

**New River Community College Board
(Region 10)
Meeting Number Three Hundred Thirty-Four**

MINUTES

March 6, 2017

Meeting number three hundred thirty-four of the New River Community College Board was held on Monday, March 6, 2017, in Edwards Hall on the NRCC campus.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Steven Harvey (Radford City)
Mr. Walter (Benny) Keister (Pulaski County)
Mr. Brian Kitts (Montgomery County)
Mr. James Loux (Pulaski County)
Dr. Douglas Martin (Giles County)
Mr. Lane Penn (Pulaski County)
Mr. James Riffe, Jr. (Giles County)
Mrs. Barbara A. Straub (Montgomery County)
Dr. Sue Thacker (Montgomery County)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Melissa Anderson, Director of Human Resources and Business Operations
Mr. Peter Anderson, Dean of Business and Technologies
Ms. Angie F. Covey, Executive Director NRCC Educational Foundation
Dr. Patricia B. Huber, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services
Dr. Deborah Kennedy, Dean of Student Services
Mr. Tony Nicolo, Director of Facilities Services
Mrs. Kathy T. Ridpath, Administrative Assistant, President's Office
Dr. Mark C. Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations
Dr. Janice Shelton, Dean of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Fritz M. Streff, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research
Mr. John L. Van Hemert, Vice President for Finance and Technology
Dr. Charlie White, Interim President
Dr. Cynthia Wynne, NRCC Faculty Assembly Chair

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order

Mr. Steven Harvey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present and due notice had been mailed and published.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Harvey welcomed everyone in attendance. He recognized Dr. Charlie White, NRCC Interim President, and Dr. Cynthia Wynne, NRCC Faculty Assembly Chair.

3. Agenda for Approval

The agenda was approved as distributed.

4. Minutes for Approval

The minutes of meeting number three hundred thirty-three, held on Monday, December 12, 2016, were approved as distributed.

5. NRCC Board Terms of Appointment

Referring to the chart of appointments, Mr. Harvey encouraged members to make note of upcoming expiration of terms and act accordingly.

6. President's Report

Dr. White gave a brief update on the presidential search. A new president should be appointed by July 1.

Dr. White referenced the Time Jumpers featuring Vince Gill concert that was held on March 3 at the college. He commended Mr. Roger Adkins and others for their diligent work in making the concert a success.

Dr. White informed the Board that NRCC will host the annual high school Career Day on Tuesday, March 7. Approximately 1300 students are registered to attend. There will be about 25-30 business and industry representatives on campus. The area school superintendents will be attending a lunch meeting with staff members on that day. Dr. Stephen Staples, Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction, will also be attending the event.

Dr. White expressed his appreciation to the members of the Board for their service. He asked them to let him know if anything arises that needs to be addressed.

7. Instruction and Student Services

Dr. Pat Huber introduced Dr. Deborah Kennedy, Dean of Student Services. Dr. Kennedy gave an update on the work of the NRCC's Career Coaches. NRCC places advisors (Career Coaches) in each of the area high schools to work with students as they explore career options and navigate through the college application and registration process. Dr. Kennedy referred to a chart that shows the percentage of the region's high school graduates who enrolled at NRCC the summer or fall immediately following graduation. She stated that in 2007 the college began an intensive and intentional model of outreach in the area high schools. She referred to a chart that showed highlights of the efforts of the college's career coaches. Since 2007, the number of service region high school students attending NRCC during the summer or fall after their high school graduation has been around 24-25 percent. This past summer/fall, the college hit a record high with 27.2 percent of graduates attending NRCC. She commented that this was a group effort and commended all, especially the Career Coaches, for their diligent work in making this happen. The Career Coaches work one-on-one with high school seniors to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) forms, build class schedules, and assist

with new-student orientation. She expressed her appreciation to the Board for their support of the Career Coach program. Questions were posed and a discussion was held for each one.

Dr. Pat Huber gave an update on the intentional engagement model of student success and the Accountability in Student Learning Program (ASLP) which included:

- Intentional Engagement Model – short-term wins (course withdrawals) include:
 - 21 percent decrease in course withdrawals from fall 2014 to fall 2015
 - 25 percent decrease in course withdrawals from fall 2014 to fall 2016
 - Students did not remain in class, just to fail
 - A, B, C grades remained consistent
- Intentional Engagement Model – medium-term wins (retention) include:
 - Fall to Spring retention rate increased 10.5 percent
 - Fall to Fall retention rate increase 23.9 percent
 - Compared to average retention rate of previous three semesters

Dr. Huber commented that the college is excited to see the long-term measure of awards, graduation, and transfer rates. These numbers will be forthcoming.

Dr. Huber reported on upcoming graduation events. The Nursing Pinning and Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 10. The Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 12. She stated that Mrs. Ridpath will follow up with more information as the dates get closer.

8. Enrollment

Dr. Streff reported on enrollment for the spring semester. Total headcount enrollment as of March 6, 2017, is 4,136, a decrease of 2.24 percent over the same relative date last spring. Total FTEs stand at 2,397, a decrease of 0.13 percent over the same relative date last spring. In terms of loss, it is fairly evenly distributed with a loss of 4.3 percent (not mall), 4.5 percent loss (mall) and 5 percent loss (Distance Education). The dual enrollment at present shows an increase of 19 percent. When dual enrollment numbers are taken out, the college shows a decrease of 4.9 percent with the VCCS showing a decrease of 7.6 percent. He reported that the VCCS enrollment (FTEs) as a whole shows a decrease of 5.5 percent compared to this point in time last year. A discussion was held on the challenges of declining enrollment.

A question was posed regarding dual enrollment and the financial gain for the college. Mr. Van Hemert stated that the college does benefit from dual enrollment due to the distribution model – the VCCS distributes money to each college based on FTEs. If the college's enrollment increases due to dual enrollment, there is more funding for the college.

There was a brief discussion held on placement testing. A Board member stated that the placement testing has gotten significantly more difficult in the last two

years. The curriculum of the schools does not align to the material on the placement tests. It was suggested to invite teachers from the high schools of the service region to review the placement tests. Dr. White commented that the VCCS is conducting a study on placement tests at this time. Dr. Huber informed the Board that NRCC will implement Multiple Measures which are alternative measures to the placement tests for new students. At this point, the VCCS has not given the authority to do this for dual enrollment. More information will be forthcoming.

9. Workforce Development and External Relations

SACSCOC Update

Dr. Rowh discussed the SACSCOC reaffirmation process. NRCC has a compliance certification team in place who have been diligently working on this process. The Compliance Certification was due to SACSCOC on March 1, 2017 and was mailed on February 27. A team of volunteer “off-site” readers will review the documentation sent and then assemble to consolidate their feedback. This feedback will then be forwarded to NRCC for additional follow-up that might be needed. The college will submit a focused report responding to any questions the team might have. Also, the college’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) will be submitted for SACSCOC review in the next few months. The SACSCOC onsite review is scheduled for October 31. Dr. Rowh stated the Board will be involved at this time. The college will keep the Board informed as the process moves forward.

General Assembly Update

Dr. Rowh informed the Board that he and Dr. White recently attended the Pulaski Chamber of Commerce Legislative Appreciation Dinner in Richmond. There they met with Delegates Nick Rush and Joseph Yost as well as other officials. On a related note, Dr. Rowh informed the Board that in years past, the VCCS has asked the community colleges to take students to visit the General Assembly to meet with legislators representing the New River Valley. The VCCS decided not to require the visits this year.

Dr. Rowh provided a summary report of budget-related actions taken by the General Assembly in the 2017 session. All colleges had budget reductions this past year. There was a \$16 million reduction that was spread over the VCCS colleges but he stated that the reductions were manageable. He also reported that additional funds were authorized for the Workforce Credential Grant (WCG) during the session.

10. Finance and Technology

Mr. Van Hemert referred the Board to Exhibit C, Tuition Revenue Deficit Reserve Fund Status. No questions were raised about the report.

Exhibit D, Local Funds Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, was distributed and reviewed. (See attached statement).

Mr. Van Hemert presented three items for action. The Budget and Finance Committee met prior to the meeting.

- (1) Bookstore, Food Service, and Other Miscellaneous Income Budget for 2017-2018 (Exhibit E).
- (2) Local M & O Budget 2017-2018 (Exhibit F)
- (3) Student Activities Budget for 2017-2018 (Exhibit G): The sources of funds for the budget are local funds and student activities fees. The total budget request is \$100,000.

On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Doug Martin recommended approval of the three items above. They received a motion and a proper second and passed by unanimous vote.

11. NRCC Educational Foundation

Ms. Covey presented one item for action:

- (1) Alcoholic Beverages at Social Functions (Exhibit H). On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Loux moved for approval of the policy as presented (see attached). The motion received a proper second and passed by unanimous vote.

Ms. Angie Covey reported on the new scholarships received or reaching full endowment since the December meeting which include:

- John and Mary Brown – second endowment
- Al and Marilyn Bowman – second endowment
- Stateson Homes (Todd and Dana Robertson) has fulfilled an endowment
- Lewis and Catherine Webb – endowment specific to ACCE students
- Lewis “Louis” J. Heslip Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Tracy Wilkins contributed an additional \$60,000 for scholarships (Wilkins Fellows)

Ms. Covey stated that cash gifts received in 2016 total over \$750,000.

Ms. Covey informed the Board that Dr. Tracy Wilkins will be NRCC’s 2017 Philanthropist of the Year. Dr. Wilkins has contributed significantly to aid the ACCE program for Radford City. The VCCS will recognize him at an event in Richmond in April.

Ms. Covey gave an update on the Access to Community College Education program (ACCE). The ACCE program is now in three of the five localities. Giles County will be starting their third year with the program this fall and Floyd County and Radford City will begin their first year. Floyd County was able to become an ACCE locality due to the Tobacco Commission grant funding being received. She reported that Radford City will be holding an ACCE fundraiser, Cow Pie Bingo, on the football field of Radford High School in April.

Ms. Covey reported that she, along with Mrs. Barbara Straub and Dr. Sue Thacker, recently met with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors to present information on the ACCE program. She commented that also speaking on behalf of the program were Mr. Whit Babcock, Virginia Tech Director of

Athletics, Montgomery County Chief of Police, Montgomery County Sheriff, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, and others. She reported that she has presented to the Pulaski County School Board and is in conversation with Jonathon Sweet, Pulaski County Administrator, regarding the ACCE program. A question was posed regarding the cost of the ACCE program for Montgomery County. Ms. Covey estimated the program would cost approximately \$300,000 the first year and \$600,000 the second year.

Dr. Martin informed the Board that a program was established a few years ago in Giles County called the Walkers in Newport (WIN). Participants log walking miles and report each week towards a virtual Newport destination. The participants have virtually walked 25,000 miles and to about 80 different Newports. The group has raised approximately \$600 for the Giles County ACCE program.

12. Evaluation of the President

Mr. Harvey informed the Board that given the current presidential circumstances, more information will be forthcoming from the VCCS regarding the evaluation process.

13. Appointment of Nominations Committee

Mr. Harvey appointed Mrs. Barbara Straub and Mr. James Riffe to the Nominations Committee for 2017-18. The committee will need to present a slate of officers (Chair and Vice Chair) at the June meeting of the NRCC Board.

14. Open Discussion/Q&A Session

Mr. Loux gave an update on the presidential selection process and a brief discussion was held.

Mr. Loux opened the floor for questions or comments. There was no discussion.

The next regular meeting of the New River Community College Board is scheduled for **Monday, June 5, 2017**, at the Mall site. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Steven Harvey, Chair



Dr. Charlie White, Secretary

Attachments