

Southwestern Community College
PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
Monday, March 26, 2007

Balsam Center 322

Members Present:

Scott Baker	Allan Grant	Debra Klavohn	Barbara Putman
Thom Brooks	Cecil Groves	Dianne Lindgren	Chuck Reece
Janet Burnette	Connie Haire	Susan McCaskill	Phil Weast
Jim Campbell	Dale Hall	Delos Monteith	Jennifer Thomas, Recorder
Gene Couch	Sara Hatton	Laura Pennington	

The President's Council met at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26, 2007 in Balsam 322. Chairman Scott Baker called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

College Planning Assumptions for 2007-08

Planning Assumption team members presented suggested changes to the various categories. Phil Weast moved to adopt changes; Diane Lindgren seconded Phil's motion. The council unanimously voted to adopt all changes to the College Planning Assumptions for 2007-08.

Review of College Priorities

Delos Monteith reviewed the 2006-2007 Institutional Priorities and requested that council members submit five or six priorities (either existing priorities from 2006-07 or new items) for 2007-2008 prior to the next meeting. A list of submitted Institutional Priorities will be presented at the next meeting at which time the council will assign priority to the various topics.

Appointment of Nominating Committee

Barb Putman, Dianne Lindgren, and Scott Baker have been appointed to the Nominating Committee for 2007-2008. The committee will present nominations for the chair and chair-elect positions at the next meeting.

Facility/Property Update

Dr. Groves provided an update on the College's facilities and property. The N.C. Forest Service is currently waiting on plans to be confirmed for their new building. Therefore, architect selection for our new building has been delayed until July or August. The Department of Transportation has approved the College's proposal to include plans for building a new boulevard between NC 116 and NC 107 in the Transportation Infrastructure Plan. The new location of the Jackson County School Bus Garage is currently under discussion with Jackson County Commissioners.

The Macon campus will open to students in August and there are plans for an opening celebration in July. The College is currently in discussion with Macon County seeking funding and support to construct a new building on the Macon Campus. Plans are underway with the Blue Ridge National Heritage Corridor to create a Heritage Site near the Macon Campus. The proposed Heritage Site will include a home stead, crafts, and walking trails.

Oaks Hall is in need of renovation and the College is currently seeking financial assistance from Jackson County.

Data Items

Delos Monteith presented the updated 2007 Performance Measures and Standards results. The College has met the College Transfer Performance measure with 88.9% of transfers achieving a GPA of 2.0 or greater after two semesters at SCC compared to 86.2% for native UNC Institutions students. As a result, it appears the College will attain the superior designation this year. The College has failed to meet a 3-year average annual headcount of at least 10 students for Program Unduplicated Enrollment. However, this is not a measure of quality. The results for the four remaining measures should be available by the next meeting.

SACS Update

Gene Couch presented a brief update on SACS. Following the SACS visit the College received four recommendations which have since been responded to. The status of the College reaffirmation will be announced at the SACS meeting in June. While the bulk of the SACS work is complete, the College will continue working on the QEP and will submit a 5-year report. The College will have substantive change visits for the Macon Campus in Fall 2007 as well as the new Fine Arts Program in Cherokee at a subsequent point.

Other Business

Dr. Groves mentioned the projected 5% salary increase for professional staff and faculty as included in the governor's budget.

The College will be seeking funding to purchase new technology equipment for distance learning.

The College will apply for a new Title III grant in 2008.

To date there has been no move toward increasing tuition for community colleges.

There being no further business, the council adjourned at 3:20 pm.