

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



MARCH 2022 | DR. NICOLE ROADES, VP OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS | INTERIM PRESIDENT DURING DR. BOYS' SABATTICAL

## **Southern State Team Participates in Winter Student Success Leadership Institute**

The Ohio Association of Community College's Success Center hosted the Winter 2022 Student Success Leadership Institute (SSLI) on February 24 and 25. Representatives from Ohio's 23 colleges convened in Columbus and virtually for a series of workshops focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as targeted data sessions aimed at evaluating local progress on a variety of success factors and performance in the State's Performance Based Funding Model. Among the key performance indicators, the Southern State team was pleased to see modest upticks in the work aimed at reducing student's time in developmental education and passing gateway courses in the first year. Additionally, many credit momentum points were trending upward and exceeding the OACC average at the 6, 12, 15, and 24 credit hour marker for 1<sup>st</sup> year students. Trend analysis of Southern State's performance in the funding model suggests that growing enrollment should continue to be a primary target alongside associate and certificate completion.

## **COVID Update**

As quickly as the Omicron variant reached record peaks in the early part of 2022, the spread has significantly diminished in the last month. You have likely observed and heard news of new guidelines and recommendations from the CDC and local health departments, particularly for areas with decreasing transmission rates. As the College returns from a well-deserved spring break, the health protocols currently being observed will be reevaluated in accordance with CDC and local health department guidelines.

## **Grant Performance Measures Exceeded in FY 2021**

The purpose of the Carl D. Perkins grant is to assist school districts and colleges in improving secondary and postsecondary-level career and technical education programs. The main priority is to close the achievement gap. Locally, the Perkins grant includes goals and priorities centering on innovation, aligning short-term credentials to meet labor market needs, and improving access and equity. The federal government establishes local targets in the areas of program placement, earned recognized postsecondary credit, and non-traditional program

concentration. Participating institutions are expected to be at 90% of the performance target. For FY21, Southern State, exceeded that threshold in every category. Congratulations to program manager, Amy McClellan and the many faculty and staff who actively participate in leveraging this grant to help close the achievement gap. Funding for FY22 is \$60,554.

### **President's Activities and Involvement**

Since his last report, President Boys has been involved in the following meetings, calls and events:

- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- SSCC All-College Virtual Meeting
- OACC Presidents' Bi-Weekly Meetings
- 2022 Workforce Development Institute Prep Meeting
- Strengthening Rural Community Colleges Initiative Listening Session
- Chancellor Gardner's Mental Health Meeting
- Meeting with Potential Legacy Wall Vendor
- Virtual Annual Counselor Luncheon
- Grow Highland Planning Session
- Board Retreat Planning Session with Dr. Bradley Ebersole
- Meeting with Laurel Oaks Representative
- Community Colleges of Appalachia (CCA) Executive Committee Meeting
- SSCC Foundation Board Quarterly Call
- AACC Workforce Development Institute (Jacksonville, FL)

As Interim President, I have been involved in the following meetings, calls and events:

- Hosted Congressman Wenstrup to Health Sciences Center Tour
- Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (VRDC) Broadband Updated
- OVRDC Highland County Caucus Meeting
- ODHE Strengthening Ohio's HS Math Pathway Webinar
- Quarterly SSCC Foundation Meeting
- Faculty Senate
- OACC Presidents' and CAO Bi-Weekly Meetings
- EAB/SSCC Leadership Team Call
- Interviews for Chief Academic Officer Position
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce "Coffee and Commerce" Networking Event

- SSCC Board Retreat Planning Conference Call
- Administrative Commencement Planning Meeting
- OACC Student Success Center’s Winter Institute
- OACC Presidents Intel Announcement Call
- GRIT Monthly Meeting, Youth Meeting, and Adult Meeting
- Clinton County Business Advisory Meeting
- Strategic Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE) Covid Response Monthly Meeting
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Financial Sustainability Webinar Series: 1/31 - Strategic Enrollment Management; 2/14 - Exploring New Business Models; and 2/28 - Strategic Partnerships and Affiliations
- Building Bridges: Highland County Think Tank Meeting
- ODHE Southeast Regional Health Program Alliance
- US Dept. of Education HEERF III Technical Assistance Webinar

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### In the News

#### **Mootispaw Presents at the 2022 Quality Matters Research Conference**

Quality Matters (QM) is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments. For many years, Southern State has turned to QM to help shape and improve the quality of our distance education delivery.

As part of QM’s national conference on February 17, Angel Mootispaw, Director of Instructional Technology, presented, “QM, Quality Assurance, & Course Templates.” The presentation provided research supporting the claim that course design is essential to online learning, yet it is the least developed aspect of online learning pedagogy in high education. Between the continued growth of distance learning enrollments and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the need for quality course design is essential to student success and is critical to the sustainability of community colleges.

#### **Dr. Montgomery Accepts Major Role in Ohio Code Scholar Pilot Project**

In H.B. 110, Section 3313.905, Southern State Community College was identified as the fiduciary agent for the Ohio Code Scholars supported by Representative Wilkin. This

pilot project was largely conceptualized by Representative Wilkin and the late Dr. Shane Shope. Upon Dr. Shope's unfortunate passing, the College assumed responsibility in managing the project and fulfilling Dr. Shope and Mr. Wilkin's vision for integrating coding and other information technology skills in the curriculum among partner schools in southern Ohio. Dr. Josh Montgomery, Associate Professor of Computer Science, has graciously accepted the role of liaison between the College and the project stakeholders. Joining with administrative support from Ms. Amy McClellan, the team is eager to shape a meaningful coalition aimed at extending young people's exposure to skills needed for some of the State and nation's highest-demand occupations.

## **Program Updates**

### **Law Enforcement Aims to Increase Enrollment in New Location**

The law enforcement program, including the Basic Peace Officer Training Academy, has been offered at the Fayette Campus for nearly a decade. In June 2022, the program, including the Academy, will relocate to the Central Campus in Hillsboro. A team of internal stakeholders met in February to begin mapping strategies to increase enrollment, enhance the consistency of the Academy, and strengthen relationships with local departments. Through the leadership of faculty member Robin Roche, and Academy Commander, Ron Fithen, the team is looking forward to a new opportunity to reach students in a central location within the region and continue carrying forth the legacy of this program.

### **Medical Assisting Implements a Stackable Approach**

In response to market demands, the Medical Assisting program has introduced a stackable approach to earning a degree. Leveraging the Medical Assisting Applied Science Degree and certificate programs in Medical Assisting Technology, as well as Phlebotomy, students are able to earn milestone credentials as they work through the curriculum. Among the various credentials embedded in this pathway include:

- Certified Medical Administrative Assistant (CMAA)
- Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CMCS)
- Certified Coding Assistant (CCA)
- Certified Medical Administrative Specialist (CMAS)
- Certified Medical Assistant (CMA)
- Registered Medical Assistant (RMA)
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA)

## Workforce Development and Grants

### Truck Driving Academy

- Congratulations to JT Smith, TDA Director, on his appointment as a member of the Master Training Committee, who is working with the Ohio Department of Public Safety on reviewing and refining policies pertaining to driver training in Ohio.
- Enrollment, while stressed during the Pandemic, remains relatively stable, trending slightly behind previous year's overall enrollment at this point.

Month	2019-2020 AY	2020-2021 AY	2021-2022 AY
November	22	16	14
December	14	16	13
January	19	16	13

## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

### Recruitment/Admissions

#### College Credit Plus

Southern State hosted two virtual information sessions for College Credit Plus. The sessions were very well attended with approximately 200 students joining the virtual meeting.

The annual counselor luncheon was held in January. The virtual event was well attended, with approximately 20 secondary school partners participating.

#### Recruitment

This office worked with the Nursing Department to increase recruitment efforts for the ADN program at Central Campus. The goal was to increase the applicant pool for the 22/23 academic year.

Work has also been done with Marketing and Advising on outreach efforts in preparation for the Law Enforcement/BPOTA move to Central Campus for the fall semester.

Virtual campus visits are now live on the website. Also, 11 in-person campus visits were conducted at the Central Campus and 4 at the Mt. Orab Campus.

## Financial Aid

### FY2019 Draft Cohort Default Rate

Our 2019 draft Cohort Default Rate (CDR) is 4.5. Comparing this rate to prior years, we are trending downward which is the right direction. There is caution associated with the 2019 draft CDR due to recent changes to student loan repayment.

2018 – 14.6

2017- 18.1

2016- 21.0

2015- 23.9

Key points for the 2019 CDR:

1. The 2019 cohort represents borrowers who went into repayment in 2019 and defaulted in 2019, 2020 or 2021. The student loan payment pause started in March 2020 when student loan payments were suspended, collection on defaulted loans suspended and interest rates set to 0%. If you consider that student loans generally go into repayment 6 months after a student was enrolled at least 6 credit hours, there is a substantial number of student loan borrowers from 2019 that have never entered repayment if they continued enrollment up through September 2019.
2. The borrower relief is due to end and student loan payments resume May 2022. The decrease in enrollment over the course of the pandemic, combined with the resumption of student loan repayment will likely produce rising cohort default rates starting with the 2020 cohort.
3. SSCC has continued a conservative packaging philosophy that does not automatically package student loans and requires that a student who does request loans must confirm their acceptance to define their intent to borrow funds needed to pay tuition and fees or to borrow funds for other expenses.
4. SSCC has contracted the services of StudentConnections to reach out to our student loan borrowers, including former students, to discuss the resumption of student loan

payments as well as guide students new to repayment toward successful loan repayment plans. Through February 25, StudentConnections staff had made 3,000 contacts to student loan borrowers (approximately 1,100 individual borrowers) who would be expected to resume repayment in May. These contacts could have been via phone, email and/or texts.

### **HEERF III/ARP Student Aid Funding – Spring Semester**

Beginning with an available spending balance of \$904,563, we have awarded \$337,500 to 533 students as student emergency grants and awarded \$25,500 to 41 students to assist with tuition balances, as well as emergency expenses. After Spring break, we plan to award block grants to Pell grant students who are enrolled Spring 2022 semester. The grant award amount has not been finalized.

### **2022-2023 Financial Aid Processing**

Financial Aid staff are preparing to process 2022-2023 FAFSA data after Spring break, including sending notifications to FAFSA filers of available Pell grant awards and the student loan request process.

## **Student Success Center**

### **Building the virtual presence**

The Student Success team continues to build a virtual presence for our students for accessibility and convenience. Students are no longer standing in lines to get registered, meet face-to-face with an advisor, or try to find their course schedule. Southern State staff in IT, Student Services, Library, and Academic Affairs work on processes to allow for self-service, virtual access, and 24 hour availability. Student Success and Student Services' staff work together as a team to streamline the virtual registration confirmation for student convenience and assurance.

### **Counseling Services**

Counselor, Tom Payton, has worn several hats to help fill in the Student Services and Academic Affairs needs. During the pandemic, Mr. Payton picked up courses needing appropriate faculty. The Academic advisors added career coaching to their skill set, as a part of the holistic approach for best practices in a community college. That skill training has helped prepare for the next transition of sending Mr. Payton to full-time

faculty status in Fall. Personal counseling needs will continue to be covered by the local resources serving the various communities.

## **Records/Registrar**

### **Registration**

Summer semester registration opened on February 14 for Veterans/Service Members, February 21 for sophomores, and February 22 for freshmen/new students.

Fall semester registration is scheduled to open after Spring break on Monday, March 14 for Veterans/Service Members, March 21 for sophomores, and March 22 for freshman/new students.

### **Attendance Policy**

Attached is an outline of SSCC's attendance policy. Although the policy was being enforced each semester for compliance with federal aid policy, it was not published in our catalog as an official "attendance policy". We would like to adopt the written policy and have it included in SSCC's published college catalog.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

The following will be added to the list of numbered violations contained within the SSCC Student Code of Conduct:

"Being under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, or other controlled substances while on College premises or while participating in College connected activities at off campus locations"

## **Student Clubs and Activities**

### **Patriot Campus Ministry**

#### **Meetings**

- PCM student leadership – Racquel Browder, Vanessa Rice and Jamison Reed are developing the ministry plan.



- Branding is completed with the assistance of marketing. The website is active and updated and can be found under Student Activities:  
<https://www.sccc.edu/students/patriot-campus-ministries.shtml>
- The club has a weekly student-led Bible study on Tuesdays at 1:00pm with lunch provided.

### **Activities**

- PCM will collaborate with PTK on the Hope Project which includes activities that foster hope in our students and staff.
- On March 14-17, the Hope Project will launch with MyIntent bracelet making, the Upscale Bake Sale, and coffee truck will be the first outreach activity and will serve as a fundraiser to support the ministry.

## **Phi Theta Kappa**

### **Leadership**

Applications are being accepted for all 2022-2023 officer positions.

### **Events**

The Ohio Region Hallmark Awards Conference will be held March 4-5 at Sinclair Community College. Three advisors, three officers, two members, and two guests from Wilmington College will be attending.

Catalyst 2022 will be held on April 7-9 in Aurora, CO and will be attended by one advisor and two officers.

### **Projects & Research**

#### College Project

- The chapter will meet with SSCC administration to provide an outcome summary of the 2021 Health Ambassador college project and proposals for the 2022 college project.

- The 2022 proposal for The Hope Project was enthusiastically received and mutually agreed upon that the chapter move forward with implementation.
  - The project will consist of student focus groups and surveys to identify priorities in relieving student inconveniences that create obstacles in our students achieving success.
  - The chapter will be taking orders for cookie grams as a way to celebrate the return from spring break and St. Patrick's Day. Each order will come with a positive message from the sender.

#### The Honors in Action Project

- The 2021 Resilience in Children project concluded with positive survey feedback from parents.
- The Art and Science of Play is the 2022-2024 Honors Study Guide Topic.
  - A meeting with Dr. Josh Montgomery, Advisors Russ Clark & Susan Morris, and 4 members of the E-sports team was held on February 25 to discuss a collaboration for 2022 HIA project activities.
  - PTK and E-sports team members, Richard Bradshaw and John Hall, will be taking the lead on the HIA project to develop the theme and begin research.

#### **Scholarship**

Three students were submitted for the Golden Opportunity Scholarship through which the \$60 international fee will be covered for membership.

#### **Membership**

- 394 new Fall eligibility invitations were sent January 19.
- Eleven new members, one honorary member, and one transfer member for a total of 13 members have been added between January 1 and March 1.
- The Spring Induction Ceremony will be held on April 14 at 7:00pm in the auditorium with a virtual option available.

## **Attendance Policy**

To ensure the commitment to student success, attendance is required in all courses regardless of course modality (*in-person, online, or hybrid*). Attendance is physical attendance within a classroom or participation in an academic-related activity. Logging into MyCanvas does not constitute attendance.

### **Procedure:**

1. Using the *federal financial aid definition for attendance*, instructors must report attendance from the first two weeks of courses to the Registrar's Office within the MyRecords portal no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the term (or 20% date for courses with a flexible start or end date).
2. A student reported as NEVER attending, within the first two weeks of a full-semester course or first 20% of a flexibly scheduled course, will be dropped from the course and have all tuition charges removed from their account.
3. Students dropped for non-attendance will be notified via their SSCC email account.
4. Students who receive federal financial aid or College Credit Plus funding who are dropped, may have all or a portion of their funding removed.