

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



SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2015 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

Sale of South Campus

The sale of the College's original campus was closed on September 10. After expenses, the final settlement to Southern State Community College was \$720,134 (sales price of \$766,100 less 6% commission of \$45,966). I am especially appreciative of Mr. Buck's persistence in seeing the details of this sale through to completion, the Township Trustees for their zoning change approval, those in Brown County government who assisted in securing grant funding for the buyer, the Governor, Secretary of State, and the Auditor of State for their quick turn around on the Governor's Deed, and the leadership of the SSCC Board of Trustees for establishing a vision for moving this original campus to Mt. Orab while planning for a new campus in Adams County.

Fall Enrollment

Due primarily to increases in late arriving College Credit Plus course registrations, as of September 9, 2015, head count enrollment is up 2% over last year at 2,515 students. FTE (full-time equivalent) and actual credit hours are down approximately 4% due to a larger percentage of students attending part-time and a greater proportion of College Credit Plus students.

College Credit Plus

Although we have been leaders in dual enrollment activity among community colleges, the initiation this fall of the new College Credit Plus program has impacted our enrollment and reach significantly. As of this writing, we have 770 students from 34 school districts taking Southern State courses either on our campuses or at one of 15 high schools throughout southern Ohio. Overall, College Credit Plus students comprise 31% of our headcount and 24% of our credit hours.

Accreditation Assurance Argument Nearing Completion



Alignment with the Strategic Goals

The “Assurance Argument” required as a critical component of the Higher Learning Commission’s Open Pathway reaccreditation process is nearing completion, along with the evidence file that supports this document. Once “locked” in the HLC system, the peer review team assigned by the HLC will have access to study the argument and associated evidence prior to their visit on November 2 and 3.

Hobart Drive Renovation

Work continues on Hobart Drive, which will reconfigure our entrance to the campus along with opening an alternate route to State Route 73. The project will temporarily make Hobart Drive one-way running east-to-west from US 62 to SR 73 for approximately four to five weeks. Although delayed a week, students and staff have been notified of this change through regular campus communication channels.

Upcoming Events

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

OCTOBER

10.08.15	Highland County Chamber of Commerce Business Bash 5-7 pm Central Campus
10.09.15	Connect to College Day (First Choice Friday) 9 am-12 pm Central Campus
10.23.15	Connect to College Day (First Choice Friday) 9 am-12 pm Fayette Campus
10.30.15	Connect to College Day (First Choice Friday) 9 am-12 pm Brown County Campus

President’s Activities and Involvement

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

- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee Meeting

- Governor’s Task Force Advisory Committee on Efficiency and Affordability
- Higher Education Regional Partnerships and Training Center Ribbon Cutting
- SSCC All-College Meeting
- Southern Gateway Economic Innovation Development Center Groundbreaking
- New Student Orientation – Central Campus
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce’s Greenfield Business Bash
- Student Government Association & Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Retreat
- Speaker of the House Cliff Rosenberger Reception
- Sinclair Community College – UAS Center Groundbreaking & Dinner
- WSRW Interviews with Willard Parr
- Campus Visit – North Campus
- Campus Visit – Fayette Campus
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
- Conference Call with Chancellor John Carey
- Campus Visit – Brown County Campus
- Meeting with Senator Portman at Ohio Christian University
- OACC Presidents Meeting & Executive Committee Meeting
- Highland County Fair Gate

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Co-op Development

As mentioned last month, the Electrical/Electronics Technology engineering degree program is being updated to include a co-op track. Aimed at filling a growing need for qualified workers, the co-op experiences are intended to better position Southern State graduates for future employment in a highly competitive industry. The design of the program includes some minor modifications, but maintains the integrity of the existing and approved degree program.

In the last report, it was reported the college had two partners, GE Peebles Test Operation and Candle-Lite. Since then the college has added two more partners, Airborne Maintenance and Engineering Services (AMES) and C-Mold Incorporated.

Airborne Maintenance and Engineering Services (AMES) has been a frequent supporter of the current OMIC (Ohio Means Internships & Co-ops) internships for our students in the Engineering: Aviation Maintenance program; and now AMES will also be a partner for the co-op program. AMES is looking forward to utilizing the co-op program to grow its workforce as an answer to the increased work at the facility. AMES stated that they are excited to extend the partnership already created with the Aviation Maintenance program and grow the collaboration to the Electrical/Electronics Technology co-op program.

In Greenfield, **C-Mold Incorporated** employs between 50-100 employees with its primary business function to provide the automotive industry with customized injection-molding products. C-Mold General Manager Tom Kerns is excited about the partnership and the potential it has to expand his workforce. C-Mold agreed to be a part of the Engineering Advisory Board as well.

Although Southern State is an open admission institution, entry into the co-op track is selective. In fact, co-op partners retain the decision rights for who is selected and there is the possibility that some students may not be selected. Students will be interviewed near the conclusion of the Fall 2016 term and must have earned 3.0 GPA or be in such standing at the point of interview. At the present time, based on the limited number of partner organizations, we should expect to have three to six students selected for the co-op experience. Obviously, the aim is to see this number increase as new partners are added. Regardless of co-op participation, students will never miss a beat in terms of academic progress.

In addition to the engineering co-op opportunities, John Joy (SSCC Dean of Workforce Development & Community Services) and Amy McClellan (SSCC Coordinator of Academic Partnerships) met with Reliable Transportation Solutions in Georgetown, Ohio, to discuss training opportunities as well internship offerings in the areas of Logistics, Technology and Warehouse Management.

Ohio Means Internships and Co-ops Symposium

Southern State, as the lead institution in the Ohio Means Internship and Co-ops, will be hosting a Symposium for the program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 24 at the Endeavor Center in Piketon. Currently, the Chancellor is scheduled to address the audience in the

afternoon session. There will be additional sessions on asset mapping, higher education and rural communities, and workplace communication skills. The symposium is being funded through the grant and is open to employers, faculty, and staff, and students in the Southern State community. RSVPs are required to Amy McClellan.

Leadership Adams County

Amy McClellan was accepted into the 2015-16 Leadership Adams County program. Amy currently serves as the Coordinator of Academic Partnerships for the College. In this role she has responsibility for all partnerships with career technical centers, businesses, and high schools where the college offers credit-bearing courses. Additionally, Amy is the lead for the Ohio Means Internships and Co-ops grant, the lead on the RAPIDS grant, and also administers the Perkins grant.

Workforce Development and Community Services

Truck Driving Academy

The TDA enrolled 49 students in July and August; this is the highest enrollment in five years for the first two months of the fiscal year.

In June, a proposal was presented to the Ohio Department of Higher Education to obtain approval for the use of money for a Revolving Loan Fund program that they are administering for the benefit of non-credit training programs for high demand jobs in the state. The Department asked for some minor revisions to the proposal, and a revised proposal was submitted on August 10. Schneider National, with contract hauling for Walmart in Washington Court House, and R & L Carriers of Wilmington are the two industry partners. Both have agreed to partial repayment of the CDL training loan to any employees they hire that meet their criteria. The availability of revolving loan funds is expected to boost enrollment by 20-40 during the fiscal year.

Workforce Development and Continuing Education

Technical Dean Jeff Montgomery, Ag Faculty member Tom Smith, and John Joy arranged with Sinclair Community College the hire of a part-time faculty member to

help with Precision Ag courses that are part of the Sinclair UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) program. A follow-up event to the successful July 28 event is planned for early November.

Community Services & Departmental Notes

A request to the USDA Columbus office was approved for an extension of the RBEG grant for the “Grow! Highland” project. “Grow! Highland” is a joint effort of SSCC, the Highland County Chamber, and volunteer citizens to promote and support small business development in the county. SSCC serves as the grant fiscal agent for the project.

Adult Opportunity Center

Fall Classes – Term One

Fall Term 1 started in late August with nineteen classes in six counties. Three more satellite sites start this month. Currently, 144 students have reached enrollment status.

Desk Review

SSCC’s Adult Opportunity Center recently received the 2014 Desk Review, a measurement of local performance. The program staff members were pleased to learn of the rating of 94 percent, the highest overall percentage in the state. The average overall percentage for the state was 53 percent. The desk review included the following comment:

“Southern State Community College ABLE program has an outstanding ABLE desk review. Southern State ABLE's desk review overall percentage is the highest statewide. Southern State Community College ABLE program met or exceeded most of the state's student achievement performance measures. The achievements occur during a year of transition with Southern State Community College ABLE program absorbing the Clermont County ABLE program, there is a decrease in enrollment statewide and the introduction of a new rigorous GED test. Congratulations to the ABLE staff on your desk review achievements. Keep up the good work!”

Personnel

During the summer, the AOC hired and trained several new staff: one assessment team member, two instructors, and two clerical assistants. All positions were replacements.

STUDENT SERVICES AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Student Success Center

Retention

Early Alert Messages

Total for the 2014-15 academic year: 2,015

<i>Term</i>	<i>Early Alerts</i>	<i># of those submitted alert</i>
Fall 2014	639	59
Spring 2015	306	40
Summer 2015	70	13

Total for the 2015-16 academic year: 96

<i>Term</i>	<i>Early Alerts</i>	<i># of those submitted alert</i>
Fall 2015	96	6

AmeriCorps Coaches

The 2015-16 AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches, Coni Coleman and Jordan Werring, have been distributing IPAC's (Individual Plan for Academic Completion) to all PSYC1108 College Success students. Coni coaches for North, Fayette, and Central campuses, while Jordan coaches Central and Brown County campuses. The coaches are also required to conduct Student Success workshops. Jordan and Coni led several of the Online Success workshops sponsored by the Tutoring Center at all four campuses one week prior to the start of classes in an effort to prepare students to be successful in

online courses. They are also available to assist tutoring for the Computer Fundamentals workshops.

The coaches conducted several 9/11 Memorial activities beginning Sept. 8 at each campus and will have culminated with a Memorial Service at the Hillsboro campus on Friday, Sept. 11. Throughout the week at each campus, students, faculty, and staff had the opportunity to remember the victims of 9/11 by pledging to do a good deed. Pledge cards were posted through the campuses. On Sept. 11, a 30-minute remembrance ceremony beginning at 9 am was scheduled which included speeches from Dr. Kevin Boys and Commissioner Paul Worley, moments of silence, and the singing of “America the Beautiful” by Coach Jordan Werring and Student Services staff members Cindy Bloom, Lauri Bolitho, Linda Myers, Jeanna Morgan, and Fran Roberts. This was the first of four required service projects for 2015-16.

Connect to College Days

The first Connect to College Day will kick off Friday, Oct. 9, at Central Campus. Sara Raike, Melissa Scott Queen, and Tom Payton are working on the organization of this event which involves educating prospective students and others in the community about the college life experience, academic programs, and career options. A number of faculty members will be making presentations about their programs. As of Sept. 1, college transfer recruiters from Wilmington College, Lindsey Wilson College, The Ohio State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Ohio Christian University had committed to attend and talk with prospective students about starting at Southern State Community College and transferring to their four-year institutions.

Tutoring Center

Personnel

Jessica Clark has assumed the position of Interim Mentor Tutor to assist the Director of Student Success in monitoring tutor activity, scheduling labs, and training Level 1 tutors. Jessica is a recent graduate of Southern State and is currently enrolled at Wilmington College. She tutored students primarily in Math and English, conducted Accuplacer Test Prep workshops and created a test prep for writing on Blackboard. Jessica is close to completing Level 2 (advanced) tutor training through the International

Tutor Training Program Certification. She has also completed modules in Level 3 (master) tutor training.

Advising Center

Veteran Services

Advisor and Veteran Liaison Bob Hixson, along with Recruiter Heather Miller will attend a recruiting event Sept 30 with the Wilmington American Legion Veteran Information and Job Fair. Other upcoming events include a visit to the Highland County Veteran Service Office on Nov. 9 and attendance at Train the Trainer for Ohio Values Veterans at OSU on Sept. 23.

Advising Sessions per campus for June - August

	Brown	Central	Fayette	North
June	80	187	122	77
July	160	334	147	102
August	<u>225</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>182</u>
	465	1,092	462	361

- Total Advising Sessions for June-July: 1,209
- Total Advising Sessions for August: 1,171 (Primarily the first three weeks)
- Total Advising Sessions for June-August: 2,380

Financial Aid

Disbursements

The following federal financial aid funds were received and disbursed for the 2014-15 academic year.

Federal Pell Grant	\$5,486,862
Federal Student Loans	\$5,388,698
Federal College Work-Study	\$97,286
Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant	\$155,325

New Student Orientation

Financial Aid staff presented at new student orientations. Students received information on the award process for federal aid as well as requirements to remain eligible. This was an additional opportunity to inform and register students for \$ALT, the financial literacy resource tool.

Fall Semester

In August, the financial aid team worked with more than 700 financial aid applicants to process or update their financial aid, and met individually with 80 new student loan borrowers for loan counseling. In addition, the staff has worked to make the transition to charging books at the Follett bookstore as seamless as possible for students.

Records

Enrollment

As of Sept. 4, 2015: College Credit Plus Applicants for Fall 2015 = 1,257

Accepted – 1,009

In Process – 248

Several of the schools did not have their students apply for CCP until the beginning of this school year so we are waiting on them to complete the application process so they can be registered. As of this writing, there are currently nine schools that are being reviewed for registration.

Student Activities

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa is off to a great start. The chapter officers and advisor recently attended a retreat at Shawnee State Park. The group enjoyed a team building canoeing trip, leadership hike, and s'mores around the campfire. The keynote speaker was Retired Lt. Col. Kris Wood, and she spoke on the topic of developing leadership skills and adopting

a leadership style. Administrative Assistant Sherry MacDowell spoke on strategies for overcoming challenges and Administrative Assistant Michelle Meddock instructed the students on scheduling events and the organizational structure of SSCC. Chapter Advisor Connie Huber educated the officers regarding the full benefits of Phi Theta Kappa as a professional and career development program, as a competitive edge, as well as an academic competition opportunity. Alpha Omicron Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa emerged as a cohesive team motivated to educate the membership, faculty, staff, administration and leadership of SSCC on the purpose and benefits of the elite organization.

Phi Theta Kappa and Student Government joined forces to hold a Leadership Retreat for members and prospective members. Dr. Boys kicked off the Retreat with a welcome and a charge to lead the student body. Patrick Harder, entrepreneur, was the keynote speaker. He spoke on motivation and perseverance. Patrick, a former student of Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Connie Huber shared details about his time as the captain of an acrobatic basketball dunk team, SOAR. The advisor suggested that SOAR come to SSCC and conduct their program on positive youth development. As a result, committees were formed and students were encouraged to reach out to staff, administration, and stakeholders.

Student Government

The SSCC Student Government Association is pleased to report their fall retreat was a great success. The event was held at Moyer Vineyard and Winery Restaurant and partnered with Phi Theta Kappa. The retreat opened with a welcome from Dr. Boys, and continued with an inspirational speaker and entrepreneur, Patrick Harder. In addition, AmeriCorps' presence contributed to the events.

SGA is currently adding new members, and discussing the new academic plans and goals for 2015-16.

Athletic Events

Board members are invited and encouraged to attend any of the following upcoming athletic events at Central Campus:

SEPTEMBER

- 09.04.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Appalachian Bible College @ 5 pm**
- 09.09.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Kentucky Christian-JV @ 4 pm**
- 09.15.15 **Women's Soccer Team vs. UC Clermont @ 4 pm**
- 09.19.15 **Women's Soccer Team vs. Elizabethtown College, KY @ 2pm**
- 09.26.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Elizabethtown College, KY @ 2 pm**

OCTOBER

- 10.02.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Wentworth Military Academy @ 5pm**
- 10.11.15 **Women's Soccer Team vs. Andrews College, MI @ 2 pm**
- 10.11.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Andrews College, MI @ 4 pm**
(Western Brown H.S.)
- 10.19.15 **Women's Soccer Team vs. Wilmington JV @ 5 pm**
- 10.20.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Cleary University @ 4 pm**
- 10.22.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. UC Clermont @ 4 pm**
- 10.24.15 **Men's Soccer Team vs. Penn State Greater Allegheny @ 1 pm**