

SACJTC Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges

NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Volume 41, Number 3

Annual Meeting in New Orleans a Huge Success!

The SACJTC annual membership meeting was held in New Orleans on December 9, 2007. Over 300 attendees enjoyed an excellent lunch, a wonderful speaker, and for the first time, cash awards were presented to the two best papers submitted for the inaugural issue of the SACJTC Journal.

Dr. Dale Campbell, co-editor of the SACJTC Journal, was the luncheon speaker. Dr. Campbell is a Professor in the College of Education, Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies and is the Director of the Community College Leadership Consortium of the University of Florida. His topic was "Assessing Community College Student Learning Outcomes: Where are we? What's next?"

The two individuals who submitted the award winning publications were Dr. Stephen Guerin, Motlow State Community College, Lynchburg, Tennessee and S. Renea Akin, West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Paducah, Kentucky. Dr. Guerin's paper is entitled "Internationalizing the Curriculum: Improving Learning through International Education-Preparing Students for Success in a Global Society." Ms. Akin's paper is entitled "What does CCSSE have to do with Learning." Executive summaries of both papers can be found on the association's website at www.sacjtc.org.

During the business session portion of the meeting, new officers for 2008 were selected, outgoing board members were recognized, new board members were announced, and the wonderful corporate sponsors of the annual meeting were recognized. Officers for 2008 include: Dr. Charles Mojock, President of Lake-Sumter Community College (FL), continues for a second year as president, Dr. Sheryl Smith-Kappus, President of Hill College (TX), will serve as vice-president, and Dr. George Edwards, President of Big Sandy Community and Technical College (KY), will continue to serve as secretary-treasurer.

Outgoing board members Dr. Willis Lott (MS), Dr. Wade McCamey (TN), and Dr. Jimmy Williamson (SC), were recognized for their outstanding service to the association. New board members Dr. Johnny Allen (MS), Dr. Karen Bowyer (TN), and Dr. Anne McNutt (SC) were welcomed by President Mojock.

Corporate partners for the 2007 luncheon included Valley Services as the gold



Dr. Chuck Mojock, SACJTC president, Dr. Sheryl Smith-Kappus, SACJTC vice-president, Renea Akin, winning paper award recipient from Western Kentucky Community and Technical College, Dr. Matt Basham and Dr. Dale Campbell, SACJTC Journal co-editors.

sponsor; Barnes and Noble, BB&T, Blackboard, SSC, and Siemens, all as bronze sponsors. Due to their generosity, the cost for luncheon attendees is kept to a minimum.

Make plans now to attend the annual meeting on December 7, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in San Antonio, Texas. Remember to register for the SACJTC luncheon as you register for the SACS annual meeting through their normal process. The luncheon cost for 2008 again remains at \$30. Please check the website for additional information about the luncheon as it becomes available.

"Enhancing Quality Through Collaboration" Announced as New Theme

At the spring meeting of the Board of Directors, the theme and focus for 2008 was selected. The theme for 2008 is "Enhancing Quality through Collaboration." The SACJTC Journal which became an initiative of the association in 2007 provides a mechanism for member institutions and their employees to

share summaries of their Quality Enhancement Plans which represents excellent "best practices" for other institutions in the southern region. Such collaboration can lead to quality improvements for all.

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Review of Assessing Academic Programs in Higher Education and Assessing General Education Programs

Dr. Mary J. Allen, one of the featured speakers for the upcoming COC-SACS Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation (July 27-30 in Orlando, FL), authored both *Assessing Academic Programs in Higher Education* (2004) and *Assessing General Education Programs* (2006). While a quick glance over the contents indicates similar organizational patterns for the two books, Dr. Allen has taken great care to explain assessment as it relates to academic programs as well as to explain its relationship to the general education program. In other words, the second book is definitely not just a rehashing of the contents of the first book.

Dr. Allen obviously had her audience in mind as she wrote the books. For instance, both books contain a glossary to assist the reader with understanding the terms related to assessment. In addition, each book includes many helpful websites for the reader who desires further information. She provides a number of tables detailing items such as selection criteria for assessment techniques, the strengths and limitations of assessment techniques, and teaching-centered versus learning-centered instruction. She also includes sample rubrics and surveys in addition to examples of matrices to ensure alignment of course and program objectives along with alignment of learning objectives, course activities, and assessment techniques.

Although these books are quite short, readers will find that Dr. Allen has included the information needed to assist novices and more seasoned professionals in either establishing or improving the assessment of academic programs and/or general education programs.

Reviewer: Dr. Kay Patterson, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dyersburg State Community College, Dyersburg, Tennessee

Student Leadership Book

A new book on college student leadership, *So You Want to Be a Leader? Character and Leadership Fundamentals for College Students*, is a welcome resource for college educators who are addressing leadership, character, and soft-skill development with their students. Written by Dr. Earl Paul at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida, the book is a result of his years of advising and teaching students in multiple aspects of leadership.

The need for the book came about when the author/speaker felt limited by one-hour presentations on this topic; therefore, he decided to expand the presentation into book form, allowing him to cover more information and delve deeper into such themes, which he could not have done otherwise.

So You Want to Be a Leader? is designed to be of special interest to those seeking a main or supplemental book to augment their classes/workshops in such diverse areas as teaching leadership, freshman orientation, first-year experience, or college success classes. Another advantage is the book's structure, which consists of numerous two-page topics and lends itself to classroom and small group discussions.

The book is divided into three areas: "Leadership and Character," "Soft Skills," and "Other Stuff." Because Paul wants to relate to students, he uses a vernacular that may seem unscholarly to many, writing instead with the intention of intriguing them enough to explore. The book is written taking into account the aversion today's students feel for the written word. Bound in an attractive, colorful cover and 163 pages long, the book does not deter students who automatically want to know how thick a book is before they will even consider reading it.

Leadership and Character. In the first section of the book, Paul covers character traits, leadership skills, and attributes that leaders need to be aware of if they are going to add momentum to their pursuit of leadership success. In all, there are 39 topics in this section, including, integrity, making excuses, going back on your word, leading by example, passion, delegating, and self-discipline. Topics are succinct but insightful.

Soft Skills. In the second section, entitled "Soft Skills," he offers observations on some societal norms—e.g., punctuality, table manners, thank you notes, courtesy and respect and effective public speaking—which seem to be declining in our society, but nonetheless are skills students should possess to help them in their lives and careers.

Other Stuff. In the final section of the book, "Other Stuff," the issues addressed include smoking, tattoos, peer pressure, voting, and exercise, which may not seem to relate to character and leadership, but life's decisions, when viewed holistically, influence students more than they may realize.

The book is not formulaic, theoretical, or esoteric in what the author posits. It relays basic information that offers insight for the college student. Ultimately, although the material is simplistic, the author's intention is to offer readers a powerful awareness of how learning about leadership, character, and soft skills can profoundly affect their lives.

If you would like to view the book, you can visit the author's website, www.drearlpaul.com, or it is available at Amazon.com.

-Dr. Earl Paul

FLORIDA

The 1957-58 academic year was an historic one for Florida as the Community College System was created according to the master plan developed by Dr. James Wattenbarger. As a result, the legislature established six community colleges to join the four that had been established over the years. Thus, we congratulate the following colleges as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary: Central Florida; Daytona Beach; Gulf Coast; Manatee; North Florida and St. John's River.

Perhaps aware of the historic anniversary, the Florida Legislature attempted to make history itself this year by passing landmark legislation which abolishes the Florida Community College System name in favor of the Florida College System comprised of 2 year and 4 year colleges. The bill contains the following provisions:

- Allows for community colleges to change their name to "college" if offering baccalaureate degrees.
- Creates a **new type of college** in addition to the existing associate and certificate granting community colleges and community colleges that have also been approved for limited baccalaureate degrees.
- *The new "**state colleges**" would offer baccalaureate degrees that address regional and statewide workforce needs versus the local needs that are used to document the need for the limited baccalaureate degrees that some colleges offer now.
- **Creates a 12 member Task Force** to develop a process for approving these state colleges and a funding model. The task force will include the Commissioner of Education and 11 other members appointed by the Commissioner. Members include 7 community college presidents, a state university president, a private university president, and a lower level private (can be profit) institution president, and one member at large. A $\frac{3}{4}$ vote is required to pass any recommendation.
- The Task Force will make recommendations to the Governor, State Board, and the Legislature by March 2, 2009 and is disbanded on June 30, 2010.
- Provides for a "pilot program" where nine **designated col-**

GEORGIA

Transition is a good word to describe the two-year colleges in Georgia at the present time. This February, Governor Sonny Perdue announced that the governing board for the Technical College System of Georgia has named Interim Commissioner Ron Jackson as the new Commissioner for that system. Jackson had served the System as Deputy Commissioner since joining the agency in 2004 and had served as Interim Commissioner since the retirement of former Commissioner Mike Vollmer in December of 2006. Almost 141,000 students were enrolled in the Technical College System of Georgia in 2007 and over 27,000 graduated with technical certificates of credit, diplomas or associate degrees. Of the graduates, 98.7% are either employed or are continuing their education.

leges would become State Colleges (St. Petersburg, Okaloosa-Walton, Daytona Beach, Miami Dade, Indian River, Polk, Chipola, Santa Fe, and Edison).

Needless to say, there are strong feelings on both sides about this change. It should be an interesting year!

In one of the most challenging budget years in recent history, the legislature was forced to cut more than 10% of the state budget. The community colleges suffered a 9.6% cut in overall state funding. The popular matching grant programs for facilities and scholarships took the brunt of the hit, receiving only \$8.9 million out of more than \$90 million requested. However, the operating budgets also experienced a 4% cut on top of the 4% reduction this year. There was an attempt to balance that reduction, however, with the tuition increase of 6%. Newspapers have begun reporting that Governor Crist has expressed support for the tuition increase. With system wide enrollment up over 7% this past year, it will be a challenge to maintain our ability to provide the access point to higher education opportunity.

The Florida system also bids farewell to two presidents retiring with a distinguished record of service. Dr. Tom Delaino will be leaving Pensacola Junior College. The District Board of Trustees announced that they have unanimously elected Dr. Charles E. Meadows as the college's sixth president. Dr. Meadows will be leaving his position as president of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College in Andalusia, Alabama where he has been since 2003.

Manatee Community College President Dr. Sarah Pappas will be replaced by the former provost of St. Petersburg College, Dr. Lars Hafner. The unanimous choice of the District Board of Trustees is a former state lawmaker with extensive experience in not only legislative affairs but community college issues and administration.

The Florida Association of Community Colleges, the statewide professional organization for employees and institutions, will be seeking a new CEO to replace Mike Comins, who is leaving to pursue business interests.

We thank Tom, Sarah and Mike and wish them well in their new endeavors.

Dr. Tom Lilly has resigned as President of South Georgia College. Dr. Virginia Carson has been named Interim President of the College and will serve in that capacity until a permanent successor is named. Dr. Carson had served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Georgia Highlands College.

The Chancellor and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia have named Dr. Gary McGaha, President of Atlanta Metropolitan College. Dr. McGaha had served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs before being named Interim President upon the retirement of former President Dr. Harold Wade.

Dr. Richard Federinko, President of Middle Georgia College, resigned at the end of December to take a position with Troy University. Dr. Mary Ellen Wilson, Vice President for Academic Affairs, at Middle Georgia College is serving as Interim President while a

GEORGIA (CONTINUED)

search is conducted for a permanent successor to Dr. Federinko.

Dr. Dorothy Lord, President of Coastal Georgia Community College, has announced her retirement from the presidency at the end of the current academic year. She has served the College

and the University System with distinction since 1991. Dr. Lord was the first woman elected to the presidency of a two-year college in the University System of Georgia.

KENTUCKY

Revenue shortfall in Kentucky leads to budget reductions

Shortly after new Governor Steve Beshear took office in December, 2007 he was advised the revenue projections for 2008 would likely fall way short of prior forecasts. He immediately ordered a 3% budget cut for all of higher education and his 2008-09 budget proposal called for an additional 12% cut for higher education to include the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

However, the general assembly had different plans. The democratic controlled House of Representatives offered an alternative budget that sought no further cuts for higher education in 2008-09 and offset the revenue shortfall with a proposed tobacco tax. The republican controlled senate wanted no part of the tax increase and in the final hours of the legislative session, a conference committee of the House and Senate agreed on a budget with no new taxes and an additional 3% cut for higher education. Several capital projects were put back in the final budget as well.

The result is that the Kentucky Community and Technical College System enters the 2008-09 fiscal year with \$13.5 million less revenue than it had at the beginning of 2007-08. The KCTCS Board of Regents sought a tuition increase of \$15 per credit hour to offset the lost state revenue but the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, the state's higher education coordinating board voted on May 9, 2008 to allow only a \$6 increase in tuition. The 16 colleges in the Kentucky system are currently preparing their budgets for submission to the Board of Regents and there will be certain negative impacts on programs, services, and enrollment.

Senator McCain visits the Big Sandy Region

Senator John McCain held an old fashioned "town-hall" meeting in Inez, Kentucky in April, 2008.

Among other topics, McCain focused on the importance of community and technical colleges that prepare young adults for a career in a technological field. McCain touted the Big Sandy Community and Technical College, with four locations in Eastern Kentucky, for preparing their students to immediately enter the workforce upon graduation.

"Community college training is one of the most efficient, least costly thing we can do to stimulate our economy," McCain said.

Record Enrollment for Kentucky

Kentucky's public universities and community and technical colleges broke enrollment records last Fall with a combined 212,994 students. The enrollment numbers represented a 3.2

percent increase over Fall 2006, according to the Council on Postsecondary Education. KCTCS enrollment surpassed 92,000 students.

Former Governor awarded honorary degree

Former Kentucky Governor Paul Patton was among 267 graduates at the Big Sandy Community and Technical College graduation ceremony held on Saturday, May 10, 2008 at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg.

Kentucky Community and Technical College President and commencement speaker Michael B. McCall said Patton is "truly one of Kentucky's greatest patriots."

President McCall praised Governor Patton for being the architect of the state's revolutionary higher education reform efforts that created the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

"Under his watch Kentucky became recognized as a national leader in higher education reform because his vision was to build the intellectual capital in this state that would provide citizens with the quality of life they desire," President McCall said. "It was this vision that served as the basis for the Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 (House Bill One). Governor Patton has often said to me..., 'this act was the single most important initiative of my administration.'"

Dr. Edward Story named President

Dr. Michael B. McCall, president of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, recently announced the appointment of Dr. Lloyd Edward Story, Jr. as president of Maysville Community and Technical College.

In addition to serving as interim president at MCTC from December, 2007 until April, 2008, Story also served as Interim President of the College in 2001. He has currently been serving as chief academic affairs officer at MCTC.

New Horizons Conference

The seventh annual New Horizons Conference on Teaching and Learning had something for everyone. Teaching and learning, inspirational leadership, technology, wellness, and issues specific to KCTCS faculty and staff were among the conference topics.

"Serving Millennial Students: New Approaches for a New Generation," included 143 sessions over a three-day period, Monday, May 19, through Wednesday, May 21, at the Lexington Convention Center and Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Enrollment for the conference reached 782 registered participants, up from 705 in 2007.

LOUISIANA

LCTCS Awarded Ford Foundation Grant

Kizzy Payton

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System has been awarded a grant from The Ford Foundation totaling \$150,000. The funds will provide support for key community college stakeholders to explore ways of integrating academic, workforce development, and remedial programs in community and technical colleges. The grant is one of several that the LCTCS has received over the past six years and is part of the national Community College Bridges to Opportunity Initiative. In 2002, The Ford Foundation recognized the LCTCS as one of six participating states in the National Bridges Initiative with the ultimate goal of promoting and expanding access for community and technical colleges.

Community and Technical Colleges Set to Implement New Emergency Warning System

Kizzy Payton

Community and technical colleges across the state have initiated the implementation of an emergency alert notification system. Working with the Louisiana Board of Regents selected vendor, First Call Interactive Network, each community and technical college will implement the messaging system for their respective campuses over the course of the next few weeks.

Students, faculty, and staff will be able to register through the Internet anytime to receive notifications. The emergency system can send text, voice, and e-mail messages. The service also has the ability to tie into other messaging devices that are currently arriving on the commercial market such as electronic message boards, digital clocks, and campus emergency communication systems. Campus administrators may send messages either through any Internet connection using appropriate security credentials, or by calling First Call operators on-duty twenty-four hours a day. The system is the newest of several methods that community and technical colleges currently use to communicate notices requiring immediate action or attention to their campus communities.

Chancellor: Colleges must fuel Louisiana's work force

Greg Hilburn

ghilburn@thenewsstar.com

Delta Community College Chancellor Luke Robins said if Louisiana is to build a world-class work force then it will be up to the state's community and technical college system to be the catalyst. Delta's chancellor said Louisiana needs to enroll 160,000 students per year in its community and technical colleges to meet the current work-force needs. That's more than triple the current enrollment.

Robins estimates 68 percent of the new jobs need employees with training that exceeds a high school education but is less than a bachelor's degree. "The reason most jobs are unfilled is

because there's a mismatch between the existing skills in the work force and the skills needed to meet the needs of business and industry," Robins said. "Our job is to respond to workforce needs and develop programs to fill those needs."

Wright named Chancellor of Delgado Community College



Dr. Ron Wright, who has more than thirty years of experience working in community colleges, was appointed chancellor of Delgado Community College May 14 at the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors meeting.

Governor Bobby Jindal announces immediate implementation of "Day One Guarantee"

"Day One" to be key part of comprehensive workforce development reforms

BATON ROUGE – Governor Bobby Jindal held a press conference May 14 with Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) President Dr. Joe D. May, LCTCS Chairman of the Board Brett Mellington, Louisiana Department of Labor Secretary Tim Barfield, Louisiana Economic Development Secretary Stephen Moret to announce the official adopting of the Governor's "Day One Guarantee" initiative to ensure Louisiana workers are ready to work on their very first day on the job or they will be retrained for free.

Governor Jindal said, "This is another major step forward toward a New Louisiana that is the best place in the world to raise a family, get a quality education and pursue a great career. Ensuring our Louisiana workers are ready to work on their very first day on the job or they will be retrained at no cost to the worker or the business will go a long way in helping to close the current 'skills gap' in our state. Today, we have thousands of good jobs available and yet too many Louisianans are still outside the labor force entirely. We must close this gap. The "Day One Guarantee" is a vital part of our comprehensive reforms to put workers and businesses, not government bureaucrats, in the driver's seat of our workforce training system."

LCTCS President Dr. Joe D. May said, "It was recently stated that there are more than 100,000 job vacancies in this state. Our community and technical colleges are committed to addressing and solving this workforce shortage. This policy takes our commitment one step further by guaranteeing that our graduates will be ready to meet the needs of business and industry on Day One or we will retrain them. This policy is the ultimate measure of accountability for our system, and we stand prepared to help transform Louisiana's workforce through the high-demand programs that we currently offer."

The LCTCS Board of Supervisors met at Baton Rouge Community College shortly before the press conference with the Governor to adopt the "Day One Guarantee" initiative for the more than 100 workforce training programs in the state's two-year institutions.



The “Day One Guarantee” initiative states that, “If one of our graduates educated under a standard program, or his/her employer finds that the graduate is deficient in one or more competences as defined in the standards, the community or technical college will retrain the employee at no cost to the graduate or the employer.” The initiative became immediately effective upon its adoption.

LCTCS leaders also explained that curriculum standards were developed, working directly with businesses and industries, which will serve as industry-validated specifications for each occupational program. These standards allow Louisiana commu-

nity and technical colleges to offer their business partners this guarantee, and the system will bear the costs within its existing budget.

Louisiana’s enrollment in technical and community colleges has more than doubled since 1999. As of 2007, more than 52,000 students were enrolled statewide, including 17,000 at Louisiana Technical College campuses.

MISSISSIPPI

Northeast MS Community College is one of the three colleges in the MS Corridor Consortium awarded a \$1.9 million dollar grant in January 2007 over a period of 3 years. The primary purpose of the Navigating Educational Opportunities in Nursing (NEON) grant is to help bridge supply and demand for the allied health workforce in northeast MS. The grant focuses on the retention and training of students in RN, LPN, and CNA programs. Another important facet of the grant provides scholarship assistance to LPNs seeking credentials as RNs and BS nurses seeking MSN credentials as nurse educators. The MS Department of Employment Security Labor Market information forecasts that northeast MS will need to add approximately 1,000 certified nursing assistants, 500 licensed practical nurses, and 2,000 registered nurses to the workforce by 2012 to meet regional demand. This grant assists the 3 colleges (NEMCC, ICC, and East MS CC) to strengthen their abilities to provide services and opportunities for regional health care initiatives.

After winning the MACJC State tournament title, the Itawamba Community College men’s basketball team took the 2008 Region XXIII title with wins over Miss. Gulf Coast CC (80-73), Bossier Parish CC from Louisiana (80-71), and over Miss. Delta CC (68-47) in the Region XXIII tournament championship game. In its first game at the 2008 NJCAA National Tournament in Hutchinson, KS, the ICC men’s team lost in overtime (75-73) to Indian Hills CC from Iowa. After winning 83-61 over Georgia Perimeter College in a losers’ bracket game, the Itawamba men were eliminated from the national tournament by top-ranked Chipola CC from Florida (72-53).

East Central Community College’s women’s basketball team took the 2008 Region XXIII tournament title with a 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College. With the win, the ECCC women improved to 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith and advanced to the 2008 NJCAA D-I women’s basketball championship scheduled for March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas. ECCC posted wins over Southwest Miss. CC (81-72) and Itawamba CC (75-59) prior to defeating Holmes for the region title. In round one of the NJCAA Women’s National Tournament, ECCC fell to Southeastern Illinois (74-48). The Lady Warriors later exited the tournament after a second round loss, 89-75, to Shelton State CC from Alabama.

In an effort to increase awareness of the affect of race relations in today’s society, Northeast Mississippi Community College’s Cultural Arts committee recently sponsored a lecture series on “racial reconciliation,” which included programs from renowned speakers Dr. Henry Outlaw, Dr. Charles Marsh, Dr. Dolphus Weary, Dr. Susan Glisson, civil rights pioneer James Meredith and former governor William Winter. A roundtable panel discussion of Harper Lee’s classic novel To Kill A Mockingbird was also part of the series. Co-sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council, the lecture series was open to the public and admission was free.

Former Mississippi Legislator and Secretary of State Dr. Eric Clark was appointed executive director of the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges in January of this year following the retirement of long-time director Dr. Wayne Stonecypher. Before being elected to the Mississippi Legislature, Clark served as an educator, teaching at Mississippi College and Jones County Junior College. He has been recognized with the American Family Association’s “God and Country” Award, as the Mississippi Wildlife Federation’s Conservation Legislator of the Year, and was twice awarded the Mississippi Nature Conservancy’s Public Service Award. He is a member of the Mississippi Economic Council. Clark and his wife Karan are active members of the First Baptist Church of Brandon, where he serves as deacon and a Sunday School teacher. They have two children: Charles and Catherine.



NORTH CAROLINA

Dr. R. Scott Ralls is the new president of the North Carolina Community College System. Ralls replaced the retired H. Martin Lancaster on May 1. Ralls left Craven Community College, where he served as president for the past five years, to return to the System Office where he had served as Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development.

The NC Center for Public Policy released a major publication entitled "The Future of Community Colleges in North Carolina." The publication includes articles written by community college insiders and education experts. It also focuses on the key issues facing the NCCCS: enrollment trends, faculty compensation, funding formulas, and strategic planning.

North Carolina's community colleges received high marks in a report from the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government entitled, "The States and Their Community Colleges," which focused on how well states take advantage of the opportunities offered by community colleges. NC was one of only four states to rank above the national rate in the five criteria ranking com-

munity college utilization.

A \$170,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education will finance an innovative partnership with North Carolina's community colleges and the North Carolina Symphony to send soloists and small ensembles to local community colleges and public schools to perform and offer instruction, depending on local interest. Congressman David Price, D-NC, secured the funds for the project.

The NCCCS received the *2008 Datatel Partners in Excellence Award*, which is presented each year to client institutions that demonstrate exemplary collaboration with Datatel and a demonstrated commitment to excellence in higher education.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Apprenticeship Carolina

The South Carolina Technical College System's newest program—Apprenticeship Carolina™—is up and running. For years, South Carolina trailed the nation and its neighboring states when it came to the number of Registered Apprenticeship programs and apprentices.

An answer to this concern came quickly. Created just last year by the General Assembly in response to the demands of the state's business community, Apprenticeship Carolina™ is educating employers, students, and the general public about the advantages of Registered Apprenticeships.

Three Apprenticeship Consultants were recently hired and have completed training with the South Carolina Office of Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor. While some South Carolina Technical Colleges are already providing excellent assistance to businesses looking to create an apprenticeship program, others are just beginning their efforts. The Apprenticeship Consultants are therefore charged with providing targeted assistance to colleges and businesses—from intense hands-on assistance to updates on the latest trends and regulations.

Legislative Success

The System has enjoyed strong legislative support during a very challenging state budget process. Even with revenues down a projected \$180 million from the previous fiscal year, the System is able to continue to fund its innovative Allied Health initiative, retain the same amount of funding for its Lottery Tuition Assistance Program, and maintain funding for the Lottery Technology Program.

Legislators have also shown strong support for the System's Enterprise Campus legislation. The bill, which provides increased flexibility for colleges working with private enterprise, will assist

colleges in their economic and workforce development efforts.

New Presidents

The South Carolina Technical College System welcomes the following new Presidents:

Dr. Ray Brooks—Piedmont Technical College
Dr. Ron Bartley—Northeastern Technical College
Dr. Keith Miller—Greenville Technical College



TENNESSEE

The Community Colleges in Tennessee are cutting budgets for 2008-09 by 2.5%. The total cut for the academic formula units of postsecondary education in Tennessee is \$47,017,000 with \$5.8 million being cut from the community colleges. It is anticipated that the tuition increase will be in the range of 6-9%. The decision will be made by the Tennessee Board of Regents on June 27, 2008. Tuition is approximately 35% of the revenue received by community colleges in Tennessee.

The community colleges in Tennessee joined public and private universities in May to form the Tennessee Campus Compact in an effort to promote civic and service engagement of our students. This is an effort to prepare our students to be active members of our democracy.

VIRGINIA

More Minority Students, More Full-Time Students And More 18-21-year-old Students Swell Virginia's Community Colleges Enrollment to Record Levels

Six out of 10 undergraduate students attending a public college or university in the commonwealth are attending a Virginia Community College.

Student enrollment increased by 7,973 students across the commonwealth in Fall 2007 to a total of 167,175 – an increase of 5% in students taking credit courses over the Fall of 2006. To put that growth number in perspective, it's nearly the same as the undergraduate enrollment of Radford University (8,023 students).

“Virginia’s Community Colleges are an on-ramp to higher education for a growing number of Virginians, and we’re thrilled about that,” said Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia’s Community Colleges. “More and more, people understand that you can’t be successful in the 21st century without the knowledge and skills a college education provides. We are encouraged by these record enrollment numbers and we remain dedicated to our mission of getting more people into and successfully through post-secondary education programs.”

VCCS Enrollment Highlights

Minority Students: Virginia’s Community Colleges are serving an additional 4,804 minority students than a year ago – an increase of 8.8%. Minority student enrollment has increased 17.25% over the past two years, and minority students represent a large percentage of all students served by the VCCS.

Full-Time Students: FTES (Full-Time Equivalent Students) have increased by 5,051 – or 5.86% - an indication that individual students are taking heavier course loads.

18-21-Year-Old Students: The number of traditional age students served by the VCCS is up 4,255 from a year ago – an increase of 7.6%.

Fastest Growing Community Colleges by student head-

count: Northern Virginia Community College (+3,104 students); Tidewater Community College (+919 students); and John Tyler Community College (+917 students)

Fastest Growing Community Colleges by headcount percentage: Germanna Community College (+14.2%); New River Community College (+13.8%); and John Tyler Community College (+12.8%)



Current Members Renew Your Membership Today

The SACJTC Board has agreed to maintain the membership dues structure for 2008-09. Institutional membership dues remain at \$100.00 and now the dues may be paid by credit card through a PayPal account. Dues notices will be mailed to current and potential members in early June. For more information, please contact Dr. George Edwards, secretary-treasurer.

2008 SACJTC Annual Luncheon Scheduled

Mark your calendars for the 2008 Annual Luncheon and Membership meeting. The event is scheduled for Sunday, December 7, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in San Antonio, Texas. Please check our website (www.sacjtc.org) for additional information about the luncheon as it becomes available.

Thanks to our 2007 Sponsors

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There's opportunity here



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