instructor Overview,” which was offered to help ensure compliance with CoARC, the Respiratory Care Program’s accrediting body.

**Distance Education**

The Distance Education Department is working with the Tutoring and Advising/Retention departments to develop a face-to-face (F2F) Blackboard (Bb) 9.1 orientation—the only learning management system as of the semester conversion. Many facets of the F2F session will carry over and exist in a self-paced, online format as well. The dates for the pilot are June 11-12 with programs being offered at the Fayette and Central campuses.

**Workforce Development and Community Services**

**Truck Driving Academy**

The first class with new partner Tri-County Career Center/Hocking College began May 7 with students expected to complete the CDL training early June. Belmont Technical College is signing a memorandum of understanding to establish a partnership to offer CDL training.

John Joy, dean of Workforce Development and Community Services, and Randy Stillings, area recruiter for Schneider National, were interviewed live on WRAC C103 Radio (Brown and Adams counties) May 22. The interview was part of the West Union radio station’s “workforce week” promotion, and John and Randy discussed the TDA program, transportation careers and other logistics-related topics during the hour-long interview.
Montgomery Trucking of Wellston

A major workforce development effort has been extended to Montgomery Trucking of Wellston, Ohio. The family-owned carrier, in business more than 50 years, was provided extensive background information on the TDA with the goal of establishing an industry partnership that would give TDA graduates an excellent opportunity at employment with a local employer. The partnership would help Montgomery Trucking meet its need for drivers as well.

Workforce Development

On May 7, Academic Affairs Vice President Dr. Ryan McCall and John Joy travelled to Fremont, Ohio, to assist with a grant application to provide training for water treatment and wastewater treatment plant operators. The title of the project is iSTAR h2o. If funded, Southern State Community College would be one of five Ohio community colleges working to implement a Water Quality Training initiative that aligns federal and state Environmental Protection Agency common standards for water and wastewater operators with higher educational training, credit and degrees that link to a career pathway. The grant would bring $1,176,600 to SSCC during the four years of the grant; the MOU has been signed.

The proposal to continue operating the Highland County One-Stop for the coming fiscal year was accepted by Highland County Job and Family Services, and the contract is being routed to the Highland County Commissioners for signatures.

A preliminary conversation was held with Fluor-B & W Portsmouth LLC to provide customized training for as many as 50 incumbent workers. Fluor-B & W is a Department of Energy contractor working on the decontaminating and decommissioning efforts at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant near Piketon.

Continuing Education & Departmental Notes

Seven participants were enrolled in free Connect Ohio computer classes at two locations during May.

Institutional Advancement

Communications

Marketing | Public Relations | Web

Re-invisioning the Southern State Identity: Phase IV (Deployment/Launch)

The new image for Southern State Community College will enter full deployment July 1. The existing swoosh symbol will be replaced as quickly as possible and in its place will be a fresh, modern symbol that capably speaks to the image of the institution. Along with the new logo, an advertising campaign will be unveiled which includes elements of our brand that communicate a number of our key attributes such as affordability, accessibility, quality, and personal attention. The full campaign—inclusive of print, radio, television, billboards, web and direct mail—will launch in July.
In addition to preparations for the launch of the advertising campaign, there are a number of other tasks that are being coordinated to further support a successful launch of the new brand. Among them include implementing an identity standards guide and collaborating with those who frequently use the logo to ensure a successful launch. The Communications Team will work throughout the summer to make a complete transition to the new identity and look forward to additional training and conversations that engage more constituents as the College enters the fall term in August. In lieu of a single unveiling reception, the Communications Team has opted for a more personal approach to the announcement and will be visiting key stakeholders to introduce the new brand and also hosting more student-centered activities in the fall.

Communications Seminar

Emergencies, crisis situations, or scandalous scenarios are often not a matter of “if” but rather “when.” In an effort to be better prepared for such situations, the College’s Communication and Human Resources departments have partnered to invite highly accomplished crisis communications expert Bruce Hennes to campus June 13.

Hennes will deliver a two-part program to advance us in crisis communications. During the first part of the day (8 a.m. – 12 p.m.) the College is extending this opportunity to community guests. By simply registering, area first responders, city officials, fire/safety personnel, business leaders and others will have access to leading-edge tips on how to develop and maintain key messages during times of crisis. In addition to the open session in the morning, a select group of Southern State employees will be challenged to refine and enhance communication skills through intense, small-group scenario training.

Foundation

Monthly Contribution Report

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Area Artist Exhibition/Werline Retirement

In collaboration with the Area Artist Exhibition and Competition, the Foundation sponsored a reception honoring retiring faculty member James (Skip) Werline on May 17. In gratitude for his years of service and the role he has played in advancing the arts at Southern State, the Foundation was pleased to use this unique opportunity to wish him farewell.

Student Affairs/Enrollment Management
Admissions and Student Activities

Georgetown PSEO Assessment
The pilot PSEO test administered at Georgetown Exempted Village High School was a success. The admissions director accompanied one of Southern State’s test proctors to the high school May 16 and tested 15 students. It is hoped to offer this service to other schools in the future.

Athletics
The athletic department hosted its first annual prospective student athlete night May 17. The event was for high school juniors, seniors and any other college students interested in Southern State athletics. Seven students attended the event and each one expressed a genuine interest in Southern State athletics. Several letters of intent were signed.

Each year, coaching positions are re-posted according to a provision in the SSEA bargaining agreement. We are in the process of filling both men’s and women’s basketball coaching positions. Neither coach indicated interest in further pursuing the coaching position previously held. Employment offers have been made to other individuals subject to background checks and other pre-employment requirements.

Women’s Softball
Women’s Softball finished the season 2-24 and 2-10 in the Ohio Collegiate Athletic Conference (OCAC). They finished fourth in the conference tournament. Women’s Softball United States Collegiate Athletic Association award recipient is:
- Academic All-American—Amber Frazer

OCAC award recipients are:
- First Team All OCAC—Jennifer Middleton
- Second Team All OCAC—Breanne Johnson, Amber Frazer, Sarah Love and Skyelyn Lucas
- Honorable Mention All OCAC—Taryn Christy and Shaylyn Sluss
- Freshman of the Year OCAC—Juanita Nichols

Men’s Baseball
Men’s Baseball finished the season 0-8. At this time, men’s baseball will be discontinued.

Career Services

Presentations
Career and Counseling Services has been very active this month in providing presentations on a variety of topics for faculty members and community groups. A total of 10 presentations have been made to date, with one more May 25 at WRAC C103 Radio at West Union and three more in June for faculty and community agencies. Customers served included East Clinton eighth grade, nursing classes (Central), College Success (Central), sociology class (Central), business communications (Fayette), and early childhood development (Central). Topics included networking, interviewing strategies and techniques, resumes, and factors relevant in career choice.
The need for career and mental health counseling remains steady with appointment lead times at two weeks and at times approaching two and a half weeks.

The Career and Counseling Services Coordinator will be attending a workshop on dealing with Death and Dying. He recently completed additional training on issues related to suicide and self-mutilation.

**Disabilities Services**

**ASL Workshop**

The Office of Disabilities Services is offering a two-day American Sign Language workshop for faculty and staff. The workshop will be held at Fayette Campus July 20 and July 27. The workshop will cover introduction to deaf culture, basic signs related to academia and tips for working with deaf and/or hard-of-hearing students.

**Community Outreach**

The Disabilities Coordinator presented at the Annual Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Picnic sponsored by Southern Ohio Educational Service Center on May 18. Emphasis was placed on the following tips for success:

- Establish communication early,
- Become a self-advocate and
- Update testing or documentation due to differences in laws and requirements at post-secondary level.

**Retention**

**Carl D. Perkins Grant**

The Carl D. Perkins Grant hosted Gary Broadbent at each campus during the recent spring fling events. Those who saw Gary were inspired and entertained by his message and demonstration of boomerangs. More than 100 people attended sometime during the four-day event.

The pending budget for the FY13 Carl D. Perkins Grant is up approximately $1,300 from last year bringing the FY13 pending budget to $94,171.96.

The Mini-Grant program has gone digital with applicants being able to pull information from a website linked to SSCC. The application deadline is August 20.

**Tutoring**

**Web Tutorials**

The Tutoring Center will conduct individual web tutorials to help students activate their My Student Records, My Mail, and My Blackboard accounts located on the My SSCC portal June 18-19 at all campus locations.
Online Success Workshop

The Tutoring Center, in conjunction with the Distance Learning and Retention departments, is sponsoring two pilot workshops on how to succeed in an online class. These Online Success workshops, a retention effort to address the low success rate of online classes, are scheduled at the Fayette Campus June 11 and at the Central Campus June 12. More than 230 students enrolled in online classes for the summer quarter have been sent an informational packet containing a self-assessment of Blackboard 9 skills and a schedule and sign-up sheet for the Online Success workshops. The pilot workshop will be held prior to the summer quarter in an attempt to identify students who are not technologically ready for online classes.

As a part of their tutor training, tutors will be invited to attend the Online Success orientation to ensure that they can assist students not only with course content but also with Blackboard tools and online language.

Computer Fundamentals for the Classroom Workshop

The Tutoring Center will again offer the Computer Fundamentals for the Classroom workshop prior to summer and fall terms. Two workshops for computer basics will be held prior to the summer term. The first will be held June 13 at Central Campus and the second will be held June 14 at Fayette Campus. The Perkins Grant will fund the computer basics workshops.

Mentor Tutor

Kari Simpson, current writing lab tutor, has accepted the position of mentor tutor. This position will provide more supervision and mentoring of tutors, better communication with all campuses and additional support in the creation of tutor training modules as the department nears the completion of the application process for the certification of the Tutoring Center by the International Tutor Training Certification Program.