

REPORT TO BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES
January 9, 2017
Dr. Molly A. Parkhill

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Information Technology

Coalfire conducted an onsite PCI comprehensive security testing inside of our network the week of December 19th. The test was very successful, with the summary report indicating: *“During the engagement, Coalfire was not able to gain access to the CDE by exploiting vulnerabilities present on the network.”*

IT staff is currently working to simplify and streamline the process of creating events and requesting and reserving resources in 25Live. The goal is to increase the utilization of the system so that we can expand the use of event and ‘news’ feeds from 25Live. Currently 25Live news feeds are used for public events on our main website page and employee events on the Insider. We could potentially use 25Live on our Blue Ridge View monitors to show a new “student” feed which could display the academic calendar events, deadlines as well as public/community events.

Police Department

The BRCC Police Department has been awarded a grant from the Governor’s Crime Commission for \$24,500 for the purchase of new equipment.

The grant is for equipment that will help us to respond to active threats that could occur at the College such as an active shooter situation. The following is a list of equipment:

- Handheld two-way radios
- Vehicle mounted two-way radios
- A Safe
- Tasers
- Rifles
- Ammunition

SACSCOC

Dr. Parkhill, Chad Merrill, Alan Stephenson, Carol Ann Lydon, Kirsten Bunch, and Ben Hardy recently attended the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Annual Meeting in Atlanta. It is important to note that this annual meeting provided an in depth orientation for the Class of 2019, a name assigned to those colleges who will complete the 10-year reaffirmation compliance certification in 2019. Staff from SACSCOC asked Carol Ann Lydon to facilitate a question and answer session during the meeting for those wanting to learn more about developing successful fifth-year interim reports. The College's fifth-

year interim report was also highlighted in the conference resource room for the second year in a row. We have already received inquiries from other colleges requesting a copy of our report as a model.

FINANCE DIVISION

The State Auditors are on-site performing the College's annual financial audit. The goal is to have the audit completed by the end of January 2017.

INSTRUCTION DIVISION

Vice President Alan Stephenson has been elected Chair of the Western Chief Academic Officers Association.

Early Childhood Instructor Brenda Blackburn has been selected a finalist for the North Carolina Community College System Excellence in Teaching Award.

As part of a service learning project started by Physics Instructor Will Robinson, physics students clocked 147 hours of peer tutoring in math and physics during fall semester.

ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/ CONTINUING EDUCATION (EWD/CE) DIVISION

Vice President, Julie Thompson has been invited to return to the State Workforce Development Leadership Committee (WDLC) as Chair of the Committee. WDLC is an advisory group comprised of 10 Senior CE Administrators selected from Community Colleges across the system. It has several functions including approving new or modifications to Continuing Education courses in the Combined Course Library. Committee members also provide insight and feedback on important issues impacting Continuing Education within the NC Community College System.

The Mountain Area Workforce Development Board received a regional \$150,000 Advanced Manufacturing Pathways Grant in partnership with Blue Ridge Community College and AB Tech. Half the funding is designated to be used for scholarships to train in Advanced Manufacturing pathways. Remaining funds will be used for marketing of these pathways,

The College is currently working with Mountain Area and AB Tech to submit a similar regional \$150,000 Career Pathways grant application for Hospitality and Tourism Pathways.

Program Development

- **OUTDOOR RECREATION** Met with Headwater Outfitters Outdoor Adventures to discuss expanding a stackable credential program in Outdoor Recreation to include several additional certifications: Raft Paddling Certification, Canoe Paddling

Certification, CPR, and Wilderness Guide Certification. Current Outdoor Recreation courses include Zip Line Guide and Wilderness First Responder Certifications.

- NORAFIN TRAINING Met with General Manager, Andre Lang and Business Director - America, Stuart Smith - two Norafin Officials, to learn more about the new company moving into the Mills River area. The company is an international producer of spun bond fire retardant material used in firefighter gear. The company is scheduled to be operational by 2018 initially hiring 45 people with plans to grow over a three year period.
- BUILDING TRADES Met with BRCC Trustee, Andrew Riddle, Riddle Construction, to discuss expansion of a Building Trades program. Andrew suggested that the College host the next Henderson Transylvania Home Builders Association meeting in January to seek advice on program offerings.
- Met with Isothermal President, Walter Dalton and staff to discuss forming a partnership to apply for grants from Golden LEAF and Appalachian Regional Commission to support training for jobs related to the Tryon International Equestrian Center and the World Equestrian Games.

Great progress made over the holiday break in setting up equipment and curing the furnace for the Buhler donated High Pressure Die Cast Machine. In addition to providing Customized Training for GF Linamar, Continuing Education is offering open enrollment classes in High Pressure Die Cast beginning February 10th.

STUDENT SERVICES

Financial Aid

NCSEAA's Desk Program Review of our handling of state financial aid funds has been completed with no exceptions and no findings.

Fall 2016 Satisfactory Academic Progress breakdown: 764 Satisfactory; 15 Continuing Probation on an Academic Plan; 121 Financial Aid Warning; 47 Financial Aid Suspension; 14 Financial Aid Termination; and 7 Maximum Time Frame.

Registrar

Curriculum graduation was held December 16. 169 Associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates were awarded to 154 students.

Registration totals show 1925 students registered for Spring 2017.

Recruiting

The Transylvania County Campus hosted the annual Senior Day November 18. Approximately 100 seniors from the area high schools will hear presentations and participate in hands-on activities from BRCC faculty and staff. Sessions include: College Transfer, Financial Aid, Transportation, Welding, Advanced Manufacturing, Criminal Justice, Computer Information Systems, Emergency Medical Science, and Early Childhood Education.

In addition, Career Coach Kevin Spradlin moderated a new session, The Real Deal, where six currently enrolled BRCC students answer questions about the transition from high school to college.

Rita Blythe and Sharon Suess participated in the Regional Articulation Career Education (RACE) Meeting on November 21 at A-B Tech. High school teachers from Henderson, Transylvania, Buncombe, Madison, Haywood, and McDowell Counties met with A-B Tech. and Blue Ridge faculty to compare the course content of numerous high school courses to determine if the high school course will articulate to the community college.

Enrollment Management/Counseling/Admissions

Gianna Gerard and Nicholas Snipes successfully completed their applications to the All USA Academic Team, and are this year's nominees from Blue Ridge. We will hear later in the Spring whether or not they are chosen for one of the National Teams.

Mark Rubianes has been selected to be the Academic Excellence Award recipient for 2017, and Kimberly Baird has been selected to be the Blue Ridge nominee to the 2017 Dallas Herring Award.

Henderson County Early College

Four students will be graduating this winter. The Henderson County Early College will begin on Tuesday, January 3.

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY CAMPUS

Associate Vice President, Glenda McCarson will serve on the Brevard/Transylvania Chamber Board of Directors for a three year term.

The Career and College Promise program in Transylvania County saw substantial gains in the number of students and courses over spring 2016. The number of students went from 75 to 107 (42% increase) and the number of courses went from 175 to 252 (44% increase). This included twenty-two students enrolled in BRCC welding courses at Brevard High School.

The Blue Ridge Innovative Network Business Incubator space has been reduced to expand classroom space. The Applied Technology Building computer lab has been expanded to seat fourteen students. An additional classroom to seat twenty students has been created as well. The Small Business Center will continue to provide services in Transylvania County.

Computer- Integrated Machining enrollment has increased for spring semester. The opportunity to expand the lab/classroom space to serve the increased student demand is being evaluated.

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Major Gifts

Mr. and Mrs. Louis R. Santiago gifted stock in December valued at \$3,241 to the established Blair-Santiago Family Scholarship Endowment, which brings their additions to the Endowment to \$8,558.80 for the 2016-17 academic year.

Using a distribution from their IRA, **Mr. and Mrs. Dan Barber, III** have established a new annual scholarship fund with a \$10,000 contribution to fund 10 scholarships at \$1,000 in the 2017-18 academic year:

The Dan and Nancy Barber Determination Scholarship is to provide scholarship support to a student that has proved themselves first by maintaining a 2.0 (or higher) grade point average after their first semester at Blue Ridge Community College. The recipient must be working to help pay for their education, be receiving no other federal/state grants or Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation scholarships, and have the intention of staying and working in the area.

Ms. Liselotte R. Wehrheim made a year-end donation of \$25,000 designated to her established endowment the Hans and Liselotte R. Wehrheim Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Col. George F. McGregor left an estate gift of \$10,000 divided between two of his three already established scholarship endowment funds: George and Anne McGregor Scholarship Endowment Fund and George and Anne McGregor Allied Health Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Mr. and Mrs. William S. Enloe established a new scholarship endowment fund in memory of their son who persistently battled muscular dystrophy. The Alan Walter Enloe Memorial Scholarship Endowment has been established with \$25,000 and honors Alan, a Blue Ridge Community College graduate. The family has also made a \$750 gift to start awarding the scholarship in the 2017-18 academic year. The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship support with first preference given to a student with a physical disability. It may then be awarded to another if no qualified student applies.

Connestee Falls Property Owners Association pledged \$26,500 to their annual scholarship fund for 2017-18 awards.

An unrestricted gift of \$200,000 from the Trust of **Elizabeth Ann Warrick** has been received by the Foundation Office. A small residual amount will be disbursed once the final tax returns are completed. This donation allows the Foundation's Board of Directors to allocate its use to meet the College's greatest needs.

Major In-kind Gift

Collision Repair Education Foundation contributed a 3M Bondo Gun, 3M consumable supplies, and CCC Information Services, Inc., estimating software valued at \$9,371.38. This gift benefitted the Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology program.

New Annual Curriculum Scholarships

PFLAG Flat Rock/Hendersonville Chapter pledged \$1,500 to start a new annual scholarship fund, PFLAG Equality Scholarship, to be awarded for the first time in the 2017-18 academic year: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Flat Rock/Hendersonville Chapter provides scholarship support for a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) or a straight ally student attending Blue Ridge Community College. The recipient must have a 3.0 grade point average and demonstrate a history of support toward equality for LGBT individuals. Financial need is a secondary consideration.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jay Alley started a new \$1,000 annual scholarship fund, Jay Alley FEMS Scholarship, for award in the 2017-18 academic year: This scholarship is to be awarded to a student with a financial need enrolled in Fire Protection Technology, Emergency Medical Science, or Emergency Management.

2016-17 Trustees and Directors Giving Campaign

In September of 2016, the current Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees and Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation Board of Directors jointly kicked off their personal annual Giving Campaign. The Foundation Office is pleased to report 100% participation was obtained through donations from both Boards.

2017-18 Scholarship Applications Available

New and returning Blue Ridge Community College students may apply for Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation scholarships by completing the “Scholarship Application” online at:

<http://www.blueridge.edu/scholarships/foundation-scholarships>

The priority application deadline is Friday, April 7; however, applications submitted after this date will still be reviewed if funding is available.