Capital Requests

Traditional Capital Request | Requested $1,684,296 for Basic Renovations

The Governor's Office and the Office of Budget Management (OBM) recommended that $400M in capital appropriations be dedicated to public higher education. Community Colleges receive $100M of this fund. In collaboration with OACC, the two-year sector relies on an established distributive structure. In this model, Southern State generally receives between $1.6M and $1.8M, and we expect a comparable investment in this cycle.

Southern State's submission included several projects related to basic renovations, including:

- Brick wall repair at entrance
- Upgrade classroom audio/video technology
- Carpet replacement
- Backup power generator

One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund | Requested $2.8M for Computer Science Center of Excellence

HB33 included $700M in General Revenue Funds for the one-time strategic investments. These funds are one-time in nature and are expected to represent meaningful transformation to communities.

In response to this fund availability, Southern State submitted a $2.8M proposal for a Computer Science Center of Excellence. Through this investment, Southern State aims to modernize labs and classrooms to accelerate training and project-based learning for high-demand computer technology professions such as cybersecurity.

The House of Representatives will prioritize proposals in early January and Senate members will prioritize their list by April 15, 2024.

Committee structure; an experienced CCP Coordinator helps manage the institution's high school dual enrollment program and serves as a liaison between SSCC and partner high schools to support students and faculty, help address concerns, and ensure the program functions effectively; a team of professional staff provide student support services that include admissions, enrollment, registration, and advising; faculty are qualified per Higher Learning Commission and the Ohio Department of Higher Education guidelines, reviewed regularly by the CCP coordinator and students, and provided numerous professional development opportunities; and continuous improvement assessment s p fsQ

The Spring 2024 schedule included 12 new and dusted-off courses that have not been on the schedule for some time. Four of those classes were canceled due to low enrollment. Eight of those classes are being offered this Spring and include: Intro. to Manufacturing, Spanish I and II, French II, Social Psychology, Cultural Anthropology, History of Art II, and Music Appreciation II.

Additionally, this Spring we have 33 high schools offering CCP courses at their locations. Many are offering new course options including Loveland HS (Spanish), Unioto (Chemistry), and Waverly (Biology) as well as many schools joining or offering new courses with our Agriculture initiative: Claymont, Fairfield, Greenfield, Lorain Co. JVS, Manchester, North Adams, Ripley, and Van Buren6nfently, we have a total of seven Agriculture courses tha t high schools can offer for CCP credit. Ripley has also added new math and literature courses as well as business courses.

Faculty

The next faculty assessment workshop is scheduled for March 29. The Program Review schedule for Spring includes History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Sociology.

Study Abroad

Study Abroad in May 2024

Students Benefit from the

Sara M. Barrere Memorial Trust Scholarship Fund

Studying abroad allows students to explore international culture and travel within a structured but flexible timeframe. The program is designed to build core competencies and soft skills needed to thrive in many career paths in an increasingly connected world. By matching traditional teaching methods with the impact of experiential learning, the curriculum will be brought to life through exploring new cultures and experiencing transformative moments.

SSCC Study Abroad provides opportunities to expose students to the world beyond their county and state. The introduction to different cultures, customs, and lifestyles opens a broader understanding of individual strength and perspective in very different environments. Students discover similarities as well as diversity, expanding their "world" and their confidence.

Leading the study abroad program at Southern State are Associate Professor of English Jeff Wallace, Philosophy Instructor Sam Ginn, and the Dean of Articulation and Transfer and Brown County Campus Director Dr. Peggy Chalker. Professor Wallace has been leading these trips for the past 14 years.

New this year, through a generous gift from the Sara M. Barrere Memorial Trust scholarship, students are eligible for up to $1,500 of scholarship money to assist with the abroad trip. Barrere was a lifelong philanthropist and generous donor to SSCC and other organizations in Highland County. She loved to read and loved to travel. As she battled Parkinson's disease, she shared her experiences abroad with healthcare providers and nurses, many of whom were educated and trained by Southern State Community College. After her passing, she generously willed the income from her trust principal to help those who had helped her. Her ongoing gift is to be used to assist the College in awarding scholarships to students.

Currently, Professors Wallace and Ginn, along with Dr. Erika Goodwin have been interviewing scholarship applicants. Scholarship criteria include a minimum 2.0 GPA, a minimum of six SSCC-earned college credits, and enrollment in the COLL 1110 summer course. A personal interview is required. Preference is given to students residing in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, and Highland Counties. Thanks to Robin Tholen for finalizing the scholarship application, scheduling the interviews, and overseeing the scholarship funds.

The 2024 trip in May will expose travelers to Southern Ireland, Wales, and popular sites in England, such as Bath, Strafford on the Avon, Oxford, and London. The 2025 trip destination is Spain and Morocco.

Academic Advisors

The chart below gives an overview of how many students Academic Advisors have had contact with during November and December 2023.

MONTH	NEW: TRAD/NON-TRADITIONAL	NEW: CCP	TOTAL NEW	RETURNING: TRAD/NON-TRADITIONAL	RETURNING: CCP	TOTAL RETURNING	WALK-INS	TOTAL ADVISING*
Nov 23	43	5	48	342	178	520	184	752
Dec 23	39	2	41	230	55	285	77	403

*NOTE: These numbers represent the number of student appointments—planned or spontaneous—in November and December, including face-to-face, ZOOM, and over the phone. Some numbers may be duplicates. A total of 40 Early Alerts were submitted by faculty and followed up on during November.

Financial Aid

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

The 2024/2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has been released by the U.S. Department of Education. SSCC's Financial Aid office will host several FAFSA/financial aid nights at high schools in January. We expect that requests from high schools to assist families with the FAFSA will continue in February and into March.

College's fiscal year 2023 and/or 2024, eligible full-time staff members successfully performing their responsibilities will be eligible for a merit adjustment of an additional 1.8%.

As such, full-time staff successfully performing their responsibilities received a 1.8% increase on their December 15 payroll, retroactive to July 1, 2023.

Full-time Faculty, as outlined in the Southern State Education Association collective-bargaining agreement (CBA) Article 16.071, who had a step available, were advanced one step on the salary schedule effective August 1, 2023. New contracts were issued to the Faculty.

The College included the non-instructional part-time staff members in the compensation adjustments. This included the adjustments outlined in the Policy and Information Manual (9.8 D, pg. 121) suggested for full-time employees, including the 2.0% adjustment issued July 1, 2023, and the 1.8% merit adjustment for reaching specific index scores. Essentially, this totals a 3.8% increase in their hourly rate. These adjustments were delivered on December 15 and paid retroactively to July 1, 2023.

Security

Gary Heaton, the College Security and Emergency Response Coordinator, has:

Attended Highland, Fayette, Clinton (H.F.C.) Safety Council meetings for November and December.
Attended the 2-Day Virtual 2023 National School Safety Summit sponsored by the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). The Summit featured the latest research, resources, programs, and guidance available on a range of school safety topics and threats. The sessions included master class presentations and panel discussions, as well as remarks by leaders from the government, private sector, and school safety community. The Summit was designed to foster a nationwide dialogue on school safety, as well as equip school stakeholders and personnel with resources, training, and expertise to apply in their local school settings and communities.
Assisted Student Services with questions concerning an applicant for college admission
Attended a Community Prevention Forum (anti

Transparency and Accountability: Completing these reports helps maintain transparency between employers, employees, and the government regarding healthcare coverage provided by the employer.

Given the legal and financial implications, it's crucial for Human Resources to diligently gather and accurately report this information, ensuring compliance with the PPACA regulations.

Benefits and Compensation

Benefits

Crystal Howland, Coordinator of Benefits and Compensation, continued to work with newly hired employees to enroll in their desired benefits. The Coordinator assisted several employees with Qualifying Work/Life events to open special enrollments. The Coordinator worked with Employees needing FMLA enrollment and guidance.

Discussion has begun with our partners at Horan regarding the upcoming renewal season to ensure everyone has the same mindset coming into renewal. Insurance Committee members have been identified.

Wellness

The College promoted one wellness seminar in November that was sponsored by our partners at IMPACT Solutions. The webinar was titled "Avoiding Holiday Shopping Fraud" and was aimed at providing safe online shopping tips, how to avoid scams, and how to protect your card/cash when shopping in busy shopping centers.

The Coordinator of Benefits and Compensation is currently planning a "Weight Loss Challenge" for employees to kick off in mid-January. Details will be sent to employees once planning is complete.

Community Engagement Projects

The College co-sponsored the 2023 Stockings for Veterans with the Highland County Veteran's Services (HCVS) office. The event aimed to collect essential items to provide comfort and assistance to veterans facing various challenges. The Coordinator of Benefits and Compensation worked closely with representatives from HCVS to coordinate donation locations and advertising. The Coordinator arranged a Stocking Stuffing Party on December 14 for employees to assist in filling stockings and enjoy Christmas-themed snacks, drinks, and music. Stockings went to 8 medical and assisted living facilities located in Chillicothe, Hillsboro, Greenfield, and Georgetown. A goal was set to fill 100 stockings, and the goal was exceeded with nearly 120.

Recruiting and Onboarding

Academics

Adjunct hires for the Spring Semester include Jennifer Walker (HPER) and Lori Ann Simmons (MATH). Vince Allgeier (ENGR) officially joins SSCC this semester, as his summer course did not run.

In Nursing, Kim Tinnel waG[((b( )]Tb2.pd as)-4(t)-2(he full)]TJETQq0.00000912 0 612 792 reW* nBT/F2 10.98 Tf1

A new IT Help Desk - Workstudy position was created and posted in preparation for the Spring Semester.

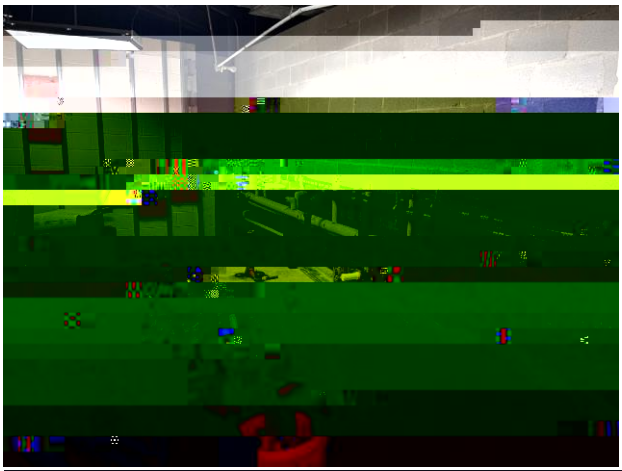
Workforce Development

The Adult Opportunity Center has selected Melissa Krause as a new Assessment Team Member for the Wilmington location. She will begin in January 2024.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Highland County Campus Restroom Renovation

Demolition/construction of the two main building restrooms began the week of December 11, and the project is progressing very well. Demolition occurring during the semester break was instrumental in reducing disruption for students. The plumbing is nearing completion, and they are constructing a new wet wall and preparing the remaining walls for tile. Special thanks to Loren O'Cull (Facilities Manager) for being onsite during the holiday break for construction to continue while the building was closed.



Highland County Campus Door Upgrades

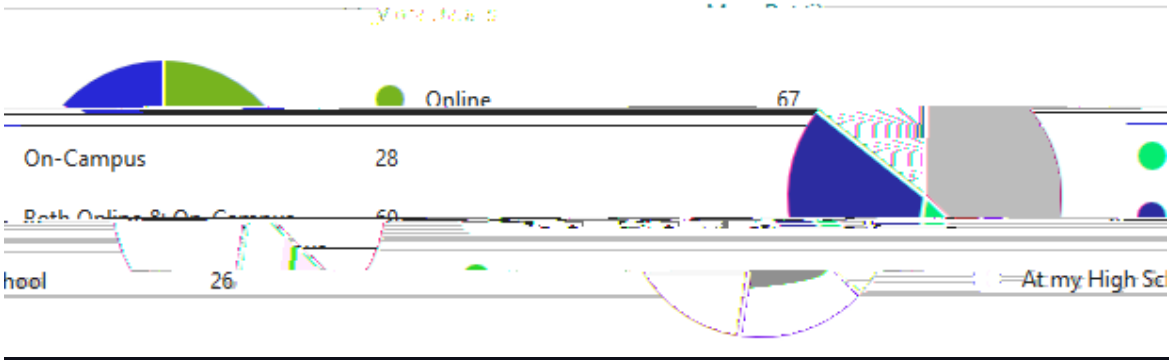
The entryway door replacement project is almost complete. Due to extensive age and wear, the original doors provided many safety challenges with questionable latching and locking. Thanks to Governor DeWine's 2022 Campus Safety Grant Program, we could fund the replacement of

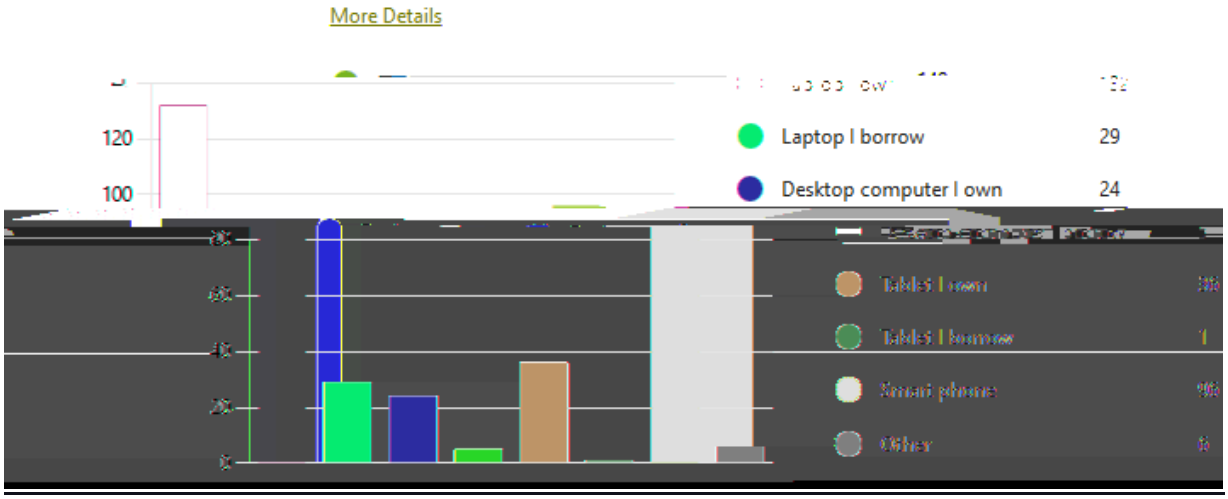
all main entryway doors. Special thanks to Mindy Markey-Grabill (VP of Human Resources) for securing the Campus Safety Grant on our behalf.

You will notice some of the doors only have one pull handle. This intentional safety measure prevents a rogue person from wrapping something between two door handles from the outside to remove an occupant's escape path.

This project has been in the planning stages for the past 18 months and includes replacing entry doors in the main lobby, the end of each hallway, both entrances to the Annex Building, and

2. I attend Southern State classes:





Science program to support students seeking to complete their Computer Information Technology degree. The funding pays for the student's tuition, fees, and books. A limited number of students will be selected to participate as a COF student through an interview process.

Workforce Development

Truck Driving Academy

AY2021/2022	AY2022/2023	AY2023/2024

Recent Southern State Appearances – Communications Activities and Involvement

Since the last report, Southern State has appeared in the following media outlets:

Press Releases

Events/Publications