

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



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2020 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

## **North Campus Release of Request for Proposals**

Following the Special Meeting of September 4, on Tuesday, September 8, I hand delivered Requests for Proposals to Clinton County, City of Wilmington, and Clinton County Port Authority officials.

## **Vice President Pence Conference Call with College Presidents**

I participated in a scheduled conference call with Vice President Pence and members of his COVID-19 Task Force on September 4. Although informative, the bulk of the call was directed toward keeping positive cases of residential students on or near their campuses during significant outbreaks.

## **Conference Call with Ohio Speaker of the House, Robert Cupp**

Newly elected Ohio House Speaker Bob Cupp convened a call with the state's 23 community college presidents on August 28. This is the first time in my ten years of service that a House Speaker has taken the initiative to convene a meeting with all of the presidents. He spent most of the call listening to our priorities which included civil immunity protections from coronavirus claims and needed capital appropriations. I thanked the Speaker for his previous work on a proposed K-12 school funding formula and suggested that much potential lies with some "tweaks" to the formula that would strengthen the connection between K-12, community colleges, and the workforce.

## **COVID19 Coordinator Updates**

In your packets are weekly updates to all students and staff that are distributed by email. I believe you will find them most informative. Since the beginning of fall term, and as of the date



of this writing, we have had a total of three cases: one tested positive, one presumptive case (tested, results not known), and one close contact of a positive family member (not tested, self-quarantined). Close contact is defined by local health officials as being within 6 feet, unmasked for 15 minutes or longer.

## **Use of Facilities**

We have placed the following notice on our web site:

“Although Southern State's campuses are used primarily for academic purposes, we receive a number of requests throughout the year to use the facilities for other functions such as community events, athletic competitions, meetings/conferences and other social activities. **Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and our efforts to respond to evolving health orders, we are suspending this availability for the remainder of the 2020-21 academic year.**”

## **Board and Commission Appointments**

My term on the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges was completed earlier this summer, but a year of transitioning off of this board includes an appointment to one of the association's commissions. At my request I have been appointed to the Commission on Small and Rural Colleges. Subsequently, I was appointed to serve on the board of the Rural Community College Alliance, a group with which I have been affiliated over the years. Interestingly, the interim president of the organization, Dr. Penelope Wells, served as a long-time president in Prescott, Arizona but originally was born and raised in Brown County, Ohio!

## **Operation Thank You**

Enclosed in your packet is some communication regarding “Operation Thank You,” an initiative conducted by the Human Resources Department to provide a tangible and visible way to recognize and say thank you to the full-time faculty and staff who have persevered some trying times these past five months, yet continued to serve our students so capably.

## President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- Video Conference with Clark State Representatives re: DOL Opioid Grant
- Meeting with Wilmington College Representative
- Campus Tours with Potential Buyers at SSCC's Wilmington Campus
- SSCC and Wilmington College Orientation Video Recording
- Communications with Chancellor Gardner and ODOT Regional Director Mike Dombrowsky regarding a review of the Mt. Orab ODOT Project
- SSCC All-College Meeting
- Deep Dives with Trimeka Benjamin & Dr. Merrill Irving: The Impact of Race, Social Justice, and the College President's Role (via Zoom)
- Ascendium Education Group & Community Colleges of Appalachia Introduction Call
- Visit to Wilmington College SSCC Classes, Brown County and Fayette Campuses
- Conference Call with USDA and American Association of Community Colleges
- Conference Call with House Speaker Bob Cupp and OACC Presidents
- Ohio Means Jobs Employer Roundtable (via Zoom)
- Equity and Inclusion Workshop for CAOs and Guests (via Zoom)
- Calls with Community Colleges of Appalachia Representative
- Discussion about TDA Simulator (via Zoom)
- Conference Call with Chair of Board of Directors of the Rural Community College Alliance
- Special Meeting with SSCC Board of Trustees

## Upcoming Events

Campus events have been cancelled through the remainder of the fall.

# ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

## A Success by All Accounts

Recent headlines might cause the casual observer to question any institution's decision to reopen campus amidst the ongoing pandemic. Larger universities in the region are actively grappling with how to safely reopen while managing hundreds of students who

are testing positive for COVID-19. While some may argue, and they would be correct, that the absence of student housing makes things easier, it doesn't negate the fact that responsible re-openings of our campus has taken extensive planning, immeasurable cooperation, and precise attention to detail.

Southern State Community College and all of its faculty, staff, and students have much from which to take pride. On August 24, amid an ongoing worldwide, health pandemic, the College successfully launched 285 courses in a variety of modalities including face-to-face, traditional hybrid, split hybrid, flex (8 weeks), and synchronous and asynchronous online classes (Table 1). Additionally, nearly 100 more sections are underway or will launch through the partner sites at local high schools. And, as if it weren't enough to simply host the classes, the entire College should take extra pride in an **efficiency or "fill rate"** of over 70%. During a time when class schedules and delivery modalities have twisted everyone in new and foreign directions, the College is realizing the highest efficiency rates in recent history.

**Table 1: Distribution of Campus-based Courses**

<b>COURSE TYPE</b>	<b># CLASSES OFFERED</b>	<b>% OF TOTAL CLASSES</b>	<b>TAUGHT BY FT FACULTY</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>TAUGHT BY ASSOCIATE FACULTY</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Face-to-Face</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>28.5%</b>	49	60%	32	40%
<b>Online</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	102	72%	39	28%
<b>Hybrid</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22%</b>	28	44%	35	56%
-Traditional	35	56%	16	46%	19	54%
-Split	28	44%	12	43%	16	57%
<b>CCP Site</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Because the days of simple explanations about course delivery are long gone, this list of definitions may help clarify the diversity of course delivery methods.

Definitions:

- **Asynchronous** online learning has no set meeting times for students. Work can be done on the student's own schedule, although deadlines are set for submitting work and assignments. Examples of asynchronous work: discussion board postings, online tests, drafts of reports, papers, final projects, etc.

- **Synchronous** online learning can include all of the above, but also requires students to attend regularly scheduled ZOOM sessions that more closely approximate a face-to-face class.
- **CCP Site** refers to those courses that are delivered at the high school location, frequently taught by credentialed instructors who regularly teach at that school.
- **Face-to-Face** refers to courses physically meeting in a classroom for the required days/times which align with credit hours, lab hours, contact hours, clinical hours, etc.
- **Traditional Hybrid** = Students meet face-to-face typically half of the time required while conducting the other portion of the class in an online format using the CANVAS.
- **Split Hybrid** = Students meet face-to-face one day and attend via ZOOM the second day, while supplementing with CANVAS.

### **An Emphasis on Training**

In the days and weeks leading up to the fall term, a time when most faculty are putting finishing touches on their course syllabus and prepping for lectures, our faculty were immersed in the added responsibilities of learning new technologies, CANVAS implementation, and online course quality reviews.

Thanks to the College's continued investment in distance learning and the added leverage of federal CARES Act funding, the College was able to accelerate the acquisition of equipment while also increasing the training opportunities to build comfort with the new tools and expectations regarding quality in distance education.

In total, there were 25 full-time faculty (13), associate faculty (11), and staff members (1) who participated in Zoom Hybrid Course/Smart TV training, 34 individuals participated in a special guest presentation entitled, "Distance Learning Student Engagement & Faculty Presence," and nearly 35 individuals were involved in quality reviews of distance learning and various Q/A sessions. This is in addition to the countless hours faculty have spent with the Instructional Technology team in course preparation and troubleshooting.

Special thanks to those who have tirelessly worked to provide these trainings and reviews so that student have a favorable experience. Specifically, "thank you" to the

following:

**Mr. Sam Ginn**, Associate Faculty Member, Philosophy/Instructional Design Consultant – Online Course Design Quality Reviews and General Q/A Sessions and Special Presentation: *Best Practices in Distance Education*

**Dr. Mary Hriko**, Director of Library Services, Kent State University - Special Guest Presentation: *Distance Learning Student Engagement & Faculty Presence*

**Mr. Travis Martin**, Associate Professor of Accounting - Zoom Hybrid/SMART TV Training and Q/A sessions

**Ms. Angel Mootispaw**, Director of Instructional Technology – Comprehensive leadership and support of instructional technology and related services.

**Dr. Sara Nielsen**, Instructor of Chemistry – Special Presentation: *CANVAS Gradebook Basics*

**Ms. Tracy Adkins**, Contracted Instructional Design Support assisting with quality design reviews and distance learning implementation.

**Mr. Brian Rice**, Executive Director of Technology and the entire IT Team (Katy Markey, Shirley Cornwell, Jessica Steadman, Justin Hamilton, Roberta Latham, Bob Snellman, and Gary Jones) – Champions for technology acquisition, implementation, and troubleshooting

**Ms. Cathy Zile**, Academic Technology Support Specialist – Resident CANVAS expert and general consultant for all things CANVAS and instructional technology/never ending, open line for Q/A and troubleshooting.

**The Library Team** (Meg, Betty, Becca, Tim, and Holly) – Champions for all faculty and for offering assistance wherever it is needed

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

## Registrar

### Summer Graduates

We have 34 students who completed their degree requirements during the Summer Semester. Diplomas will be mailed out to students within the next few weeks.

Degrees/Certificates	Conferred 8/4/2020
AA	20
AS	9
AAB	1
AAS	3
ATS	1

### Fall Registration

We have just closed out the second week of registrations. We will be reviewing attendance data and dropping students for non-attendance and non-payment at the beginning of next week. As of today, we still have 12 CCP site locations that have not yet registered their students. This stems from delayed starts at the high schools due to the pandemic. Final enrollment data should be available near the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the semester.

## Financial Aid

### Financial Aid Year End Close

The Financial Aid office is in the process of closing out the 2019-20 financial aid award year. Below are totals of federal financial aid and scholarships disbursed for the year ending September 30.

Pell Grants:	\$2,919,659
Federal Student Loans:	\$2,549,155
Foundation Scholarships:	\$45,700

Trustee Scholarships: \$142,925

Additionally beginning in May, \$419,840 in CARES funds has been sent directly to students through the emergency grant provided through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

## **Admissions/Recruitment**

### **Wilmington College Orientation**

A link to a “Zoom orientation” was shared with 64 students attending classes on the Wilmington College Campus. These students received this information via email and US mail. Included in the email and US mail was a parking permit and a campus map.

### **Welcome Back**

SSCC Face Masks and Welcome Back Brochures were mailed on three separate occasions to a total of 1969 students. To ensure we reach late registrations, another mailing will go out the week of September 14.

### **College Credit Plus**

The newly formed CCP Focus Group is planning to have the first “official” meeting on October 28 at 10:00am via Zoom and in-person in room 403.02. This group will discuss updates, challenges, strategies and more. The plan is to meet twice per year. We have invited internal staff/administration and several area guidance counselors to attend.

CCP Info night requests have begun to come in. We plan to conduct both a virtual session and in person sessions (if the district allows). We also plan to have a recorded presentation that can be shared as needed.

### **Recruitment**



Since the launch of the social media “Request More Info” campaign in March 2020, we have received nearly 600 requests for more information.

OACAC college fairs have been cancelled for the upcoming recruiting season. OACAC has partnered with StriveScan to facilitate 2 virtual sessions. SSCC will participate in both. The first session will take place on October 1 at 7:00pm, and the second on November 12 at 7:00pm. All information pertaining to registration, how to attend, etc. is being shared with area high school counselors. We will also promote on social media.

We are currently working to coordinate school visits for the upcoming recruiting season. We will provide virtual and in person visits based on preferences of each school district.

## **Student Success Center**

The “theme” of Student Success this month is “relocation”. Closure of the Wilmington campus and construction at the Hillsboro campus has necessitated the relocation of all of the centers.

### **Advising Center**

The pandemic changed the way we provided services to our students and now virtual connections have become significant means for interaction with our students. The five weeks before the start of the academic year produced over half of the registrations for the fall. The Advisors were meeting students by phone, email, Zoom, Navigate and face to face. It was a very, very busy summer.

As we begin to transition from the start-up to the follow-up with our new students, the Advising Center hub (located at the Hillsboro campus) has quickly packed up and moved down to hallway in order to start the space transition for the Library.

### **Counseling Services**

Counseling Services transitioned to virtual communication with students during the Spring term and has seen good receptivity to this delivery of services. The counselor is able to respond in a more-timely manner to students in need without the additional drive.

Career Services is also transitioning to more virtual delivery of resources. Students will be able to access instructional videos for job readiness and resume development as well as web-based interest inventories and motivational assessments.

### **Testing Center**

When Wilmington campus closed, the primary Testing Center relocated to the Washington Court House campus. Now in its' final stages of transition and set-up, this Testing Center should be back online by the end of September. The Hillsboro center will go off-line at the first of October, as it moves out of the construction area and down the hall. As certified PearsonVue testing centers for industry certifications, both the community and our students benefit greatly from these resources.

### **Tutoring Center**

Tutoring was entirely virtual during the last of spring and all of summer terms. While some face to face options have been added – carefully – Zoom has been a valued resource for academic support. Two tutoring labs needed to be moved (Wilmington/Hillsboro), so face-to-face services are only at Washington Court House and Mt. Orab campuses during construction.

## **Student Clubs & Activities**

### **Phi Theta Kappa**

#### **Leadership**

2020-2021 Officer applications remain available for open positions through the canvas course with active recruitment efforts. Annual officer elections were held in May.

Jennifer Music has resigned her position as President due to not being an enrolled student for Fall 2020. Brock Morris, Executive Vice President has accepted serving as the President for the chapter.

#### **Events**

Honors in Action Regional Conference was held virtually on July 18 and attended by the chapter advisor and the chapter president. This activity contributes to the chapter goal of reaching a 5-star status.

The spring semester induction and orientation have been postponed until a date can be determined in Fall Semester.

### **College Projects**

PTK is leading the health ambassador project for the college. This will serve as the chapter's college project for submission as a Hallmark Award and will also contribute towards the 4-star requirements.

The chapter will be coordinating a leadership initiative in the form of a lunch and learn.

### **Membership**

23 new members were added to the chapter's membership roster during the summer semester. Invitations were released to 299 students who achieved eligibility after completion of Summer Semester 2020.

### **Scholarship**

The Golden Opportunity Scholarship is awarded to 300 PTK eligible students who demonstrate financial need. The chapter has submitted the maximum allowed (3 students per chapter) for this scholarship that provides a \$60 waiver for the national portion of the total \$99 membership fee.

We are excited and pleased to announce that two of our students, Brock Morris and Christian Weseloh, have been named 2020 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholars and will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

- Here is the press release published on August 24:  
<https://highlandcountypress.com/Content/In-The-News/Education/Article/2-Southern-State-students-named-2020-Coca-Cola-Leaders-of-Promise-Scholars/2/75/59544>
- The Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program helps new Phi Theta Kappa members defray educational expenses while enrolled in associate degree programs.

Scholars are encouraged to assume leadership roles by participating in Society programs and are selected based on scholastic achievement, community service and leadership potential. Nearly 700 applications were received.

A total of \$207,000 is awarded through the Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation provides \$200,000 in funding for the scholarships, with \$25,000 set aside for members who are veterans or active members of the United States military. The remaining amount is supported by donations to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation and provides seven Global Leaders of Promise Scholarships, earmarked for international students.

“The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding students at community colleges,” said Jane Hale Hopkins, President of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. “We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa to make it possible for more deserving students to achieve their educational goals and support tomorrow’s leaders of the global community.”

The funds provided by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation not only aid college completion, but also give students the opportunity to engage in Society programs and develop leadership skills to become future leaders in their communities.

“Research shows that Phi Theta Kappa members are four times more likely to complete a college degree than their peers,” said Dr. Monica Marlowe, Executive Director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation. “The Leaders of Promise Scholarships recognize students for what they have achieved already and assure that financial need isn’t an obstacle to achieving their academic goals.”

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations, with approximately 240,000 active members in the nation’s colleges.