

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



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 2015 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

## **January Meeting**

The tentative schedule, location, and directions for our January meeting are included in the Board members' packets.

## **Spring Semester Enrollment**

As of this writing, spring enrollment appears to have a slight uptick, which is always welcomed news. We'll have better figures at the January meeting since it will be held after our deadline for drop/adds.

## **Amended Budget**

You will see that the adoption of an amended budget on the agenda. This was primarily precipitated by a final appropriation of our State Share of Instruction which was less than projected by the Ohio Board of Regents. There are other adjustments in variable costs as well, but as you will see, it remains a balanced budget.

## **Sale of South Campus**

We do have a signed purchase agreement for the South Campus property contingent upon the Board's approval. We have scheduled an executive session to discuss the matter and anticipate a recommendation to approve the sale during the public meeting. Our zoning request has been approved and the property has been rezoned for commercial use.

## **Complete College America Convening**

I was once again asked to participate on our state's team at the annual Complete College America's 2014 Annual Convening in Miami Beach on Dec. 1 and 2. CCA is generously funded



and pays the expenses for those in attendance. This year's conference emphasized strategies aimed at reducing time to degree in order to increase the number of completions on college campuses.

## **Upcoming Events**

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

### **JANUARY**

- 01.23.15      **Connect to College Day (First Choice Friday)**  
9 am-12 pm | Brown County Campus
  
- 01.24.15      **SSCC Women's Basketball Game vs. Ohio State Univ.-Mansfield**  
1:00 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center
  
- 01.24.15      **SSCC Men's Basketball Game vs. Ohio State Univ.-Mansfield**  
3:00 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center

### **FEBRUARY**

- 02.01.15      **SSCC Men's Basketball Game vs. Washington Community College**  
2:00 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center
  
- 02.04.15      **SSCC Men's Basketball Game vs. Clark State Community College**  
7:30 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center
  
- 02.06.15      **All-College Meeting**  
9:00 am | Central Campus, Edward K. Daniels Auditorium
  
- 02.21.15      **SSCC Women's Basketball Game vs. Johnson University**  
1:00 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center
  
- 02.21.15      **SSCC Men's Basketball Game vs. Jefferson Comm. & Tech. College**  
3:00 pm | Central Campus, Patriot Center
  
- 02.27.15      **Connect to College Day (First Choice Friday)**  
9 am-12 pm | Central Campus

## President's Activities and Involvement

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

- Statehouse Reception for Ohio's Presidents
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee Meeting
- Scioto Career Tech Center Meeting
- Connect to College Day at North Campus
- SOCHE Excellence in Teaching Awards Banquet
- 2014 University System of Ohio Trustees Conference
- OACC Executive Committee Working Dinner
- Complete College America's 2014 Annual Convening (Miami, FL)
- Ohio Dean's Compact on Exceptional Children
- WSRW Interview with Willard Parr
- SALT Implementation WebEx Meeting
- Emergency Operations Plan Workshops
- Leadership Clinton Program Committee Meeting
- OACC Presidents & Governing Board Meeting
- Annual Guidance Counselor Luncheon
- Meeting with former Senator Joy Padgett
- SSCC Practical Nursing Pinning Ceremony
- Connect to College Day at Fayette Campus
- VASA Luncheon
- Reception for Representative Cliff Rosenberger
- SSCC Respiratory Care Graduation
- Moody's Conference Call
- Annual Evaluation with SSCC Board Chair and Vice Chair
- Meeting with Dr. Nelson Soto, President of Union Institute and University
- Meeting with Tom Thatcher, CAO at Cincinnati Christian University
- iDashboard Overview Meeting
- Paraprofessional Dinner Remarks
- SSCC Police Academy Graduation
- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- Meeting with Viox Services Representatives
- SOCHE Board of Trustees Meeting
- Speaking Engagement at Wilmington AM Rotary Club Meeting
- SALT Campus Engagement Meeting

- OACC Presidents Conference Call
- Viox Services WebEx and Conference Call
- Conference Call with Scott Howard of Ohio Strategic Training Center
- Meeting with Dan Roberts of SHP Leading Design
- SSCC Women's Basketball Game
- SSCC Men's Basketball Game
- Meeting with Ohio Tech Prep Southwest Regional Representatives
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Ag Event Sponsor Dinner
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce Ag Event
- Highland County OVRDC Caucus

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### Graduation/Pinning Ceremonies

In December the college celebrated three graduation ceremonies.

#### *LPN*

The first was the LPN pinning on Dec. 11. A total of 15 students completed the LPN program and participated in the event.

#### *Respiratory Care*

The ceremony recognizing the eighth class to earn the A.A.S. degree in Respiratory Care was held on Dec. 13. The five graduates join 94 others who have graduated since the program's inception in 2006.

#### *Basic Peace Officer Training*

On Dec. 11, all five students of Basic Peace Officer Training Class 14-038 became eligible to sit for the Ohio Peace Officer Written Exam after successfully completing 590 hours of state mandated training and the physical proficiency testing required by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission. On Jan. 8, all five students sat for the written exam and passed on their first attempts. The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission permits two attempts for the written exam. Students are given 2.5 hours to complete the 200-question test.

## Adjunct Faculty Orientation and Development

On Dec. 6, the Adjunct Faculty Committee held its 14<sup>th</sup> Adjunct Faculty Orientation & Development day at Central Campus. Dr. Boys welcomed the 45 adjunct faculty and College Credit Plus teachers in attendance. Various sessions were offered, such as assessment, Blackboard training, library resources, and individual department meetings. Dr. Ryan McCall ended the day with an informational session on accreditation. The next Adjunct Faculty Orientation & Development will be held April 25 at Central Campus.

## Nursing Program Pass Rates Success

The first-time pass rates for nursing licensure examination for the Practical Nursing graduates have been 100 percent for the past four years. This achievement has resulted in a **No. 1 national ranking** as noted in the NCLEX Program Report published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

The most recent NCLEX Program Report identifies the Southern State Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program graduates ranked in the **top 10 percent of all nursing programs in Ohio** based on the percentage of graduates passing the NCLEX-RN during April – September 2014. Ninety-five percent of graduates tested successfully during this time period.

The entire nursing department is to be commended for the time, dedication, and hard work they demonstrated to achieve these rankings. Due to their extraordinary efforts, the students leaving the nursing program are prepared to enter the workforce and obtain well-paying jobs.

## Adult Opportunity Center

### *Curriculum Meeting*

SSCC will host several ABLÉ Programs at the Brown County Campus on Jan. 23 to work on curriculum. Programs are updating to reflect the changes of the new GED Test and the new Career and College Readiness Standards.

### ***Enrollment***

As of Dec. 31, the AOC had enrolled 390 students, 67.8 percent of the FY-15 goal. More than 87 percent of those who attended orientation became enrolled. Almost 60 percent have shown a level gain, based on standardized pre- and post-testing. A level gain is roughly the equivalent of two grade levels.

## **Workforce Development and Community Services Truck Driving Academy**

### **Truck Driving Academy**

Delivery of all but two units of tractors and trailers obtained through the OBOR grant was completed by the end of the calendar year. Modifications, which are required to convert the truck cab to a training vehicle, are almost completed. Industry approved seating, seat belts, and other work is required to complete the conversion. Most, if not all, of the equipment should be in use by the end of January.

Enrollment was only eight in December; however, with the 31 enrolled in November, the TDA totaled 39 students for the two-month period. The 39 is higher than either of the corresponding two months in 2013 and 2012. Lack of a Steubenville area based instructor continues to add additional travel costs to the operation. We continue to work toward finding an instructor based in the area to serve the central eastern region of the state. An estimated 70-80 percent of TDA inquiries do not enroll due to the lack of financial aid or grants to cover the training costs.

On Dec. 3, John Joy attended a meeting (arranged through Cincinnati State) with the Urban League of Cincinnati to identify training opportunities for their client population.

A partnership agreement is being sought with Equinox Business Solutions of Salt Lake City, Utah, to offer online training to existing and graduated TDA students. Equinox has worked with a number of freight industry partners who were present at the transportation forum held recently at Cincinnati State Middletown. It is expected that the partnership will give all TDA students and graduates an edge in the employment process. Additionally, the partnership will position the TDA as a leader in CDL training nationwide, as well as providing us a unique market position nationwide.

## Workforce Development

SSCC ceased to operate Ohio Means Jobs Highland effective Dec. 31 as requested by the Highland County Commissioners. John Joy and Ellen Turner, TDA office manager, will meet with the new staff from Community Action after the first of the year to see if assistance can be provided and to answer questions.

Josh Montgomery, Computer Science Faculty, and John Joy visited the IT group at R&L Carriers on Dec. 17 to discuss internship opportunities. R&L has a robust IT department, with on-going needs for skilled professionals, and is expected to be a partner with our IT department through the use of interns. 

The conversion of Room 318 to a testing center progressed well. A variety of computer, nursing, and other workplace-related testing functions are expected to be operational by the end of January. 

## Continuing Education, Community Services, & Departmental Notes

Discussions continue with Sinclair Community College to further the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) project begun in January 2014. The focus is on providing training and education in the precision agriculture applications of UAS. Tom Smith, Agriculture Faculty, has been valuable in working with Sinclair to begin offering ag-related courses to students in their UAS program.

The Ohio Highway Patrol conducted a “Below 100” program statewide aimed at reducing risk to all officers. Over 2,000 participated statewide, and Wilmington hosted 20 sessions over a three-week period. It is anticipated the program will be repeated in 2015, as Wilmington has been asked to host it again. 

# STUDENT SERVICES AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

## Student Success Center

### Connect to College

*Connect to College* was held at the Fayette Campus on Dec. 12. Two prospective students along with their parents attended.

Overall, 115 prospective students and their guests attended the four *Connect to College* events offered during the fall term.

*Connect to College* will be held Jan. 23 at Brown County Campus. In addition to providing prospective students or any individual beginning the college search to visit the SSCC campuses and to learn about the college application process and college life in general, the spring term events will also add more information about College Credit Plus and college readiness information for all high school students.

SSCC's transfer partners will continue to make themselves available to talk to guests and parents about transfer options through Southern State Community College.

### Early Alert Messages for Fall Term:

- 639 Early Alerts were submitted
- 56 users utilized the Early Alert System

### Tutoring Center

Tutoring Sessions for fall term:

Tutor Requests	266
One-on-one sessions	408
<u>Lab sessions</u>	<u>399</u>
Total	807

In addition, more than 120 students received tutoring assistance via eight Allied Health classes and Sarah Crump's English classes where tutors assisted students in formatting major papers and understanding writing mechanics.

Web tutorial sessions for spring semester were held Jan. 12 and 13 at all four campuses.

#### Tutoring Workshops:

Online Success: 46 Students completed

Computer Fundamentals: 1 student completed

Summer 2014 Accuplacer Test Prep Results:

#### For fall term Math Placement:

Nineteen students attended the Accuplacer Test Prep Workshop for Mathematics in the summer. Of those, 17 took the Accuplacer assessment prior to attending the workshop and the remaining two did not take the Accuplacer assessment prior to attending the workshop. Eleven students took or retook the Accuplacer assessment after attending the workshop. Of those 11, six saw an increase in level and eight enrolled in and completed a math course. Of the eight who took a math course, seven successfully complete the course with a grade of either S, A or B. The one remaining student withdrew from his or her course. (See graphs)

#### For fall term Writing Placement:

Eight students attended the Accuplacer Test Prep Workshop for Writing. All eight of those students took the Accuplacer assessment prior to attending the workshop. Of the eight students who attended the workshop, seven retook the assessment. All seven saw an increase in level and three enrolled in and completed an English course. Of the three who took an English course, two successfully completed the course with a grade of A. (See graphs)

Tutor Training and a Student Success Appreciation luncheon was held Dec. 5 at Central Campus. The following tutors completed Level 1 training: John Allen, Jessica Clark, Kari Franks, Jade Hunt, Erin Kirker, Ellen Lee, Stephanie McKinney, and Brittany Stith. The following tutors were recognized and presented Level 1 certification from the College Reading and Learning Association during the luncheon: John Allen, Jessica Clark, and James Pearn.

## Retention

AmeriCorps Coaches Jade Hunt and Erin Kirker will conduct the AmeriCorps sponsored Martin Luther King service day Jan. 21 at Central Campus. To honor the memory of Dr. King, the coaches will sell pizza and baked items during lunch to raise funds to purchase items for the homeless shelter.

Fall Term Coaching Results:

384 *PSYC 1108 Students who met with coaches during fall term*

112 Brown County Campus

135 Central Campus

74 Fayette Campus

63 North Campus

234 *PSYC 1108 Students created an Academic Completion Plan*

99 Brown County Campus

82 Central Campus

14 Fayette Campus

39 North Campus

## Advising Center

Advising Sessions for fall term

Total: 2,843 advising sessions were conducted

## Steps to Success

Advisors participated in four *Steps to Success* events which encourage early registration of classes. Advising staff meets at each campus from 12-6 pm for arena-style scheduling. The numbers of students served at each event were as follows:

88 Brown County Campus

36 Central Campus

28 Fayette Campus  
41 North Campus  
193 Total

## Registrar

The Registrar attended the iDashboard training the week of Dec. 15-19 and received a certificate of completion.

There are 64 students who completed graduation requirements at the end of fall semester and their diplomas will be mailed out by the end of this month.

At this time, full-time enrollment is flat.

## Financial Aid

### Federal Student Financial Aid Conference

Several staff members attended the Federal Student Financial Aid Conference in Atlanta, Ga., the week of Dec. 1-5. The conference provides training and updates to federal financial aid regulations.

### Fall Semester

The office has evaluated financial aid recipients for academic warning and probation for fall semester. Students who are not successful and placed on probation may be granted an appeal for a provisional semester of federal financial aid. Students meet with the Student Success Center to complete an academic probation plan. In the evaluation review of the students on academic plans for fall semester, the passage rate for students on probation plans was 69 percent. Compared to prior semesters this reflects a significant increase in the success rate.

### Implementation of SALT

The financial aid department has been working on the implementation of SALT. SALT is a third-party vendor that will work with current students to educate them on financial literacy as well as with alumni to navigate the student loan repayment process. This collaboration will provide additional resources to assist with the student loan default rate.

### **Financial Aid Awareness**

The Financial Aid Director has conducted financial aid nights at Greenfield McClain and Western Brown high schools. January is Financial Aid Awareness Month and several high school financial aid nights are scheduled as an outreach to prospective college students and their families to assist them with the financial aid process.

## **Patri-Tots**

### **Central Campus**

Enrollment for spring at Central Campus Patri-Tots is holding steady from fall semester.

The Center is currently in the process of meeting benchmarks and standards as we work toward our reapplication of Ohio's *Step Up To Quality* program. Submission is scheduled for early February with final approval due sometime in the spring.

### **North Campus**

The enrollment at North Campus Patri-Tots is up slightly from last semester.

The Center has recently applied for renewal of its star rating with Ohio's *Step-Up-to-Quality* voluntary rating program.

The Center passed its most recent state licensing inspection with 100 percent compliance. This makes seven perfect inspections. (See attached Press Release.)

## **Athletics**

### **Men's Soccer**

Men's Soccer finished the season at 6-11. Although not a great season, we saw improvement from our freshmen. Athletics is planning to add more USCAA games next season.

### **Women's Basketball**

After fall semester, the Women's Basketball team gained their first victory in more than 14 months against OSU-LIMA. The team GPA was 2.8 after the first semester, plus they added a new player for the third straight year for the second semester.

### **Men's Basketball**

Men are 9-6 on the season. They are playing well and are recognized by the USCAA Division II coach's poll as the No. 19 team in the nation for the week of Jan. 5-11. This is a huge accomplishment for our men's program.

### **Women's Softball**

The Women's Softball team is taking shape. We have 11 committed students and are continuing to recruit from the campuses. Practice begins within the next two weeks.

### **Women's Soccer**

Interviews took place for the Women's Soccer head coach. Recruiting for players is in full swing at all SSCC campuses and with high school seniors.

### **Athletic Department**

The crowds for our home basketball games have improved significantly. Compared to the past three years, this year is amazing. Every game is a surprise for the crowds we are seeing.

## INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

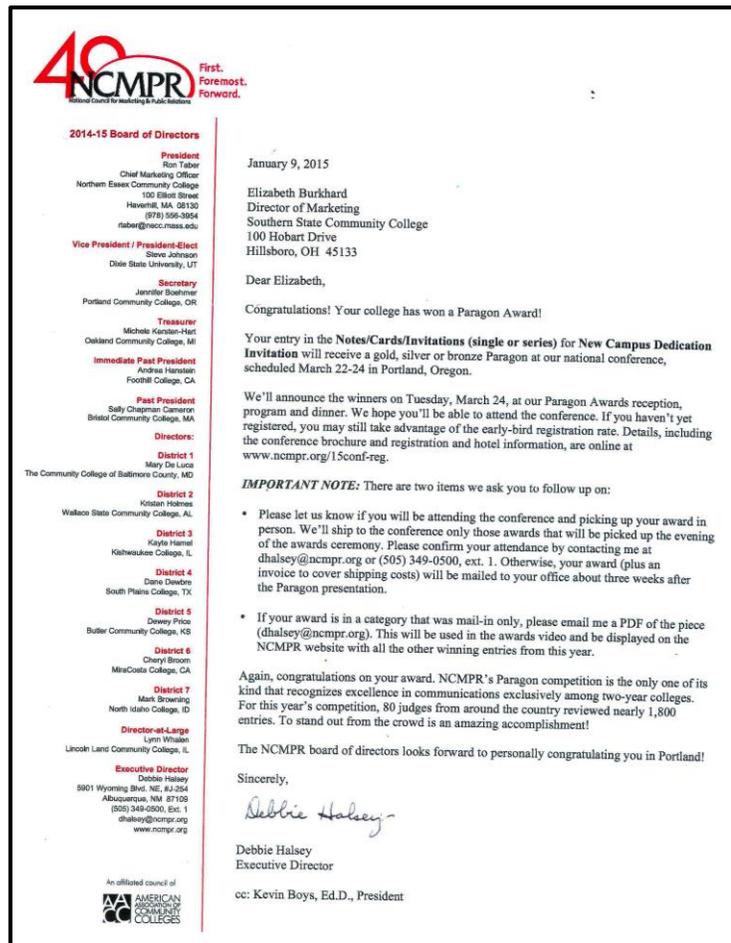
### Communications

### Marketing | Public Relations | Web

#### Paragon Award Notification

As a member of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR), the college's Communications Team will be recognized at the 2015 National Conference in Portland, Ore., March 22-24. The Communications Office was notified that one of their entries has received a gold, silver, or bronze Paragon. With 80 judges from around the country reviewing nearly 1,800 entries, for Southern State to stand out from the crowd is an amazing accomplishment.

The Paragon Awards recognize outstanding achievement in communications at community and technical colleges across the United States. It is the only national competition of its kind that honors excellence exclusively



among marketing and PR professionals at two-year community colleges. NCMPR is affiliated with the American Association of Community Colleges. Please stay tuned as we learn the results in late March!

### Student Affordability Mailer

A direct mail postcard promoting Southern State's cost savings, scholarships and transfer arrived in homes in early January. The card was mailed to high school juniors and seniors (approx. 8,000 recipients) in the following counties: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Fayette, and Highland. Highlighted in the piece are student testimonials, facts about Southern State's affordable tuition, and information on our transfer agreements. The card closes with a reminder about Connect to College; an event designed for new students to learn more about Southern State, the admissions process, financial aid, etc. This mailing is the first of a two-part series; the second postcard will be mailed to the same households in late February, but will target the parent instead of the student by highlighting cost savings, transfer and a testimonial, all from the perspective of a parent.



# A college education may cost less than you think!

As enticing as it may be to “go away” to college, Southern State wants to be **your first choice** when it comes to building a **solid foundation** for **academic success** that is low cost and high value. We offer **affordable, high quality education** and you can bank on us to deliver.

## Consider the savings!

**Low cost, high value** - I know we say it all the time, but feel it is worth bragging about -- our **tuition is among the lowest** in the state of Ohio.

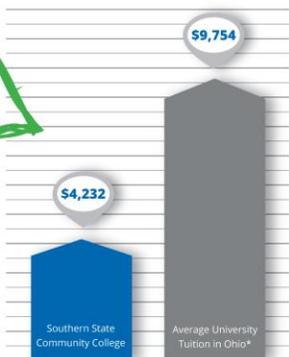
**Start here, then transfer** - If you are **planning to go away** to college, **do it without breaking the bank**. Say bye-bye to college debt by starting at Southern State, then transferring. Save BIG on college costs and travel to other parts of the world just as you always planned. Megan and Cory did it ... so can YOU!

Check out our transfer agreements:  
[www.sccc.edu](http://www.sccc.edu) > Academics > Transfer Agreements

**Apply now and save** - Taking a few minutes to apply for scholarships can save you more than you might think. **Apply online** today and be **matched with the scholarship** opportunities that **best meet your needs**.

**Scholarship priority deadline is March 15.**  
<http://www.sccc.edu> > Admission > Scholarships

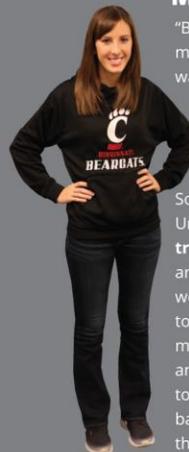
## TUITION COMPARISON



\* undergraduate annual tuition for university main campuses  
Source: Fall 2014 Survey of Student Charges Ohio Board of Regents

## Started here, went there, saved BIG \$\$\$

### Meet Megan



“Being a recent graduate, I realize now more than ever what a **great decision** it was to **attend Southern State**. At a point when many students are drowning in debt, my loan payments are very manageable. I **saved thousands of dollars** by taking my core classes at Southern State before transferring to the University of Cincinnati. The process of **transferring was completely stress-free** and **all of my credits were accepted**. I would highly recommend Southern State to anyone, with or without a decided major. Every major requires core classes and this is the most **cost effective** way to obtain those credits. I didn't break the bank to achieve **my college dreams**, thanks to Southern State.”

### Meet Cory



“I decided to attend Southern State because it was **affordable, close to home** and I knew it would **prepare me for a four-year college**. After two years of attendance at Southern State, I **transferred** to Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio. **Transferring was a simple, stress-free experience**. All of my Southern State **credits transferred seamlessly!** This allowed me to **gain an advantage** over other students. Southern State helped me achieve my goals at a lower cost, right out of high school. I would **highly recommend Southern State** to anyone thinking about college. It is a budget-friendly approach that will allow you to make decisions without emptying your wallet. It was a **great start to a successful career** for me and could be for you as well.”

## Ready to enroll, but have questions?

How do I register? Who do I talk to? Where do I start? Am I eligible for financial aid? We invite you and your family to attend “**Connect to College**” to get these questions answered and learn more about becoming a student this fall.

**Friday, January 23 --- Brown County Campus (in Mt. Orab) | 9-12 noon**  
**Friday, February 27 --- Central Campus (in Hillsboro) | 9-12 noon**  
**Friday, March 27 --- North Campus (in Wilmington) | 9-12 noon**  
**Friday, April 24 --- Fayette Campus (in Washington CH) | 9-12 noon**

A reservation is not required; however, we want to be ready for you. And, besides, we have **special gifts** for those who take the extra step and commit to attending. Visit [www.sccc.edu/ctoc](http://www.sccc.edu/ctoc) today.



**CONNECT** with us today!  
**800.628.7722** or [www.sccc.edu/ctoc](http://www.sccc.edu/ctoc)

## SSCC Celebrates 40 Years



This year, Southern State Community College is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary – 40 years of quality education; 40 years of community involvement; 40 years of support and service; 40 years of success; 40 years of making connections that change lives!

To celebrate this milestone, the Communications Office is planning a variety of events which will encourage others to share in this occasion by remembering the tradition of academic excellence, as well as to commemorate the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff over the years. Happy 40 and stay tuned as more information will be forthcoming!

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Faculty and Staff

#### **Amanda Thompson**

Amanda started her new position as the Registrar in Student Services and Enrollment Management on January 5, 2015, reporting to James Bland. In her previous position, Amanda worked as the Assistant Registrar at the College. As an interesting fact, Amanda feels she relates well to our students because she herself started as a post-secondary student. Amanda is married to Derrick, has three children and resides in the Hillsboro area. Amanda replaces Sharon Purvis who retired in December.

#### **Lisa Hord**

In December, Lisa was hired as the Director of Admissions in Student Services and Enrollment Management, reporting to James Bland. Lisa has spent the majority of her career in the recruitment and enrollment functions at Southern State. Most recently she held the position Director of Recruitment for the College. Lisa replaces Wendy Johnson who retired in December. Lisa's enjoys spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and her new husband David. Her hobbies include gardening, outdoor

recreation and taking care of their two new horses.

**Katherine Cain**

Kate has been hired as the Human Resource Associate in the Human Resource Department. For the last six months she has been working part-time in the position. Kate is a recent graduate of Morehead State University where she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree. She enjoys spending time with her fiancé, Josh, and her family. Her interests include horseback riding and being outside as she enjoys nature. She is looking forward to meeting everyone at SSCC in the near future and is excited about being a part of the Southern State Community College Team! She replaces Liz Brennfleck who took a position in human resources outside of the College.