

# Southern State Community College

## February 2012 President's Report to the Board of Trustees

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*Dr. Kevin Boys, President*

### **Finance Committee Meeting**

Finance Committee Chair Kay Ayres has called a Finance Committee meeting to be held 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8, prior to the regular Board meeting. She invites all Board Members to attend and participate in this meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 184 on Central Campus in Hillsboro.

### **Strategic Vision Symbol**

You will notice a checkmark in the background of several topics throughout this report. The checkmarks are to draw your attention to projects that are in line with the Bold Steps and Goals for 2012 for Strategic Visioning approved by the Board at the January meeting.

### **Upward Bound**

SSCC has submitted an Upward Bound grant proposal to the US Department of Education. Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. Karyn Evans and Ryan McCall are commended for their prompt, thorough response to this grant opportunity.

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

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

- Highland County Chamber Board Meeting
- Upward Bound Grant
- Compensation Presentation Meetings with Full-Time Staff and Administration
- Maysville Community and Technical College Meeting
- Brown County Chamber Annual Breakfast
- Leadership Clinton Monthly Class
- Rotary Meetings

# Academic Affairs

## Agriculture Student Updates

Three students in the agriculture program participated in the national Forage Bowl—an undergraduate student Jeopardy-style competition hosted by the American Forage and Grassland Council at their annual meetings in Louisville on Jan. 9. SSCC was one of four colleges represented and was the only community college present. The other institutions in the competition consisted of two teams from the University of Kentucky, one from Purdue University, and one from Penn State. SSCC students took third place in the competition.

Five students traveled to Columbus for the annual nursery and trade show put on by the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association Jan. 23. The students met with vendors and contracting companies to explore the mechanics of plant propagation and maintenance. Students also attended short-course presentations by OSU professionals related to various areas of plant maintenance.

The students in Swine Management class will be farrowing two pigs on the Central Campus this term. Students will be responsible for feeding, care, cleaning, and overall wellbeing of the sows and will be directly responsible for raising the baby pigs. The highlight of the class will be a spring pig roast that will be open to the college community and feature vegetables produced by plant science classes in the spring.

## Collaboration on STEMM Project

On Jan. 17, Dr. Don Storer met with Dustin Pyles, the Director of Operations for the Ohio STEMM Learning Network (see <http://www.osln.org/>); Donnie Washburn, Director of the SE Ohio Virtual STEMM Platform; Peggy Whyte, Curriculum Integration Coordinator of South Central Ohio Computer Association; and other representatives of Shawnee State University and the New Boston Schools. The pilot program involves 28 teachers from 18 schools who have been enrolled in Quality Matters to learn about best practices for online teaching and have access to eight online courses from blendedschools.net. The ultimate goal is for the teachers to participate in blended dual credit courses. Dr. Storer's role in this is to mentor the 10 chemistry teachers involved in the pilot. The STEMM Platform has enrolled Dr. Storer in the Quality Matters course and has set him up on Blackboard through SCOCA so he can evaluate the blendedschools.net courses.

## Workforce Development and Community Services

### Truck Driving Academy

The Rickenbacker Air Park location of the TDA was vacated and the partnership began with Pickaway Ross Career and Technology Center. SSCC's marketing group provided advertising in the Pickaway Ross area to announce the newly formed partnership for CDL training.

Dr. Ryan McCall, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Eddie Mullins, Training Manager of the Truck Driving Academy; and John Joy, Dean of Workforce Development and Community Services, met with Sue

Rowland of Delaware County Career Center on Jan. 9 to discuss CDL training. It is expected the partnership will proceed.

Dr. McCall, Mr. Mullins and Mr. Joy also met with Kim McKinley of Tri-County Career Center on Jan. 27 to discuss CDL training. A memorandum of understanding is being signed by both institutions.

### Workforce Development

John Joy attended a meeting of community college Workforce Development staff hosted by the Ohio Association of Community Colleges in Columbus Jan. 18. OACC requested submittals from each college regarding their workforce development efforts with said reporting to continue monthly until further notice. Rich Frederick, who will be coordinating workforce development efforts statewide, spoke at the meeting and emphasized that a critical role of community colleges is to place students in jobs.

### Continuing Education & Departmental Notes

Nineteen participants enrolled in free Connect Ohio computer classes at three locations during the month of January.

EMT/Medic refresher training was provided at the North Campus in Wilmington from Jan. 17-24. Thirteen Wilmington and other EMTs successfully completed necessary re-certification training through this joint effort between Continuing Education and EMT Faculty Member David Hoffman.

### Enterprise Center

The Enterprise Center has been invited to become a regional partner with TechGROWTH Ohio and join them in their application for funding that will begin July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014. John Glazer, TechGROWTH Director, has indicated that the Enterprise Center will be able to leverage \$30,000 in funding over two years through this effort.

TechGROWTH Ohio is part of the Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs in Athens and is an Ohio Department of Development Third Frontier sponsored program which provides resources to entrepreneurs with innovative early-stage technology companies in southern and eastern Ohio. The program accelerates commercialization and enables job creation, wealth generation, and increased regional economic activity.

This partnership aligns well with SSCC's "Strategic Visioning Bold Steps for 2012," specifically, Goal 3A, "Identify alternate revenue resources; apply for federal/state and private grants that prioritize student success, workforce development, and emerging technologies" and Goal 6A, "Increase the incidence of shared services and programs with other institutions of higher education."

# Student Affairs/Enrollment Management

## Advising and Retention

### Personnel

A search committee consisting of faculty members and student services personnel conducted interviews for the part-time academic advisor position at North Campus. The position has been offered to an individual with hopes to have the individual start in early or mid-February. The search committee consisted of Ken Holliday, David Hoffman, Anna Lehman, and Dennis Bothel. Rachel Simpson from HR assisted the committee with the search.

### Semester Conversion

The Advising and Retention office is gearing up for semester conversion advising. Many students have asked basic questions about the conversion, such as, "I am in this series of classes; should I continue?" as well as, "Can I graduate before the conversion takes place?" In addition, the office is planning an off-campus retreat for mid-February. The semester conversion and how the office is going to approach it will be main topics.

Preparations are being made for Spring Quarter preregistration which starts Feb. 21 as well as orientations which start Feb. 24. Staff members are assisting students with registration and semester conversion by sending academic plans and emails to those students whom they have been assigned. They are doing this by using the computer software *Aviso* which student services bought this past year.

## Athletics

### Basketball

Women's Basketball is currently 1-12 on the season and 1-4 in the Ohio Collegiate Athletic Conference (OCAC). Men's Basketball is currently 12-9 on the season and 3-5 in the OCAC.

### Patriot Center

Southern State will be hosting the 2012 OCAC Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments Feb. 16–18.

## Disability Services

### Interpreter/Captionist Schedule for Winter Quarter

Disability Services is serving eight deaf or hard-of-hearing students for a total of 16 classes and four tutoring sessions per week. Students have a combined total of 83 credit hours.

### Practicum Student

Leigh-Ann Wheeler, practicum student from Ohio University Lancaster, will be observing staff interpreters for the following four classes this quarter: Ethics, Anatomy and Physiology, Math 117, and English.

## Closed Captioning

Disability Coordinator Molly Jordan is working with Dennis Griffith and the IT staff to provide closed captioning of instructional videos for Math 117 students. All staff are encouraged to utilize closed captioning when showing any video.

## Remote Access for C-Print

Molly is working with Maria Miller, co-owner of Deaf Choice, to acquire technology specifications to provide C-Print or American Sign Language services remotely. The purpose is to produce cost comparisons to determine if remote access is cheaper. Remote access may eliminate scheduling conflicts of staff interpreters due to travel time. With this remote technology, SSCC staff interpreters would not have to travel to multiple campuses in the case of a scheduling conflict.

## Financial Aid

### Disbursements

Currently, the Financial Aid Office is disbursing financial aid to students' accounts for the Winter Quarter. Because this is a manual process, it takes three staff members about 15 days each to disburse aid to the accounts. Students should receive any overage (living expense) dollars by the end of the fifth week of each quarter.

### FAFSA Forms and Semester Conversion

It is time to remind students that as soon as they have filed their 2011 income tax returns, it is time to re-apply for the 2012-13 academic year. With the change to semesters beginning Fall Quarter, a letter from the financial aid office went out to about 4,000 students explaining how their financial aid would work with Summer being a quarter and Fall and Spring being semesters. This may cause some students to either not attend Summer Quarter or borrow more loan dollars.

### Reports

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Report that is due Feb. 8 for the Financial Aid Office has just been completed and is ready to submit. The final analysis shows that 93 percent of all first-time full-time students for Fall Quarter 2010 received financial aid for a total of \$9.8 million. The total for all 2010-11 financial aid disbursed for all students was well over \$20 million.

Because of the many new regulations and verification policy changes, the Financial Aid office is in the process of re-writing the processes and policies. New forms will also have to be created that reflect these changes for the 2012-13 academic year. In addition, all offices are submitting college catalog changes to the Office of Communications by Feb. 6 to make sure the catalog is written in the semester conversion language and at the same time incorporating the new policies and procedures for the upcoming year.

Following the above reporting deadlines, the state's Higher Education Information (HEI) Financial Aid Report is due for the 2010-11 academic year prior to March 2.

## Retention

### Early Warning System

More than 78 students have come through the Early Warning System. This is an increase compared to prior quarters. A reminder to submit students' names via the system was sent out to faculty on week four instead of the first week as was past practice. This shows that more instructors are submitting and allows Retention Specialist Amy McClellan to follow-up with these students.

## Tutoring

### Tutor Promotion and Web Tutorials

Tutor sign-ups and web tutorials were conducted during the first full week of Winter Quarter at all campuses. Sixty-one students signed up for tutoring and learned about tutoring services which also included information and a handout about the new online tutoring platform. Twenty-seven students (five from Scioto) attended a web tutorial to activate their SSCC accounts. The Tutor Coordinator visited a class at the Scioto Technical facility to assist five students in activating their accounts and making the students aware of student support services available to them.

### Perkins Mini-Grant Projects

The Tutoring Center continues to work on two projects funded by Perkins mini-grants. The midyear reports for the two Carl D. Perkins grants awarded to the Tutoring Center have been completed and submitted. As the department seeks to be certified through one of the grants, several new initiatives have been undertaken. One initiative has been the creation of a survey by the tutoring coordinator and tutoring specialist to receive feedback from those students who received tutoring during Fall Quarter. Feedback has been very positive about the services; several students offered constructive suggestions to make the tutoring program better and more accessible. The creation of a noncredit, one day, pre-quarter computer basics workshop for new students who lack computer skills necessary for classroom assignments requiring Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, is nearing completion. The pilot workshop will be offered the week before Spring Quarter begins.

### Winter Quarter Numbers

- 125 student requests for a tutor
- 7 one-on-one sessions
- 12 drop-in lab
- 3 online sessions conducted