



To: Faculty and Staff
From: Steve Kinslow
Date: September 2, 2005
Subject: **GENERAL UPDATES**

As we end the first week of Fall 05 classes, I want to thank you. We've had very few problems in getting the semester underway, and have what appears to be our highest enrollment in several years. As I will do periodically, I am sharing some general information items with faculty and staff, and the Student Government Association.

Hurricane Katrina

In the wake of the unprecedented destruction and havoc created by Hurricane Katrina, we have extended assistance to students, faculty, and staff of neighboring higher ed institutions who have had to seek refuge in the Austin area. We are encouraging students to consider 12- and 8-week sessions and distance learning, and displaced staff to consider ACC hiring opportunities. The College will provide expedited financial aid approval and in-state tuition to help students remain on-course in regard to their educational goals.

We have placed an emergency agenda item on the Board of Trustees September 6 meeting to authorize this, and the Texas Association of Community Colleges has encouraged the Governor to issue an order allowing the tuition waiver to in-state rates.

Any inquiries you receive should be directed to any ACC Admissions Office; any media inquiries to 223-7596.

Finally, ACC faculty, staff, and students always rise to the occasion to help others. Those who want to make **donations** to assist victims/refugees of Hurricane Katrina may do so in multiple ways as noted in local media. For those who want to make a donation to the American Red Cross, please know that you may give your check to any Campus Manager's Office, any Center Supervisor's Office, to Donetta Goodall's office at HBC and to Business Services at SVC. Thanks.

Fall Enrollment

Our official enrollment is not reported until the 12th class day, but as of today we have an enrollment increase of 5.2% and a contact hour increase of 4.7%. We will do a lot more analysis, but some interesting things are that (1) we have a large increase of over 36% (Fall 04 to Fall 05) in the number of high school graduates who participated in ACC's College Connection program, and we had projected between 1,000-1,200 enrollments at RRHEC and hit 1,183.

Board Meeting - September 6

The Board Meeting will be on Tuesday instead of Monday (which is a holiday). Among the items are:

1. Naming of Institution and Its Resources
2. Public Recognition.

The two policy topics were discussed at the Board's August Retreat, and the policy drafts are the reflection of that discussion and follow-up which will lead to policy adoption in October. Some background information for your organizations:

Naming of Institution and Its Resources

This policy draft is intended to do two things (a) resolve questions from some external communities in our Service Area on whether ACC would consider a name change and (b) to outline guidelines for ACC Foundation fund-raising in which individuals or organizations could donate to the College and in return be recognized in a visual way on our facilities.

The Retreat discussion by the Board indicated a preference for not changing ACC's name, which I think also reflects general feelings of most employees, but to more consistently use our current, full name which is Austin Community College *District*.

The intent of the policy draft would be to geographically identify possible future campuses in the following way ACCD: San Marcos Campus so that external communities feel they are recognized appropriately for their tax contribution and geographic distinction from Austin, and in our college publications to include Austin Community College *District* as a means of promoting awareness that we are a regional college district.

Public Recognition

This policy draft is in response to a recent request for two external individuals to be recognized by hanging their pictures in the lobby of one of the Eastview buildings.

Faculty and Staff
September 2, 2005
Page 3

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.austincc.edu/pres/DraftPolicies9-1-05.pdf>

Holiday

Best wishes for a safe holiday weekend.

SBK/pws