

R-CCC Board Highlights

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2009

January's Board Agenda

Jernigan Board Room

January 27, 2009

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Ruffin-Barnes
Roll Call: Ms. Dudley
Invocation: Chair Barnes
Conflict of Interest Statement:
Chair Barnes
Approval of Minutes:
11/24/08 (Regular Session)
11/24/08 (Closed Session)
Personnel Committee: Ms. Owens-White, Chair
Personnel Policies (Vote)
Finance Committee: Ms. Lassiter, Chair
No Report
Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Gatling, Chair
No Report
Policy and Program: Mr. Reid, Chair
No Report
President's Report: President Soney
Spring Enrollment (Dean Vann)
SACS (Chair, Darcie Tumey)
State Financial Outlook
Trustee Retreat

Board Briefed on SACS Preparation

The Board was presented with information on the College's impending SACS preparation by Darcie Tumey, Chair for the SACS Steering Committee. Tumey gave the Trustees an overview of the purpose and nature of regional accreditation and what it means for the College. Part of her presentation emphasized the comprehensive nature of the self-study process. She assured the Trustees that everyone at the College, including them, would have a role over the coming months as we look at ourselves.

President Soney informed the Trustees that they would receive several reports from Tumey over the next two or three years, as we prepare for our reaccreditation. Chair Barnes thanked Tumey for her diligence and willingness to take on the daunting task of leading Roanoke-Chowan's self-study effort.

SPRING ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

Dean of Students, Wendy Vann provided the Trustees with preliminary figures for spring 2009 enrollment. According to her report, there are 875 students currently enrolled. This is an increase of 89 students over last spring. As is the normal pattern, most of the students enrolled (172) are full-time while 383 are part-time.

The projected FTE for this spring's enrollment is 328.63, which is about 22 FTE higher than last spring.

Programs with the highest headcount stayed the same. They are Nursing, College Transfer, Cosmetology, Huskins and Early College, and Business Programs.

Dr. Soney pointed out that he is happy to see some needed growth in vocational programs like Welding and HVACR. The vocational programs at Odom Prison are also doing very well with enrollment.

New Board Policies

All of the policies approved and enacted by the Trustees at its January meeting are in the area of personnel. A summary of the policies follow. For a full text of each policy, HR Coordinator Amy Wiggins may be contacted.

POLICIES:

- Veteran's Preference
- Flexible Work Schedules
- Personnel Files
- Reference Checks
- Workplace Violence
- Employment Between Contract Periods (At-Will)
- Employee Duties and Responsibilities
- Assignment/Reassignment of Personnel
- Performance Evaluations
- General Campus Meetings

Board Discusses State

Financial Woes

President Soney presented a handout to the Trustees previously shared with the campus after a recent meeting of the NCCCS Presidents on the state financial crisis. Trustees were curious about how the financial crisis would influence the operation of the College.

Dr. Soney pointed out that while the financial situation for the state is becoming grimmer each day, he feels that our full-time employment status will go unaffected through this fiscal year. He did express worry about the status of "other costs" which includes things like travel, supplies and equipment.

The Trustees were informed that the State has asked that each purchase, hire and travel request be approved specifically by the College President. The only travel that is allowed to continue without much scrutiny is travel related to reaccreditation (i.e. SACS). The president also reported that he is approving two essential hires, one being an Associate Dean of

Continuing Education, which is a replacement position and the second being in the area of Research and SACS Preparation, which is also a budgeted replacement.

Trustees have cancelled plans for a trip to Washington, DC, to the annual legislative summit sponsored by the American Association of Community College Trustees after considering the budget situation. It was also decided that the Trustees' Annual Board Retreat will continue but will be held on campus because of dwindling funds.

TRUSTEES PARTICIPATE IN ECHS RIBBON CUTTING

Prior to its regular meeting on the 27th, several trustees gathered along with HCPS board members and staff to celebrate the official opening of the Early College High School (ECHS) in the newly renovated Freeman Building. A crowd of about 120 people including a representative from the Golden Leaf Foundation, which funded the ECHS with a grant totaling almost a million and a half dollars, gathered on the cold rainy afternoon.

Speakers for the event included R-CCC Trustee Chair, Wendy Ruffin-Barnes; HCPS Superintendent, Dr. Michael Basham; HCPS Board Chair Ron Baker; ECHS Principal, Teresa Howington-Vaughan; ECHS Liaison, Juanisha Vaughan-Hart; HC Commissioner, Johnny Farmer; ECHS students Shalay Garcia and Johnatha Jones; ECHS Coach Shirley McMahon and R-CCC President, Dr. Ralph Soney.

TRUSTEE GATLING HONORED

R-CCC Trustee Ronald Gatling was honored with the prestigious Martin Luther King, Jr. Award during HCPS' ceremony on the Roanoke-Chowan Campus. Gatling was singled out among several nominees as a recipient of the award because of his outstanding service to Hertford County and Ahoskie. Mr. Gatling is known for his tireless devotion to public service and his love and promotion of positive alternatives for youth.

Though it was a busy evening, several Trustees were on hand to see Mr. Gatling honored for his service. His accomplishment was announced and recognized during the regular meeting of the trustees at the January 27 meeting.