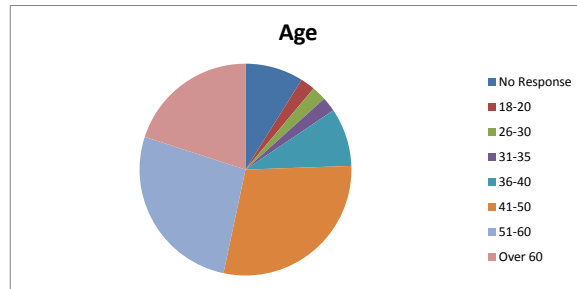


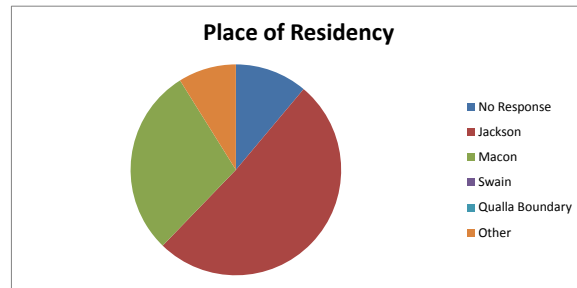
Vision 2017
Education Subcommittee Survey Responses
Tuesday, January 31, 2012

Demographic Responses

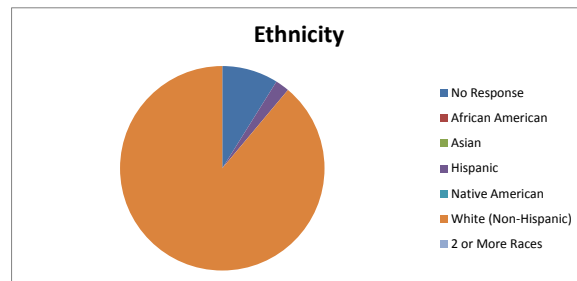
Age Group	Total
No Response	4
18-20	1
26-30	1
31-35	1
36-40	4
41-50	13
51-60	12
Over 60	9



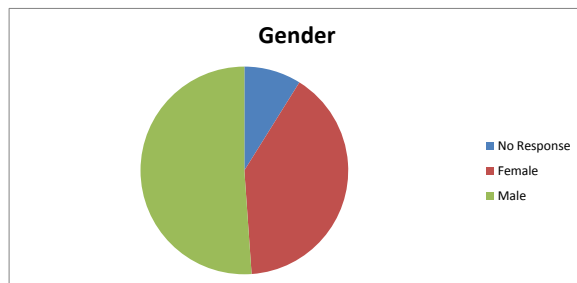
Residency	Total
No Response	5
Jackson	23
Macon	13
Swain	0
Qualla Boundary	0
Other	4



Ethnicity	Total
No Response	4
African American	0
Asian	0
Hispanic	1
Native American	0
White (Non-Hispanic)	40
2 or More Races	0

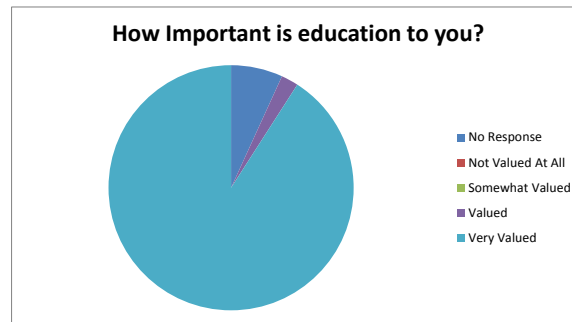


Gender	Total
No Response	4
Female	18
Male	23



Question 1

Response	Total
No Response	3
Not Valued At All	0
Somewhat Valued	0
Valued	1
Very Valued	40



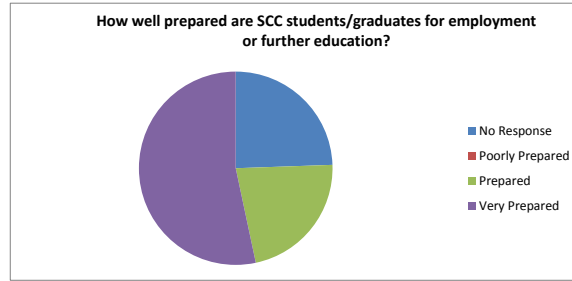
ID	How important is education to you and why?
2	I am a public school principal. Education is essential to provide for a person's future. You can work now (education) and play later or you can play now and work later.
3	Education provides for the general welfare of the community and also helps to broaden economic opportunities for the individual.
4	Very hard job market, I believe education is the only way to
5	Independence
6	It is the only way we can continue a strong democracy.
8	Education is the key, or a very important key to civilized society. It also puts bread on the table.
9	Education is the key to success in life. Educating people how to perform a skill makes the person a life long contributor to society.
10	Allows people choices and opportunities they otherwise would not have.
11	The entire community is influenced by the value we place on education. Education helps us look beyond our needs and lets us focus on others and the world around us.
12	Global competition and world civility.
13	It's the road to economic growth/success - necessary for just basic citizenship.
14	I am a lifelong educator and learner.
15	Improves learning, supports health and wellness, supports the arts
17	Certified at Masters level in: Curriculum, Supervision, Administration
18	I believe learning daily, despite where we are in life, empowers us to fulfill our potential.
20	Very valued - Education is very important to me because people who are informed tend to be better prepared to solve future problems.
21	I am a high school principal and education is how I make a living. Successful education is crucial to the continued success of our nation.
22	Education empowers us to achieve great things.
23	I feel education is the key to obtaining the highest career possible, gain ability to participate as a citizen, and overall feeling of poistive self-respect.
24	I believe that in years past college provided students with an advantage over other job seekers. But in today's competitive market it takes college just to be considered average. Those without any college s=are really at a disadvantage.
25	I believe all children deserve the best education we can provide.
26	At one time, a college degree was an option (almost a luxury), but that is no longer true. I believe a masters degree will become the minimum required for many professions in the future.
27	It is the key to unlocking doors and advancing one's career.
28	With the changes happening in our world, it is essential that we produce graduates who are prepared to do the work and thinking necessary for continued advancement.
30	It is something that can't be taken away. Very valuable for job, quality of life, etc.
31	Education creates opportunity. Opportunity creates promise. Promise gives motivation, Motivation gets me beyond my perceived limitations. It all starts with education.
32	Education is power and key to successful future whether in career areas or transfer programs.
33	Education is vital to produce productive citizens--citizens who can meet their own financial needs and contribute to society.
34	It is important to have an educated workforce in order to improve and expand economic development.
35	As a parent and an educator, I understand the importance of a sound education in enabling students to succeed in life.
36	I work in higher education and see the positive benefits of education on a daily basis.
37	Because both parents told me so!
38	In my family, education has been the foundation on which all our successes were built. My grandparents told my dad and his sisters that they could go anywhere for college as long as they graduated. That value has been passed down to their children.
39	Education = opportunity and richer quality of life.
40	Key to future prosperity/survival in a highly competitive global economy.
41	Moves people to open-mindedness.
42	Personal growth. Preparation for career.
43	I see the impact that higher education makes on students every day; plus, my livelihood depends on the success of our higher education system.

Question 2

ID	How has Southwestern Community College met your needs?
1	Somewhat
2	Partnership between Macon County Schools and SCC to better provide for the students of MEC and the Franklin area
3	I have not utilized the services of SCC.
4	Offered many continuing education courses - also used classes to learn many topics outside my field. Ex. Cake decorating, flower arranging, stained glass, french cooking
5	Southwestern offers great opportunities in our community. When the young people and other citizens are educated I think you see less unemployment and less crime in the community.
6	Provided both technical and four year college opportunities.
8	Provided opportunities for staff development and student courses.
9	Although I have never attended SCC, I have seen the positive impact it has had on the community.
10	Provides good variety of options for students wishing to further their education.
11	SCC has helped students in our community reach their educational potential. Many first generation college students began their higher education at SCC.
12	As former principal of Franklin High School SCC has made education affordable for our youth.
14	I have considered continuing ed classes and plan to take some in the future.
15	Occasionally it has served as a meeting place for the community--other than that I have never used any SCC services.
17	Excellent school - My work was completed at WCU.
18	By educating friends and family members for useful careers.
19	I think it is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to take courses to continue our education, for others to get degrees.
20	My wife and I have taken personal enrichment courses. Our son graduated from the LPN program through SCC.
21	SCC gives my students the opportunity to take college level classes concurrent enrollment and allows them additional options in career and technical education pathways.
22	SCC has provided programs to our students at our school.
23	SCC served as a good base for me to begin my education sequence in obtaining a teaching license. SCC has also served to provide educational resources for my son who is currently a high school student.
24	I have personally not taken classes at SCC, but as a partnering agency SCC has helped meet the needs of many of our students.
25	SCC has assisted our graduates and our early college students in all areas of their education.
26	Yes
30	I have not taken any classes there.
31	I have not attended SCC as a student, but as an education partner, they have been vital to our success as a school district. They have extended opportunities to our students that we could not have provided on our own.
32	Socioeconomic needs. Culturally.
33	Southwestern has enables students who I have taught at the high school level to become excited about a vocation. I know at least four young men who would have dropped out of school if they had not had the opportunity to take automotive classes at SCC.
34	It has prepared students well to continue their education to a 4 year degree and provide the technical assistance to obtain a job in a particular vocation.
35	We are getting students from SCC into our program and their success at WCU indicates you are doing something right.
36	I have attended occasional events on campus but I have not used many of the services of SCC.
37	Haven't personally used this resource.
38	SCC has been able to provide my family with CEU courses that have assisted in professional development. SCC has also partnered with me on various projects for my graduate program.
39	Sending us well prepared transfer students.
40	Yes. Great cooperation and input in Honors Program/Honors College needs.
41	Enjoy teaching the population (diversity.)
42	Good preparation for students transferring to WCU. Continuing education opportunities for family. Services provided to family. Facilities available for community use.
43	I've met with staff members in SCC's tutoring center to discuss training and certification for tutors through the CRLA. The SCC staff were extremely helpful in providing information I needed to begin the certification process.

Question 3

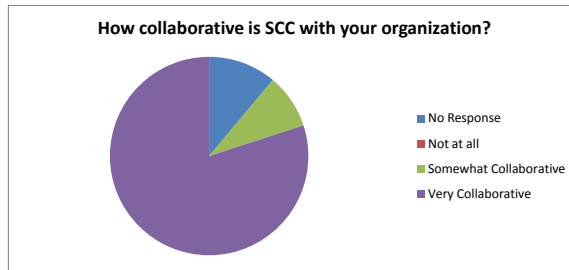
Response	Total
No Response	11
Poorly Prepared	0
Prepared	10
Very Prepared	24



ID	Why do you feel this way?
2	That is the end goal for our students
3	I have had no opportunity to rate this question as I have employed no SCC graduates.
4	Have taught many students and watched as they advanced in their fields. Helps parents financially to have SCC classes/Macon Early College in our area - before they transfer (Associate Degree).
5	I have had limited experience with SCC graduates.
6	I have not been around students/graduates from SCC
7	Don't know
8	I feel this way as a result of conversations with former students
9	They seem to possess the skills needed to achieve success.
11	Students are graduating from SCC and securing jobs within a reasonable amount of time.
12	I have seen a number of students finish SCC and a four year college-university within the four year time frame.
13	No way to answer this - not enough info
15	I do not see contrasts between SCC students and students entering WCU from other CCs.
16	I have seen many go on for a 4-year degree after receiving a degree from SCC that is job-oriented.
17	I have seen positive results in job preformance in my immediate family.
20	The enrichment courses were well taught and information and skills gained at SCC have been put to regular use. Our son has used his original certification as a springboard to a master's degree in nuring.
21	My perception from local businesses/agencies that SCC students are well prepared for employment and further education.
23	Living in the community and interacting with local government, business, and medical facilities I have had face to face interactions with graduates who have been professional and helpful to me and family.
24	Cannot comment effectively
27	Based on the experience Blue Ridge Early College students have received, I know they are prepared for the next steps in their lives.
30	I have hired a few employees from SCC.
32	Personal attention they can receive from supportive instructors who offer suggestions on additional education. Assistance if needed through LAC, tutoring, etc.
34	Students that leave SCC and enter WCU usually graduate and do as well or even better than our own residential students.
35	Those who come to WCU are motivated and usually complete their programs.
36	I have had a few students in class at WCU who transferred from SCC; they were well prepared.
37	Gut feeling.
38	The students who have graduated from SCC and moved into the workforce are generally ver solid contributors to the Jackson county workforce. Students who transfer are well prepared and perform very well at the university level.
39	The student I have worked with have good work ethic and understanding of what is required to continue their education at the university and beyond.
40	My experience with SCC writers--they need improvement bu the WAC QEP should help improve this over time.
41	They are taught in a "real world" environment.
42	Interactions with grads in the workforce and observation of their work has been very positive. Transfers to WCU are well prepared for the transition--positive attitude--mature.
43	I have no basis to evaluate this.
44	While SCC, along with ABTech, sends WCU some of their best prepared transfer students, WCU faculty/advisors have ongoing concerns that students often have unreasonable expectations when they begin at WCU, as 2+2 isn't always feasible.
45	SCC transfer students are well prepared academically but could be better prepared for the transfer process and expectations for timely completion at the university. Consider a transfer advising center; AB-Tech's has been very successful.

Question 4

Response	Total
No Response	5
Not at all	0
Somewhat Collaborative	4
Very Collaborative	36



ID	Describe the type of collaboration Southwestern has with your organization?
1	Continuing Ed, college courses, mentoring, presentations
2	Macon Early College and SCC. Enough said.
3	Utilization of space and resources through partnership with Macon Early College.
4	Offering students dual enrollment.
8	Dual enrollment courses and 21st Century scholars program
9	Offering classes to high school students.
10	Macon Early College, Dual Enrollment
11	SCC works closely with our highs schools and early college.
12	I serve on the Macon County Bd of Education and the Macon Early College and articulation agreements through SCC is very beneficial.
13	They have tried to provide courses to benefit local businesses & employment needs partnered with Macon Co. Schools
14	We work specifically with BK program (early childhood.)
15	I have endeavored to connect with SCC health programs for years. No reciprocity and no reaching out to WCU that I am aware of.
16	Jackson County Schools have a school on SCC land!
17	SCC works hand in hand with our system administration.
18	Early College
19	Early College
20	SCC has been very cooperative when the Jackson County School system was establishing dual enrollment and Early College programs.
21	SCC has been quite collaborative with SMHS in the past in the way of articulation agreements, concurrent enrollment, and providing additional CTE pathways.
22	SCC has provided programs for our students.
23	SCC has a long tradition of working with public schools. We have been partners in may grants, educational programs, and actually have an Early College program on campus. We look to future collaboration in the College Promise Program for HS students.
24	I feel SCC is collaborative with BREC and has been somewhat flexible in meeting our needs.
25	We work with them to better our students' educational needs.
27	SCC has partnered with Blue Ridge Early College and has been very collaborative in classes with all formats.
28	Ongoing support of the New Century Scholars program; partnership for Jackson County Early College.
29	SCC co-sponsors the New Century Scholars program, providing post-secondary opportunities for students who would otherwise nto be able to attend. They also partner with JCPS to provide our early colleges.
30	Early College
31	My primary experience is with WNC EdNet. They have been a great partner with us throughout that consortium.
32	Personal, informative, cooperative, excellent resources available.
33	Southwestern has dual enrollment personnel who are readily available to assist high school students. I have called this office and had this counselor meet one on one with students at the high school.
34	Faculty luncheons where faculty from various departments at WCU meet with their counterparts at WCU and share information.
35	Worked very well with us (WCU) to design articulation agreements in entrepreneurship and accounting.
36	SCC initiates a lot of activities with my organization (WCU.)
37	Student services staff is very collaborative. Everything we need or ask for, we get. Distance learning staff (ITV) also very responsive.
38	SCC has many partners with WCU from New Century Scholars, articulation, advisory boards, and several admissions/college transfer initiatives.
39	Regular meetings to share program updates and other information to assist in collaborative efforts to support university transfer students.
40	Honors program to Honors College.
41	Online classes, dual enrollment, referral institution.
42	Transfer advisory committee. Work with Arts and Sciences related to transfer students has been very good.
43	I've met with staff members in SCC's tutoring center to discuss training and certification for tutors through the CRLA. The SCC staff were extremely helpful in providing information I needed to begin the certification process.
44	Advisory committee meetings very important. WCU staff appreciates the collaboration these meetings foster.

Question 5

ID	How might SCC better serve your organization?
1	Being able to talk to a person. A real live human being to be able to talk with would help a lot. Always getting voice mail.
2	Clear defined relationship in the Groves Building over here in Franklin.
3	No suggestions at this point.
4	Offer more classes in Macon - maybe even some at Franklin High School for students who don't have transportation.
6	Have more hands on classes at Macon Campus that lead to jobs.
11	Communication is vital to our partnership. That is an area that always needs improvement.
12	Continue with the support of Macon Early College, high school articulation and most of the Macon SCC campus.
14	I don't know.
15	Collaborate on grants, specific curriculum programs, etc. This needs a top down plan to move things forward. We (at WCU) are really isolated from SCC and I don't know why.
16	SCC works well together with Jackson County Schools. I hope this continues.
17	By continuing to develop these collaborative relationships.
18	Continue current practice
20	SCC can better serve Jackson County Schools by always keeping the lines of communication open.
21	SCC can better serve SMHS with more coordinated communication and sending a concurrent enrollment representative to our campus to service SMHS students.
22	Continue to offer more programs.
23	We need to continue working on current projects and be stakeholders in future projects.
25	Maybe more collaboration with our high schools in determining how they can service our students.
26	More dual enrollment courses for high school students.
27	Already doing a great job.
30	Help us find a better place/building to feed our students.
32	Offer some Fine Art classes on Jackson Campus. Face to face French teacher in addition to online class.
34	Continue these advisory meetings where each institution and even high school and Early College and be informed about updates and changes.
35	Provide us (WCU) with even more students who want to complete a 4 year degree.
36	Send us (WCU) more students!
37	I can't think of anything to improve.
38	Already very visible and involved. We would like to pilot a new admission initiative like "instant decision" day. We haven't moved forward with it yet, but I know that when we're ready to, SCC will be a willing partner.
39	Continue to build on the relationships already established. Collaborate on transfer education, i.e. prepare transfer students by setting expectation levels based on what they will experience rather than what they assume or believe from the state.
40	Keep improving the quality of education--keep improving students' academic profile as they enter the university.
41	More continuing education credits for educators and community constituents.
42	Should increase collaboration with WCU in light of career and college promise program to make sure students have best information possible on how their particular program will transfer to our (WCU) majors.

Question 6

ID	What role should SCC play in meeting the educational needs in Jackson, Macon, and Swain Counties and in the Qualla Boundary?
43	I'm not aware of specific ways they serve us, but I would be open to further collaborations.
45	Prepare students with/for online learning. Expand online learning opportunities for lifelong learning through Continuing Education.
1	Add programs/certificates that would prepare students to get a job in Western NC.
2	Continue to focus on the people of WNC to help as many as possible realize post-secondary education is attainable to all.
3	SCC should continue to participate in the transition of adults, both young and old. To the world of work.
4	Offer more dual enrollment.
5	Better matches with public school calendars.
6	They should be a major player in hands-on career development in our area.
7	Dual enrollment
9	A strong bond w/local high schools to encourage high school graduation and express opportunities to learn job skills at SWCC.
10	I would like to see more certificate programs available at the satellite campus.
11	It is extremely important that SCC works closely with other institutions of higher education so students can make a smooth transition.
12	Stay updated on the work related needs of our tri-counties and be prepared to offer educational training as needed.
13	Provide specific training/coursework that matches job opportunities in the area.
14	As 4 year colleges become more expensive, community colleges provide affordable degrees.
15	Continue to provide good quality education at a great price.
16	Early College. GED, and many courses that children and adults in Jackson County are blessed to have.
17	As big a role as they are willing and financially able to fill.
18	Early College, GED, etc.
20	1) Bring back the LPN program. 2) Dropouts a) target recent dropouts, b) have staff members contact them to find out interests, c) offer enrichment classes as a lure for further education, d) incorporate minimal amounts of reading, writing, math, and publ
21	Roles SCC should play in meeting educational needs at SMHS: Provide advanced training in career clusters to students prior to exiting HS and provide assistance to SMHS concerning C&CP in getting students into appropriate pathways.
22	Assistance with programs such as New Century Scholars, Gear-Up, etc.
23	I feel SCC should continue in the role of preparing individuals for employment, building sound education knowledge to transfer to higher education if desired, and preparing individuals for career changes.
24	I believe as the local community college SCC should continue to work hard to support education in the surrounding counties.
26	Continue to offer "transfer" progrms. With the high cost of a four-year university, gaining two years at the community college level will assist families financially. Enhance Con Ed classes to allow "adult" students opportunities to reine skills and gain
27	Continue reaching out to first generation college students.
30	I think they should help prepare students for whatever vocation they choose in life. More vocational classes needed so students can learn a trade/craft.
31	Giving community members an affordable path to higher education that us relevant and meets the needs of employers in our region.
33	Continue promoting dual enrollment opportunities for high school students. Continue promoting college transfer opportunities for our citizens.
34	It should and has provided a very important role in providing opportunities for students to enroll at SCC in order to obtain a two year degree and move on to a 4 year institution. Example, New Century Scholars program.
35	To educate and train as many students of whatever age to be prepared to work and be productive at whatever job they aspire to do in their lives.
36	SCC should contribute more to the economic development of the region. SCC is responsive, but can it lead in this area?
37	Keep doing what you're doing.
39	Partnerships with high schools and WCU lead to well prepared students with the ability to pursue education and career goals. Continue to take a lead role and build on existing partnerships.
40	An important one in terms of early college, vocational training, adult learning, and college prep.
41	Encourage face to face classes to help enhance personal as well as professional development.
42	In addition to college transfer preparation, education and training for workforce in area, continuing education, consulting with local agencies.
43	May be opportunities for SCC, WCU, and other institutions to collaborate more in meeting the needs of students who are unprepared for the academic rigor of a 4-year school. Universities are strapped for resources and unable to meet the growing needs.
45	Help students and families with financial literacy. Help them understand student debt.

Question 7

ID	What emerging trends in education, business or government do we need to be aware of during this planning process?
1	Pair students with businessess for mentoring and to get jobs.
2	Expansion of programs, people and buildings in Macon County.
3	Technology - retraining of individuals for economic marketability.
4	Students need to get more than one degree - so they have more opportunities open to them.
5	Move towards more technology in the work place.
11	SCC needs to offer degrees in areas that the research shows are most promising for today's students.
12	I believe the community colleges will become the stepping stones of the first two years of post high school education due to affordability and location.
13	technology, medical advancements- on-line courses may be cheaper... but I don't believe the end product is as good - hybrids may be part of the answer.
15	The importance of partnerships and collaboration. Increased need for heath practitioners.
16	There are so many people out of work it would be great to expand those programs that help people become employed. To expand the medical field classes and foreign language would be great!
17	Always stay abreast of useful technological advances.
18	Collaboration, technology
20	Incorporate more ethics training and discussion especially in government, banking, and medical fields.
21	Emerging trends: Career and college promise initiative and common core and essential standards.
23	Jackson C has become an area where many "second" homes have been built. The area has a great deal of tourism. Many career possibilities are in these areas. Individuals will need training to provide services to this clientele. SCC could be an asset to assi
24	I think as public education changes as a result of new curriculum, a shift to formative assessment and an overall push to make learning more of a student centered instead of teacher driven model. Students will struggle in a college setting with lecture.
26	The use of technology continues to grow and is embedded in many professions.
27	Continual changes in technology.
28	Changing standards for all subject areas/disciplines-reflecting more rigorous expectations.
29	SCC should be made aware of the new recertification cycle for teachers to determine if there are courses they could offer either singularly, or joint with JCPS to provide, to assist teachers in gaining the CEUs needed for cert renewal, esp content area.
30	I think that many older adults (boomers) will become students if they can learn something they truly have a love for..computers, crafts, auto. I really loved the idea of the 20/20 session at the library for an "elder academy" and it would be great for us
32	Reduction in public school classroom teachers which affects number of class offerings.
34	Cost, resources--both human and economic.
35	Online classes are becoming much more pervasive. SCC should expose them to these oportunities to continue to learn after they leave SCC.
36	Online education. Budget cuts. Need for workforce development and training.
37	The lack of writing instruction in high schools.
38	The influx of adult learners and the need for courses/programs to meet their schedule.
39	Cost of education going up, market difficult and changing, involvement of government in setting policy complicates things for all of us.
40	Access to UNC will continue to become more limited due to rising tuition and fees. Enrollment pressure will therefore increase for the CC system.
44	UNC system reviewing all curriculum programs. There will be significant changes over the next several years. UNC system moving to new funding model including retention, graduation rates, and number of graduates by program.
45	Tuition and fee increases at universities will send more students to CCs. Maintain a robust summer schedule. WCU deliberately sends us a lot of students for summer classes. Keep an eye on WCU liberal studies revision, could go as low as 36 hours.

Question 8

ID	What is your overall impression/perception of SCC?
1	Good
2	Excellent. Great staff to work with. Staff cares about students.
3	Favorable
4	It's great.
5	Southwestern is a beautiful facility that offers a local option for Macon County.
6	Positive. Concern that SCC does not put over emphasis on 4-year transfer. Need to make sure promoting hands-on careers.
8	Very impressed with the commitment to students.
9	A great and affordable place to learn. Location is also A+.
10	Very positive.
11	It is an excellent community college with a strong emphasis on academics and job preparation.
12	Regional, state and national reports has shown SCC to be in the top 10%.
13	good
14	Positive.
15	Isolated institution focused on serving students and very content with being isolated.
16	I think it is a great asset to all of us.
17	Very useful and successful part of our educational community.
18	Excellent institution
19	Very good
20	SCC has a tremendously positive effect in WNC. The satellite campuses were desperately needed and have been very successful.
21	SCC has been a good option in Jackson County for certification programs, 2-year degrees, and college transfer options.
22	Good school that serves as a viable resource for the community.
23	SCC provides excellent programs and opportunities for Jackson County.
24	I have been pleased to work with the SCC faculty member thus far this year.
25	I think it is a GREAT school and I am glad we are fortunate enough to have it here in Jackson County.
26	My overall impression of SCC is very favorable.
27	Great organization who has been very helpful to ur students in our community.
29	Jackson County Schools is very lucky to have a nationally recognized community college in our midst. I hope our partnerships and collaborations will continue for a long time.
30	I only have one school to prepare it to...Haywood CC. I took classes there and helped manage the food for their HC Early College. My perception of them is a little higher due to their progressive attitude with both their campus and their curriculum.
32	Excellent educational opportunity for students and families in this region.
33	A very caring group of educators who go out of their way to meet the needs of students.
34	It is a quality academic institution and has a positive reputation of preparing students for a vocation and continuing their education at a 4 year institution.
35	It does a good job of meeting its mission.
36	Very positive. I know several people who work at SCC and they are all very positive about the institution.
37	A++
38	You rock!
39	Very positive. I have met students from SCC who are well prepared for coursework at WCU. I appreciate the collaborative spirit that we share.
40	Very good. I have been impressed by the college's branding/marketing--to the region, it's been more succesful than WCU's.
41	Super!
42	A place with top notch faculty, staff, administration offering an excellent education to students and service to the community.
43	Favorable.