Southwestern Community College

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 29, 2005

Bradford Conference Center

Members Present:

Scott Baker	Connie Haire	Joan Moulton	Scott Sutton
Thom Brooks	Dale Hall	Rita Norris	Sherri Turk
Janet Burnette	Rose Hooper	Laura Pennington	Phil Weast
Jim Campbell	Dianne Lindgren	Barbara Putman	Sharon Grasty, Recorder
Gene Couch	Susan McCaskill	Chuck Reece	
Cecil Groves	Delos Monteith	Ryan Schwiebert	

The President's Council met at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2005 in the Bradford Hall Conference Center. Dr. Groves called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed the group. Delos Monteith introduced two new members of the Council, Scott Baker and Dale Hall.

Modifications to the Planning Process:

At the May 25, 2005 President's Council meeting, the group approved modifications to the college's planning process. These modifications became effective at the beginning of the 2005/06 planning period. Dr. Groves provided a review and brief summary of these modifications and the rationales behind the changes. He noted these changes would reinvigorate the President's Council as a planning body and provide a more unified approach to the college's budgeting process. One of the primary responsibilities of the Council will be developing a draft of the annual college priorities.

Approval of Chair:

As part of the newly adopted modifications to the planning process, it was agreed that the leadership of the President's Council would be rotated on an annual basis. Following the May meeting, a nominating committee consisting of Connie Haire, Dale Hall and Chuck Reece was appointed to nominate a chair and chair-elect for the 2005/06 year. The committee recommended Phil Weast as chair and Scott Baker as chair-elect. Delos made a motion that the nominations be accepted and approved by the Council. Laura Pennington seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Changes to Council Role:

As presiding chair, Phil Weast reviewed the effect the new role changes will have on the President's Council. The Council will be assuming responsibility for developing the college's planning assumptions, developing a draft of the annual college priorities and developing action plans for the priorities. In order to achieve this, the Council will engage in two half-day planning retreats during the upcoming year. A tentative date of February 7, 2005 has been set for the first session.

CCSSE Report:
Delos reviewed the results of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement. The national survey is designed to capture student engagement as a measure of institutional quality. A total of 256 community colleges nationally participated in the survey, including eleven North Carolina colleges. The survey was administered to a cross section of curriculum classes in Spring Semester 2005. SCC exceeded both national and state averages on all five benchmarks measured by the study.

SACS Update
Thom Brooks, chair of the SACS Compliance Team, provided a report on the team's progress and gave a brief encapsulation of the process and timeline for the upcoming SACS review. The team is continuing to examine SCC policies and procedures for compliance with SACS principles of accreditation. Their first draft of a response on the college's compliance is in the final stages and they expect to have the report completed by the March 16, 2006 due date. Completed compliance reports are available on the college's website.

Barbara Putman, chair of the Quality Enhancement Plan Team, provided a report on the team's efforts. The team had chosen "Distance and Technology Enhanced Learning " as their focus and completed the background research phase of the project with two areas of concentration identified. However, during the recent SACS representative visit, a concern was voiced that the QEP focus appeared too broad and difficult to measure. As a result, the team plans to review and reevaluate the project.

Dr. Couch reported that the meeting with the SACS representative was a positive experience. College administrators and SACS team members were favorably impressed with the representatives's level of interest and experience. Dr. Couch noted the SACS review process should be viewed as a beneficial process for college improvement. He queried the level of awareness among faculty and staff regarding the re-accreditation process. It was suggested to hold sessions in January and Fall 2006 to boost awareness of the upcoming SACS visit. Another suggestion was to have a daily message regarding SACS display on employee computers.

Proposed Policy - Honoring Deceased Students and Employees:
Through the years, a number of processes and events have occurred to honor the memory of deceased college students and employees. These have included planting trees and placing plaques in buildings. In an effort to provide some consistency to the process, Chuck Reece presented a proposed procedure for honoring deceased students and employees. Various methods of honoring the deceased were suggested including a memory wall in the Library, a memorial garden or memorials placed on the college walking trail. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the college move forward with developing a process. Laura Pennington suggested formalizing a linkage with the SCC Foundation.

Planning Assumptions and Priorities:
Phil and Delos presented the President's Council Group Assignments. Individual Council members were divided into four groups to study and monitor the planning assumption topic areas and develop assumptions for the 2006-07 year. Following discussion, Janet Burnette was reassigned to Facilities/Property Acquisition. Sara Hatton and Rose Hooper were assigned to the Political group. Phil and Delos provided insight into the responsibilities for the group assignments and emphasized

members should additionally feel free to utilize the expertise of other college employees. Any suggested changes/deletions/additions should be submitted to Delos one week prior to the next Council meeting. Laura suggested adding an element of supporting data to the assumptions and priorities. Dr. Groves suggested soliciting input from the college's service area administrative and planning officials. The Council agreed this would be beneficial. A session with county administrators, planning officials, school superintendents, AdvantageWest and Region A directors will be scheduled in late January or early February before the counties begin their budget process.

Dr. Groves expressed his appreciation to Delos and Laura for their efforts in coordinating the planning process with the Executive Council. He also expressed his appreciation to Phil Weast and Scott Baker for their willingness to assume leadership of the President's Council.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.