

Q&A Meeting with Palestine Campus

4/1/19

Present: Dr. Jerry King, Dr. Kristen Bennett, David Hopkins, Wendy Elmore, Richard Davis, Carol Pendland, Ron Camp, Travis Dungan, Mike Young, Jay Kinzer, Jeff Watson, Russell, Natalie Brown, Mandy Richardson, Sherry Miles, Natalie Farrell, Kim Atwood, Candi Martinez, David Handorf, Keith Patton, Karen Shipman, Kathy Lewis, Brenda Boyd, Debra Smith, Kristin Walker, Deanne Frye, Misty Gonzalez, Gabbi Camora, Sam Hurley, Robbie Morris, Barbra Blackman, Nancy Asevedo, Charles Nunnaly, Suzie Sharp, Dawn Derr

Dr. King opened the meeting with introducing the administration team present at the meeting and the importance of receiving input from faculty and staff on the daily operations of the college.

1. Kathy Lewis wanted to thank Dr. King for the walking trail and the appearance of the campus. The Athens campus is looking beautiful. Dr. King explained that TVCC purchased the Armory from the City of Athens and was able to use grant money to renovate a fitness center and create the walking trail. The future plans include lighting the trail.
2. Is there a possibility of having a walking trail on the Palestine campus (asked by Robbie)? Dr. King stated that anything is possible and if something that can be used by students, faculty and staff then it will be considered.
3. Dr. King stated that the new facility in Terrell will house a fitness facility for the faculty, staff and students of THSC. Dr. King talked more about the new facility will allow us to serve more students and will look like a brand new facility when completed. Many of the equipment in the new facility was purchased by grant money. Possible expansion of radiology program, pharm tech, etc. Plans to be in new facility by fall. Old facility in Kaufman eventually will possibly for workforce programs in Kaufman County. Kaufman County is the growth county for TVCC.
4. Carol talked about the CSSSE surveys that are currently taking the entire period. Dr. Elmore talked about the fact that is needed for assessment piece. Dr. Elmore talked about the rotation of ETS testing between fall and spring semesters. ETS is a way to show meaningful growth for our students. ETS is required for Title IV funding. Dr. Elmore stated that it is important to provide as much information as possible.
5. Ron Camp asked what our relationship is with the dual credit population? Dr. King talked about the fact that we need to do something differently at TVCC to compete with other colleges (specifically universities) with a specific look at changing our fee structure. The state legislator opened up dual credit to where the ISD's could be served by any college. Based on this ruling, we lost Forney to Eastfield which was a large financial hit. TVCC had been raising out of district fees in an effort to encourage the out of district schools to join TVCC's service area. SFA is coming in aggressively to Anderson County. SFA is paying graduate assistants to teach their courses at the ISD. TACC group is going to try to put together a proposal but it needs to be our solution. Our solution is to *potentially* decrease the out of district fees to \$180. Dr. King explained that we are not currently in a contact hour funding year but the consensus is if we lose ISD's now we will not get them back. We are looking at taking a 350,000 hit for next year. We are hoping that this will be effective this fall semester. Possibly about to lose Elkhart if our fees do not change. This will be presented out our board meeting in April.

- a. Follow up question – do you see this as a net increased enrollment from other ISD's? Dr. King thinks there is a potential that TVCC will possibly have Forney ISD back and other ISD's as well.
 - b. Debra Smith talked about her perspective from students that she needs know. Most students are struggling with classes with instructors not being engaged, etc. Smith talked about the importance of focusing on the issues the students are having along with lowered fees.
 - c. K Bennett talked about the Murchison Grant proposal that might help offset the loss. Currently receive 140,000 for dual credit and will be asking them for 500,000 for dual credit which would offset the loss.
6. Grants
- a. Land donated in Kaufman on HW 175 which can be used however TVCC desires.
 - b. Same donor has given 250,000 with a total of 1.2 million dollars.
 - c. 250,000 additional money from Nancy Perkins estate. (Over 2 million total primarily used for scholarship). Some money was used for bleachers in the gym.
 - d. Goal is to scholarship all TVCC students based on foundation funding. Tuition free for all students in our service area. It is a goal but it is a long term goal.
 - i. Would this include TDCJ? Answer was no it wouldn't but there is other options for TDCJ students.
 - ii. Stressing on trying to return PELL grants to TDCJ units in the future.
7. Keith Patton – concerned about numbers being down due to enrollment. Why can't someone come from TVCC go to ISD's in the south schools (Anderson County)? His concern is that schools state that no one from TVCC go to these students.
- a. Dr. Kinzer stated that recruiting is really all of TVCC's employee's responsibilities. We now have 2 ½ recruiters and that he realizes that we have not spent enough time in our service area schools. There is a circuit of fairs that we have to attend but would try to have more out. We try to get our recruiters out to each of our area ISD's at least once a year. Dr. Kinzer will follow up with recruiters to ensure that the recruiters are going out to the schools.
 - b. Dr. King stated that it is important that each one of us serve as recruiters. Each person can form relationships with area ISD employees in each area to help recruit.
 - c. Patton states when is he supposed to complete this task? Dr. King stated that it doesn't have to be each Friday but it could be occasionally. Dr. King stated that Patton needs to work with Dr. Watson before cancelling classes but could potentially Patton can visit. Could bring ISD student's to TVCC as well as an outreach.
 - d. Dr. Elmore talked about the welding shows and the relationships that are built through these types of shows.
 - e. Dr. Kinzer talked about the relationship at the program level is more crucial than the actual recruiters.
 - f. Carol talked about faculty association meeting discussed this as well.
8. Misty talked about years ago that TVCC is purchasing animals from Anderson County Livestock show. Is that possible for TVCC to start doing that again?
- a. Dr. King stated that he is not sure that we can spend college money on buying livestock.

- b. Kristen Bennett stated that it is possible that the foundation participate in some way. Kristen will follow up with Misty.
 - c. Instead of buying an animal, could it be that TVCC sponsor a scholarship?
- 9. Workforce Center in Palestine – Palestine is discussing selling the workforce center in the mall. There is a five year commitment lease that they must honor our lease. They might have to provide us with an additional facility that is equal to what we currently are using at the Mall. Dr. Watson doesn't think the mall will sell for what they are asking. Dr. Watson stated that the Gipson building might be an option but it would cost the city quite a bit to renovate for us.
- 10. How is graduation going to work in the spring?
 - a. Graduation will be at Athens High School campus in the gym. Their gym will hold about 3000 people. All graduations will be at one time starting at 6:30 (AAS, AA, and ECHS). Parking is an issue on the Athens ISD campus but should be able to be resolved. We are looking at 600 graduates at this point.
 - b. Dr. King talked about the fact that we have increased our retention rates and our graduation rates have increased. Dr. King talked about the fact that we are at the maximum points in success points for funding.
- 11. Dr. King talked about the importance of maintaining the Dual Credit students and keep doing the quality job that is being done.
- 12. Dr. King talked about he wants to try to give a pay raise again this year but it will be a challenge with the challenges that TVCC is currently facing. This is going to be one of the most difficult budget years. Dr King stated that if the public school faculty receive a pay raise that TVCC needs to give a pay raise as well.
- 13. Dr. Elmore mentioned Colleague changes. Fall semester will be in Colleague – summer stay in AS400. Dr. King stated that the long term benefits of Colleague will be great but the short term work is high for several people.
- 14. Dr. King talked about the financial aid implications for Summer 2 due to the change in the cycles for receiving federal funds. Students in Summer 2 will not receive Pell grants in summer 2. If students are eligible for Pell grants in summer 2, they will receive a scholarship to cover the tuition for the students. This is one time hit – everything will return to normal next summer.

Adjourned at 3:01 pm