

Southwestern Community College
VISION 2017 Strategic Planning Steering Committee
Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Members Present:

Scott Baker	Vance Davidson	Mike Murray	Julie Voorhees
Steve Baxley	Rose Garrett	Gene Norton	Phil Weast
Ronnie Beale	Elizabeth Haynes	Barb Putman	Sharon Grasty, Recorder
Tony Belcher	Sonja Haynes	Chuck Reece	Kelly Smith, Recorder
Terry Bell	Bob Holt	Ryan Schwiebert	Wayne Sutton, IT
Thom Brooks	Debra Klavohn	Ryan Sherby	
Janet Burnette	Libby Knight	Kimi Stevens	
Cheryl Contino-Conner	Delos Monteith	Scott Sutton	

The initial meeting of the Vision 2017 Strategic Planning Steering Committee was convened at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 in the Bradford Hall Conference Room.

Dr. Tomas welcomed the group and expressed his appreciation to the college's external community partners for their willingness to serve on the committee.

Following introductions, Dr. Tomas gave a brief background summary of the planning initiative and explained the college's collaborative process with Western Carolina University on joint community forums in Jackson, Macon and Swain counties.

Dr. Tomas and Delos Monteith presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the focus and scope of the Vision 2017 Strategic Focus for Student Success planning initiative. Dr. Tomas reviewed the reasons for a student success agenda and the college leadership's role in the process. Also, Dr. Tomas indicated this plan would chart the direction for the college over the next five years (from 2012 to 2017). The group was in agreement that the name "*Vision 2017*" was a good descriptor for this initiative.

Delos presented the rationale for a new strategic plan and reviewed the six phases of the planning process. He reviewed the proposed timeline for the initiative and noted the goal is to present the plan to the SCC Board of Trustees for approval at its July 2012 quarterly board meeting. If approved, the plan would be implemented in Fall 2012.

Facilitated by Delos, the steering committee identified key constituents and grouped them into categories. Five major groups were identified (Attachment 1). The committee also identified a list of potential questions to be used in gathering feedback from key constituents (Attachment 2). Cheryl Contino-Conner, Elizabeth Haynes, Barb Putman and Julie Voorhees volunteered to review the wording and to develop the finalized list of common questions.

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Teams were established to gather data from each of the five key constituent groups identified at today's meeting:

Team 1 - Educational Providers:

Scott Baker, Steve Baxley, Bob Holt, Mike Murray, Barb Putman, Julie Voorhees

Team 2 - Community Groups

Vance Davidson, Debra Klavohn, Chuck Reece, Ryan Schwiebert

Team 3 - Major Employers (Healthcare/Others)

Thom Brooks, Janet Burnette, Sonja Haynes, Scott Sutton, Kimi Stevens

Note- Team 3 will be divided into 2 teams with one group addressing the healthcare community and the other looking at other employment sectors

Team 4 - Government

Ronnie Beale, Tony Belcher, Rose Garrett, Ryan Sherby

Team 5 - Internal (SCC)

Cheryl Contino-Conner, Delos Monteith, Gene Norton, Phil Weast

Following discussion, it was agreed the next meeting of the steering committee would be held on Tuesday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

KEY CONSTITUENTS

Educational Providers:

- public schools
- four year institutions (WCU)
- neighboring community colleges (competition & collaboration)
- Job Corps centers
- New Schools project

Community Groups:

- civic/community organizations
- faith community
- non-profit community
- Fontana Library

Major Employers (Healthcare/Other):

- healthcare givers
- business community
- tribe
- childcare centers

Government:

- county and local government
- legislators
- emergency services
- Federal (Park Service)

Internal (SCC):

- students (current & former)
- faculty & staff

QUESTIONS

1. How can SCC help you?
2. How has SCC helped you?
3. When I think of SCC, the first thing that comes to mind is _____.
4. What needs do you have that SCC is not meeting?
5. What is your opinion of SCC?
6. What role does education play in your entity?
7. How important is education to you?
8. Why are groups or individuals not using SCC to meet their educational needs?
9. What is your perception of the level of cooperation between SCC and public schools and WCU?
How can these relationships be improved?
10. What is your perception of the level of cooperation between SCC and your organization?
11. What role should SCC play in meeting educational needs in the service area?
12. How well prepared are SCC students/graduates to meet employment/further their education?
13. What recent changes have occurred that we need to incorporate into our curriculums (or will happen)?