

President's Report March 2017

Construction

Crystal City Library – Landscaping is in progress. Library staff are busy organizing books and computers. We are moving forward with Building Dedication on March 24th.

Partnerships

We continue working with the Education Committee of Middle Rio Grande on the issues and needs of higher education for the region. SWTJC, Rio Grande College, and Middle Rio Grande is hosting a forum for superintendents, high school principals and head counselors on our campus to begin the regional discussion to advance higher education on April 6.

We continue working with ISD's to develop additional Early College High Schools, we have met with Leakey, Cotulla, and Crystal City in addition to Uvalde.

Legislation

- Attended the House Appropriations Committee hearing on community college appropriations. Our request was received well. The House Appropriation Article III committee is nearing the final markup for the HB1.
- We continue to monitor new bills introduced for potential impact to community colleges. SWTJC was selected to provide fiscal notes on proposed legislation. (we have an 85 page document of legislative bills we are tracking and can make it available if the Board is interested)

Campus Activities

- 4DX Data Summit – was held on February 17. Our teams presented the results of their activities from the Fall 2016 semester. It was amazing to hear the passion and dedication from our faculty and staff toward our students and this institution. It served as reminder that we are all working as one team to improve the lives of our students.
- Faculty Association – attended their meeting to discuss issues on February 23. Our discussion was dominated by dual credit. The faculty understands that dual credit now represents a significant portion of our student body. We also discussed how this change will impact course offerings, faculty loads, as well as changes to our administrative structure.
- Maintenance Lunch – I was invited by Maintenance staff to join them for a lunch on Friday February 24 to celebrate their accomplishments and award for the 4DX work.
- PTK Inductions – we are inducting students for the spring semester - Eagle Pass was February 24 and Uvalde March 2.
- College and Career Day – this was joint effort between Middle Rio Grande Workforce Board and SWTJC. We held two events one in Eagle Pass the other in Uvalde.

Meetings Attended and Upcoming Events

- 2/28 Attended the swearing in of Anna Maria Farias (Former Crystal City resident) appointment as Board Chair for Texas Woman University – Board of Regents
- 3/5-7 Pathways Conference (Dallas) Continuing our work to align K-12 with SWTJC and SWTJC with Universities.
- 3/9 Grilling with the President (Uvalde)
- 3/13-17 Spring Break
- 3/24 Crystal City Library Dedication
- 4/1 President's Gala