

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



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 2018 | DR. KEVIN BOYS, PRESIDENT

## **Consideration of BHDP Resolution**

You will note on the agenda an item for your consideration regarding the recommended architect for the Adams County location. The architect selection committee was comprised of Trustee Boedeker, Jim Buck and myself. We received and evaluated Requests for Qualifications from 17 architectural firms and based on those evaluations, selected the three highest scored firms to invite for presentations and interviews. After these interviews, the committee was in unanimous agreement to recommend BHDP to provide architectural services for this project. The resolution is enclosed.

## **Consideration of Resolution to Support an Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Application**

A resolution of your support is enclosed for your consideration at the meeting. Your support of this application is a requirement of the ARC grant. We are seeking \$250,000 to equip the new facility with equipment that will support Information Technology, Cloud Computing, Manufacturing Engineering, and Virtual Learning Classrooms. An information page further outlining this grant is also included in your packet. These ARC grants require a 20% match in distressed counties such as Adams. Our equipment expenditures related to the new location will easily meet this match requirement.

## **EAB Navigate**

Your approval of the Career Services Fee has enabled the College to enter into an Agreement with Education Advisory Board (EAB) to provide the structure and technology (EAB Navigate) to help students enroll at the college, choose a career pathway, and stay on that pathway to degree completion either here or a partner university. Think of it as a College GPS. We have had several implementation planning calls with our dedicated EAB project lead and look forward to a College-wide kick-off on January 25 and 26. If you are interested in attending,



please let me know and I will provide the details once they are confirmed.

### **Capital Bill Request 2019-20**

The process for the 2019-20 Biennium Capital Bill is already in process. This will be the first time in several capital bill cycles that we have not centered our request on the Adams County Campus. For the next biennium, we have identified renovation of the Health Sciences area to be the number one priority. Our nursing program has always been a well-recognized technical program and our facilities are not reflective of the quality of this program. As a part of this process, we are required to submit a six-year capital plan that reflects our current thinking, but can certainly be adjusted in subsequent years as priorities or needs shift. The most current submittal is enclosed.

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

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

- Hillsboro Rotary Club Meetings
- EAB Welcome Phone Call
- WSRW Interviews with Willard Parr
- SOCHE Conference Call re: Economic Impact Study Release
- Annual Ethics Training presented by Attorney General's Office
- SSCC Spring Orientations (Brown County, Central and Fayette campuses)
- EAB Webinar
- Respiratory Care Graduation Ceremony
- Conference Call with Chancellor Carey
- Jobs & Skills for the Future Meeting with Governor Kasich
- OACC Governing Board Meeting
- Clery Table Top Security Exercise
- Architect Interviews
- EAB Navigate – Project Planning Call
- Annual Counselor Luncheon & CCP Update
- Ohio Valley Hoops Classic Re-cap Meeting
- Festival of the Bells Planning Meeting
- EAB Navigate Check-in Call
- Call with OACC President re: Capital Request

- Conference Call re: CCA Proposals
- SSCC All-College Meeting
- Workforce Development Institute Prep Call: Successful Fundraising Practices Workshop
- OACC Presidents Conference Call

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### Partnerships

#### **SSCC Host to Ohio Department of Education Southwest Region Tech Prep Coordinator**

Southern State warmly welcomes Ms. Rita Graf as the Southwest Regional Coordinator for Tech Prep. Previously located at neighboring Shawnee State University, Ms. Graf has relocated to SSCC's Brown County Campus to work on articulation pathways and bi-regional collaboration with secondary partners in the southwest and southeast regions. She will assist in development of high quality career pathways and programs of study and work with educators and employers to add quality to existing career pathways to high quality, meaningful work-based learning, postsecondary education and industry-recognized credentials. She'll also process new and renewal CTE-26 applications in partnership with school districts and ODE pathway staff and assist districts and postsecondary partners with developing career pathways including CTAGS, College Credit Plus, and other postsecondary credit options.

### Instructional Technology

As the College continues to migrate toward a new Learning Management System (LMS), much energy and effort has been directed to supporting the conversion from BlackBoard to Canvas, now referred to as My eLearn. The Spring Symposium, held the first week of January, was coordinated to speak directly to supporting faculty development in online education and included intensive training in course design and delivery. Additionally, the College sponsored a day-long training on Quality Matters, a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses.

Thank you to all of the faculty and staff working hard to support this transition and aiming to enhance Southern State's competitiveness in a highly competitive virtual environment. Special thanks to the My eLearn Pilot participants and their efforts in paving the way for successful implementation. Those full- and part-time faculty members participating in the Pilot include: Julia Basham, Kristi Hall, Gayle Mackay, Travis Martin, Josh Montgomery, Jeff Tumbleson, Bruce Fugate, Alice Waits-Richmond, and Sarah Crump.

## **Workforce Development, Truck Driving Academy, and Continuing Education**

The TDA is pleased to announce that Marathon Petroleum Company recently donated \$25,000 to be used for TDA scholarships. This is the third scholarship donation made by Marathon, and the scholarship money will be used to defray the cost of obtaining a CDL license from our TDA. The Marathon scholarship money is also used in conjunction with Ohio's Revolving Loan Fund grant, which enables the TDA to continue to assist the transportation industry in attracting workforce to this high-demand occupation.

The MOU with Great Oaks was signed in December, which outlines the partnership with Great Oaks for the TDA to provide customized training on Class B truck driving to selected students in the Great Oaks Heavy Equipment Operations and Engineering program.

A large, three-day team building and leadership training event is planned in mid-March for the leadership team of the Paint Creek Joint Fire District.

STNA training, offered in partnership with the SSCC Nursing department and Adams County Ohio Valley Schools was completed on Dec. 21 with 12 students completing.

John Joy met with Mars PetCare HR and Maintenance staff on Dec. 22 to provide options for employee training. It is anticipated that the College will provide online training through Tooling U, as well as some Microsoft training.

Special thanks and recognition go to Mr. Russ Brewer, long-time Southern State advocate, friend, and longtime leader of Southern State's Enterprise Center in Adams

County. After nearly 20 years of unwavering service to the College, Russ has entered the next chapter of his life, retirement. Russ was instrumental in a number of projects positively impacting workforce and small business development over the years and will be deeply missed by the College community.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

### **Admissions / Recruitment**

#### **Recruiting**

Two groups recently visited the Central Campus:

1. STAR Community Justice with 20 potential students, and
2. Laurel Oaks Health Technology Class, with 40 students

Spring Orientation attendance numbers were up from last year, and the annual Counselor Luncheon had approximately 40 attendees including high school counselors, SSCC staff, and faculty.

The Admissions and Recruiting Director is working closely with Wilmington College to promote collaboration of the Bio-Tech program.

#### **Admissions**

The Admissions and Recruiting Director is coordinating the state-mandated CCP orientations/group advising sessions for students taking courses at the high schools, as well as coordinating CCP information nights for the 2018-19 academic year at various high schools. Twenty-two schools have been scheduled and six already completed. This is a significant commitment of time and energy and must be completed in a relatively short time span inclusive of school closings due to weather.

## **Student Success Center**

### **Proactive Advising**

Academic advisors took a proactive approach fall term with students on academic probation. Monthly mentoring appointments and close tracking of early academic alerts have helped advisors to get their students focused on their goal for success and overcome obstacles along the way.

End-of-term academic performance outcomes were successful for 75 percent of this student group, an increase from below 60 percent in the past.

### **Moving Toward Career Pathways**

Changes to the advisor position description include career advising, along with academic advising; therefore, enabling staff to help students identify interests and academic strengths for potential career pathways.

The addition of the software program Career Coach allows students to discover their career interests and possible job opportunities within the local region. Student completion will have better success when a target goal is clearly defined.

### **Staffing**

The Student Success Center is rebuilding its advising staff and beginning the identification of potential candidates.

With the opportunity of having a staff of six full-time professionals, the Student Success Center will be able to implement programs, identify resources, and guide students down their academic pathway to their career goals.

### **Tutoring Workshops**

The Tutoring Center offered two workshop series to students during the semester break period in preparation for upcoming courses and testing.

The TEAS preparation workshop is designed to assist allied health focus students prepare for the health program entrance exam, TEAS. While this series was designed to add students in their weakest subject areas, it became very clear that this cannot be an overnight fix for lack of subject knowledge. Students will be most successful with this level of test preparation if they plan on six to eight weeks of knowledge review/intake.

The second workshop series is one that has been offered for several semesters to students taking an online course for the first time. Success for Online Courses workshop is a face-to-face session that puts students on the computer and into the learning platform (BlackBoard) for SSCC online courses. Added to this semester's series is training for the new learning platform (eLearn, through Canvas). Southern State will convert to the eLearn platform entirely by summer term.

## **Financial Aid**

### **Default Prevention Task Force**

The Default Prevention Task Force met Nov. 13 to review the most recent data on the last cohort default rate from 2014 of 24.8 percent. Task force members include: Linda Myers, Jamie Simmons, Stephanie Bartley, James Bland, Josh Montgomery, and Brian Prickett.

Data comparisons from the past four years indicate on average 75% of students who defaulted on their loans, left SSCC prior to degree completion, and were also on academic warning or probation.

Current initiatives including changes to loan processing, additional loan counseling, work on Guided Pathways, and added technology of Career Coach and Navigate are all steps to better prepare and retain students.

### **\$ALT**

The College's partnership with \$ALT for financial literacy and default management will be changing in 2018. \$ALT has discontinued their default management program which involved the outreach to delinquent borrowers to assist them with repayment issues prior to defaulting on their loans.

\$ALT will continue to provide the financial literacy education tools free to the institution. Research on other default management options is being conducted.

### **Academic Probation Review**

Each semester, students placed on academic probation may appeal their probation status and upon approval of the appeal continue to receive federal financial aid for a provisional term.

A requirement of the appeal is completion of a probation plan with an academic advisor to include follow-up throughout the term between the student and the advising staff. The results of the students on academic plans from this past fall term reflect a 75% pass rate, a significant increase from past terms.

Successful students are removed from probation and placed in good academic standing to continue their academic goals.

### **Federal Student Aid Conference**

Financial aid team members, Cindy Bloom, Sheila Fawley, Linda Myers, and Jaime Simmons attended the Federal Student Aid Training Conference in Orlando the week of Nov. 27. This free training provided updates to federal regulations on the administration of Title IV aid.

A primary focus of the training was on data security and the responsibility that the institution has to protect student data to remain compliant for Title IV.

Institutional compliance requirements are being evaluated by the Information Technology department.

## **Athletics**

### **Men's Soccer**

Men's Soccer coaches are continuing to recruit.

### **Women's Soccer**

The Athletic Director is in the process of setting up interviews for the Head Coach position.

### **Women's Basketball**

The Women's Basketball team is staying competitive throughout the season. Things are looking good for the upcoming second half spring semester.

### **Men's Basketball**

The men's team is playing well. Head Coach Gaines will add two new players; this will help the overall team.

### **Women's Softball**

The Athletic Director is setting up interviews for the Head Coach position.

## **Student Clubs & Activities**

### **Patriot Campus Ministries**

The Patriot Campus Ministries advisor, Connie Huber, has moved on to another institution. The advertising requisition for this non-paid advisor position has been submitted and the process has been started to provide another advisor for this club. Students will be guided and assisted by the Student Affairs office in the interim.

### **Phi Theta Kappa**

The Phi Theta Kappa advisor, Connie Huber, has moved on to another institution. The advertising requisition has been submitted and the process has been started to provide another advisor for this club. Students will be guided and assisted by the Student Affairs office in the interim.

### **Respiratory Care Club**

#### *Scholarships*

The Respiratory Care Club presented eight scholarships at the program's graduation ceremony in December. These scholarships totaled \$850.

#### *Upcoming Events*

The Club is hosting an American Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at Fayette Campus. Scheduling an appointment in advance is recommended. Please contact Chyane Collins at extension 5620 or [ccollins@sscc.edu](mailto:ccollins@sscc.edu) to schedule an appointment.

Members will be meeting this month to schedule the Breakfast with the Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt event for later this spring.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

## Announcing MyEconnect

MyEconnect is a name given to the College's new automated Human Resources Information System (HRIS) that will be implemented to all employees April 1. MyEconnect is an automated system that integrates human resources, benefits, and payroll operations.

The new system provides a central location to users to access payroll, manage teams, update personnel information, post jobs, and hire employees.

Additionally, the system will streamline the hiring process, as well as administer benefits and pay employees, by integrating them into one system. The targeted go-live date is April 1.

Further, this new software is in-line with the College's Bold Steps, *A Driving Force in Technology, Dynamic and Flexible Organization, Best Place to Work, and Your Best Investment*. As a service-oriented department, staying on top of leading innovation including data protection, and providing accurate, efficient information and service to our students, faculty and staff supports the College's core competencies.

## Adjunct Pay Structure

The Human Resources department worked with the Department of Academic Affairs to update the compensation structure for Adjuncts. The goal was to streamline the salary structure for clarity, efficiency, understanding, and processing. This update enabled the College to streamline the existing 44 pay grades to four and became effective Jan. 1.

## Insurance Committee

Over the next several months, the Insurance Committee will meet with Horan, our third-party consultant to begin planning and evaluating renewal information for the health plans. As outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, the Insurance Committee, through the chair, is tasked with presenting its consensus recommendation to the Board of Trustees in advance of the college renewing the health insurance contracts. This recommendation is traditionally presented to the Board at the May meeting.