

President's Report to the **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 2014 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

Board Meeting Calendar for 2014

Enclosed is a draft calendar of potential regular SSCC Board of Trustees meetings for 2014 for the Board's consideration. Doug Boedeker, Board of Trustees Chair, would like to discuss possible changes to the meeting times depending on the interests and needs of the Board.

Board Policy Manual

The Board's policies require that the Board Policy Manual be reviewed annually. A copy is enclosed. I am not bringing forward any recommended changes, but if the Board wishes to discuss any changes, there will be an opportunity at our extended meeting.

Brown County Chamber's Drucker Award of Distinction Recipient

The Drucker Award of Distinction (named after Dr. Peter Drucker of international fame) is an annual presentation recognizing local businesses who serve Brown County and have accomplished "Achievement in Business Excellence."

The Drucker Award takes into account evidence of leadership, vision, and innovation, as well as exhibiting an understanding of the principles of quality management.

Southern State Community College was recognized as the 2013 recipient at the Brown County Chamber of Commerce Annual Drucker Award and Lifetime Achievement Award Breakfast on January 27, 2014. Trustees Paul Hall and Mike Pell were on hand, as were several staff members and administrators.

Higher Education Funding Commission Makes Its Recommendations



As you will recall, Governor John Kasich asked me to co-chair the Higher Education Funding Commission for the purposes of making recommendations for the upcoming Capital Bill. The Commission finished its work and has released its recommendations. These recommendations were released to the press last week via phone conference. I was honored to receive a call of thanks and congratulations from Governor Kasich, Speaker of the House of Representatives William Batchelder, and Senate President Keith Faber prior to the press event. We will discuss what these recommendations mean for Southern State Community College at the extended meeting. In short, our plans for Adams County continue to move forward.

Aspen Award Nomination

We were surprised and happy to learn that Southern State was nominated to apply for the Aspen Award, a national recognition for community colleges that have a strong record of student success and completion. Only 150 community colleges who met the institute's high criteria were nominated. Southern State was the only community college in Ohio to be nominated. Here is an excerpt from our letter of notification:

“Congratulations on being selected as one of 150 community colleges nationwide determined eligible to apply for the third \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The prize, awarded every two years, has brought a new level of public attention to community colleges, established new measures of excellence in outcomes for community college students, and uncovered practices that Aspen is disseminating to help community college colleges improve outcomes for their students.

An expert panel has identified Southern State Community College as eligible to apply for the prize. The top 150 community colleges are identified through an assessment of institutional performance, improvement, and equity on student retention and completion measures. To ensure full representation of the range and diversity of the sector, adjustments were applied with respect to mission, size, and minority student representation. As you can see from the list of community colleges at www.AspenCCPrize.org, the eligible pool reflects the diversity and richness of community colleges in the United States.”

My team is in the process of reviewing the extensive application and data gathering process to evaluate whether or not we have the capacity to pursue the nomination further.

AACC Workforce Development Institute

I was once again asked to attend the national AACC Workforce Development Institute this week in St. Petersburg. Funding is provided by the Appalachian Regional Commission through AACC to several presidents in Appalachian colleges to make their participation possible. Given our budget adjustments, I would have not otherwise attended.

Upcoming Events

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

FEBRUARY

02.20.14 **A Journey to Radical Change: Sam Bracken**
10:30 am | Central Campus Room 107

02.20.14 **Master Gardener Series: "Native Plants"**
6:00 pm | South Campus Library

MARCH

03.12.14 **Women's Tea**
South Campus Appalachian Gateway Center

03.20.14 **Master Gardener Series: "Composting"**
6:00 pm | South Campus Library

President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Call with Senator Randy Gardner
- OACC President's Meeting and Governing Board
- SSCC Foundation Pre-Performance Reception at SSCC Theatre's "Our Town"

- OACC Presidential Search Committee Conference Call
- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meeting
- Community Colleges of Appalachia Board Meeting in Asheville, N.C.
- Meeting with Highland County Commissioners and Senator Bob Peterson regarding the Capital Improvements Budget
- Search Firm Interview Conference Call
- Meeting with Ohio University President Rod McDavis
- Meeting with Senator Randy Gardner and Representative Cliff Rosenberger
- American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and Community Colleges of Appalachia (CCA) Conference Call
- Meeting of the Ohio Deans Compact on Exceptional Children
- Chancellor Carey’s Completion Program at Columbus State Community College
- Supply Chain Management Meeting, Tour and Dinner at Wilmington Air Park
- OACC Government Relations Conference Call
- Leadership Clinton, Program Committee Meeting
- Partnership Opportunities Meeting at Sinclair Community College
- “Listening Tour of Ohio” with Dr. E. Gordon Gee and Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor John Carey
- Leadership Clinton, Economic Development Day
- Southern State ADN & PN Pinning Ceremony
- Adams County Commissioners Conference Call
- Wilmington Succeeds Planning Meeting
- Higher Ed Funding Commission Meeting
- Wilmington City Schools Board Meeting
- Leadership Clinton, Experiential Learning Day
- Southern State Community College All-College Meeting
- Meeting with Governor Kasich, Chief of Staff and Policy Team
- OACC Presidential Search Committee Meeting / Open Forum for Governing Board Members
- Meeting with OBOR Chancellor John Carey, OBOR Assistant Deputy Chancellor External Relations Charles See, OBOR Director of Communications Jeff Robinson, Southern Ohio Educational Service Center Superintendent Tony Long, and local superintendents
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce’s agriculture event with Max Armstrong
- Great Oaks: Aviation and Ford Asset Annual Review
- Annual Brown County Awards Breakfast
- AACC Workforce Development Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla., funded by AACC and The Appalachian Regional Commission

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Adult Opportunity Center

Adams County Partnership ✓

The Adult Opportunity Center (AOC) has collaborated with Adams County Common Pleas Judge Brett Spencer, the Adams County Court, and the Adult Probation Department for almost three years. Adams County Jobs and Family Services entered the partnership a year later. Knowing the key role education plays in a successful life, Judge Spencer orders those who do not have a high school diploma to attend classes to work toward earning a GED. In a recent report, the following accomplishments were noted:

- 61 participants
- 13 currently enrolled/attending
- 31 have passed the GED
- 89% have not reoffended since entering the class

Students are assessed before entering classes and periodically during enrollment. Some were functioning as low as a second-grade equivalent, so significant progress had to be made to pass the GED, which is equated to graduating seniors.

Clermont County Expansion

The AOC added Clermont County to the service area starting July 1, 2014. Three classes were scheduled: two at UC Clermont and one at Workforce One, starting in August. Enrollment has increased to the point a fourth class was added at Workforce One. Starting in February, the AOC may be entering into a partnership with the Clermont County Jail to provide academic services to inmates. This will add another four classes to the schedule.

Pre-Kindergarten Associate License Approval

Southern State's Early Childhood Education program has received approval from the Ohio Board of Regents and the State Department of Education to offer the Pre-Kindergarten Associate License. While the institution already offered the Early Childhood Education program, this approval means graduates of the program may now obtain a five-year licensure in the field. Coby Long, education program faculty member,

was instrumental in completing and submitting the packet required to obtain this approval.

Ohio Means Internships and COOPS

Southern State's participation in the Ohio Means Internships & Co-ops (OMIC) continues to grow and show great promise for our students. There are many examples of great outcomes. AMES in Wilmington recently requested to have nine of our aviation maintenance students as interns. When the internship time was complete, AMES hired eight of the nine, with the last student deciding to go into a different profession. AMES has requested another eight aviation maintenance students as internships as soon as we are able to provide them. Southern State also supplied two interns to Candle-Lite, both of whom are still with the company after the internship was complete. Additionally, two interns with DP&L have continued with the company after the completion of the internship.

Graduate Survey

Southern State has always conducted graduate surveys with mixed results primarily due to low return rates (10% or less), inaccurate information, or only in limited programs. The importance of a graduate survey and the information gained from the results cannot be overstated, particularly as it relates to accreditation, program review, and assessment. This year the graduate survey was moved to an online format utilizing Qualtrics software, away from the traditional paper survey. Additionally, the college approved the refund of \$25 from the student graduation fee, for those who completed the survey.

Survey information was sent to approximately 290 students with 97 students responding which equates to approximately a 30% response rate, significantly higher than previous years. While the results are still being reviewed, some of the information received was somewhat surprising and other reaffirmed current understanding of our students. One of the best results, and perhaps a surprising one, was that 47% of the students stated they completed their degree in two years. A more in-depth conversation about the graduate report will be provided at a later date to the Board.

Workforce Development and Community Services

Truck Driving Academy

Enrollment for the past three months is one student better than the same period one year ago.

SSCC Dean of Workforce Development and Community Services John Joy and Cincinnati State Workforce Development Center Business Manager Jane Dunigan, along with Dr. Boys, represented our transportation/logistics partnership at a tour and supply chain management meeting, tour, and dinner held Dec. 5 at Wilmington Air Park. The event was co-sponsored by R & L Carriers, the Port Authority, and Council of Supply Chain Management of Cincinnati.

John Joy and TDA Training Manager Eddie Mullins attended a meeting at Cincinnati State on Dec. 9 with the Greater Cincinnati Urban League to develop a CDL-training program to supplement their current training and job placement efforts. 

In early January, word was received from the Ohio Board of Regents that approximately \$2.9 million is to be awarded to community colleges for equipment and facility purchases to further training efforts in Ohio's key businesses and industries. The TDA is in need of equipment upgrades, and will be submitting a grant application by the Feb. 10 deadline.

Workforce Development

Dr. Boys, VP of Academics Dr. Ryan McCall, and John Joy met Dec. 11 at Sinclair Community College to discuss partnership opportunities in the emerging technology of UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems). As a result, Southern State and Sinclair will be co-sponsoring a one-day workshop Feb. 28 at Central Campus on the applications of UAS on agriculture.

Continuing Education & Departmental Notes

Efforts are underway to bring the non-credit vet and dental assistant training completely in-house. Notification was received from Boston Reed College in mid-December that they would no longer support their current partnerships, effective Jan. 1, 2014.

STUDENT SERVICES AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Financial Aid

Financial Aid Nights are currently being conducted in the area high schools. The Office of Financial Aid has presented at Hillsboro, Greenfield, Clinton Massie and Western Brown in the last couple of weeks and have many others scheduled for the month of January, which is Financial Aid Awareness month.

In 2013, the office began reaching out to students who had borrowed a student loan at Southern State and were delinquent on their student loans. This is in an effort to reduce the number of students who might default on their student loan. There were 1,086 borrowers at some point in 2013 that were at least 31 days past due on their student loans. Through the outreach efforts, 527 borrowers came off the delinquency list and are current on their loans.

Patri-Tots

The Patri-Tots Learning Center at Central Campus is pleased to announce another 100% compliance rating from their recent inspection on Dec. 4, 2013 from Ohio's Department of Job and Family Services. This achievement is the Center's second perfect rating in a row and third overall. Site Administrator Kathe Chaney and staff are extremely proud of this accomplishment.

Currently, security concerns at the Center have been resolved. The automatic lock on the front entrance door has been replaced and a new doorbell has been installed. Both have been working very well and all remote release devices are also working properly. At this time we have no apprehension or concerns among clients.

Records/Registrar

The Records Office was audited by the Veterans Administration on Dec. 17. At the exit interview, the compliance officer indicated one minor date discrepancy, but otherwise it was an excellent review. The last time there was an audit by VA was 2008.

Southern State is also being audited for the 2012-13 year by the Ohio Board of Regents. All documents for selected students were to have been submitted by Jan. 6, but submission was delayed by a couple of days due to inclement weather. Results of this audit should be available in the next couple of months.

Student Success Center ✓

Student Success Center staff meetings were held at Central Campus, South Campus, and Fayette Campus. Director of Nursing Dr. Julie Krebs made a presentation about the nursing programs at South Campus, Director of Respiratory Care Chyane Collins and Academic Advisor Brenda Landis spoke to the staff about the respiratory and criminal justice programs at Fayette. Education Opportunity Center (EOC) Representative Aaron Davis made a presentation at the Fayette Campus meeting about the EOC program and the services he offers to first-year students.

The Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) conducted an AmeriCorps Supervisors Webinar on Dec. 3. Southern State Community College's IPAC (Individual Plan for Academic Completion)--which is a part of the AmeriCorps coaches' initiative and the HLC's Quality Initiative--was highlighted on the webinar. OACC Program Manager Sharmaine Pechac requested that Susan Long share the logistics of the program. Several visuals and documents were provided. Other community college supervisors asked questions and the Columbus State Community College supervisor requested a copy to serve as a model.

Several staff members, along with the AmeriCorps coaches, attended the OACC symposiums on Student Success scheduled on Dec. 5 and 6 in Columbus.

Tutoring Center ✓

Tutoring Sessions for Fall Semester 2013:

- 253 Tutor Requests
- 311 Lab Sessions
- 402 One-on-One Sessions
- 67 students served via embedded tutoring*

- 780 Total Sessions from 09/02 – 12/13

*The Writing Associate tutor was embedded in four Allied Health courses to assist students as they created documents using the APA style and in one English 1102 class to assist students with a major paper.

Tutor Success Workshops:

Forty-eight students attended the three Online Success Workshops for students in online classes. One student received Computer Fundamentals training in Microsoft Office programs.

Tutoring tables and web tutorials were available at each campus Jan. 13 and 14 to promote tutoring and to assist new students with the activation of My SSCC student and live.mail accounts.

Facilitators for the workshops were Math Associate Tutor Joe Gruber and Writing Associate Tutor Erin Smith.

CRLA

Tutoring Center staff attended the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) conference in Boston on Nov. 6-9.

Retention ✓

130 early warnings for nonattendance were submitted to the Student Success Center between Jan. 8-15. Staff members contacted all students and provided information to the instructors regarding the student status.

AmeriCorps coaches are going in to the College Success classes to distribute IPACs (Individual Plan for Academic Completion) and to begin work on academic completion plans.

The AmeriCorps coaches are required to complete several community service projects each year. Their most recent project was connected with Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and the project's purpose was to call attention to problems/issues facing the local community. The coaches chose to address the confusion in the community surrounding

the Affordable Health Care Act. The coaches went to the Homeless Shelter to educate residents about the new law and how it will affect their chances to have affordable health care. The coaches also discussed topics such as preventive health care screenings, patient rights under the new law, and how to apply for health care.

More than 900 telephone calls were made to students in an effort to encourage them to register for the Spring 2014 semester.

Advising Center

Advisors conducted over 1,371 advising sessions from the Nov. 18 opening of spring registration through Jan. 14. These student appointments were completed in 23 days as the school was closed for extended holidays and inclement weather.

The Student Success Center extends a heartfelt welcome to their new employee – Heather Myers who has been reassigned from Student Activities to the Student Success Center. Myers has been performing well in her new role as part-time academic advisor and is a welcome addition to the advising team.

Athletics

Tyler Gray, men's soccer goal keeper, was named USCAA Honorable Mention All-American. Gray was also named to the 2013 All-Ohio Junior College Men's Second Team, along with midfielder Christian Connor.

Athletic Director Adam Holbrook has become a member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) for the 2013-14 year. NACDA is a professional association for those in the field of intercollegiate athletics administration, and provides educational, networking, and advocacy experiences for its members.

The Athletic Department has partnered with Wilmington College's Sports Management Department to create internship opportunities for students currently enrolled in Sports Management at Wilmington College. Jordan Steinke will serve as this partnership's inaugural intern for the spring semester.

Suspension of the Men's Basketball Season

The second half of the SSCC men’s basketball season has been suspended due to a lack of satisfactory academic progress amongst the players. Five of the eight active players on the men’s team failed to make sufficient academic progress to maintain their eligibility to participate in athletics. It's important to note that academic success is among the highest of the College’s priorities for its students. That includes student athletes. Southern State has specific academic requirements for student athletes that must be met in order to maintain eligibility to participate in athletics. Unfortunately, and despite efforts to address the problem, too many players failed to meet those requirements.

There have been multiple group and individual meetings with the men's basketball players regarding their academic progress during the Fall 2013 semester. Individuals leading these meetings included the Coach, Athletic Director, Dean, and the VP of Student Affairs. During the meetings, the players were apprised of the situation and urged to seek out assistance regarding their classes. Several of the players did seek out assistance and satisfactorily completed the semester. Those players who did not maintain their athletic eligibility remain eligible to continue their studies as students. Two of the five players are currently enrolled.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Communications

Marketing | Public Relations | Web

Upcoming Direct Mail Appeals

A variety of direct mail appeals will be distributed January through March aimed at attracting new students to Southern State. Among the various mailings include the following:

Promotion	Purpose/Audience	Mail Date
Financial Aid (Students)	College affordability. Target: graduating seniors	Feb. 2014
Financial Aid (Parents)	College affordability; Comparison of savings 2-yr. v. 4-yr. Target: Parents of graduating seniors.	Feb. 2014
Counselor Appeal	Emphasis on mission and SSCC’s fulfillment of offering accessible, affordable, and high quality education. Target: HS administrators	Feb. 2014
Affordability	Comparison of savings 2-yr. v. 4-yr. Target: Graduating	Mar. 2014

seniors and Brown County residents age 18-45

Register Now Mailing #1	Reminder to all students that registration is open. Target: All current students	Mar. 2014
Registration	Aimed at attracting new students. Target: Prospective students and those who have applied but never registered	Mar. 2014

Blitzing Brown County

For months, the Brown County community has been blitzed with advertisements in a broad variety of marketing outlets and most recently, with direct mail to households. In early December, a mailing was distributed to over 6,600 households (high school graduates age 18-45) communicating that the new campus is on track for completion in August 2014. In addition, the College recently secured prime billboard locations in both Brown and Clermont counties promoting the new campus. Upcoming recruiting efforts are taking shape and will include events on campus coupled with additional direct mail and advertising.

Brand Perception Survey

During the 2013 academic advisory meeting, the Communications Office was offered the opportunity to include a brand perception survey in participant packets. Results indicated the following:

N=57

- 91% of respondents had a favorable impression of SSCC while 9% were neutral.
- 49% of respondents agreed that SSCC promotes itself effectively, 38% somewhat agreed, 5% were neutral and 5% somewhat disagreed.
- 35% of respondents strongly agreed that the website and online resources were helpful, 35% somewhat agreed, 21% were neutral, and 8% didn't respond.
- 61% of respondents strongly agreed that students should feel proud to attend SSCC while 35% somewhat agreed, 21% were neutral, and 8% didn't respond.
- 42% of respondents strongly agreed that SSCC is meeting the needs of employers in the area and 38% somewhat agreed, 7% were neutral, one person disagreed, and 10% didn't respond.
- 75% of respondents believed SSCC graduates had the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in the workforce and 14% somewhat agreed while one person disagreed, and 8% didn't respond.

Foundation

New Scholarship Application Process

In collaboration with the Financial Aid Department, a new, online scholarship application process has launched making applying for scholarships accessible and seamless for students. The new tool provides students with online access to the application while also taking much of the guess work out of the application in terms of what scholarships are a best fit. Further, the tool streamlines the selection process on the College's end by tracking completed applications and offering robust reporting features that will allow the College and the Foundation to maximize our awarding capacity. This tool is currently available to students and there has been a steady flow of applications without incident.

A Successful Employee Appeal

In October the Foundation reached out to College employees to petition them for support of the Foundation. The response and continued support is humbling. The Foundation is appreciative of the new donors who stepped forward and those who increased their giving. The Foundation currently has nearly 40 active donors who use the employee contribution mechanism to make their monthly gift and support our students through scholarship funding.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Wellness Connector

Recently, Southern State Community College has partnered with TriHealth Corporate Health to provide a comprehensive wellness program for our employees, titled "Wellness Connector." Our new program is designed to help provide a healthy work environment and to support the adoption of healthy habits by employees who want to improve their own health and wellness. In addition, the program will help the College combat the continually rising costs of healthcare in an effort to provide employees with the best health and wellness benefits possible.

A monthly newsletter also titled “Wellness Connector” is emailed to all employees at the beginning of the month. Past topics for the newsletter included: office exercises, dental hygiene, smoking risks, exercises to help you sleep, diabetes, the benefits of proper breathing, and avoiding weight gain. All editions include a healthy recipe and smartphone application of the month.

Retirement Seminar

A retirement seminar is planned for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, 2014, on Central Campus. A representative from OPERS will be presenting “Ready to Retire Pension and Health Care” seminar and a representative from STRS will be presenting a general session covering the retirement process. A representative from the Social Security Administration will be on-site to answer questions. Additionally, other vendors and resources will be available to assist employees with financial/investment opportunities, selecting the most appropriate investment alternatives and guidance in planning for retirement.