

Southwestern Community College
PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
Monday, April 14, 2008

Members Present:

Thom Brooks	Rose Garrett	Susan McCaskill	Ryan Schwiebert
Janet Burnette	Allan Grant	Delos Monteith	Scott Sutton
Gene Couch	Cecil Groves	Barb Putman	Sharon Grasty, Recorder
Bucky Dann	Dianne Lindgren	Chuck Reece	

Guests: Linda Dyke, Liz Kelly

The President's Council met at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2008 in the Bradford Hall Conference Center.

Chairman Thom Brooks called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed guests, Linda Dyke and Liz Kelly. He noted the primary focus of the meeting would be to review the College Planning Assumptions for the upcoming year.

College Planning Assumptions for 2008-09:

At the March 10 President's Council meeting, members were assigned to teams to review each section of the College Planning Assumptions and bring proposed revisions/suggestions back to the Council. Chairman Brooks facilitated a review and discussion of the 2008-09 Planning Assumptions for the Demographic, Economic, Education & Training, Political, Social, Technology, Facilities/Property Acquisition, and SWOT sections. Following discussion, the assumptions, with any revisions made during the meeting, were adopted by the Council.

Review of College Priorities:

Delos Monteith asked members to review the 2007-2008 Institutional Priorities prior to the next Council meeting and send any recommendations/additions to him. Priorities for the upcoming year will be ranked and adopted by the Council at the next meeting.

Nominating Committee Report:

Chuck Reece presented the nominating committee's recommendation of Diane Lindgren as chair-elect for the 2008/09 year. The recommendation was approved. Diane will assume the chair-elect position when current chair-elect Bucky Dann transitions to the chair position.

WAC Update:

Coordinator Liz Kelly provided an update on the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program and discussed her plans and scheduled activities for the upcoming year. She has conducted over 45 WAC in-class workshops this year in addition to approximately 35 small group workshops and is working on developing more workshops including sessions for on-line students. The style guide is in review this semester and Liz is working on developing a revised, student friendly version and an on-line version. She reviewed changes in the assessment method which will be implemented this fall. She noted feedback from faculty and staff has been very positive.

Early College Staff:

Linda Dyke, Director of College Access Programs, briefly explained the Early College program concept and gave an overview of the new Jackson County Early College High School initiative. The college will partner with the public school system to offer two different early college programs in Jackson County. Smoky Mountain High students will be housed on the SCC Jackson Campus and Blue Ridge students will be housed at the Blue Ridge School campus. The Jackson Early College will have a staff of six with Raylene Bryson serving as principal. Linda defined early college principles and addressed concerns and misconceptions regarding incorporating high school students into the campus culture.

Facility/Property Update:

Dr. Groves provided a report on current college facility and construction projects for the main campus and off-campus sites and detailed possible future acquisitions. He noted the Jackson campus is positioned well concerning growth for the next forty years. Replacing the outdated phone system and the ceiling in Oaks Hall will be priorities during the upcoming budget year along with addressing the heating and air conditioning issues at the Swain Center. He noted the Macon County commissioners have approved allocation of funds for the construction of a 6,000 square foot building on the Macon Campus to provide classrooms and office space for the Macon Early College. Dr. Groves commended the college's maintenance staff for the outstanding job they have done in maintaining college facilities.

Other Business:

The next meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on April 28 in Room 133, Founders Hall. George Stanley and architect Chad Roberson will be invited to provide an update on the college Master Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.