

SACJTC Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges

NEWSLETTER

June 2012

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SACJTC Annual Luncheon Meeting Held in Orlando

The SACJTC annual membership luncheon was held in Orlando, Florida on December 4, 2011. More than 280 attendees enjoyed an excellent lunch, and listened to speaker Dr. Vicki Hawsey, President of Wallace State Community College, Hanceville, Alabama. whose topic was "Crisis, Challenge, Change: Forces Shaping the Future of Community Colleges." During the business session portion of the meeting, new officers for the association were introduced and the generous corporate sponsors for the luncheon were recognized. Corporate partners for the 2011 luncheon included: SSC, Sodexo, Barnes and Noble, Valley, and BB&T. Due to the generosity of these partners, the cost for luncheon attendees was kept to a minimum.

SACJTC Officers for 2012 include: President, Dr. Johnny Allen, President of Northeast Mississippi Community College; Vice-President, Dr. Karen Bowyer, President of Dyersburg State Community College in Tennessee; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. George D. Edwards, President of Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Kentucky; and Past President, Dr. Helen McAlpine, President of J. F. Drake State Technical College in Alabama.

Outgoing board members, Dr. Pat Skinner, President of Gaston Community College in North Carolina and Dr. Kim McGinnis, President of Williamsburg Technical College in South Carolina were recognized for their outstanding service to the Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges.

New board members for South Carolina and Georgia were introduced at the meeting. They are: Dr. Ronnie Booth, President of Tri-County Technical College in South Carolina and Dr. Walter Bartlett, President of Piedmont Community College in North Carolina. Other board members include Dr. Jim Kerley, President of Gulf Coast Community College in Florida; Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, President of Eastern Shore Community College in Virginia; Dr. Gary McGaha, President of Atlanta Metropolitan College in Georgia; and Dr. Sheryl Smith Kappus, President of Hill College in Texas.



Dr. Johnny Allen



Dr. Karen Bowyer



Dr. George Edwards



Dr. Helen McAlpine



Dr. Walter Bartlett



Dr. Ronnie Booth



Dr. Jim Kerley



Dr. Sheryl S. Kappus



Dr. Gary McGaha



Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover

CURRENT MEMBERS RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

The SACJTC Board has agreed to maintain the membership dues structure for 2012-13. Institutional membership dues remain at \$100.00.

Dues notices will be mailed to current and potential members in June, 2012.

For more information, please contact Dr. George Edwards, Secretary-Treasurer at (606) 886-7332 or please see the SACJTC website at www.sacjtc.org.

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SACJTC JOURNAL

CALL FOR PAPERS

The editors and advisory board of the Southern Association of Community, Junior and Technical Colleges is seeking papers for their annual online journal on this topic:

Best Practices in Community College Retention Efforts

Papers focusing on minority audiences are especially encouraged to apply. One paper will be selected by a peer-reviewed panel for presentation at the 2012 SACS conference along with a monetary award. Papers of note will also be accepted for publication in the online journal (without compensation). Papers will be accepted until August 1, 2012.

Please direct questions or submissions to George.edwards@kctcs.edu or matthew.basham@wku.edu.

SACJTC ANNOUNCES THEME FOR 2012

At the spring meeting of the board of directors, "Building People-Building Community" was chosen as the theme for 2012. The board concurred that this emphasis was illustrative of the focus of most comprehensive two-year colleges and one that relates directly to effectiveness and accreditation. In choosing this theme, the association will publicize it widely through its call for papers, in correspondence, and in its electronic publications.

SACJTC SCHEDULES 2012 ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges are pleased to announce the scheduling of their annual luncheon meeting for December 9, 2012 from 12 n to 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the SACS Annual Meeting which will be held December 8-11, 2012 at the Hilton Anatole, in Dallas, TX. The theme for the conference is *Higher Education in 2020: Emerging Trends in Pedagogy, Technology, and Student Learning*.

The SACJTC luncheon meeting tickets will cost \$35 per ticket this year and one may register for the luncheon through the SACS annual meeting registration process. Please check the SACJTC website at www.sacjtc.org at a later date for further details regarding the agenda and meeting location for the annual meeting.

ALABAMA

IDEA MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Wouldn't it be great to develop a program that has only positive outcomes, is easy to do, and costs nothing? A community college in Southern Alabama did and is reaping the benefits.

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College (LBWCC), through its supporting foundations, developed the Foundation Mini-Grant Program that makes funds available annually to full-time faculty and staff.

"This program provides an opportunity for employees to obtain products and services that fall outside institutional budget restrictions," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

"Most colleges have a foundation," he said. "In that case, I don't see why a college would not have a mini-grant program. It encourages creative thinking, fosters innovation, and promotes grant writing and applying for outside resources."

Since the program's inception two years ago, awards totaling \$23,300 made possible a variety of projects and equipment. The first year, \$10,000 was provided by the LBWCC Foundation along with funded items such as a scanning device, televisions with DVD players, projectors, netbook computers, and leadership lecture DVDs.

For the next award cycle, the Douglas MacArthur State Technical College Foundation joined the program with an additional \$3,000 annually. For the 2011-2012 academic year, awards totaling \$13,000 paid for technical physics equipment, anatomy torsos, portable electronic readers, an ultrasound calibration machine, guest lecturers, and movie DVDs.

To participate, employees complete a one-page, simple application, including a cost and rationale on how the proposal provides an extra margin of institutional excellence. Although the process is facilitated by college personnel, award decisions are made by a committee of board members from both supporting foundations.

"The program builds excitement among our employees and provides multiple marketing opportunities," said Riedel.

News releases are issued upon the selection of award recipients each year. Upon delivery of each item, a photograph is taken and submitted for further media coverage.

"In addition to the college benefiting from the positive publicity, the foundations are recognized and that helps raise money," he said. "It's a win-win all the way around, for the institution, employees, and the foundations."

LBWCC serves a five-county market area and offers two-year associate degrees in academic transfer and technical programs, career oriented certificate programs, adult education, specialized training for existing business and industry, workforce development, non-credit and continuing education, and community education programs.

For more information about the Foundation Mini-Grant Program, contact Riedel at (334) 881-2211 or email to hriedel@lbwcc.edu, or learn more about the College at www.lbwcc.edu.



Instructors benefitting from the Foundation Mini-Grant Program at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College in Alabama include Dr. Shane Evans, biology, and Dr. Brian Cushing, chemistry, who were awarded funds to purchase six in-class netbooks and a printer for students to make real-time graphs while conducting experiments, provide more accurate reporting, and access virtual biology and physical science activities online.

FLORIDA

FKCC BOARD CHOOSES DC COLLEGE CEO AS SIXTH PRESIDENT



Florida Keys Community College Board of Trustees has selected the sixth president for the 46-year-old institution. Dr. Jonathan Gueverra, Chief Executive Officer of the Community College of the District of Columbia, was the board's unanimous choice. With island roots, a New England education, and an impressively effective track record in numerous leadership and faculty positions at nearly a dozen colleges, Gueverra was determined to be the best fit for the future of FKCC.

Dr. Jonathan Gueverra Originally from Trinidad and Tobago, Gueverra has a Doctorate of Education and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts, as well as a bachelor's degree from Providence College and an associate degree from Newbury College. In 2009, he was recruited from his position as Provost at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus to lead the creation of the District of Columbia's first community college, which was built from existing programs under the capital city's university. In three years under his leadership, enrollment tripled, programs and locations expanded and over \$10 million of outside funds were raised.

Gueverra has also served on numerous boards, including the American Association of Community Colleges, the New England Educational Assessment Network, the Alexandria and Arlington Chamber of Commerce, and Washington DC's Economic Development Partnership Board and Workforce Investment

Council. In 2008, he was awarded a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from Wentworth Institute of Technology and a "Highly Commended Award" at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence.

Gueverra will succeed Dr. Larry Tyree, who is retiring on June 30 after a 45-year career in the community college industry including nine presidencies and 11 community colleges.

FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS



Tommy Hicks

Tommy Hicks, Jr., carries around a few souvenirs from a trip to Atlanta eight years ago. He also carries around a dream and a business plan.

Tommy graduated from Gulf Coast State College with a degree in computer science. He will continue his pursuit of a baccalaureate degree in the fall and later on, he will open a computer business with his daughter. He will do it all from his wheelchair.

Tommy's second chance came when he fought his way back to life, left for dead by a robber who left fragments of a bullet in his spinal cord.

Now far away from that fateful summer night in 2004, Tommy makes new friends easily and looks toward a future he never thought he would find. He's been a mentor to his classmates, guiding others who've faced obstacles and challenges, discovering the benefits that return to him.

The doctors who first saw Tommy after the shooting doubted his survival, much less his recovery to become a productive and successful scholar. Beating the odds, he is finishing his degree with a 3.9 GPA. Tommy never contemplated any other way.

"The doctors told my parents I had maybe forty-eight hours, but I pretty much willed myself to live. I was on a respirator and couldn't speak, and they couldn't do surgery to remove the bullet because it's embedded in my spinal cord." The pieces of that bullet remain to this day, but the uncertainty of his future is gone.

"I always had a passion for computers and wanted to go to school," Tommy says, "but I had to support my family." After months and months of rehab, Tommy returned to his native Panama City and began his education at Gulf Coast, and now it's a part of his life that'll never end.

"Follow your dreams" is what he tells all who'll listen. And he's taking that advice as well, carrying around a few of his own, conquering every challenge in sight.

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE RECEIVES \$375,000 GRANT TO BOOST SCIENCE INSTRUCTION

Palm Beach State College has received a \$375,000 Quantum Foundation grant to better align the local school district's biology and chemistry curriculum with that of the College and help improve high school students' college readiness.

The Science Path project, in partnership with the Palm Beach County School District, aims to tackle locally the national issue of students going to college underprepared for more rigorous science courses. The idea is that if the curriculum and instruction for these critical subjects are enhanced in K-12, students will be better prepared for the college coursework. The College also plans to partner with Florida Atlantic University on the initiative.

Just 1 in 3 ACT-tested high school graduates met the College Readiness Benchmark in Science in 2011 and at the state level only 20 percent of graduates were college ready in the subject, according to ACT Profile Reports.

On the local level, Palm Beach State College has experienced troubling withdrawal rates from some of its six introductory level biology and chemistry courses, raising questions about the preparation of the county's high school graduates.

The College plans to launch a pilot program at the Palm Beach Gardens campus, the site of its existing Math and Science Summer Institute and the Employ Florida Banner Center for Life Sciences, working with area high schools.

The timing of the project comes just as the state has boosted its graduation requirements calling for all students beginning in 2013-2014 to pass biology, chemistry and one equally rigorous science course to receive a high school diploma.

ASPEN PRIZE



*Sandy Shugar
Valencia President*

The first-ever Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence was awarded to Valencia College by the Aspen Institute on December 12, 2011, in Washington, D.C. As the winner, Valencia received a \$600,000 prize in recognition of its high completion rates, employment of graduates, commitment to low-income and minority students, and the best record of transfers to four-year schools than any other college in the nation. Miami-Dade College was among four colleges named as a finalist with distinction and was awarded a \$100,000 prize.

COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL TOPS IN STATE

For the second year in a row, Okaloosa County's Collegiate High School ranks as the best of the best among Florida's high schools.

The school on the campus of Northwest Florida State College received 1,511 of a possible 1,600 points on educational crite-

ria. Points are awarded in categories that include FCAT scores, learning gains, rigor of courses, postsecondary readiness in reading and math and at-risk student graduation rates, according to a news release from Northwest Florida State.

GEORGIA

REGENTS APPROVE 17 GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES FOR TRANSFER TO SUPPORT COMPLETE COLLEGE GOALS

On March 14, 2012 the Board of Regents voted to accept an additional 17 general education courses in the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) as transferable to the University System of Georgia (USG) for credit in the core curriculum, the basic courses all students must take to earn a degree.

With the approval of these 17 additional courses, there are now 27 courses transferable to USG institutions from TCSG institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

"The addition of these courses to satisfy the core curriculum strengthens the USG's commitment to Georgia's students and their ability to attain a college education. The USG and TCSG are committed to answering Governor Nathan Deal's call for more Georgians to complete college," said Interim Chief Academic Officer David Morgan.

USG faculty on the Regents Academic Advisory Committees reviewed each course and recommended all 17 general education courses be accepted for transfer from TCSG institutions to the General Education Council composed of faculty and staff from the System office and USG institutions. The General Education Council, which approves USG institutions' core curriculum, unanimously endorsed their recommendations.

The articulation agreement also established the Postsecondary Oversight Council who will continue to monitor the implementation of these additional courses for transfer between the two Systems.

DR. RON NEWCOMB IS NEW PRESIDENT OF CHATTAHOOCHEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Dr. Ron Newcomb

Dr. Ron Newcomb has been selected to be the next president of Chattahoochee Technical College. The approval came during the board's regular monthly meeting at the TCSG offices in Atlanta on February 2, 2012. The appointment is effective immediately.

He served as the interim president of the college after Dr. Sanford Chandler left the position last October. Newcomb had been the college's provost and executive vice president.

Commissioner Ron Jackson said "Dr. Newcomb has spent decades working to improve the lives and careers

of Georgia's students through technical and adult education". "Having lived and worked in the area for many years, he has developed an extensive understanding of the needs of the people and the businesses and industries that rely on Chattahoochee Technical College for workforce training and economic development".

Newcomb's education credentials include three degrees from the University of Georgia, with the most recent being a doctorate from the Institute of Higher Education, which was awarded to him in August 2011. He also has bachelor's and master's degrees in political science.

DR. GAIL THAXTON APPOINTED AS NEW PRESIDENT OF NORTH GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Dr. Gail Thaxton

Dr. Gail Thaxton was chosen to be the next president of North Georgia Technical College (NGTC). The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia voted to approve Jackson's selection during their monthly meeting on March 1, 2012. Thaxton had recently served as president of Okefenokee Technical College in Waycross. She replaced NGTC President Steve Dougherty on April 1, 2012 who retired at the end of March.

Dr. Thaxton was the assistant superintendent for instruction for the Grady County Board of Education between 1992 and 2000, and the curriculum director for the Terrell County Board of Education from 1986 to 1992. She also worked for the Terrell County BOE as an assistant curriculum director, special education director and classroom teacher.

Thaxton earned her Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Specialist in Educational Administration from Valdosta State University. She has a Master's in Learning Disabilities from the University of Georgia and a Bachelor of Science in Social Science from Georgia Southwestern State University.

ROB WATTS NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT AT GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE



Rob Watts

Rob Watts was named interim president of Georgia Highlands College, in Rome, Georgia January 1, 2012, following the retirement of president Randy Pierce. Watts previously served as Georgia Highlands' (then named Floyd College) interim president from 2000 until the appointment of Pierce in 2001.

Watts was chief operating officer for the USG until the fall of last year, a position he held since 2006. Watts previously served as interim president of Georgia Perimeter College in Decatur, Georgia, from 2005-2006. From 2002 to 2005 he served as a senior policy advisor to the chancellor as well as

the interim director of the Gwinnett University Center in Lawrenceville, Georgia. From 2001 to 2002, Watts was the interim president at Middle Georgia College, in Cochran, Georgia.

Watts has had an extensive career in the University System. He earned both a bachelor's and master's degree from Florida State University, in Tallahassee. He also holds a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University's Bologna Center, in Bologna, Italy.

KENTUCKY

TRANSFORMATION PROGRESS

All sixteen KCTCS Colleges have made major progress in the transformation initiative during 2011-12. Most significantly, the colleges are participating in the Foundations for Excellence Program through the Gardner Institute and have completed a self-study process focused on improvement in the transfer function. Additionally, many of the colleges will go live with a 24/7 student services call center to improve services for the more than 100,000 students enrolled in KCTCS programs and courses. The five-year transformation initiative will also have focus areas in: financial aid, job placement and career development, dual credit, developmental education, and curriculum review.

WEST KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE NAMED TO TOP FIVE BY ASPEN INSTITUTE



*Dr. Barbara Veazey
and Dr. Jill Biden*

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Paducah's West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) as a "finalist with distinction" for the first annual Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, chosen from an original pool of over 1,000.

The announcement, made in December 2011, followed a rigorous, year-long effort by the Aspen Institute to assemble and review an unprecedented collection of data on community colleges and the critical elements of student success: student learning, degree completion and transfer, equity and employment/earnings after college.

Each "finalist with distinction" received \$100,000. The Finalists with Distinction were Lake Area Technical Institute (Watertown, SD); Miami Dade College (Miami, FL); Walla Walla Community College (Walla Walla, WA); and West Kentucky Community and Technical College (Paducah, KY). Valencia College (Orlando, FL), the Prize winner, received \$600,000.

This is the first national recognition of extraordinary accomplishments at individual community colleges. The Prize celebrates these top performers both to elevate the community college sector nationwide and help other institutions understand how to improve outcomes for the seven million students — nearly half of all undergraduates in post-secondary education — working toward degrees and certificates in community colleges. The naming of the winner

followed an announcement of the ten finalists in September 2011 and the project's unveiling at the White House Community College Summit in October 2010.

WKCTC's graduation/transfer rate significantly exceeds the national average, achieved through an astonishing 23 percent improvement over five recent years. The College achieves excellence by focusing equally on improving student learning in core skills – overhauling reading instruction and remedial math – and thoughtfully connecting programs to regional jobs, from credentials that fuel a large health care sector to the nation's first marine technology associate's degree.

"West Kentucky Community and Technical College's jump in graduation and transfers is astonishing. It's incredibly rare in higher education. And the improvements are serving students equitably," said Joshua Wyner, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute's College Excellence Program. "The three-year graduation and transfer rate for minorities is twenty four percent above the national average. These results are inspiring."

Each year more than 9,000 students come to WKCTC seeking traditional two-year transfer associate degrees in arts and science, applied science degrees, diplomas or certificates. For a second year, WKCTC was named one of 120 community colleges eligible to compete in the next Aspen Prize, which will be announced in 2013.

DR. GREGORY ADKINS RETIRES AT ASHLAND COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Dr. Gregory Adkins

Dr. Gregory Adkins will retire June 30, 2012 after almost 11 years as the head of Ashland Community and Technical College.

When he arrived on campus in 2001, the old Ashland Community College and the old Ashland Area Vocational-Technical College had just merged into the Ashland Community and Technical School as a result of the General Assembly's approval of the Higher Education Reform Act of 1997. Under Adkins' leadership, the merger worked in Ashland just as it did at the other community colleges

across the state. That merger and the law that mandated it is a major reason why the Kentucky Community and Technical College System is helping reduce the cost of earning a four-year degree by providing the first two-years of training for those who will transfer to a four-year university and providing excellent job skills for those who will enter the workforce after earning an associate degree or a certificate.

Greg Adkins' top priority has always been quality education. He is leaving a school that offers more than 50 diploma, certificate and degree options than when he arrived, an entirely new campus, more cooperative programs with four-year schools that allow students to receive bachelor and master degrees without leaving Ashland, and more options to allow high school students to earn college credit. Most of this was done during a time of extremely tight state finances.

LOUISIANA

DR. LUKE ROBINS ASSUMES NEW POSITION IN WASHINGTON STATE



Dr. Luke P. Robins

Peninsula College in Washington State has named Dr. Luke Robins as the sixth president of the college, effective July 1, 2012.

Dr. Robins currently serves as the Chancellor of Louisiana Delta Community College (LDCC). He succeeds Dr. Thomas Keegan, who is now the president of Skagit College. Dr. Robins also currently serves on the SACJTC Board of Directors representing Louisiana.

"We are very pleased to have found a candidate with the wide range of demonstrated and effective leadership skills that Dr. Robins has," says Julie

McCulloch, Board Chair. "His background and experience have prepared him well for this vital role at Peninsula College."

McCulloch says that the college had four highly qualified candidates, "but after a thorough selection process that included extensive on-campus and community meetings and interviews, Dr. Robins became our clear choice."

Dr. Luke P. Robins has served as the Chancellor of LDCC since 2006. LDCC is the newest and one of the fastest growing institutions in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System. In 2010, the college completed construction of a new \$45 million main campus and consolidated operations with two former technical college campuses. Effective April 1, 2011, Dr. Robins also assumed leadership responsibilities as Interim Regional Director of Northeast Louisiana Technical College in addition to his role as Chancellor at LDCC. In his dual roles as Chancellor and Regional director, he provides leadership for two colleges with eight instructional sites.

Dr. Robins has also held academic leadership positions at National Park Community College in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he was an Executive Vice President/Chief Academic Officer and at Eastern Idaho Technical College in Idaho Falls, Idaho, where he was Dean of Instruction.

He received his Ph.D. in Educational Administration: Community College Leadership Program from The University of Texas at Austin; his M.S. in English, Community College Teaching Track, from Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois; and his B.A. in Christian Education from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois.



MISSISSIPPI

ASPEN INSTITUTE AGAIN PICKS PRCC FOR \$1 MILLION PRIZE COMPETITION

Pearl River Community College (PRCC) is one of the top 120 two-year colleges in the nation selected to compete for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. Pearl River is a first-round finalist for the second year. The purpose of the prize is to reward and shine a spotlight on community colleges that deliver exceptional student results, to stimulate replication of successful campus practices and leadership and to contribute to the development of high-quality benchmarks for assessing student outcomes.

2012 ALL-USA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC TEAM

Faith O'Brien of Natchez and sophomores Kimberly Kolpek of Wesson were selected to the 2012 All-USA Community College Academic Team. Only 20 students from more than 1,700 nominations were selected for this prestigious honor. Copiah-Lincoln Community College (Co-Lin) was the only Mississippi community college represented on the team and the only college with more than one student on the team. The All-USA Community College Academic Team is presented by USA TODAY and Phi Theta Kappa and is sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group.

All-USA Community College Academic Team members were featured in a full-page section in the USA Today newspaper on Monday, April 23, 2012. Each member will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and special medallion. A commemorative obelisk was presented to the college in honor of the students. The awards were presented during the Phi Theta Kappa Presidents Breakfast held during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Convention in Orlando, Florida.

HELEN THOMPSON NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Northeast Mississippi Community College mathematics instructor Helen Thompson of Tupelo was named Online Instructor of the Year by the Mississippi State Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

Thompson has been a leader among the Northeast faculty into the technological age. In the spring of 2009, she became the first and only mathematics community college instructor to post podcasts on iTunes U. This resulted in a 70%+ retention rate in college algebra

online class which is above the norm for even traditional classes. Her podcasts have resulted in graduate students contacting and asking her for innovative ways to deliver other courses online.

Thompson presented at the Creating Futures through Technology conference in February 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 on the use of various modes of technology in online instruction. Such

modes consist of not only podcasts, but also Livescribe and Textfree.

A skilled veteran in the area of online teaching and podcasting, Thompson shares her talents and expertise at state and regional technology conferences as well as with her students and colleagues. Presentations/workshops she has conducted include iPads in Education, iPhone Basics and Beyond, Using the Attendance App, and Teaching with the Symposium.

MGCCC, SOUTHERN COMPANY PARTNER TO TRAIN ENERGY WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC), in partnership with the Southern Company, has established the Instrumentation and Controls Academy at the college's Jackson County Campus. The 4,672 square foot academy with more than \$2,000,000 in modern equipment will enhance the training of power company employees as well as students preparing for careers in process operation and other energy-related fields. The academy classes are scheduled to begin fall 2012.

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE NAMED AS ONE OF TOP 120 IN COUNTRY

Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America's community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program today named Itawamba Community College as one of the nation's 120 top community colleges, challenging it to compete for the \$1 million fund for the 2013 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The Aspen Institute identified the 120 community colleges – 10 percent of all institutions – using a quantitative formula that assesses performance and improvement in four areas: graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates and equity in student outcomes. Prize winners will be announced in March 2013.

The inaugural Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence was awarded to Valencia College in Orlando, Florida in December 2011. It was the first broad national recognition of extraordinary accomplishments at individual community colleges.

NORTH CAROLINA

DR. PHAIL WYNN RECEIVES I.E. READY AWARD

More than 600 attended the third annual NC Community College Excellence Event, "The Great Within the 58," an awards luncheon celebrating excellence among North Carolina community college students, faculty, staff, presidents and business partners. The event was part of a weeklong celebration of excellence in community college education as proclaimed by Governor Bev Perdue.

"The spotlight on community colleges has been brighter than ever before," said North Carolina Community College System President, Dr. Scott Ralls. "However, our colleges hold themselves to a standard of excellence that has been unwavering during the nearly 50-year tenure of our System. The award recipients recognized today are champions of student success, while the students we

are honoring exemplify the level of excellence that can be found at all our community colleges.”

Honored at the event was the recipient of the I. E. Ready Award, the highest honor bestowed by the State Board of Community Colleges, Dr. Phail Wynn, former president of Durham Technical Community College. Dr. Wynn served as president at Durham Tech for 30 years and was nominated for his tireless work on behalf of community college students, faculty and staff. He is considered a visionary in the field of education and was involved in many initiatives that North Carolina’s community colleges are known for today such as minority mentoring programs and alternative course delivery methods. Dr. Wynn is currently Duke University’s Vice President for Durham and Regional Affairs.

The I.E. Ready Award was created in 1983 to recognize individuals who have made significant, statewide contributions to the establishment, development or enhancement of the NCCCS.

SOUTH CAROLINA

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR REGISTERED AP- PRENTICESHIP SYSTEM

The South Carolina Technical College System boasts one of the fastest growing apprenticeship systems in the country. Since its beginnings in 2007, Apprenticeship Carolina™ has played a key role in growing apprenticeship participation from 90 companies to a current 523, a growth of 481%. During that same time, the number of active apprentices has more than quadrupled growing from 777 to over 3100. In 2007, only twenty two South Carolina counties had registered programs, now all forty six counties are represented with at least one registered program.

Apprenticeship Carolina’s growth strategy has focused around reaching out to nontraditional sectors such as healthcare, hospitality and tourism, information technology, energy, and advanced manufacturing. The message to these industries is “apprenticeship evolved.” No longer is apprenticeship limited to just traditional occupations, these nontraditional sectors can also benefit from registered apprenticeship.

FIRST-ANNUAL TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

The Academic Affairs Division of the South Carolina Technical College System Office will be offering the System’s first-ever Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference. The conference is scheduled for September 24-25, 2012 in Columbia, South Carolina. This conference will provide an opportunity for brainstorming, collaboration, and professional networking as we explore new and innovative ways to incorporate technology into community college instruction. This conference will highlight the role of technology in contributing to student retention and success. World-class speakers include Rob Curtin, Chief Applications Officer with Microsoft; Jaime Casap, Senior Education Evangelist with Google; Shannon Smith, Associate Director of Teaching, Learning and Professional Development

with EDUCAUSE and Matthew Dembicki, Editor of Community College Times, just to name a few.

SOUTH CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM PREPARES TO EDUCATE AND TRAIN FOR THE NA- TION’S NEW TIRE CAPITAL

With Bridgestone, Continental and Michelin, all announcing new facilities as well as expansion of existing facilities in the state, South Carolina is fast becoming the leading producer and exporter of tires in the United States. South Carolina currently has nine active tire plants and two additional facilities on the way – representing more than any other state. All three companies point to the Palmetto State’s strong technical education system as playing a critical role in the site selection process. Recent announcements have the SC Technical College System and its readySC™ program recruiting and training for more than 3,200 jobs over the next two years.

TENNESSEE

On June 29, 2012 the Tennessee Board of Regents will set the Maintenance Fees/Tuition rate for the 13 community colleges. The current tuition rate is \$3,211 for 2 semesters compared to an average of \$2,813 at our peer institutions in the southern part of the United States. The out-of-state rate is \$12,397 compared to \$7,524 for our peers. The total revenue for FY2010 -11 per FTE is a high of \$8,092 and a low of \$6,352 in Tennessee compared to an average of \$6,318 for our peers. Total revenue varies among the 13 community colleges in TN because state funding was not adjusted over the past ten years to reflect enrollment gains or losses. The resulting inequities are being corrected over the next three years.

The 13 Tennessee community colleges and several Tennessee technology centers are collaborating on a healthcare training proposal to the Trade Adjustment Act Community College and Career Training program at the U.S. Department of Labor. Roane State Community College will be the grant recipient. The proposal requests funds to develop and share curricula for the following healthcare programs: Surgery Tech AAS, Allied Health AAS, Health Informatics AAS, LPN to RN Mobility AAS, Occupational Therapy Assistant AAS and short term training in Phlebotomy, ECG Technician, Patient Care Technician, and Emergency Dispatcher. Funds have also been requested for student support to provide skills assessment, learning support remediation, prior learning assessment, career exploration, academic planning services, supplementary instruction and completion coaching. Budget proposals range from \$588K to \$905K for individual community colleges.

This past spring semester the 13 Tennessee community colleges enrolled 88,079 students. This total reflects a 3.1% drop in enrollment compared to last spring. The FTE dropped by 4.7%. This past spring there were headcount gains at Nashville State and Dyersburg State and losses at the other 11 institutions.

When the Tennessee General Assembly adjourned on May 1, 2012. The Governor and the General Assembly appropriated \$623,212,400 for the operation of the TBR system which includes

the 13 community colleges, 6 regional universities and 27 technology centers. The operating budget included the following:

- ⇒ Decrease of \$12.1 million, equal to 2.1% of current year state appropriations.
- ⇒ Increase of \$14.9 million to recognize improvement in educational outcomes at TBR institutions. Measures of these outcomes include: number of degrees and certificates awarded, student retention and progression points, research and service efforts, workforce training activities and graduation rates.
- ⇒ Increase of \$17.2 million for a 60% portion of a 2.5% salary increase for state employees, including employees in higher education.
- ⇒ Increase of an estimated \$2 million to fund increases in benefits costs for health insurance premiums and contributions to the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System.
- ⇒ \$4 million in nonrecurring state funding for the University of Memphis for the second year of a five-year expansion to the Lambuth campus in Jackson.

Capital maintenance funds of \$39.9 million were appropriated for 33 projects. Each community college had at least one capital maintenance project funded.

Other significant legislation that passed included the following: Immigration Bill – Requires a person to prove that they are a citizen or legal resident of the US in order to receive State benefits. This legislation will require that public institutions of higher education verify the immigration status of students admitted to its institution. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) may be used to satisfy the verification requirements for higher education.

Reverse Articulation Bill – Authorizes and encourages reverse articulation or reverse-transfer agreements between the community colleges and the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accredited institutions in Tennessee. The intent of this bill is to increase degree completion.

Dual Credit Bill – Requires Tennessee public postsecondary institutions, under certain conditions, to accept for credit any dual-credit course developed by another Tennessee public postsecondary institution in collaboration with high schools. It also requires the chancellor to develop early college credit opportunities for secondary school students. Representatives from the Tennessee Board of Regents, University of Tennessee, the State Board of Education and the Department of Education will be involved in working out the approval of dual-credit courses already in place and new dual-credit courses that will be developed. The goal is to increase the number of high school students who obtain college credits that can be used to matriculate to Tennessee higher education institutions.

TEXAS



college n. 1
Texas Association of Community Colleges

Every community college in Texas belongs to The Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC), a comprehensive community college association which has a number of initiatives, some of which have been highlighted below.

Community Colleges Confronting Difficult Barriers to Student Success, TACC, and the Charles A. Dana Center will Partner to reinvent mathematics education in Texas.

The Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) is a non-profit association that includes all 50 public community college districts in the state. The General Appropriations Bill and legislation affecting public community colleges in general have been and remain the principal concerns of TACC.

Math is often an obstacle to the completion of a certificate or degree, with many students being placed in developmental math classes. In Texas, students who are referred to developmental education are almost 50% less likely to graduate or transfer forward. The Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) and the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin are tackling this issue head-on through a statewide initiative known as the New Mathways Project (NMP).

NMP is a system of new mathematics courses and student support services that will help students earn college-level math credit more quickly. The project is a systemic approach to developmental education reform that will allow students to take math courses that align with their majors and future jobs. To support this unique partnership, the TACC colleges have agreed to provide seed money to the Dana Center in developing the NMP, which will be supplemented by support from philanthropy.

"Clearly the 50 community colleges in Texas recognize the need to change developmental math education and the NMP is long-term commitment on our part to make students and Texas more successful," said Dr. Richard Carpenter, Chancellor of the Lone Star College System and TACC Chair-elect.

"Faculty at community colleges do beautiful work to improve their local developmental education and broader mathematics programs, but it is unlikely that solutions to the problem of upward mobility through mathematics will come about by scaling these local innovations," said Uri Treisman, Executive Director of the Dana Center. "We need systemic solutions to the problems of community college mathematics, and those need to build on the good insights of people working to improve their local programs."

"I am delighted that the Texas Association of Community Colleges and the Charles A. Dana Center are collaborating to enhance developmental math education in Texas," said Senator Judith Zaffirini. "As Chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, I will continue to prioritize changes in state policy that will help ensure the success of this initiative."

**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
 ADVOCATES NETWORK (TACCAN)**

TACCAN was created to help connect the greatest asset of our institutions – people. The website provides opportunities for community college supporters to engage with issues, legislation, and legislators. Supporters can also join the network by becoming an Advocate and assist TACC with efforts at the Capitol on behalf of the state's community colleges.

VIRGINIA

**EDNA BAEHRE-KOLOVANI —THE NEXT PRESIDENT
 OF TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



Dr. Edna Baehre-Kolovani

Virginia Community Colleges (VCCS) recently announced that Dr. Edna Baehre-Kolovani will become the fifth permanent president of Tidewater Community College (TCC) beginning in July 2012.

Baehre-Kolovani began her career teaching undergraduate German at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Baehre-Kolovani, who speaks German, English and French, is in the process of learning Spanish.

She has held leadership positions at Jamestown and Gene-

see community colleges in New York as well as Highland and Elgin community colleges in Illinois. She served as the president of Harrisburg Area Community College in Pennsylvania for 13 years beginning in 1997. In 2010 Baehre-Kolovani became the president/superintendent of Napa Valley College in California.

Baehre-Kolovani succeeds Dr. Deborah M. DiCroce, who retired after serving as Tidewater Community College's president for the last 14 years. Dr. Peter A. Spina has been serving as the college's interim president since March 2012. Baehre-Kolovani is expected to officially begin her new position on or about July 1, 2012.

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES CONFERS PRESIDENT EMERITA DESIGNATION ON TCC PRESIDENT DEBORAH DICROCE

The State Board for Community Colleges conferred the title of "President Emerita" on Tidewater Community College President Deborah D. DiCroce, who stepped down March 1, 2012.

The honorary title was recommended by the local College Board at Tidewater, and was approved by the State Board January 19, 2012.

"It's been an incredible journey," DiCroce told State Board members as she accepted a resolution from them. She began working with Virginia's Community Colleges in 1976 as a 23-



State Board Chair Jeffery Mitchell (left) with Dr. Deborah DiCroce (center) and VCCS Chancellor Glenn DuBois

year-old adjunct professor of English at TCC, planning to work a year or two before heading to law school.

"A year's sojourn became a lifetime career," she says, as she went on to become dean of humanities at the Virginia Beach Campus, then later provost of the Portsmouth Campus before moving to Charlottesville to serve as president of Piedmont

Virginia Community College from 1989-1998. She returned to TCC as president in 1998.

"We are grateful for Debbie's service and distinguished community college career," said Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges. "She has never hesitated to speak up, to challenge old notions and ideas and to pursue and create better ones. Her impact will be felt throughout Tidewater Community College and the VCCS for years to come."

DiCroce leaves the VCCS to become executive director and chief executive officer of the nonprofit Hampton Roads Community Foundation.

BUSINESSWOMAN SET TO LEAD PATRICK HENRY



Dr. Angeline D. Godwin

Dr. Angeline D. Godwin, a Mississippi businesswoman who has experience in both higher education and economic development, has been named the new president of Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC).

Godwin was one of three finalists to be interviewed by the college's board and to meet with students, faculty, staff and the public during recent open forums.

Effective July 1, 2012 Godwin will succeed Max Wingett, who is retiring after more than 33 years at PHCC's

helm. Godwin, 52, currently is a managing member of The Nicolette Co. LLC, a family-owned business in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Previously, she was vice president for research and development at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg from 2002 to 2004 and president and chief executive officer of the Mississippi Technology Alliance and the Institute for Technology Development from 2000 to 2002. She was president of the Ashland Community and Technical College District in Ashland, Kentucky, from 1997 to 2000. Before that, Godwin was dean of arts and sciences at Jackson State Community College in Jackson, Tennessee, and held other administrative and teaching positions in Michigan and Florida.

Godwin “brings to Patrick Henry a wide range of accomplishments in higher education and in community economic development,” DuBois said. He added that she is “an extremely good fit” for the college.

SENATOR WARNER, VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES ANNOUNCE CURRICULUM CONSULTING AGREEMENT IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

U.S. Senator Mark R. Warner (D-VA) recently announced a consulting agreement between the Virginia Foundation for Community Colleges Education (VFCCE) and the India-based Wadhvani Foundation (WF) to promote skills-based education in India. The memorandum was signed by Dr. Ajay Kela, President and CEO of Wadhvani Foundation, and Dr. Glenn DuBois, Chancellor of Virginia’s Community College System.

Sen. Warner, co-chair of the Senate’s India Caucus, is visited India recently as part of a five-person congressional delegation that also includes Sens. Michael Bennet (CO), Tom Udall (NM) and Reps. Joseph Crowley (NY) and Cedric Richmond (LA). Rep. Crowley is co-chair of the House India Caucus. The delegation has been meeting with top government and business leaders in New Delhi, Jaipur, Hyderabad and Kolkata, exploring opportunities to expand business, trade, defense, educational and cultural relationships between the two countries.

“Virginia’s two-year community colleges play a vital and unique role in our workforce training efforts,” said Sen. Warner, who is one of eight former Virginia governors to sit on the Honorary Board of Directors of VFCCE. “This agreement will allow Virginia’s Community Colleges to share their expertise and best practices materials as we work with the Wadhvani Foundation to help expand basic skills-based training as India’s middle class explodes in size.”

“Since our founding nearly half a century ago, Virginia’s Community Colleges have excelled at connecting area employers with individuals who have the skills and knowledge to help them achieve mutual success, which benefits the entire community,” said VCCS Chancellor Dr. Glenn DuBois. “We are excited about this partnership and the opportunity it presents to share our organizational and operational expertise.”



Dr. Glenn DuBois (far right), Sen. Mark Warner (2nd from right), and Dr. Ajay Kela of the Wadhvani Foundation (far left) at the signing event in New Delhi, India



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