

President's Report

June 2018

Facilities

Garner Science Building

Both slabs for the air units have been poured. In addition, our staff has been working on the restroom and lab renovations. Project is scheduled to be completed in time for the Fall semester.

Electrical Infrastructure

We met with AEP engineers on May 19 to discuss the timeline for the upgrade of our underground electrical infrastructure. This has been a project in discussion with them over several years. The college's electrical service is a network of underground primary cables feeding transformers throughout our campus. Many of the cables are near 60 years old and some transformers are located in boxes underground. We do not own this network, we lease from AEP. It would be virtually impossible for us to maintain this kind of service. Currently we pay about \$1,800 per month to lease the cables and transformers and each time the piece gets upgraded the lease gets adjusted.

After our discussion, AEP will phase-in the needed improvements beginning with the section from our primary to the first transformer in the loop that services the Memorial, Fly, and La Forge Hall this summer. This is a multi-year project and when completed, will increase our rent by approximately \$8,000 per month, but it should greatly improve the reliability of our electrical infrastructure. Eventually, the entire system will be upgraded, it is just a matter of scheduling the improvements or wait for a cable to short out, regardless the financial impact to the lease will be the same.

Budget

This has been a difficult budget process, but we have provided the board with a balanced budget. We will provide more detail in the budget workshop; however, many of the big-ticket items eliminated from the budget were requests to upgrade our training equipment for technical programs and deferred maintenance items. There is additional information regarding the budget in your Board packet. The budget assumes no tuition and fee or tax rate increases and allows for employee steps and increments.

Other

ATD

On June 11-12 we had our Achieving the Dream coaches visit our campus. Our staff discussed the following initiatives with the coaches:

- Quality Enhancement Plan
- 4DX
- Student Success Initiatives
- Pathways
- 60X30
- Institutional Data and ICAT Survey

I held an exit conference with the coaches and they are amazed at the work we are currently undertaking and provided some suggestions. We need to do better at telling our story (beyond the facts and data), perhaps increase our efforts on students that take dual credit and attract them to finish up their associates degree with us, and target those high school students that do not enroll in dual credit courses. Those were some of the highlights, we will have a detailed report forthcoming.

Professional Positions Classification

In your Board packet, you will find the policy that was developed to classify all of our unclassified positions. This policy is structurally modeled after our classification scale for clerical positions. It is our intent that all unclassified positions and titles will be moved to this new scale. No employee will be hurt financially by this move in the first year; however, some positions may be capped at the current level because their salary is above what is allowed in the proposed salary scale. In addition to the new salary schedule we are working on a stipend schedule for specialized positions such as information technology. This process would be similar to the one utilized for the allied health fields.

College Rodeo

I am proud to announce that two of our College Rodeo girls Shaye Lynn Jesse and Callie Morgan will be representing SWTJC at the National College Rodeo Finals on June 12-16. Also, Roy Angermiller has advised us that he will retire from coaching this year. We advertised/interviewed and have hired our new College Rodeo Coach, Joe Almand. Mr. Angermiller will remain available to assist us through the transition.

ADN Director

As you are well aware, we have been actively trying to hire an ADN Director. We interviewed candidates in May, extended an offer and we were turned down. The posting is still open and we continue to advertise. We have additional interviews scheduled and may have a recommendation by the time of the Board meeting.

Knippa Senior's Luncheon

Billy Word invited me to attend a luncheon held by the Knippa Lutheran Church to honor the graduating Knippa seniors. It was a nice event. We provided some words of wisdom to the graduates.

Upward Bound

This is the first summer of our Upward Bound program. We have 56 high school students from both Uvalde and Crystal City high schools attending Summer I.

Upcoming Meeting/Events

6/26 TACC Executive Committee Quarterly Meeting

6/27 MRGDC Quarterly Meeting

7/9-13 Vacation