



President's Council

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**Southwestern Community College
PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
Wednesday, May 5, 2004**

Room 322, Balsam Center

Members Present:

Sandra Bunn	Sherry Floerchinger	Melissa Pendergast
Janet Burnette	Allan Grant	Barbara Putman
Jim Campbell	Cecil Groves	Chuck Reece
Gene Couch	Connie Haire	Doug Ward
Chris Cox	Debra Klavohn	Sharon Grasty, Recorder
Virginia Cranfield	Delos Monteith	

The President's Council met at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 2004, in Room 322 of the Balsam Center. Dr. Groves called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and welcomed Student Leadership Association representative, Virginia Cranfield. He expressed his appreciation to the SLA for their work with the College clubs and for funding the Milestone publication. Dr. Groves thanked Doug Ward, outgoing Faculty Senate President, for his service on the council and congratulated incoming Faculty Senate President, Chris Cox.

Delos reviewed the draft SCC Planning Assumptions for 2004-05. He asked the Council for recommended changes, additions or deletions. The draft planning assumptions were approved with the following changes:

Political:

- Annexation issues for towns of Sylva and Webster
- National/State elections in 2004

Facilities/Property:

- Cost of construction driven by higher steel prices

Internal Challenges:

- Salary (competitive) ability of college to attract/retain faculty and staff
- Issues associated with growth of distance learning courses at SCC
- Staff forum
- Overall pride in college (incorporate into Planning Assumptions)

Delos reviewed the draft 2004-2005 College Priorities and asked for recommended changes, additions or deletions. Two changes were suggested:

- SCC Faculty Center (permanent) to #11 and add
- College name change

The draft college priorities were approved with the recommended additions.

Melissa Pendergast provided an update on activities planned to celebrate the college's upcoming 40th anniversary. Funding has been received from the SCC Foundation to assist with costs. The main goal of the activities will be to revive the internal and external energy and enthusiasm for Southwestern Community College. A host of possible activities are being considered including:

- historic annual report (in the form of a web gallery)
- speakers bureau (Executive Council members) to present to local/community organizations
- pennants/posters to be placed in local businesses
- new slogan celebrating 40 years of teaching & learning
- resolution from county commissioners
- host a SCC retiree luncheon
- host a dinner for former and current trustees
- SCC shirts for employees
- highlight stories of 40 SCC graduates
- name change for the college
- 40th anniversary activity for students on "Welcome Back Day" (in cooperation with SLA)

The main celebration will be held on the Jackson Campus in Spring 2005. Suggested activities include a car show, pie eating contest, womanless beauty pageant, raffle of a 1964 model car. Events will also be hosted at the Macon and Swain centers. Melissa noted the anniversary committee members are open to questions, suggestions or volunteers.

Delos provided a summary of the 2004 Student Climate Survey results. He

reviewed the questions generating the highest mean scores and the lowest mean scores and discussed the implications of the results. The Institutional Effectiveness committee will review the survey instrument next fall to see if any revisions are necessary.

Delos provided an overview of the results of the 2004 Employee Evaluation of College Services Survey. A primary purpose of the survey is to enable non-instructional departments to obtain quantifiable data in order to make improvements in services. There was a very good response rate (52%) to the survey. The mean declined on 71 % of the 143 questions on the survey. However, a few areas had higher mean scores than last year. These areas include the college bookstore, purchasing and the LAC. Dr. Groves expressed his appreciation for Delos' efforts in coordinating the college's surveys. He noted the college's internal survey instruments are very helpful in measuring performance and gauging trends.

Delos provided a brief update on the 2004 Performance Measures and Standards. The final results have not been released yet; however, preliminary reports indicate the college met the standard for developmental but did not meet the 70% required for the licensure standard.

Delos also reported that results from several community colleges recently reviewed by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) indicate that faculty credentials and general education competencies are two areas that are being reviewed closely. With preparations beginning soon for its upcoming SACS visit in 2007, Southwestern should take note of this information.

Dr. Groves provided a brief update on the college's budget situation. It is generally expected that the upcoming legislative session will end by July 1. Revenues are currently running ahead of forecast and the State's fiscal situation is slowly beginning to improve which should increase funding to the college. The legislature is expected to grant a salary increase this year for state and community college employees. On a national level, the Republican party has identified community colleges as one of their priorities this year. This may also prove beneficial to SCC.

Dr. Groves provided an update on the status of college facilities and acquisition projects. The college has asked for additional funding for improvements from the local county government. These funds will be used for roofing, paving and air conditioning needs. A formal request for full-service campus designation for the new Macon Campus has been submitted to the System Office in Raleigh.

Construction is expected to begin on the new campus this fall with an anticipated occupation date of Spring 2006. The Macon library has announced plans to relocate adjacent to the new campus site.

At the April quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board approved two new programs for the college - Gaming Management and Medical Transcription. Funding from the Eastern Band of Cherokee and Harrah's Casino will be used to make the Gaming Management program operational.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

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