

**Southwestern Community College**  
**PRESIDENT-S COUNCIL**

**Friday, November 21, 2003**

**Bradford Hall Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

Thom Brooks	Chris Cox	Susan McCaskill	Chuck Reece
Sandra Bunn	Sherry Floerchinger	Delos Monteith	Lisa Shearer
Janet Burnette	Beth Graham	Melissa Pendergast	Doug Ward
Jim Campbell	Cecil Groves	Karen Polyasko	Dwight Wiggins
Myrna Campbell	Connie Haire	Amy Potts	Sharon Grasty, Recorder
Gene Couch	Debra Klavohn	Barbara Putman	

The President's Council met at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2003 in the Bradford Hall Conference Room. Delos Monteith called the meeting to order and welcomed council members.

Chuck Reece presented a PowerPoint presentation and update on the new Macon Campus project. Representatives from Bowers, Ellis & Watson Architects, PA recently met with college personnel to solicit input on design of the building. They also accompanied college administrators on a recent visit to Columbia, SC to tour the facilities at at Midlands Tech's new campus. Chuck reviewed a handout detailing possible space utilization in the new facility. Discussion was held on how best to maximize the space in the new building and suggestions were considered for possible elimination or consolidation of areas.

Connie Haire provided an update on the Joint Library Project. The five member Joint Library task force nominated by the Jackson County commissioners has been meeting since late summer. The task force has conducted a community survey to determine public opinion of the project and held an open question and answer forum to solicit public input. Proposals have been sent to architects and two architects have been selected to present to the task force on November 25. The task force expects to complete their assignment and report to the commissioners by March 16, 2004.

Dr. Groves provided an update on the status of college facilities and acquisition projects. The Jackson County commissioners recently bought a parcel of land adjacent to the Cashiers library. They plan to apportion part of this acquisition for the SCC Cashiers Center. The fiber installation is proceeding well. Fiber is now in place from the main SCC campus to the Drake Building in Franklin. It is expected that installation to the Macon County Industrial Park will be completed by the end of December. This is an important accomplishment for the college because of the cost features in the future.

Melissa Pendergast reported on plans formulated to celebrate the college's upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August 2004. Several creative ideas have been suggested by the celebration planning committee. Suggestions include a historic web gallery(possibly integrating the annual reports with notable events in the college's past); redo the college stationary; a celebration party with the community with possible smaller events held at each center; a new 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo and slogan; and a more representative name for the college. Discussion was held on the seriousness of a name change and how best to approach it.

Gene Couch gave an update on the college=s retention effort. Several years ago the college engaged the services of Noel-Levitz to address areas that needed attention. As a result of the Noel-Levitz consultations and planning workshops conducted, college retention efforts were intensified. Retention action teams were created and a college-wide enrollment and retention plan was implemented. The teams had two goals 1) increase retention by two percent by Fall 2003; and 2) see improvement on surveys dealing with those areas relating to retention. A recent report has shown that student retention has increased 2.86 percent. Results for the student satisfaction survey inventory should be available by early Spring 2004.

Chuck presented the Student Service Philosophy. This student centered service policy was drafted as part of the college retention efforts.

Chuck reported on the tuition fee policy. Several years ago the State Board gave North Carolina community colleges the authority to assess a technology fee associated with operations. At that time, Southwestern Community College elected not to assess this fee. However, the college is now considering charging a technology fee in light of the rising technology related costs. The proposed fee would be \$1.00 per credit hour. Chuck requested input from council members as to their thoughts and observations on this fee.

Discussion was held on the stalemate regarding a proposed academic calendar for the 2004/05 year. The matter will be reviewed at the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting and the Calendar Committee plans to meet again next week to consider options.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.