

Southern State Community College

February 2011 President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Kevin Boys, President

Strategic Vision and 2011 Goals

I am asking that the Board of Trustees take formal action to approve the Strategic Vision and identified goals for 2011. I appreciate the level of involvement of board members, faculty, staff, administration, students and community representatives in helping to articulate this renewed vision and to develop the initial steps that will take us toward becoming "your first-choice college." The progress on these goals would then serve as an important basis for measuring the success of the college and its leadership.

Truck Driving Academy

There was some discussion regarding the current financial deficit of the Truck Driving Academy at the recent retreat, and it appears that there is need for additional discussion. You will recall in my November and December President's Report that I communicated the need for a tuition increase if the Truck Driving is to remain self-sufficient. I have asked John Joy to provide additional information to you prior to any increase. You will note this presentation on the agenda for Wednesday's meeting.

Board Policy Manual

I just received the enclosed update from the Attorney General's office. I would ask that the board take some time to review this revision to make sure that it addresses the concerns that were raised at the retreat. Because of the importance of this work, I will delay asking for the Board's approval of the manual until the March meeting.

President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Leadership Adams Education Project Committee Meeting
- SSCC Leadership Council Luncheon Meeting (Directors, Deans, Vice Presidents)
- Board Retreat
- Rotary Club
- Conference with Attorney General's Office on Board Policy Manual
- Trade Adjustment Assistance Grant Meetings and Conference Calls
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Board
- Brown County Chamber of Commerce's Awards Breakfast
- Ohio Educational Technology Conference
- SSCC EDUC 102 "Foundations of Education"

Academic Affairs Report

Technology Keeps Class on Track

Technology has kept some classes on track despite the snow days experienced this term. Kristi Hall, full-time business/computer science faculty member states, "The classes in my program are all on track because of Blackboard and Live Classroom. We have been able to stay current and have class anyway. I think this speaks to how important it is we at SSCC continue to embrace technology and make future commitments to further advance our technology."

With the addition of Ben Filla as the new distance education coordinator, it is anticipated many more classes at the college will be able to continue uninterrupted due to inclement weather, as more faculty receive support and training in the use of online technologies and pedagogy.

Respiratory Program Update

Of the 18 students who graduated from the Respiratory Care Program in December, 16 have already passed the Certified Respiratory Therapist exam and five have passed the Registered Respiratory Therapist exam. Both exams are nationally recognized. Additionally, 12 have obtained some type of employment in the respiratory field.

CSCI and OFIT Departments Utilize Latest Office Technology

Computer science and office information technology students will be utilizing the latest office application technology with the introduction of Microsoft Office 2010 beginning summer quarter 2011 across all four campus locations. This updated version will help prepare students for the ever-changing world of office applications and technology enhancements. Some of the technology changes forthcoming with this new edition will be:

- a. Office tools available on web, desktop, and smartphone assisting with better communication over various platforms;
- b. Unified communications technology across applications;
- c. Improved data visualization techniques;
- d. Dynamic multimedia presentation impacts through utilization of audio and video technologies and actual video editing within applications;
- e. Common toolbar throughout all office applications;
- f. Integration with office web apps to view and edit documents without requiring Microsoft Office;
- g. Presentations easily converted to video file formats that can be distributed on portable media players like iPods; and
- h. Built-in screen capture capabilities within all applications.

Julia Basham, assistant professor, states, "We are all looking forward to the exciting and innovative changes with integration and communication in our teaching environments and can't wait to share these technologies with our students."

Building Industry Relationships, One Part at a Time

When Weastec was looking at ways to efficiently modify a design on one of their products, they contacted Tom Stroup, associate professor, engineering. Before modifications could take place on the product, Weastec needed to have a few of these prototypes made to test for the bending or twisting of the part. The specifications of the pieces needed were sent to SSCC, and Tom was able to produce the prototypes with the available technology and equipment also utilized to teach the engineering students.

Nursing Updates

The new nursing curriculum begins in March. According to Dr. Julianne Krebs, nursing program director, "We are excited about the implementation and forecasted improved outcomes. Faculty and staff have put forth a lot of work in revising the curriculum." The PN Program also had 100-percent first-time pass rate. Congratulations to students, faculty and staff.

Adjunct Faculty Orientation

In an effort to better prepare adjunct faculty for the classroom, on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011, the Adjunct Faculty Committee held its third Adjunct Faculty Orientation at Central Campus. Approximately 45 adjunct faculty members and one new full-time instructor attended the orientation. Several full-time faculty, seasoned adjunct faculty, academic administrators, student services, and LRC personnel participated in the event by facilitating sessions to review such topics as classroom policies and management, syllabus requirements, college policies, available technology, and best practices in the classroom. There were also break-out sessions for each campus and an opportunity for departments to meet. Three additional orientations are being planned for 2011 in March, August, and December.

Dr. Robert I. Headley to Retire

Dr. Bob Headley, professor of English, has given notice that he will retire at the end of the winter term. Bob began his career at SSCC in January 1985. Dr. Headley has served as the North Campus interim director and for several years has been the coordinator of the annual writing competition. He has presented at numerous conferences and most recently participated in the Western Literature Conference. Dr. Headley is to be commended for his service to students and to the College.

Corporate and Community Services

Workforce Development

The monthly Resource Board meeting of the Highland County Enterprise Initiative (HCEI) was conducted on Jan. 19. The Resource Board works closely with Enterprise Facilitator Sid Raisch to provide free, confidential assistance to new and existing entrepreneurs. New members with expertise in any area of small business are welcome.

Continuing Education & CCS Notes

Southern State has been selected by Connect Ohio as a sub-award recipient to provide basic, introductory computer training to the five counties comprising the SSCC service area. Instructor training originally scheduled for Jan. 11 had to be rescheduled to Jan. 18 due to the weather. Facilities and

instructors are being identified and matched up, with classes planned to begin this month. John Joy and Dennis Griffith visited the Highland County District Library in Hillsboro to discuss with their staff scheduling training classes, supplying them with computers furnished through the Connect Ohio grant and reviewing their wireless capabilities.

The alliance of regional schools that marketed and planned Department of Energy workshops includes Edison, Clark, Miami-Hamilton, Miami-Voice of America, Wright State (Main), and Wright State (Lake) cancelled the January, February and March workshops due to low enrollments across all the schools for the January workshop. December's was cancelled as well, so the alliance will target April for a workshop and modify the marketing strategy, as well as provide longer lead times for marketing and procurement of sponsors.

Enterprise Center

Consulting

There were three business consultations:

- Jan. 14 – Web-based food production and sales, Pre-venture
- Jan. 25 – Adult Foster care, Existing business
- Jan. 27 – Freelance Photography, Pre-venture

Collaboration

Coordinator Russ Brewer participated in the following meetings:

- Jan. 11 – Leadership Adams Board meeting, Winchester
- Jan. 18 – Connect Ohio “Every Citizen Online” Instructor Training, Central Campus
- Jan. 31 – Early Warning Network Meeting, Winchester

Networking

Coordinator Brewer participated in the following meetings:

- Jan. 31 – Brown County Chamber of Commerce Drucker Awards Breakfast, Georgetown

Events

Coordinator Brewer attended the following events:

- Jan. 25 – Ohio Valley Career and Technical Center, Business Plan Judging, West Union
- Jan. 31 – Facilitated “Listening To Your Business” Workshop, Appalachian Gateway Center – Co-Sponsored with the Appalachian Regional Entrepreneurship Group, South Campus

Student Affairs/Enrollment Management

Financial Aid

During January, the Ohio Association of Financial Aid Directors celebrated Financial Aid Awareness Month. Throughout the month, colleges offered services to area high schools by going into the schools to talk with seniors and their parents about the process of applying for federal, state and institutional financial aid. They also provided information about privately donated scholarships and national scholarship database searches.

Southern State has been selected as one of the colleges in Ohio that will host College Goal Sunday at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 13, at our Central Campus. During that workshop, multiple staff members are available along with a few financial aid staff from other colleges to help students and parents complete the financial aid application process. Last year, there were more than 100 participants.

Winter quarter financial aid disbursements are currently being processed. The financial aid staff reviews more than 4000 files and adjusts the financial aid amounts, based on student enrollment, prior to disbursement.

Beginning Feb. 10, a financial aid staff member will be assigned to work at the Fayette Campus one day a week to assist students with their financial aid questions.

To date, the Financial Aid Office has processed approximately 9,400 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications and/or revisions from 5,124 different students. Many of these students have multiple transactions. The multiple transactions are primarily due to dislocated worker appeals. The appeals are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Disability Services

The disability services coordinator presented "Disability Services 101" to adjunct faculty members at an orientation held Jan. 15 on Central Campus. A brief overview of policy, procedures, and possible accommodations along with contact information for future questions or concerns was provided. A question-and-answer session concluded the presentation.

Another deaf student started ABLE classes with the Adult Opportunity Center on Fayette Campus bringing the total of deaf or hard-of-hearing students to five.

There are several new students inquiring about services each week, and five are in the process of receiving accommodations.

Career Services

As discussed at the Board retreat, the college does not have a comprehensive, well-staffed career placement office, but we are fortunate to have Tom Payton, an extremely talented and enthusiastic staff member, dedicated to delivering many career-related services to our students and community.

Career Services has been offering interview coaching to students and community members. This involves a general review of interview skills and preparation ahead of time, combined with a coaching session prior to a scheduled interview with a potential employer. Ten coaching sessions have been provided to date resulting in nine hires and one no hire. Techniques include counseling and role play approaches helping the client identify specific strengths, concerns and questions. Clients report feeling more prepared, greater confidence and less tension during the interview process.

Meet-and-greet sessions were held at all campuses during the past two weeks. Career Services provided quick resume reviews and demonstrated the web site revisions and job search tools on the "Career Services On-Line" web site.

A resume-writing seminar will be held the week of March 7 at all campuses. In order to accommodate as many schedules as possible, the seminars are scheduled for 9 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Times were chosen based on student input at the meet-and-greet sessions.

The response to the Career Services field trip to the ABC 6 "On Your Side" Job Fair scheduled for April 20, 2011, has been very good. Student eligibility requires attendance at one of the resume-writing seminars. The field trip consists of transportation, lunch, job fair, brief bus tour of The Ohio State University and a visit to a Graeters ice cream parlor. The learning objective is to acquaint students with job fairs, find out directly from employers what careers are available and gain a greater understanding of employers' expectations.

The director of career services, Tom Payton, has also begun to assist with mental health counseling. Tom is a licensed mental health counselor as well as a career counselor.

Admissions

The admissions director, Wendy Johnson, attended the ACT State Organization Conference in Columbus Jan. 25-26, 2011, followed by the quarterly meeting of the Ohio Association of Two-Year College Admissions Officers. Session topics focused on ACT's study on the condition of College and Career Readiness as well as statewide examples of dual-credit collaborations and Ohio Board of Regents updates. The director has also been asked to serve as vice-chair of the Admissions Committee for the Ohio Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers. The duties involve developing sessions for the annual state conference that pertain to interests in the area of admissions.

The Office of Admissions is currently working on creating Southern State's equivalencies for College Level Examination Program (CLEP) testing. CLEP is a College Board testing instrument that is primarily (but not exclusively) used by returning military service personnel to earn credit for their studies and experience. Southern State has not historically received many CLEP transcripts, but the Ohio Board of Regents wants to post these equivalencies as part of Ohio's GI Promise initiative.

Tutoring Services

The Tutoring Center is continually upgrading the Tutoring Center's eDirectory and has open labs available Monday through Thursday at all Southern State Community College campuses. Currently 28 tutors are on staff, and 89 students have registered for tutoring.

The tutoring coordinator and specialist have been exploring other online tutoring options to use in place of eTutoring. The criteria for a new online service include budgetary concerns, data collection, user-friendly services and student needs. The center has met, via Wimba, with LRC Manager Louis Mays and a Wimba Pronto representative to consider using other Wimba services which Southern State already has. A Wimba conference was held with the tutoring coordinator and a staff member from Grand Valley State University in Michigan to learn more about how they use this program. SSCC's major concern at this point is data collection and verification of tutoring sessions. Grand Valley uses Wimba Classroom which does monitor such usage. Over the next few months, the tutoring staff will research and work on making this the new online platform which appears to meet the necessary criteria to make it a viable alternative for our current online program. The services will not be offered until all aspects of the program are in place and training is provided.

Athletics

Men's Basketball

Southern State's men's basketball team has an overall record of 6-15, and 3-7 in the Ohio Collegiate Athletic Conference (OCAC). Sophomore Jeremy Bennington was named OCAC player of the week for Jan. 8–15. The team has five regular season games remaining.

Women's Basketball

Southern State's women's basketball team has an overall record of 1-12, and 0-7 in the OCAC. They have five regular season games remaining.

OCAC Basketball Tournament

Southern State will be hosting the men's and women's OCAC Basketball Tournaments Feb. 17–19. The conference banquet will be on Wednesday, Feb. 16. Three games will be played on Thursday, four games will be played on Friday and two games will be played on Saturday. Teams participating include:

- Southern State Community College
- Ohio Christian University
- Valor Christian College
- Clark State Community College
- UC Clermont College
- Temple Baptist College (men's team only)

Patri-Tots Learning Centers

The Patri-Tots Learning Center at North Campus recently passed its state licensing inspection with 100-percent compliance. While this is quite an accomplishment on its own, this is the second time the center has achieved this goal. In February 2010, the center obtained its first 100-percent rating.

Karee Shaw, site administrator, reported that the state inspector was very pleased with the quality of the program. A copy of the December 2010 presentation to SSCC's Board of Trustees by both site administrators was given to the inspector for the centers' files. The inspector was quite impressed with the presentation and plans to share it with her supervisor and others in the department.

The Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS), overseer of the centers' licensing, enforces strict guidelines which, first and foremost, are concerned with children's safety. The ODJFS's Bureau of Child Care & Development ensures the state's childcare centers follow a strict set of rules policing student/teacher ratios, food and nutrition requirements, emergency procedures and equipment, and safety. Additionally, they verify background checks and educational requirements of the centers' teachers.

Karee Shaw's comments follow:

"I am so excited that we were able to achieve 100-percent compliance for two years in a row. Our teachers put a lot of effort into educating the children. Their goal is to instill a life-long love of learning, in addition to preparing the children for life. I am proud of them for their part in making this a high-quality program and to have the state validate

what we already know is just more kudos for everyone. I cannot thank them enough for all of their hard work and dedication. Additionally, I want to thank Kathe, her staff at the Central Campus center, our families and the community for their support of our program.”

Fiscal Year-to-Date Tuition Discount Totals:

\$ 691.34 Sibling discounts
\$ 1,450.91 Student discounts
\$12,343.50 Employee discounts
\$14,485.75

Enrollment

Winter Quarter 2011 enrollment is slightly ahead compared to the same time period last year. As of Jan. 25, 2011, headcount stands at 3,418 (a 4-percent increase), and FTE stands at 2,498.13 (a 0.8-percent increase).