

Southwestern Community College
PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Members Present:

Thom Brooks	Cecil Groves	Susan McCaskill	Ryan Schwiebert
Janet Burnette	Connie Haire	Delos Monteith	Hank Shuler
Barbara Connell	Sonja Haynes	Rita Norris	Phil Weast
Gene Couch	Ellen Heim	Laura Pennington	
Bucky Dann	Debra Klavohn	Barb Putman	
Stacy France	Dianne Lindgren	Chuck Reece	

Guests: Phil Barton, Jeff Hall, Nelda Reid

The President's Council met at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 in the Bradford Hall Conference Room.

Chairman Bucky Dann called the meeting to order and thanked all members for attending. Bucky also welcomed two new members to the President's Council- Barbara Connell and Hank Shuler.

Report from Library Consultants:

Gene Couch introduced the two library consultants- Phil Barton, President of the North Carolina Library Association and Jeff Hall, Rowan Public Library. The consultants provided a summary of their assessment of Southwestern's Holt Library. The consultants indicated that the size of our library appears adequate to meet current and future demands. Other positive aspects of the current facility include its attractive setting and its "green" features. A negative aspect of the current library is its dated, 1983 appearance. The need for additional lighting was also cited.

The consultants also shared two renovation design options for consideration. Plan 1 focused on the current library space, with an emphasis on cosmetic improvements to provide a more attractive, up-to-date facility. Other components of the Plan 1 design included larger, ADA-compliant restrooms, group study areas and a relocation of staff offices.

The Plan 2 design focused on the entire Pines Building and included the improvements featured in the Plan 1 design as well as an expanded open computer lab for patron use and the addition of an archives room.

Dr. Groves expressed his appreciation to the consultants and indicated the college would discuss funding needs for library improvements with the Jackson County Board of Commissioners.

Facility & Property Update:

Dr. Groves provided updates on other facility and property issues at the college. The new building at the Macon Campus is progressing and is ahead of schedule at this point. The architects for the new building on the Jackson Campus met with the Board of Trustees at the October Board meeting. There will likely be a reduction in some of the functions planned for this facility due to cost constraints. The connector boulevard is still on schedule and will improve access on the Jackson Campus as well as providing a connection from Highway 116 to Highway 107.

Data Review- CCSSE Report

Delos Monteith provided a summary of the results from the 2008 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). The results indicate Southwestern exceeded the mean scores in all five benchmark areas as compared to our North Carolina peer institutions as well as the national average for all CCSSE participants. Equally impressive was the improvement noted from 2005 to 2008 in the responses by Southwestern students. In fact, Southwestern students provided more positive responses to 76 percent of the questions on the survey in 2008 as compared to 2005.

WAC Update

Barb Putman provided an update on the college's Writing Across the Curriculum initiative. The college is currently searching for a new WAC coordinator following the resignation of Liz Kelly. Barb also shared information on the updated SCC Style Guide.

College Planning Assumption Assignments:

Council members were provided a draft of assignments for the 2009-10 Planning Assumptions. Members were asked to let Delos know as soon as possible if they would like to be assigned to a different category. Teams are expected to complete updates to their planning assumption category prior to the next President's Council meeting which will be in mid-January. Teams will present the updated Planning Assumptions for the various categories at the January meeting.

NCCCS Legislative Agenda

Dr. Groves shared a copy of the NCCCS Legislative Agenda for 2009-11. The primary thrust of the agenda is to attain additional legislative funding of \$1,000 per student. This will enable the System to meet a number of pressing needs including faculty/staff salary upgrades, technology and equipment needs, healthcare training needs, as well as training needs in other areas.

Other Business:

Dr. Groves discussed an effort to develop a common calendar for SCC, WCU and the public schools in the western six North Carolina counties. The WestCare situation was also mentioned, including the recognition of the potential impact on Health Science programs at the college.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.