

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



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APRIL 2013 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

## **Mt. Orab Campus**

Now that the Mt. Orab Campus Development Design phase is complete, the College is ready to release some renderings of the new campus. Enclosed are the architectural renderings including interior and exterior views. Press releases with these will be released in the near future. The date for the groundbreaking will be late June to very early July. Please remove the tentative April 18 date from your schedule.

## **Finance Committee Meeting**

The Finance Committee of the board is scheduled to meet at 5 p.m. prior to the board meeting. The committee will adjourn and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. Board members not on the Finance Committee are encouraged to attend as well. A light supper will be available during this meeting.

## **Tour of Central Campus Renovations**

A brief tour of the renovations at Central Campus will follow the regular board meeting. Significant updating has occurred in the lecture hall, Edward Daniels Auditorium and greenhouse.

## **Communication Regarding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**

A letter was sent to all employees informing them of steps the college is taking to comply with this federal mandate. We discussed some of the challenges at the January extended meeting and believe these steps will help us to fully comply with the law, avoid penalties, and have minimal impact on the operation of the college. The letter is included in your packet.

## **Upcoming Events**

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



## APRIL

04.11.13	<b>Spring Into Fitness</b> 12 noon - 3 p.m., Central Campus walking track
04.15.13	<b>National Library Week</b> All campus locations; through April 18
04.18.13	<b>Annual Spring Job Fair</b> 1-4 p.m., North Campus
04.19.13	<b>Southern State Shootout GBA Tournament</b> Central Campus Patriot Center; through April 21
04.26.13	<b>AmeriCorps Global Youth Day</b> All campus locations
04.27.13	<b>Patri-Tots Learning Center PreK Graduation</b> 9:30 a.m., Central Campus; 10 a.m., North Campus
04.27.13	<b>Southern State Singers Spring Concert</b> 2 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hillsboro
04.28.13	<b>Southern State Community College Band Concert</b> Time TBA, Central Campus auditorium

## MAY

05.03.13	<b>Commencement</b> 7 p.m., Central Campus Patriot Center
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## President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Brown County Commissioners' Meeting
- Government Relations Conference Calls
- SSCC Adjunct Faculty Meeting
- OACC Presidents' Meeting
- Brown County Campus Design Development Meeting
- Paraprofessional Advisory Committee Meeting
- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meeting
- OACC Presidents' Conference Call Meetings
- Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission Meeting and Election
- Jim Reynolds' Presidential Inauguration, Wilmington College
- SOCHE Round Table

- Practical Nursing Pinning Ceremony
- Meeting with Judge Spencer, Adams County Courthouse
- OSU South Centers Luncheon
- Jenzabar EX Conversion Update Meeting
- HLC Presidents' Meeting
- Wilmington Clinton County Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon
- WSRW Radio Education Spotlights
- OH Presidents' Planning Host Committee Conference Call
- Meeting with Highland County Commissioner Tom Horst and Highland District Hospital CEO Jim Baer
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Board Meetings

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### Instructional Operations

#### Southern State Receives Substantive Change Approval

Southern State Community College recently received Higher Learning Commission (HLC) approval for a substantive change request. The college is now approved to participate in the Notification of Additional Locations system. The notification system allows the college to submit new locations to the HLC via the web and does not require on-site visits prior to offering programs at the new locations. Approval to be part of this system is attained by institutions in good standing with the HLC and who also have at least three additional locations in operation. This approval allows the college to be more flexible in meeting the needs of the service area and beyond.

#### Higher Learning Commission Table Session

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) requested Southern State present a table session, regarding a recent substantive change request, at the HLC's annual conference in April. The request was made based on the submission of the college's substantive change request in distance education. Southern State was approved in August 2012 to offer up to 20 percent of all of our programs in a distance education format. The


submission was deemed to be an example to be followed by other institutions seeking a similar substantive change. JR Roush, Julia Basham, Gayle Mackay and Dr. Ryan McCall will represent the college during the table sessions.


### **Accreditation Committee**

The Accreditation Committee will be attending the Higher Learning Commission's annual conference this year. As part of their work towards reaccreditation in 2015-16, the committee has been working on the Quality Initiative portion of this process. The Quality Initiative is an opportunity for the college to be innovative and take risks in an attempt to improve the college in some way. During the conference, the committee members will have the opportunity to attend several sessions about the Quality Initiative and the new Open Pathways model of reaccreditation. Southern State will be submitting the Quality Initiative proposal to the HLC in early May, and will implement and complete the process prior to the 2015-16 academic year.


## **Workforce Development and Community Services**

### **Truck Driving Academy**


Demand from the transportation sector for qualified semi-tractor drivers is at an all-time high. It is frustrating that enrollment in the Truck Driving Academy (TDA) remains weak. New partnerships continue to be sought to boost enrollment, which has proved to be a successful strategy. For example, Southern State's partnership in South Point has provided 23 percent of TDA enrollment in the last four months. 


Word has spread among the career centers that the TDA is offering customized training for centers that have students in the lineman technician programs. Seventy-three students have been trained for Warren County to date, and there are four additional career centers and community colleges in the process of making arrangements with the TDA to provide similar training for their lineman technician programs. 

On March 27, John Joy and Eddie Mullins partnered with Cincinnati State and met with RWI Transportation in Wilder, Ky. RWI Transportation, a division of the Castellini Group, provides transportation of perishable goods, including fruit and produce,


throughout much of the United States. A proposal is being prepared to address their needs regarding driver assessment, retention, and supplemental training. 

### **Workforce Development**

Additional Microsoft Excel training was provided and completed during the month to ITW (formerly Hobart) of Hillsboro. 


Customized training in leadership and management for PAS Technologies was conducted the first two Saturdays, and will continue on that schedule until completion. 

A customized training request for Microsoft Excel was received from Pike Natural Gas and plans are underway to finalize the arrangements. 

John Joy and Tom Payton met with the superintendent of the Highland County Board of Developmental Disabilities on March 14 to discuss leadership training. Training for staff is expected to begin in April. 

### **Continuing Education & Departmental Notes**

Sixteen participants completed free Connect Ohio computer classes in March.

Registration for the April Waste Water and Water Treatment plant training is strong. The past two workshops had 55 and 50 participants respectively, and there are already 59 registered for the two days beginning April 16. 

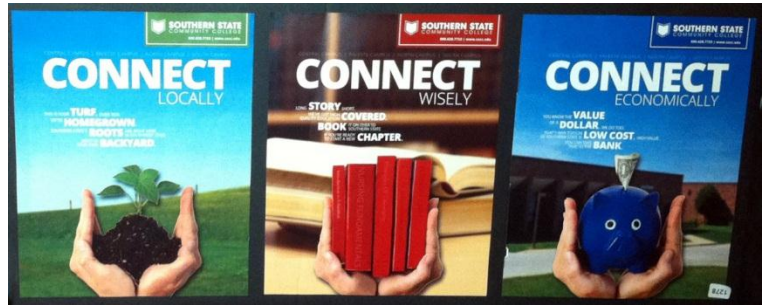
## **INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT**

### **Office of Communications**

#### **Marketing | Public Relations | Web**

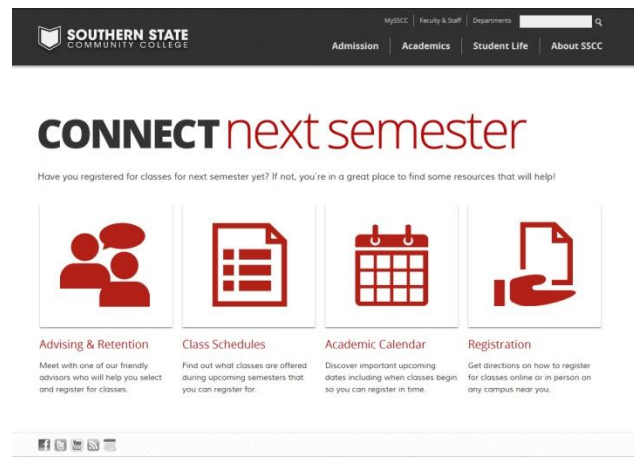
#### **SSCC Wins Regional and National Design Awards**

As a member of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR), the college's Office of Communications was recognized at the 2013 national conference held March 10-13 in Chicago. The college received a Gold Medallion Award in the 2012-13 Print Advertisement Series category, and a Bronze Medallion Award for the new logo. Also, the team was recognized nationally by earning a Bronze Paragon Award in the Print Advertisement Series category. These NCMPR Medallion and Paragon awards recognize outstanding achievement in communications at community and technical colleges across the United States. It is the only national competition of its kind that honors excellence exclusively among marketing and public relations professionals at two-year community colleges. NCMPR is affiliated with the American Association of Community Colleges.



## Promoting Registration

Like many institutions across the nation, Southern State recently migrated to exclusively online schedules. Obviously there are some financial advantages in reduced print costs; however, the impetus behind this rests largely with our interest in providing timely, accurate course schedule information. Recognizing that this would be a significant shift for students and advisors, a comprehensive awareness campaign was launched via direct mail, web, and through internal communication channels. The timing of the shift from print to web-based schedules afforded the opportunity to be more deliberate in our registration campaign. In addition to the campus-based publicity, nearly 3,000 mail reminders will be sent to students, and the SSCC web page has been enhanced to provide clear and convenient access to the tools essential for registration.



## Foundation

### Scholarship Application Review Underway

In collaboration with the college's Department of Financial Aid, scholarship applications are currently being reviewed. This award season represents a new approach to reviewing applications. The Department of Financial Aid and the Foundation are working together to streamline the process, ensure that we are compliant with standards for charitable contributions (using a quasi-committee structure to screen applicants), and also heightening efforts aimed at maximizing foundation funding, institutional aid, as well as state and federal subsidy. In short, the screening should yield the biggest bang for investment dollars and institutional aid while also maintaining the integrity of charitable giving. Eighty-two applications were submitted during the priority registration period. Award offers will be announced in April.

## STUDENT SERVICES AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

### Financial Aid

#### New Software

The Official of Financial Aid has been processing financial aid for current students, while setting up and training on the new PowerFAIDS software system. The 2013-14 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) results are being pulled into the new software for fall semester 2013 students. Approximately 1,000 FAFSA results were processed in much less time. Last week, the first 400 financial aid packages were sent for fall semester. Training will continue through July. The Official of Financial Aid is pleased with the new software processing system.

#### New Scanning System

Along with the President Boys' plan to digitize the college records, the Office of Financial Aid is in the process of setting up a new scanning system that will allow the required seven years of student files in a paperless environment. This process will take a couple of years, which will enable the Office of Financial Aid to become a paperless processing office by the 2014-15 academic year.

### **Fiscal Reporting**

The Office of Financial Aid has completed fiscal reporting to the Ohio Board of Regents for the 2011-12 academic year through the HEI system; all was accepted. The office was pleased to receive a notice from the Ohio Board of Regents that Southern State's financial aid state audit had zero percent errors. This audit is performed on the State Financial Aid Programs, but also many of the records that are audited are collected by Southern State's Records Office.

### **Staff Training**

Several staff members in the Office of Financial Aid are taking a four-week online class through the National Association of Financial Aid Administrators to become certified in verification of student FAFSA records.

## **Patri-Tots Learning Center**

### **Renewal of Award for Excellence**

In recognition of excellence and an ongoing commitment to children, the Patri-Tots Learning Center on North Campus (Wilmington) has received a Two-Star Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) renewal award from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). The award is presented by the ODJFS Bureau of Child Care and Development which is the state agency responsible for licensing and promoting high standards among Ohio's early care and education programs. This recognition comes on the heels of the Patri-Tots earning its fifth 100-percent compliant state licensing inspection last month.

"We congratulate SSCC Patri-Tots Learning Center for its high-quality early care and education program that goes above and beyond Ohio's licensing standards," said Terrie Hare, Chief of the ODJFS Bureau of Child Care and Development. "By reaching for the



stars, SSCC Patri-Tots Learning Center is helping our youngest children develop in a warm, nurturing environment that fosters growth and a love for learning.”

SUTQ is a voluntary, three-star quality rating system created to improve the quality of early care and education programs in Ohio. Programs can earn a one-, two- or three-star rating by meeting the quality benchmarks for the state of Ohio. Each star signals a higher standard of staff qualifications and planned early learning activities.

## **Student Success Center**

### **Restructuring Under the TRAC Umbrella**

The restructuring of the Student Services area is now in place. Four areas of the Student Services Division will now be under the umbrella of the Student Success Center. To help students, faculty and staff identify the included services, the acronym TRAC (Tutoring, Retention, Advising and Careers) is being used. The goal is to help our students from start to finish by monitoring student progress at various stages of their academic careers, assisting with goals, identifying resources, and providing support systems to help students toward degree completion. Identification and implementation of best retention and completion initiatives will be central to the organization. Staff training to ensure accurate and consistent information for Southern State students will be provided on a regular basis.

### **Student Success Center Initiatives**

Susan Long will attend the Higher Learning Commission’s annual conference in April to prepare for the implementation of the goals outlined in the Quality Initiative pertaining to student success, and the conference in Orlando at the end of May to better prepare for the implementation of the new student information system.

The Student Success Center will work to create individualized academic completion plans for all new students entering in the fall. The plan will gather relevant student information, will guide the student through career and educational goals to accelerate entry into a degree program/major, will assess academic and socio-economic predictors of success, and will provide each student a DARS (degree audit) to help them track their

progress. Evaluations of current initiatives are being done to determine the effectiveness of programs. Coordination and streamlining services will also be a major goal.

### **Career & Counseling Services**

Career and Counseling Services, in conjunction with the North Campus (Wilmington) Learning Resources Center, will conduct the second annual Spring Job Fair from 1-4 p.m. on April 18. Area employers have been invited from the service area, and students, alumni and community members are invited.

### **Carl D. Perkins Mini-Grants**

The Carl D. Perkins Mini-Grants self-assessment and desk audit were completed successfully, with no improvement plans required to date. The site visit is scheduled for April 23 at Central Campus (Hillsboro).

### **AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches**

Each of Southern State's three AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches has reached the goal of helping to coach 100 students through their degrees. On March 12, the AmeriCorps team conducted an event on Central Campus to recognize AmeriCorps Week. Nearly 100 students signed pledges to not test and drive, but to use hands-free devices instead. The team distributed literature explaining Ohio's no-texting law and penalties. The team then held a drawing and awarded Southern State themed prizes.

### **Open House Events**

On March 2 and 9, Southern State hosted open house events on all four campuses. Faculty and staff representatives provided positive feedback on the organization and outcome of the open house events. Compared with other colleges and universities' open house events, Southern State's attendance was deemed to be average to above average.

### **Tutoring Center**

Tutoring sessions for Spring Semester 2013 (through March 15) included 231 lab sessions, six online sessions, and 347 one-on-one sessions, for a total of 584 total tutorials.

The Tutoring Center has scheduled student workshops for May. Computer Fundamentals workshops will be held May 6 on Central Campus (Hillsboro) and May 8 on North Campus (Wilmington). Online Success (Blackboard 9) workshops will be held May 7 at both Central and North campuses, and are geared toward any student enrolled in an online class.

## **Student Activities**

### **Student Government Association**

Elections are complete for the 2013-14 Student Government Association (SGA) officers. Three percent of the student population voted, which was an increase from 2 percent last year (the national average). The new officers include: George Martin, president; Kelly McFadden, vice president; Thomas Kent, treasurer; and Amber Smith, secretary.

SGA is spearheading a joint effort of several departments for a Spring Into Fitness event scheduled for 12 noon to 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 11. The event will feature booths along the walking track on Central Campus, and events encouraging activity and fitness. Thus far, the following departments are participating in the event: SGA (selling subway sandwiches in the student lounge area and providing a booth); Nursing Program (booth and game); SSCC Theatre (booth and game); Respiratory Care Program (booth and game); Student Success Center (booth and game); Human Resources (providing access for all students to the healthy recipe site); Athletics Department (two booths and a game); Office of Communications (providing water); Student Activities (stamping cards as part of the Student Frequency Card program). Prizes will be awarded at each booth.

Easter eggs were provided to faculty members interested in using them as learning incentives in the classrooms. The eggs were filled with candy and one per classroom included a ticket for a complimentary SSCC Discount Card. Seven instructors opted to participate and said they thought the eggs made a fun learning experience for their classes.

### **Athletics | Women's Basketball**

Jordan Beasley, women's basketball player for Southern State, was named USCAA Women's Basketball Division 1 Academic All-American.

### **Athletics | Men's Basketball**

The men's basketball team completed their season with a record of 25-3. The season culminated with the winning of the Independent College Tournament held at West Virginia University at Parkersburg. Tyron Harris was named USCAA Men's Basketball Division 1 Honorable Mention All-American.

### **Athletics | Women's Softball**

Women's softball is currently 0-4 on the season.