

Southern State Community College

October 2012 President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Kevin Boys, President

Higher Education Budget Commission

I have been asked to serve on the Higher Education Budget Commission which will be crafting a new funding formula that emphasizes student success and completion over enrollment. President E. Gordon Gee of The Ohio State University has been asked to chair the commission and has arranged an aggressive schedule of seven meetings between now and Thanksgiving. The community college sector has been placing a high priority across institutions on student success and completion and is positioned well to respond to the Governor's request of the university and college presidents. The commission expects to have its work complete prior to Thanksgiving.

Legislative Contact

I have met with several representatives of both state and federal government in the past month. I met with State Representative Cliff Rosenberger to discuss workforce development and possible assistance with the Truck Driving Academy. Due to redistricting, U.S. Representative Mike Turner will no longer represent Highland or Clinton counties, but will represent Fayette County pending re-election. He visited Fayette Campus and was quite interested to see the kinds of things offered there. Finally, I was able to meet with staffers in both Senator Sherrod Brown's and Senator Rob Portman's offices while I was in Washington, D.C. for a meeting of college and university presidents on entrepreneurship. I used the opportunity to demonstrate the critical nature of the Pell program for the students who attend Southern State, to discuss issues related to community colleges in general, and to lay the groundwork for seeking future support for potential grant funding for the Adams County campus.

WSRW Spotlight on Education

Willard Parr from WSRW has invited us to tape a monthly 10-minute program to promote the College. I taped the first installment which is set to be aired beginning Oct. 11. We look forward to highlighting some of the events, programs and accomplishments of the College in the months ahead. As you know, Mr. Parr has a great fondness for the College and was happy to extend this opportunity to us and his listeners.

Auditorium and Lecture Hall Facelift

Please stop by and take a look at the Lecture Hall and the Edward K. Daniels Auditorium. Both rooms have been updated with new seating, wall finishes and carpet. These facilities have been extensively used by many groups inside and outside of the College for the past 27 years. There was much work to be accomplished within a very tight time schedule given the short break between Summer Quarter and Fall Semester. I commend Jim Buck for pushing this project through to completion as quickly as possible. To complete the renovations, additional technology and lighting upgrades are also being planned for these

facilities. As you will recall, the extensive facility study conducted by KZF Architects identified more than \$10 million in basic repairs and renovations to the existing four campuses. The latest capital budget will help us begin to chip away at these identified needs.

Architect/Engineer Agreement for Mt. Orab Campus

In the Board's packet, you will find the agreement between the state of Ohio and BHDP, the architect for the Mt. Orab project. As you will recall, the size of the project requires that the state of Ohio administers this project. The agreement requires Board of Trustee approval since this is a locally funded project and the cost exceeds the President's or Vice-President of Business and Finance's spending authority. The total compensation for architect/engineer services is \$798,187.08.

Upcoming Events

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

October

- 10.18.12 **Meet-the-Artist: Roy Carpenter**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle
- 10.18.12 **Master Gardeners: Amending the Soil**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle
- 10.25.12 **Meet-the-Author: James Willis**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle

November

- 11.02.12 **SSCC Theatre presents "A Doll's House"**
7:30 p.m., Central Campus Auditorium, Hillsboro
- 11.03.12 **SSCC Theatre presents "A Doll's House"**
7:30 p.m., Central Campus Auditorium, Hillsboro
- 11.04.12 **SSCC Theatre presents "A Doll's House"**
3:30 p.m., Central Campus Auditorium, Hillsboro
- 11.08.12 **SPECIAL EVENT: Donald Ray Pollock, author of "Knockemstiff"**
7 p.m., Central Campus Lecture Room, Hillsboro
- 11.08.12 **Musician: Steve Free**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle
- 11.13.12 **Ohio Trustee Conference**
8 a.m.-3 p.m., Columbus State Community College, Columbus
- 11.15.12 **Master Gardeners: Roses**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle

December

- 12.06.12 **Guest Speakers: Christine Tailer & Greg Cole (Environmentalism)**
6 p.m., South Campus LRC, Fincastle
- 12.09.12 **Southern State Singers' Holiday Concert**
3 p.m., St. Mary Episcopal Church, Hillsboro

President's Activities and Involvement


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

- State Representative Meeting
- Franklin University Representatives Meeting
- Great Oaks Advisory Council
- Meeting with Governor Kasich
- Paraprofessional Advisory Committee
- Congressman Turner's Visit to Fayette Campus
- Complete College Ohio Task Force
- Making Schools Work Meeting
- Western Brown Local Schools Partnership Meeting
- OACC Presidents Meeting
- Hillsboro Rotary Club
- Highland County Chamber Board Meeting
- WSRW Radio Station Feature on SSCC
- Fayette County P-16 Council Community Partner Appreciation Luncheon
- US Department of Commerce's Session on Higher Education Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Meetings with Senator Brown's and Senator Portman's Staff

Academic Affairs

Aviation Technology Program Approval

Southern State Community College, in partnership with Great Oaks Career Center, has developed an Aviation Technology major through the assistance of Shawn Tomlin of Great Oaks and Tom Stroup, Associate Professor of Engineering at Southern State. A very important part of the development is the process of developing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved curriculum into college credit-bearing curriculum.

The College recently submitted the revised aviation technology curriculum to the Ohio Board of Regents for approval as a major within our Electrical/Electronics Technology degree. Southern State received approval on Sept. 20 from the Ohio Board of Regents of this curriculum, clearing the first of three approvals needed. The College still needs to obtain approval from the FAA and from the Higher Learning Commission. It is anticipated these approvals will be obtained in the coming month and the program will begin with Spring Semester in January. 

Faculty Member Requested to Submit Article

Dr. Brian Siemers, Instructor of General Studies and Fine Arts, is the first person in the history of the College Conservatory of Music, one of the top music schools in the country, to earn a doctorate on the double bass. His dissertation was basically a history of the double bass, which forwarded a theory about the origin of the tuning of this instrument and from what instrument family it originated (gamba versus the violin family).

Recently the world's foremost encyclopedia of music, Groves, contacted Dr. Siemers to write an article on the double bass for its single volume condensed version of the encyclopedia. Publication date is yet to be determined.

Writer to Visit

Donald Ray Pollock will visit the College for a reading on Nov. 8. Mr. Pollock is a 2012 Guggenheim Fellow and is from the region. His writing is gritty and involves the real-life issues and difficulties of small-town Ohio. The following was provided on his website, <http://donaldraypollock.com/bio-4>.

Donald Ray Pollock was born in 1954 and grew up in southern Ohio, in a holler named Knockemstiff. He dropped out of high school at 17 to work in a meatpacking plant and then spent 32 years employed in a paper mill in Chillicothe, Ohio. He graduated from the Master of Fine Arts program at The Ohio State University in 2009 and still lives in Chillicothe with his wife, Patsy. His first book, *Knockemstiff*, won the 2009 PEN/Robert Bingham Fellowship. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Third Coast* and *The Journal* to name a few. *The Devil All the Time* is his first novel.

Workforce Development and Community Services

Truck Driving Academy

Enrollment for the first three months of the fiscal year is decreased compared to the same period one year ago. New partnerships continue to be sought to boost enrollment. Progress continues with Delaware Area Career Center near Columbus to bring them on board as a partner. DACC is thought to have high potential as a partner due to the economic well-being of the region and the location near a metropolitan, high-population area.

The customized training for Warren County Career Center to offer straight truck training for its Lineman Technician program is underway. The first group of 18 students began training Sept. 24. This training will be profitable for the TDA and an improvement for WCCC.

An agreement was reached with the Ohio Strategic Training Center in South Point, Ohio, to partner on a trial basis to provide CDL training at its training facility. Lawrence County employers in the transportation sector have asked for training to meet their workforce needs.

Workforce Development

On-going Microsoft training continues to be offered to DP&L employees at the Manchester training facility. Jeff Montgomery, Instructor of Computer Science, continues to receive excellent evaluations and feedback from students and training center staff. It will conclude in November.

Successful customized industrial electricity training was provided and completed during a seven-day period to Domtar in Washington Court House.

Successful customized Excel training was provided to NCB of Hillsboro at the Central Campus in Hillsboro. Julia Basham, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, conducted the training and will be offering the second session shortly.

Requests for customized Excel training were received from Hobart (PMI), and the content design is underway.

Continuing Education & Departmental Notes

Two new non-credit courses began in September. Offered in partnership with Boston Reed, the two career-oriented courses are Veterinary Assistant and Dental Assistant. The training is short-term, entry-level training designed to provide the basics for someone entering the particular field. ✓

Sixteen participants completed free Connect Ohio computer classes at two locations during September. John Joy, Dean of Workforce Development and Community Services, was accepted into the class of Leadership Clinton 2013, attending the two-day retreat at Lake Cowan and Camp Joy on Sept. 14 and 15. Mr. Joy is also a graduate of the first class of Leadership Highland.

Institutional Advancement

Communications

Marketing | Public Relations | Web

High School Senior Mailing

In the next several weeks, a direct mail piece will be sent to 4,538 high school seniors residing within a 40-mile radius of Southern State's Central Campus in Hillsboro. This includes all of Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette and Highland counties as well as portions of Clermont, Warren, Greene, Madison, Pickaway, Ross, Pike and Scioto counties.

The piece is designed with attention-grabbing elements and includes personalization features using variable print data. Of particular interest is the visual representation of tuition comparison between Southern State and our four-year counterparts. Further, to measure responsiveness, the piece incorporates a Business Reply Card that will be helpful in generating new student leads.

A follow-up mailing focusing exclusively on affordability will be sent to the same audience in January.

The image above reflects a portion of the larger direct mail piece designed to target graduating seniors in the Southern State service area and beyond.

Student Affairs/Enrollment Management

Career Services

Students continue to fill the evening appointments offered by the Career Services office. This student service will continue through the Fall Semester and, if the trend continues, will be provided into the next semester as well.

Financial Aid

To date, \$6,023,474 has been posted to students' accounts for this Fall Semester, which represents an increase of approximately \$1,000,000 more than last Fall Quarter. The fact that student aid was posted by semesters rather than by quarters accounts for some of the increase. Even with the slight decrease in students from last Fall Quarter to this Fall Semester, still there is an increase in total student aid. Prior to the 37-percent increase of students from the DHL closure, the Fall Quarter financial aid posting was running about \$2.9 million. Since then, even with the small decrease in students this year, the overall student population is still above our 2008 population, and the financial aid disbursed is about \$2 million above the 2008 dollars disbursed.

Advising and Retention

Advising

With the assistance of Ken Shull, more than 100 declared business majors' transcripts have been evaluated to determine the classes needed to graduate. Letters were sent out to these students with a reminder of spring registration dates. A total of 28 Academic Plans have been completed for Fall Semester. Spring 2011-12 showed a 50-percent success rate and summer a 67-percent success rate for those students who were on Academic Plans due to probation.

Perkins Grant

Nine mini-grants have been funded through the Carl D. Perkins Grant to assist with student success and engagement. The grants were received by Disabilities Services, Communications, Tutoring, Social Media Marketing Class, Physics Class, Career Services and the Allied Health Group. Close to \$31,000 is reserved for these projects and purchases.

AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches

The three positions for the AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches have been filled. All three are SSCC graduates: Nicole Elliott, Kylena France and Breanne Johnson. The coaches have established a schedule and a location on each campus. Coaches went through an extensive two-week training to familiarize themselves with the processes and the objectives of the program. On Sept. 11, the first *Day of Service* day took place. The coaches organized an activity in the Central Campus lobby. Over 200 faculty, staff and students took part in the activity to memorialize the events that happened in 2001. Coaches encouraged participants to write on various topics concerning America on red or white squares. The responses were compiled and used to create an American flag that is on display in the Central Campus LRC.

Student Government

Proposed Smoking Ban Survey

The proposed smoking ban survey was launched Sept. 19 via the new software, *Qualtrics*, and closed Sept. 28. The entire student body received an invitation via student email to participate in the survey. Additional advertisement took place on the front page of the College's web site as well as college-wide on the digital hall signs. To date, more than 10 percent of the entire student population has participated in the survey including PSEO and off-site students. A complete report will be compiled.

Student Government Scholarship

The Student Government is ready to fund its \$500 scholarship based on student need. The Foundation is drawing up the necessary criteria and paperwork.

Projects

In an effort to fund 2014's scholarship, a discount card fundraiser will be offered again this year. Businesses to be placed on the card will be solicited through *The Discount Card Company* with hopes of having 18 Hillsboro businesses on the cards. The businesses to be solicited have been chosen by a student poll. Cards will be offered at Central Campus and should be ready for a drive toward the end of November and will be offered for \$8 each or two for \$14.

The SGA provided concessions Sept. 28 for a theatrical performance of *The Hillsboro Story*.

Free Pictures with Santa will take place Nov. 29 and 30. Those who donate three canned goods will be able to have free pictures with Santa. Collected canned goods will be donated to the homeless shelter.

Tutoring Services

From Aug. 27 to Sept. 15, 160 students requested a tutor, 63 one-on-one sessions were conducted and 49 lab sessions were conducted for a total of 112 tutorials.

Tutor Training

The Tutoring Center staff conducted a second all-day training session for all tutors Aug. 31 at the Central Campus. Five tutors were added to the 16 who were trained Aug. 17 and two more tutors were trained Sept. 5-20.

Certification

The Tutoring Center staff has completed and submitted an application for certification of the Tutoring Center. The International Tutor Training Program Certification will review the application and determine certification within the next eight months. Last December, the Tutoring Center staff began the process last December which requires the creation of training modules covering a minimum of 16 required topics. Ability to document, assess and verify tutoring is also a key component to the process.

Resource Materials

All tutor manuals, resources and marketing materials have been updated.

Tutor Appreciation Week

Tutor Appreciation Week was observed Oct. 1-5. Tutors were each given a token of appreciation and recognized by name on the digital signage. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence." The Tutoring Center staff has witnessed firsthand the dedication and excellence of our tutors whose work has uplifted many SSCC students. Their labor is important and worthy of recognition.

Athletics

Women's Volleyball

Women's volleyball is currently 0-11 for the season. The Lady Patriots are represented in the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) individual statistical leaders with Skyelyn Lucas and Megan Sword tied for 25th in solo blocks.

Men's Soccer

Men's soccer is currently 4-3 for the season. The Patriots are represented in the USCAA individual statistical leaders. Nathan Bowers ranked 12th in shots, and Cody Claypool ranked 25th in goals against, 18th in goals against average, 14th in saves and 18th in save percentage.

Athletic Department Retention Efforts

The Athletic Department has initiated a student athlete progress check with faculty. To align with Southern State's goals for student retention and success, a progress check is sent to the faculty on the 4th, 8th, and 12th weeks of the term to monitor academic progress and attendance. This tool is used to keep student athletes on track for graduation and eligible for athletics.