

REPORT TO BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

November 10, 2014

Dr. Molly A. Parkhill

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT/GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SACSCOC Fifth-Year Interim Report was successfully completed and mailed on Friday; due Monday Sept. 15. Many thanks to Carol Ann Lydon, Dr. Alan Stephenson, Lee Anna Haney, Amy Allison, Chad Merrill, and Todd McDougal who have all worked diligently and spent countless hours, days, evenings, and weekends to develop a comprehensive report for the Commission on Colleges. I also appreciate the assistance from VPs, faculty, and staff who helped with the project over the past few months.

The College received notification from SACSCOC of approval for Balfour Education Center (BEC) as a Blue Ridge Community College off-campus site. This approval is primarily because 50% or more of credits toward Mechatronics Engineering Technology can be obtained at the Balfour Education Center.

Alan Stephenson, Marcia Stoneman, Lori Allen, Darlene Cope, Richard Sykes, Alison Carter, Tish Blair, Laura Engel, Stephanie Gilliam, Kirsten Bunch, Cathy Stephenson, Susan Jones, Nancy Bulow, Katie Winkler and I attended the NCCCS Conference “Pathways to Success: 21st Century Teaching, Learning, and Student Success” on October 12-14 in Raleigh. Several faculty members presented at this conference:

Carolyn Alley will participate in the 2014-15 North Carolina Community College Leadership Program. This seven-month program offers participants learning experiences that will acquaint them with community college issues and develop leadership skills.

The President’s Council held its annual planning retreat on October 3 at Fletcher Town Hall. Members reviewed progress towards the College’s strategic plan, student success initiatives, SACSCOC Fifth-Year Interim Report, and developed questions for the employee satisfaction survey.

The College submitted nominations to the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) for its annual faculty award (Dr. Pam Phillips) and staff award (Dr. Chad Merrill). Award recipients will be notified by Jan. 16.

Blue Ridge Community College is responsible for preparing and distributing the Annual Security Report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act). The Annual Security Report was published October 1 and contains three years of selected campus crime statistics and certain campus security policy statements in accordance with the Clery Act.

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION

The 2014 nursing graduates had a 90% passing rate on the NCLEX. This passing rate exceeded the rates of other neighboring colleges including:

Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College 81%

Southwestern Community College 75%

South College 63%

Isothermal Community College (Foothills) 84%

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

The Economic and Workforce Development Division worked closely with leaders at Wilsonart to provide rapid response services, including a job fair, to 43 workers who were terminated due to the company's restructuring.

The College hosted a Nurse Aide, Phlebotomy Job Fair in the TEDC Conference Hall, on October 8. Approximately 27 facilities and hospitals attended.

The College hosted its annual Career Day for area high school students on October 17.

Approximately 800 high school juniors from our local area had an opportunity to hear 3 speakers from a choice of approximately 60 career paths.

Park Ridge Hospital approved the 54-hour Clinical Medical Assistant Review/Prep Course through the National Health Career Association. BRCC has been approved by the NHA as a testing site for this national certification. NHA proctored certification, via webcam, for two Allied Health staff. Classes will begin in January and are open to any Medical Assistant.

Continuing Education staff met with Heather Boeke, Executive Director of the Hands On Children's Museum in Hendersonville, to explore the idea of a BRCC display in the Museum to highlight educational topics that would spark an interest in young children as well as other ways the College and Museum can collaborate.

The Fletcher Town Council approved BRCC to offer continuing education classes at the new Fletcher Town Hall, starting in the spring semester. The classes, which could include personal financial management and introduction to computers, will be offered several times during the semester.

On October 15, the BRCC Small Business Center sponsored a *What's New in Business Conference* with Henderson County Chamber of Commerce and SCORE with over 50 local businesses participating.

The Small Business Center also sponsored the *2014 Women's Business Conference* on November 4 at the BRCC Conference Hall with more than 100 local businesses attending.

Details have now been finalized to offer Outdoor Leadership classes including Zipline Tour Guide Training, Bicycle Mechanics, and Wilderness First Responder classes.

The day EMT basics class achieved 100% first time pass rate, with seven students being tested.

The College hosted the WNC Regional MATRAC Healthcare Coalition meeting on November 14. The topic presented was preparation for the Ebola outbreak. The Healthcare Coalition will host the regional epidemiologist Dr. David Buhner, providing an update on Ebola Infection Prevention and Control. Also, at the request of Ned Fowler, Mission Health's Regional EMS Liaison, there will be an open discussion of possible EMS transport and referral patterns for infectious disease patients.

DIVISION OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS

Joint Allied Health Education Center Project (Wingate/BRCC/Pardee/County Building) update:

The house that was on the designated site has been demolished and they are working on clearing the land. Some of the materials from the house have been salvaged for re-use. The City Manager is working on transferring ownership of the site to the County. The schematic phase of the design process has been completed. The Board of Commissioners moved to approve the design on September 17, 2014. The architect is moving forward, submitting plans to various regulatory agencies. A groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled for the fall. Grading will begin this winter with construction starting in the spring.

DIVISION OF STUDENT SERVICES

The Financial Aid Office is currently reviewing next steps to address the student loan defaults. Plans are underway to expand the Entrance Counseling. The College is also working with an outside entity to assist with loan default prevention measures.

During this semester, the College has sent letters to students who are delinquent on their Direct Student Loans. The letters included the number of days the students are delinquent as well as information on how they can get back on track by doing a deferment or requesting forbearance. The College also sent letters to students who are in default for our 2013 and 2014 cohort.

Information was included in each default letter on how students could rehabilitate their loan or consolidate to get out of default and consequences of default and how it will affect them.

Below is the breakdown on our current delinquent numbers:

Delinquent 31-89 days	18 letters sent
Delinquent 90-149 days	31 letters sent
Delinquent 150-209 days	11 letters sent
Delinquent 210-270 days	7 letters sent
Delinquent 270+	24 letters sent

If a student is delinquent over 270 days, then he/she is considered in default. This process will be repeated every 4-6 weeks and will include contacting delinquent students via email.

The Business and Service Careers Advising Fair was held on October 29th. The Advising Fair was open to all currently enrolled students in a business or service career curriculum program. The advising fair was designed for students to meet their advisors and begin to establish a professional working relationship between student and advisor.

The Fall College Transfer Fair was held on October 29th. The Transfer Fair allowed students an opportunity to meet college representatives from several different colleges and universities.

Nine students have been selected to serve as BRCC Student Ambassadors. HCC: Larena Capps (AA), Jacob Bradley (Film & Video), Carolyn Cullen (School-Age ETSU), Greg Mosier (AS). TCC: Caleb Tinsley (AS), Megan Capps (AS), Renee Martinez (Community Spanish Interpreter), Greer Robinson (AA), Alex Aiken (AA). Student Ambassadors assist with recruiting, public relations events, campus tours, and follow up with people who have applied to BRCC.

On Sunday, October 5, Student Ambassadors helped with the Daniel J. Furr Memorial Scholarship Tournament held at the Connestee Falls Golf Course. Fourteen Transylvania County BRCC students received the scholarship this year.

Dr. Mary Highberger and Rita Blythe participated in a Blue Ridge Literacy Council workshop for their students and tutors on Sept. 24. Dr. Highberger presented statistics on the job market, NCWorks, and Continuing Education while Rita presented information on curriculum classes. The students were very engaged and will schedule a campus tour with Rita.

Ben Kish, Chris English, and Rita Blythe participated in the Biltmore Leadership Academy held at Lionscrest on the Biltmore Estate Sept. 25. The top five Career and Technical Education students from all high schools in Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, and

Transylvania participated. Ben Kish served as the Leadership speaker and Chris English served as facilitator. Because the event is limited to only 5 students from each high school, Rita talked with Dr. Helen Owen, Direct for CTE and High School Counselors for Henderson County Public Schools, about a future leadership event at BRCC for more Henderson County students.

College recruiting staff have been invited by Master Sergeant Messer to attend National Guard drills in Asheville and Clyde to present educational opportunity information to soldiers from Henderson and Transylvania counties. These soldiers do not drill at the Henderson County Armory.

Chris English, Sharon Suess, and Rita Blythe attended the Regional Articulation Career Education (RACE) Alignment Meeting at A-B Tech. Career Technical Education teachers from high schools all over WNC met with community college faculty from A-B and Blue Ridge to determine if course content from certain high school classes matches that of specific college courses. Courses under review included automotive, culinary, entrepreneurship, fashion merchandising, foods, drafting, and machining.

DIVISION OF TECHNOLOGY

MCNC (the NC non-profit organization that runs statewide networks) has returned the results of the network health and security assessment. Summary of this assessment revealed that the network security at BRCC is typically consistent with recommended practices. Exceptions include the need for improved patch management to address system vulnerabilities, the need to move in-band management traffic off VLAN 1, and the need for a more restrictive ACL for the student/guest wireless network VLAN. College is currently in progress of implementing the following changes: 1) improve formal process for testing and approving changes to core network components; 2) maintain up-to-date internal network diagrams; and, 3) correct specific configuration issues with security restrictions on the TCC wireless network.

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

In a comparison of the foundations associated with the 58 North Carolina community colleges (fiscal year 2013 tax returns):

- BRCCEF is second in ranking among all of Western North Carolina's community college foundations (net assets/total full-time equivalent student ratio) and
- Fifth in ranking among all of North Carolina's 58 community college foundations (net assets/total full-time equivalent student ratio).

2014-2015 Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon

The Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon was held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014, at 12 p.m. in the Blue Ridge Conference Hall. Scholarship recipient and Associate in Arts student Grayson Compton, Continental Automotive Systems Human Resource Manager Alan Williams and BRCC graduate Katie Inman were the keynote speakers at the luncheon.

2014-2015 Fiscal Year

Contributions for the first quarter were \$59,407. Investment returns were 9.19% for the trailing 12 months. At September 30, 2014, assets of the Foundation were more than \$10.6M. At their meeting on October 22, the Board of Directors approved the College's request for \$217,770 to purchase equipment and safety items needed to begin the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification process for the Computer-Integrated Machining Technology program. Skills in the metalworking industry are certified through the earning of NIMS credentials. This allocation brings the Foundation's 2014-2015 budget to \$1.2M.

In-kind Gifts

Legacy Paddlesports donated a kayak mold (\$8,000) to the College's Welding Technology program, and Cason Builders Supply contributed 15 loads of mulch, which is valued at \$7,500.

Trustees and Directors Giving Campaign

Currently 97% of individuals serving on either the College Board of Trustees or the Foundation Board of Directors have made an annual gift to the Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation Trustees and Directors Giving Campaign.

Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign

Instructional Designer Pat Horlick and John Brook Williams Chair for Advanced Transportation Technologies Instructor - Alternative Fuel Technology Matt Rieger served as this year's co-chairs of the Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign raising \$28,058.76.

Areas across the campus were combined as a way to even the numbers across departments for a 100% Participation Competition. At the November Campus Information Session (a College-wide faculty and staff meeting), the co-chairs will give honorable mention to one area of the College

with 92% participation and will recognize another area of the College as the grand prize winner with 100% participation. In addition, every employee serving on the College Leadership Team has made a contribution to the Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign.

Through this Campaign, Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development/Continuing Education Julie Thompson has established the Julie Thompson Scholarship Endowment Fund.