

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



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OCTOBER 2019 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

## Capital Budget for FY 20/21

The state of Ohio is initiating its biennial process for determining capital projects to be funded through the state budget. Although we do not know exactly the size of the community college sector's allotment, nor our college's level of funding, we are preparing for our formal request. Although we have an ongoing list of deferred maintenance and equipment needs, we are in the process of surveying students, faculty, and staff to gather feedback across our campuses. The Facilities and Long-Range Planning Committee of the Board will convene at 5:30pm prior to the board meeting for a discussion of basic priorities. I was just informed today that this legislation may go to the general assembly prior to the end of the calendar year, a greatly accelerated schedule.

## Southern State Community College News Series

Enclosed in the packet is the first installment of a series that will be submitted to local papers throughout the next several months. In the absence of a full-time communications director, we have contracted with a former reporter to research and write stories featuring our graduates and the faculty among our college's various programs. This article features the Human and Social Services program. Although we cannot control what gets published, we believe these are newsworthy stories of personal experiences of the impact that our college contributes throughout the region.

## Civil Rights Review

Also enclosed in this packet is the official notification that our Voluntary Compliance Plan has been closed. We were able to have an architect review the alternate walkway we had hoped would be found in compliance for wheelchair accessibility. The slope, however, was beyond that which is considered compliant, so we have temporarily provided this accessibility through an entrance at the rear of the building and have made a curb cut to allow for smooth entry. We

will continue to address a more suitable long-term solution in the Health Science construction project or through the upcoming capital bill.

### Agriculture and Wilmington College

I have had two meetings with the president of Wilmington College to discuss how our institutions might work more closely to provide our Southern State students with courses in agriculture on the campus of Wilmington College. This would provide an affordable pathway for our students to begin their agriculture program while at Southern State and then more seamlessly transfer to Wilmington College to complete their Bachelor degree agriculture programs. Jeff Montgomery, Dean of Technical Studies, has already worked with their agriculture faculty to discuss the curriculum and program aspects. We hope to have everything in place for a Fall 2020 implementation.

### President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Pre-audit Meeting with Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.
- Great Oaks Business Advisory Council
- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- GRIT Project Meetings with Highland County Commissioners
- Grant Meeting Regarding Students with Intellectual Disabilities
- Meeting with Wilmington College President
- TA Grant Report Follow-up Call
- EAB Training and Strategy On-site Visit
- High Risk Student Workshop with Dr. Joe Kort
- Smokin' in the Hills Event
- Adams and Highland County Business Advisory Committee
- Call with Clark State Community College Representative
- OVRDC Annual Meeting
- OACC Presidents Meeting
- EAB Leadership Team Conference Call
- Highland County Visitors Bureau Strategic Planning Facilitation
- AACC Executive Committee Meeting at ACCT Annual Congress

## Upcoming Events

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

### OCTOBER

- Oct. 16      **2019 SSCC Art Show**  
North Campus | 4:30pm – 6:30pm
- Oct. 24      **Hoxworth Blood Center Blood Drive**  
Mobile Unit at Central Campus | 9:00am – 3:00pm
- Oct. 29-30    **ODHE Annual Trustee Conference**  
Columbus State Community College (RSVP to Robin)

### NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1-3     **SSCC Theatre: Nightmare in Suburbia**  
Central Campus Auditorium | 7:30pm (3:30pm on Nov. 3)
- Nov. 6       **Respiratory Care Club Fundraiser**  
Buffalo Wild Wings in Wilmington | 4:00pm-10:00pm
- Nov. 17      **SSCC Community Band Veteran's Day Concert**  
Central Campus Auditorium | 3:00pm

### DECEMBER

- Dec. 7       **Respiratory Care Graduation Ceremony**  
Central Campus Auditorium | 2:00pm

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### **SSCC 101: Adjunct/CCP Instructor Orientation Course**

Through a grant-funded initiative, Dr. Jessica Wise and Jeff Montgomery worked with Franklin University to create an online orientation course for new adjunct faculty and

high school College Credit Plus (CCP) teachers. The CANVAS-based program was designed to provide an overview of SSCC academic policies and procedures, available resources and services, class preparation and expectations, and classroom management. The course also allows new adjuncts the opportunity to collaborate with their peers and discuss best practices.

The three-week course was piloted in August 2019. Five adjunct faculty members and one CCP teacher participated, with Dr. Wise acting as facilitator. Completion survey results were favorable, with the overall course rating 4.5 out of a possible 5 point scale. Revisions to the course based upon participant feedback are planned with the next orientation course set to run in November. The goal of the orientation course is to improve the onboarding experience of new adjuncts while providing higher quality instruction to students.

### **Credit Transfer**

The Ohio Department of Higher Education manages and promotes programs related to the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy so that students may transfer effectively between the State's public post-secondary institutions. As a result, ODHE has created multiple options for Credit Transfer.

Some of the more common credit transfer options include *Advance Placement (AP)* – high school curriculum, *Transfer Assurance Guides (TAGs)* – course for course, *Ohio Transfer Module (OTM)* – college general education courses, *Career-Technical Credit (CTAGs)*, and *Credit for Military Training Experience (MTAGs)*. It is through these options that SSCC students can begin their college education path with a solid foundation and confidently continue on into four year institutions with full transfer assurance.

SSCC's curriculum alignment within the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network is an ongoing process with state faculty panel reviews twice a year. To date, the College's alignment of eligible courses is:

TAG courses (84% approved or under review); CTAG courses (81% approved/under review), and OTM courses (73 core general education). All Advance Placement test scores are aligned with SSCC courses and MTAGs are aligned as military transcripts are submitted for review. The moving target in

this ongoing process is ODHE's continued 3-year review cycle of current courses and the addition of new curriculum alignment options.

SSCC students have been successful in the transfer and acceptance of their courses at other institutions; thus, allowing them to save both time and money in achieving their academic and career goals. Students can track their course alignment to other institutions through tools such as *Transferology* and the *ODHE Credit Transfer web site*.

## Around the Campuses

### **P-16 Council of Fayette County**

The P-16 Council of Fayette County held its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Expo at Fayette Campus on Fri., Sept. 13. Approximately (400) 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Miami Trace and Washington City Schools attended the event. Guest speakers shared details about their individual jobs, educational requirements/opportunities, and career pathways.

The P-16 Council focuses on preschool age through college and beyond.

#### Mission statement:

*The Fayette County P-16 Council provides assistance in aligning resources that enables learners to successfully transition through the local educational environment into the global community.*

### **Washington CH City School Football Game**

SSCC was well-represented on Fri., Sept. 27, volunteering to work in the concession stand at the WCS Homecoming football game. Kudos to SSCC staff and faculty: Michelle Callender, Chyane Collins, Angie Crooks, Brenda Landis, Alyssa Murphy; and Respiratory Club student: Natasha Holloway.

### **United Way of Clinton County**

Dr. Jessica Wise and Michelle Callender attended the United Way of Clinton County's *Night to Unite* event held Thurs., Sept. 12, for Clinton County Leaders. During this event, we had an opportunity to meet with the director and staff of the UW, along with some

board members. Throughout the evening, we gained pertinent information about the group including their mission and collaboration with nearly 30 Clinton County organizations.

We look forward to becoming active community partners with the United Way of Clinton County. North Campus employees are currently participating in the hygiene products drive for county school children in need.

### **Art Show at North Campus**

SSCC's North Campus will be hosting an Art Show on Wed., Oct. 16, from 4:30-6:30pm in room 303. Please come and support the artistic talents of local students. The show will coincide with the Clinton County Chamber of Commerce's Business After-Hours.

### **Community Room at the Brown County Campus Stays Busy**

The Patriot Day activities at the Campus showed an overwhelming attendance. There, students were able to visit at different tables to learn of resources and programs available through Southern State. More pizza had to be ordered since the attendance was so strong! Thank you to Student Services and the various individuals who worked to make the event a success. The Master Gardeners have also met in the Community Room for their monthly meetings.

## Grants

### **Growing Rural Independence Together (GRIT) Application**

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission recently released requests for application for the GRIT Project. An \$8M allocation to be used over two years, is a competitive application among Adams, Brown, Highland, Pike, and Scioto Counties. Upon invitation from the Highland County Commissioners, Southern State assumed the role of lead organization representing Highland County.

Emerging from this collaboration was a concept called *Workforce READi Highland*

*County.* This \$2.3M project proposal aimed at supporting the growth and economic health of the Appalachian Ohio region of southern Ohio by addressing current barriers to employment, training, and education experienced by the region while also preparing the workforce for high-wage, in-demand careers. The intent is to mitigate the impact of barriers such as drug addiction/substance abuse, skills training, post-secondary educational attainment as well as access to high speed internet, reliable childcare, and transportation. The overarching priorities of the grant are to cultivate a region that is self-sustaining, economically healthy, and attractive for current and future development. Awards are expected to be announced later this fall. If successful, Southern State will accelerate short-term certificates in Engineering and Computer Science, while also advancing our Cybersecurity programming.

## Workforce Development, Truck Driving Academy, and Continuing Education

After a challenging month of TDA enrollment in August, the enrolled rebounded strongly with a sizable increase in September and trending into October classes.

Total Enrollment:

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
September	22	14	21
August	14	18	6
July	17	16	21

TDA continues to offer workforce training for Pepsi and most recently, R+L Carriers. R+L donated a 2010 tractor to the Truck Driving Academy for instruction and training. The equipment will be kept at the Wilmington pad and will be cycled into the equipment rotations for usage and maintenance.

## People in the News

### **Adams County Chamber of Commerce**

Karyn Evans was recently elected secretary for the Adams County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Additionally, she serves on the Annual Meeting and Nominations Committees and is assisting with a joint project between Leadership Adams and the Chamber.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

### Financial Aid

#### **2016 Cohort Default Rate**

The College received the official cohort default rate for 2016 of 21%. This rate reflects a decrease from the 2015 rate of 23.9%.

The default rate includes all loans that entered repayment Oct. 1, 2015 through Sept. 30, 2016 and defaulted by Sept. 30, 2018.

The default rate continues to decline from the initial three year rate received in 2011 of 31.4%. Efforts continue to educate borrowers prior to taking out loans around repayment along with career advising to assist in degree completion.

#### **FAFSA 20-21**

The FAFSA application opened for the 2020-21 school year on Oct. 1. In preparation for the new FAFSA filing year financial aid nights were conducted at Georgetown H. S., Greenfield McClain H.S., Lynchburg-Clay H.S. and Hillsboro H.S.

### Student Success Center

#### **Advising Center**

#### *Outreach to High School Partners*

The academic/career advisors have been assigned to local high schools within their campus community in the effort to assist the districts with advising and directing CCP students. This outreach will enable advisors to aid counselors in preparing students and families for the CCP experience, as well as ensuring that students are able to identify and move forward on their guided academic pathway to their career goals.

### ***Welcome New Advising Staff***

The Advising Center recently lost two seasoned advisors to opportunities of leadership and professional growth at other institutions.

Kimberly Ellison, from the Mt. Orab Campus, went to Shawnee State University to direct the *College First* outreach program to teens from opioid-affected home environments.

Sara Raike, from the Hillsboro Campus, has taken the position of Assistant Director of Graduate, Adult, and Seminary Student Admissions at Capital University in Columbus. A search for their replacements has just concluded and the candidates should be ready to manage their caseloads by next month.

## **Counseling Services**

### ***Professional Development***

Career and Counseling Services, in conjunction with Human Resources, presented a program to the SSCC Community and community members on the issues facing our LGBTQ students. The workshop with speaker, Joe Kort, Ph.D., resulted in a substantive discussion and concluded with positive feedback from participants.

### ***One-on-one Appointments***

A surge in appointments for both career and mental health since the Fall semester has been noticed. At this point it is not certain if it is a result of access to more convenient scheduling through EAB Navigate or if the need is on the rise.

### ***Community Outreach***

Career Services participated in the Fayette County P-16 Council sponsored Junior High Career Fair at the WCH campus. Seventh and eighth graders were presented with a workshop on *Work and Career Choice*. Students came from Washington City and Miami

Trace schools.

Career and Counseling Services is providing a seminar series at Whiteoak High School for non-college bound students. This effort, provided by our Counselor and Ms. Alison Back-Oliver, WOHS counselor, will be conducted over the course of five Fridays.

## **Tutoring Center**

### ***Tutor Recruitment and Appreciation***

The Fall semester started with 12 tutors covering 4 campuses. The Tutoring Center is actively searching to hire more tutors for subjects such as Chemistry, Math, and Accounting.

Tutor Appreciation Week is mid-October, following the challenges of mid-term week. These “warriors” earn this appreciation.

## **Student Clubs & Activities**

### **Respiratory Care Club**

The Respiratory Care Club currently has a goal of raising sufficient funds to pay for the national credentialing examinations and state licensure for each of the 11 graduates in the final class. They will host a fundraiser in cooperation with Buffalo Wild Wings in Wilmington on Wed., Nov. 6, from 4-10pm. Please be sure to mention you are there to support the Respiratory Care Club and they will donate 15% of your total bill (not including tax, gratuity, alcohol or promotional discounts) to the club.

The club held an event at this same location this past summer and were able to raise over \$200. Please share this with all of your friends and family, as all are invited to join.

The Club would also like to invite everyone to the graduating ceremony to celebrate the 11 graduating Respiratory Care students. The ceremony will take place on Sat., Dec. 7 at 2pm in the Edward K. Daniels Auditorium on Central Campus.

POSTED ON [OCTOBER 4, 2019](#) BY [TIMES GAZETTE](#)

# 'I just love helping people'

[NEWS](#), [TOP STORIES](#)

## Breaking stigma of mental illness is Patton's passion

By David Wright - For Southern State - Community College



Charlie Gorman, an associate professor, teaches students at Southern State Community College in Wilmington.

Photo by David Wright

*Editor's note – This article is one of a series of feature stories from Southern State Community College highlighting alumni and the specific degree programs they completed.*

It was not until Mariah Patton dug into her coursework at Southern State Community College that she realized substance abuse counseling is her passion.

"I loved it," Patton said. "I would do it all over again."

Patton graduated in May from Southern State Community College with an associate's degree in human and social services with a focus on chemical dependency, and is now a full-time substance

abuse counselor in Batavia. The 20-year-old from Peebles said she leads two recovery groups during the week and one on Saturdays, during which participants share their experiences and do related activities.

“I am so happy to be here,” Patton said.

College was not easy for Patton; she said she lost several family members and totaled her car while enrolled at Southern State. With help from family, classmates and professors, she was able to complete her degree and find her passion along the way.

“When I first got into the program, my heart wasn’t totally set on it. As I went through, I realized it is my passion. I just love helping people,” she said. “I love breaking the stigma of addiction.”

Charlie Gorman, who oversees the human and social services program at Southern State, said the college offers a social service track and a chemical dependency track. Those who complete the social service track qualify to register as a social worker assistant. Those who complete the chemical dependency track can become a licensed chemical dependency counselor after 2,000 hours of supervision at a counseling agency.

Many students are already working in their fields well before graduation, Gorman said, thanks to partnerships with area facilities and a need for staffing in the area.

“There are just not enough qualified people in the field,” Gorman said. “It doesn’t take rocket science to realize just how many clients there are and how few people there are to help them. There are too many people and not enough providers... It’s reaching a crisis state.”

Gorman said with partnerships between Southern State and other four-year universities, students who want to pursue higher education in their field are able to attain a bachelor’s degree in two years after graduating from Southern State.

According to Gorman, associate’s degree graduates can go into the developmental disability field, children’s services, mental health counseling and chemical dependency counseling.

Gorman said some students come from a recovery background themselves wanting to help others who have experienced the same thing.

“Some of our students have been caught in the cycles of domestic violence, the cycles of poverty,” he said. “They are coming from the very groups and systems they are going to be working in.”

Gorman said his students often “become very connected to one another and help each other through the stuff of life over the two-year period.”

Gorman said when he began in the counseling field in 1987, 80 percent of the client population he served abused alcohol. When he left the field to pursue teaching in 2005, the majority of the client population were polysubstance users.

“Why I chose to come here was the fact that I knew my contemporaries were getting older and we needed to put new people in the field – people with a high sensitivity to our clients and who won’t discriminate against those who use drugs or alcohol... We like the idea of training these students to take our place.”

Patton said getting an education of any kind is not easy, but she encouraged would-be students to follow their dreams – just try higher education.

“I would just say go for it and don’t give up,” she said. “There will be challenges, and there will be days when you want to give up and quit. But in the end, it’s so rewarding.”

For more information about Southern State’s Human and Social Services Program, visit [www.sccc.edu](http://www.sccc.edu), email Charlie Gorman at [cgorman@sccc.edu](mailto:cgorman@sccc.edu), or call 800.628.7722, ext. 4625.

*David Wright is a local journalist and freelance writer.*



**Department  
of Education**

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction

October 11, 2019

Southern State Community College  
100 Hobart Dr.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

Dear President Boys,

Thank you for providing evidence of having completed work as noted in your Voluntary Compliance Plan. With the required information completed, we hereby conclude your on-site civil rights review for fiscal year 2018.

We encourage you to monitor the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights website continuously for updates that may have a direct impact on the operations of your college. Thank you for your attention to this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'MWard'.

Michelle Ward  
MOA/OCR Coordinator  
Office of Career-Technical Education  
614-466-5576