

Southern State Community College

September 2011 President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Upcoming Events Reminder for Board Members

- All-College BBQ | 6-8:30 p.m., Sept. 15, | Central Campus
- Coffee and Commerce | 9 a.m., Sept. 23 | Central Campus
- OACC Southwest Regional Meeting | 5-6 p.m. (pre-meeting campus tour), 6-8 p.m. (meeting), Tuesday, Oct. 4 | Clark State Community College
- Association of Community College Trustees Annual Leadership Congress | Oct. 12-15 | Dallas, Texas.

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

- Tech Prep Grant Meeting
- Governor Kasich Visit to Fayette County
- Fayette Chamber Luncheon
- Weekly Rotary Club Meetings
- Adams County Fair
- Fayette County Fair
- Highland County Fair
- Education Executive Magazine Interview
- Foundation Executive Committee Conference Call
- Leadership Highland Planning Meeting with Chamber Director
- Blanchester School Superintendent Brian Ruckel
- Ripley-Union-Lewis-Huntington School Superintendent Chuck Birkholtz
- Goals Meetings with President's Council
- Full-time Staff and Administration Meeting
- Possible Land Site Visits and Planning Meetings
- Highland County Chamber Legislative Event
- Early Childhood Education Conference
- Performance Evaluation Project Team
- USO Trustee Conference
- PN Pinning Ceremony
- Meeting with Chris Schock, Executive Director, Clinton County Regional Planning Commission
- 2012 Economic Forecast Breakfast Planning Meeting
- OVRDC 2011 CEDS Committee Meeting
- Mary Ayres' Retirement Reception
- Center for Innovation Food Technology (CIFT) MEETING
- Highland County Women's Hall of Fame Program
- SOCHE Executive Committee and Board Meeting
- Meeting with Representative Danny Bubp
- OACC Presidents' Meeting
- OACHE Board Meeting

Academic Affairs

English Developmental Courses in the Works

Assistant Professor of English and HPER and Arts/Humanities Division Coordinator Ken Holliday continues to work diligently creating a developmental English course for SSCC students. The course is being developed with the intent to address specific learning needs of students in a two-tiered progression toward English 101.

Workforce Development and Community Services

Truck Driving Academy

There were 26 participants enrolled for CDL training during July, and 20 participants enrolled in August. This compares to 26 and 35 respectively from 2010. There are 20 participants tentatively scheduled to start in September, subject to having full class starts at the locations involved.

The TDA provided CDL training for Scioto County Sanitation employees, and the SSCC Communications Department obtained a testimonial from the county Sanitation Engineer, Darrel LeBrun. His testimonial, along with others, is available on the Workforce Development/TDA web page. Mr. LeBrun's testimonial is as follows:

"I was highly impressed by the program at the Truck Driving Academy. The instructors were both knowledgeable and experienced and did not hesitate to answer questions or clarify the smallest of details. The volume of information and training received during the program was impressive and will no doubt pay dividends for our department in the future. I recommend the Academy for any department manager looking for high level training in this discipline."

The TDA also conducted customized transportation training sessions for two customers during August—one was Bush Specialty Vehicles/MAC Tools in Wilmington and the second was BEHR Thermal Products in Dayton.

R & L Carriers/Roberts Truck Sales offered the TDA three late model tractors in exchange for training some of their employees. After prompt consultation with SSCC administration, the TDA accepted delivery of the tractors and are installing the brake and seating needed for instructional purposes. The TDA will be training up to 15 R & L employees at intervals mutually agreeable to both parties. The three units are expected to lower maintenance costs and should be in service in early September. The TDA, in conjunction with the SSCC Communications Department, will be generating publicity thanking R & L for their contribution.

Workforce Development

The monthly Resource Board meetings of the Highland County Enterprise Initiative (HCEI) were conducted on July 20 and Aug. 17. The Resource Board works closely with Enterprise Facilitator Sid Raisch to provide free, confidential assistance to new and existing entrepreneurs. The client list continues to increase steadily and was 80 in July and 83 in August. There have been 338 introductions of Sid to area people with an interest in small business. Any Board member wanting to read Ernesto Sirolli's "Ripples from the Zambezi" (the book describing the foundation and key concepts of Enterprise Facilitation) should contact John Joy.

Continuing Education & Departmental Notes

The Every Citizen Online (ECO) project conducted 10 classes with 41 participants in July and 16 classes with 88 participants in August. These are free computer classes funded through Connect Ohio that are designed to give non-users the basics about computer operations and accessing the internet, as well as the benefits of broadband connectivity. The department is now coordinating training at the following locations:

Career Services

Career and Counseling Services (CCS) attended the conference " *Positioning Appalachian*

Advising and Retention Services

Advising

The Advising and Retention Services office has averaged between 15 and 21 student contacts a day over the months of May, June and July. Contacts come in the form of appointments, walk-ins, phone calls and emails.

Orientations

Staff members of the Advising and Retention Services office have participated or will be participating in more than 30 orientations for new students during the months of May through September.

Additionally, they have participated in open houses, orientations, informational sessions, and registrations at Manchester High School, PACCAR Medical Education Building in Chillicothe, and Scioto County Career Technical Center.

Retention

Research

A study was conducted from summer quarter online classes to discuss reasons students dropped their online classes. More than 77 students were contacted to participate in this study. The results were then given to the Distance Education Committee.

Academic Warning/Probation

Academic plans are being developed for students who are receiving financial aid and find themselves on probation. Mailers are being created and printed through the Communications Department that will be sent to students who are on academic warning or probation and directing them to Student Services for guidance as well as mailers congratulating those who have come off of academic warning or probation, on the Dean's List, and also the President's List.

Advising and Retention Services staff will be giving a presentation during opening week to highlight the reviving of the Early Warning System as well as discussion of the Carl D. Perkins Mini-Grant program, which will offer a chance for more participation for grant activities and programs.

STEM Program

Amy McClellan has been selected to be the Train-the-Trainer for our area on the STEM Program. She will be attending a two-day training session at Columbus State Community College at the end of September. Her

Registration Reminders Direct Mail

In early August, direct mail was sent targeting students who may have applied to Southern State but not yet registered (qty. 505) and also to students who attended spring 2011 but had not yet registered for fall (qty. 1625). The mailers were custom designed to include a personalization feature highlighting the name of each recipient individually. The success of this strategy will be measured, in part, by reviewing the registrations that were completed following the mailing.

Web

Student Portal and Blackboard Sign In

Work is underway to redevelop the student portal page to provide students convenient access to their Blackboard work space. In collaboration with the Information Technology Department and the Distance Education Coordinator, the team is pulling together a modified design that will allow students clear access to both Blackboard CE 8 (older version) and Blackboard 9.1 (new version) as the College migrates toward Blackboard 9.1.

Public Relations

The Ohio Board of Regents invited public information officers in the University System of Ohio to take part in a three-day FastForward Camp on how to use the latest social media tools and approaches to reach key audiences. Kris Cross, director of public relations for Southern State, attended the training which was conducted by Debra Jasper, Ph.D., and Betsy Hubbard, who run the firm Mindset Digital and formerly directed the Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism in the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University.

During the three-day session, participants covered:

- The three major digital shifts all education leaders must know (Facebook, YouTube and Twitter), as well as how people are using new tools to reach and engage students, alumni, donors and large audiences;
- How to better leverage social media and get a stronger return on investment; and
- Smart strategies for telling compelling data stories, giving powerful presentations and learning what people are saying about your organization online.

The camp was made possible thanks to the Lumina Foundation and part of the Productivity Initiative Grant to the Board of Regents in an effort to promote efficiency across higher education institutions in Ohio.

Foundation

Scholarship Process

In collaboration with Janeen Deatley, SSCC Financial Aid Director, the Foundation is currently conducting a comprehensive assessment of the Foundation scholarship program for quality and communication improvement purposes between the College and the donors. This measure of donor stewardship provides the opportunity to have files updated which will ultimately lead to a more seamless scholarship administration process and an opportunity for improved donor relations.

