

STCC Board of Trustees
COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS
Monday, March 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
The Forum, Building 19, Student Learning Commons

Present: Committee Chair Frank Quigley, Trustee Chair Marikate Murren, Trustee Betty Sposito, Student Trustee Yanira Aviles, and Dr. John Cook

Presenters: Dr. Geraldine de Berly, VP of Academic Affairs; Denise Hurst, VP of Advancement and External Affairs; Eric Warren, AUC Staff Co-Chair; and Joris Taupier, AUC Faculty Co-Chair.

- I. **Call to Order** – Committee Chair Frank Quigley, called the meeting of the Committee on Internal and External Relations to order at 5:00 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call** – Four out of Six Committee members present, constituting a quorum.
- III. **Key Updates: Advancement and External Affairs, Denis Hurst, Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs.**

VP Hurst informed that STCC was selected “Best 2-Year College” in the 2020 Advocate Best of the Valley Reader’s Poll. In addition, Denise shared marketing advertisings in regards to most recent events sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs throughout the month of February in honor of Black History Month, and of an upcoming STEM, Majors and Career Fair event scheduled on April 8.

In the midst of Student Capital Campaign, with a goal to reach \$3million towards scholarships, the Foundation Office is connecting with existing and new donors. The Leap Campaign launched on February 29, in honor of Leap Year. It consists of requesting \$29 donations towards student scholarships, and as of this date, it has raised \$9,000. In addition, raffle tickets for the “Top of the City: Throwback Edition” are already on sale, with an event scheduled to be held on Thursday, May 7.

Legislative advocacy for Building 20 continue. Ongoing conversations with delegates and on campus tours are in earnest in efforts to keep STCC’s funding request at the top of delegates’ minds as they go into budget season.

IV. Key Updates: Student Affairs, Jessica Hill, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs

President Cook took the opportunity to appreciate Jessica for stepping into the position of Interim Vice President of Student Affairs and for her invaluable contribution to STCC as she moves into a new position at WNE.

Jessica Hill presented the Fall 2019 to Spring 2020 retention report. This report compares retention percentages of the following, and sub divided by race/ethnicity:

- Day students (assigned a professional advisor) – overall 79% retention (Goal – 60%)
- Evening/online students (assigned to the advising department) – overall 62% retention (Goal – 40%)
- Returning students (campus wide) - overall 73% - retention (Goal – 70%)

In general, although goals are met in all categories, this report helps identify areas of improvement. Overall, retention percentages of evening/online students are lower. The Office of Student Affairs is looking into assigning advisors to evening and online students instead of referring them to an advising department. Advisors have great impact on students; possible implementation by offering phone advising and online chats.

Jessica Hill also informed the Committee on “Re-entry Medical Leave process” and “STCC Student Suicide Prevention Protocol”.

**V. Conversation with All-Unit Congress Leadership,
Joris Taupier, Faculty Co-Chair, AUC; Eric Warren, Staff Co-Chair, AUC**

Eric Warren, Staff Co-Chair for the AUC initiated the conversation informing of the intent of taking the first step to strengthen the AUC’s relationship with STCC’s Board of Trustees. Since the start of this academic year 19-20, we (Co-Chairs) have been meeting with President Cook and Trustee Chair Murren. As a preamble, the AUC re-organized in 2013 based on an area of emphasis noted on the NEASC 2010, Accreditation report. On November of 2013, Eric reported updates at the Internal and External Relations meeting. Since then, the AUC has been effective at communicating on issues that represent at large, a number of Unionized and non-unionized STCC faculty and staff, full-time and part-time, below level of Director.

Joris Taupier, Faculty Co-Chair, continued the conversation informing that approximately 75 percent of employees at campus are active or participate of AUC. As of 2017, the AUC had 230 members. A significant number of employees leaving STCC reflect on the loss of a significant fraction of AUC members – with 180 entries at the most recent election. Most recently, 18 public members voted unanimously on a resolution. Areas of concern: Consultation of Faculty Decision Making; merging of schools, Reduction of faculty process, Value Stream Mapping.

AUC Leadership are fully involved in current accreditation process and are willing to continue working.

VI. President’s Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook

a) Coronavirus/COVID-19 planning: An alert banner on STCC’s website is currently up to inform of latest updates on COVID-19 – all updates are being posted to this link. Decisions are being made along with other fifteen Community Colleges. If need be, spring break will be extended. Concerns afloat in regards to the number of programs tied to clinical and labs – these cannot be easily converted into online.

b) Personnel update: Dr. Cook referred to personnel report to inform of personnel updates. President Cook is anticipating announcing the name of the new VP of Student Affairs on Wednesday. Need to add, that with Jessica Hill’s departure, Wilma Tynes will step into the role of Interim VP of Student Affairs until the new person assumes the position. Other updates: Dr. Kiyota Garcia stepped into the Role of Assistant Dean of Student Initiatives; Inder Singh, CIO, is leaving STCC, effective March 20 – A search for the CIO position will be posted as soon as possible.

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business - None

IX. Next Meeting Date and Time: Monday, May 4, 2020

X. Adjournment: Committee Chair Frank Quigley called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Betty Sposito moved to adjourn; Trustee Chair Marikate Murren seconded the motion and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nanette Flores