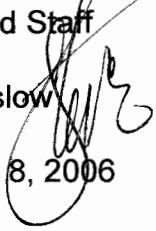




Office of the President

To: Faculty and Staff
From: Steve Kinslow 
Date: November 8, 2006
Subject: **GENERAL UPDATES**

Is Fall flying by for you, too? I hope it's been a rewarding one thus far, and wanted to share some general updates with you.

STAR AWARD

Earlier this week, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board presented a Star Award to ACC for our College Connection program. Dr. Mary Hensley and Dr. Luanne Preston, who lead this program, joined me in accepting this honor on behalf of the many, many ACC staff and faculty who have worked to make College Connection a huge success. This program is now in over 20 of the 30 ISDs in our Service Area, has been replicated by several other Texas community colleges, and is an excellent example of a program that truly impacts the State's Closing the Gaps goals.

The Star Awards Dinner and Ceremony was enhanced by the music of Professor Tom Husak, and he was quite a hit with the audience.

NOVEMBER 16 PRESS CONFERENCE

On November 16, at 10 a.m. at the Eastview Campus, we will host a press conference to announce ACC's acquisition of a Mobile GO Center, which will assist in our outreach efforts across the Service Area. The GO Center is a large trailer outfitted with computers and other equipment to help deliver College Connection and other student outreach services throughout our district.

Dr. Raymund Paredes, Commissioner of Higher Education, will speak and we will recognize our donors and other supporters.

PIPER AWARD NOMINEE

I am pleased to share that David Lydic, Professor of English, is ACC's nominee for the Piper Award for Teaching Excellence. Many of you will recall that Dr. Katherine Staples was awarded this honor in the past.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

The College began, this week, to develop an annual schedule of classes for the 2007-08 academic year. While we will still have a careful review of each semester's enrollment patterns, and will adjust sections accordingly, creating an annual schedule which is available for students and faculty has many benefits – counselors and advisors will have better information to assist students in planning their educational objectives; students can plan their course selections more effectively, especially for those which are not offered every semester; faculty will be able to better plan/anticipate their teaching schedules. My thanks to the departments which assisted in the pilot project, Education, Electronics, Government and History, and to department chairs, deans, instructional vice presidents, and IT and other staff who have made this initiative possible.

STUDENT UPDATE

The Rio Grande student who was attacked on West and 10th Street is doing well. I want to thank RGC Student Dean, Dr. Voncille Wright, and Vice President Kathleen Christensen for maintaining contact with her and her family, and to the student's instructors for their assistance.

HB 1 OVERVIEW/DISCUSSION

HB1 is driving education reform in Texas, and will underlie many of the discussions and actions of the upcoming legislative session, and will influence State funding of public secondary and post-secondary education.

I am serving on an advisory committee for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regarding HB1, and another which addresses course redesign, and have asked the Full-Time Faculty Senate to join me in planning two-three forums for faculty and staff to learn more about HB1. We will arrange these in early Spring Semester (February).

LUMINA "ACHIEVING THE DREAM" PROJECT

ACC has been participating in the CCSSE (Community College Survey of Student Engagement) for several years, a survey project which is associated with the Lumina Foundation. The Foundation has recently invited additional colleges to join its Achieving the Dream project, and ACC has applied to do so. Funding is available to assist in student outreach and success initiatives, and the project aligns well with our Closing the Gaps initiatives.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

As discussed previously, the College has been utilizing professional services to assist in developing a long-range facilities master plan, which will be incorporated into ACC's

Master Plan. This plan is based on the Closing the Gaps data in which ACC is expected to grow to around 39,000 students by 2015. The plan will focus beyond 2015, and is intended to help project where in the Service Area ACC should be seeking land for future campuses, and will also be used to help develop more detailed individual plans for our current campuses.

In June, a preliminary report was presented by the consultants to the ACC Board of Trustees and can be viewed at

http://www.austincc.edu/faoadmin/project_mgmt/SasakiJune2006_BOTPresentation.pdf
(Acrobat) or

mhtml:http://www.austincc.edu/faoadmin/project_mgmt/SasakiJune2006_BOTpresentation.n.mhtml:SasakiJune2006_BOTpresentation_files/frame.htm.(PowerPoint).

The final report to the Board is expected to be presented at the December 4th Board of Trustees meeting.

The Facilities Task Force, which includes representatives of all employee groups and student government, is the representative body which has assisted in this process.

IRS TAX EXAMINATION AUDIT

The Internal Revenue Service recently completed its tax examination audit of our payroll and accounts payable areas and the College received a clean report. Congratulations to Gerry Tucker, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, and Ben Ferrell, Vice President of Business Services.

AND, ALL ABOUT ME...

I am happy to have recently purchased an older, smaller home in Central East Austin. Following some extensive remodeling, and a lot of yard work on my part, I look forward to moving some time in Spring and to no longer having to drive I-35 to and from work (after 30 years of pavement familiarity with the interstate).

My family will be joining me in Austin for Thanksgiving. I plan to get the traditional meal from Threadgill's, but will dab a little flour on my face and claim it as my own. The fact that it will be edible will be a dead give-away of my duplicity.

On that note, I wish you all a great Thanksgiving holiday and thank you for your wonderful work and for the privilege of working with you.

SBK/pws