



To: Faculty and Staff

From: Steve Kinslow

Date: February 8, 2006

Subject: GENERAL UPDATES

While this is not an early announcement of Spring Break (anyone ready for that??), I hope there'll be some items of interest in this latest General Updates memo.

SAN MARCOS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNEXATION EFFORT

The local initiative of San Marcos CISD residents to bring a comprehensive ACC campus to San Marcos is going well. The Board, at its January 23 meeting, accepted the certified petitions (nearly 2,000 local voters signed) and on February 2 ACC hosted a public forum to explain the Service Plan for San Marcos, and to hear public comment. Over fifty people attended, and 20 spoke (14 in strong favor of annexation, 5 opposed, 1 neutral).

The Board will decide at the March 6 meeting whether to call the election, per the staff recommendation. An election would take place on May 13, 2006.

To see the Service Plan, please go to <http://www.austincc.edu/pres/annex/>.

SPRING ENROLLMENT

ACC had another enrollment increase this Spring. The 12th Day official enrollment report notes a headcount of 29,852, a 1.7% increase over last Spring and a 1.7% increase in contact hours. My thanks to all of you for a great Spring Semester thus far.

We also continue to see an increase in student use of web registration (15% increase in web use and about 7,000 more web registrations than by phone), as well as a 48% increase in the number of students using the web to pay their tuition.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

A summary of the results of the anonymous evaluations of the Servant-Leadership training sessions for all supervisors can be found at: www.austincc.edu/pres/ServantLeadershipTrainingSummaryRpt.pdf. I am very pleased that the training initiative has had such overwhelming support of those in supervisory roles, and have received many individual emails from participants expressing their commitment to it.

I also appreciate the faculty and staff who have attended the voluntary professional development session earlier this semester.

As I said at General Assembly, there are many, many examples of Servant-Leadership in practice at ACC. This program gives the good things in place "a name" and helps us focus more clearly on ways we can make our teaching/learning/working environment more positive. From that perspective, I believe it's a strong and worthwhile program.

Next week, we'll also have the Servant-Leadership website updated with responses to comments posed at the Spring General Assembly: <http://www.austincc.edu/servant/>

REORGANIZATION, PHASE 2 - CAMPUS FORUMS

The Reorganization Committee has submitted its reorganization recommendations. They can be found at this link: <http://www.austincc.edu/pres/Reorg2SumOfRec.pdf>. They will host a series of campus forums to present their recommendations and to receive comments from faculty and staff. The meetings are scheduled for:

Cypress Creek	Monday February 27	10:00 a.m.	IVC classroom, Room 1008.1
Eastview	Tuesday February 28	10:00 a.m.	Room 8500, Bldg 8000
Northridge	Tuesday February 21	10:00 a.m.	Room 3140
Pinnacle	Wednesday March 1	10:00 a.m.	Room 1015 and 1013
Rio Grande	Monday February 20	10:00 a.m.	IVC Classroom, Room 126
Riverside	Wednesday February 22	10:00 a.m.	Building S, Room 103

SOUTH AUSTIN CAMPUS

Yes, it's on schedule for Fall 2006 opening. If you haven't driven by lately, you'll be surprised at the progress.

The new staff positions approved for the campus will be posted internally for transfer opportunities first, then externally posted. If you have questions, contact Human Resources.

Last week I authorized a change order to the project, which will allow us to construct

another half level of parking to the parking garage - within the budget approved by Trustees for this project.

CYPRESS CREEK CAMPUS

The new parking lot opened last week (to rave reviews), and the new building project is on schedule.

RIO GRANDE CAMPUS

I very much enjoyed the recent Yak 'n Sack meeting at Rio Grande Campus. Many people, throughout the district, are interested in how the general obligation bonds will be used at Rio Grande Campus. At this point, no decisions have been made, but a variety of scenarios have been explored as a result of the campus-based meeting held with consultants, consultants' reviews of the land/buildings, and some ideas generated earlier by the Board and staff.

The goals of the project were identified in the 2003 election in which facilities bonds were approved - the largest portion for Rio Grande allocated to construct a parking garage. RGC goals include getting a parking structure, getting adequate faculty offices and getting out of the annual leased facilities (Attache and Peach Tree), and renovations to the campus to the extent funds remain. I have consistently stated that there will not be sufficient bond monies to do a historic restoration of RGC main building, and that we should have realistic expectations for modest renovation to the main building.

On February 13, the Board will discuss a variety of these scenarios. For those who want more information, I encourage you to go to the Board web site and view the Agenda materials at:
<http://www.austincc.edu/board/agendas/2006/agendas2006index.htm>; you'll also later be able to go to the web site and hear the board discussion of this topic:
<http://irt.austincc.edu/board/>.

RIVERSIDE BUILDING D

Some have inquired about Building D at Riverside. As you recall, Dr. Aguero made the decision (which I support) to close Building D. ACC will have to do abatement work on the building (whether it would be reopened in the future, or whether it is eventually demolished and would become a site for a future building in a future bonds package). The abatement work, typical of old buildings, will be around \$300,000.

WIRELESS ON CAMPUS

Recently I was asked what is the status of wireless access on our ACC campuses. The Technology Committee has outlined an initiative, beginning in Summer 2006, to deploy wireless Internet access to faculty, staff and students from their LAPTOPS. The initiative is scheduled to be completed by the end of the fall 2007 semester. The first phase of the project is scheduled for implementation in Fall 2006 at the NRG, EVC, and South Austin campuses followed by the CYP, NRG, and HBC campuses in spring 2007; the RVS and PIN campuses in summer 2007; and RGC in fall 2007.

FY 2006-07 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The ACC Academic Calendar For FY 2007 has been approved and can be found at the following link: <http://www.austincc.edu/pres/FY07AcademicCalendar.pdf>

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

Earlier this week, I attended the National Legislative Summit 2006 sponsored by the Association of Community College Trustees with Linda Young and Trustees Nan McRaven and Veronica Rivera. We visited with staff of all of ACC's Service Area U.S. Representatives and Senators to discuss the importance of community colleges, and concerns about proposed funding. While community colleges have been recognized by President Bush and his staff, funding proposals for community colleges have typically been reallocated dollars rather than new, and at the expense of programs which are critical to those who most need community college access. We will continue to monitor and to more aggressively make the case that community colleges have to be viewed in a more holistic sense and be supported more fully.

OTHER

Again, thanks for all that each of you do to make ACC a great institution. We are doing wonderful things in the Central Texas region, and people are increasingly becoming aware of our huge role in the *Closing the Gaps* initiative and its importance to a healthy economic climate.

SBK/pws