



Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President

# Leaves are Changing ... So Are We ...



Fall is such a great time of the year and certainly the most beautiful. Looking back over the last several years this institution has certainly undergone some change. We are constantly changing, and sometimes we do not realize how much when we are working right in the midst of it. I cannot thank each of you enough for being open and receptive to the changes within our organiza-

tional structure during the past few years. I believe it has been a benefit to us in preparing for the future.

This month we continue to review another area within our structure – technology. On October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> an on-site assessment of our technology and technology unit was conducted by a representative of the League for Innovation, Ms. Joanne Chabot, Associate

Vice Chancellor/Deputy CIO for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities met with various units and individuals from the College to conduct a comprehensive integrated information technology assessment. This area certainly presents us with a wide range of challenges for the future. We hope that she will be able to present us with a

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## Meeting with Concord University

For the first time in many years, Concord University has a new president. I believed this was an opportune time for Southern to visit the New president, Dr. Gregory Aloia to talk about how we might

better partner with their institution. We asked if they might consider the delivery of complete programs at our Wyoming Campus. Several options were discussed and the president and his staff were very recep-

tive to the possibility. Both institutions would begin by reviewing our current articulation agreement as well as student data, and plan to meet again in the near future.

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SGA 9-11 Memorial Service 1-r: Allyn Sue Barker, Ron Lemon, Randy Skeens and Cindy Crigger

## Recruitment and Retention Workshop

## Change (continued)

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plan that will bring us from where we are to where we want to be in the next few years. I anticipate that Ms. Chabot will present a final report to us in November or early December. When we receive the report we will share it with the College community, ask for feedback, and then begin an implementation process.

I remind each of you that I will be happy to address any questions you may have in each edition of the newsletter. If you have a particular question, it is likely that others are seeking the same information. You can submit your comments to me via email by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month or send it via inter-campus mail. Additionally, if there is something you would like to place in the newsletter, please send me your information and/or photos.

During the past month I have been meeting with our campus student government

associations. I have been excited to hear of their enthusiasm for Southern. The SGA's have been sponsoring a variety of activities and programs on their respective campuses which have included 911 memorial services. In the very near future, our Internet Cafés should be up and running in the libraries and campuses. Students will be able to purchase coffee, and read or browse on the wireless internet in designated areas.

In recent weeks I have received many comments from community members and those who work in the K-12 system about the positive feedback they are receiving from students who graduated from area high schools last year and are now attending Southern. They have indicated that students really like being here. These very positive comments also coincide with the positive feedback we received from our students on the CSSE survey. This is certainly an indication of what each of you is doing for our students!

West Virginia Community and Technical College Chancellor, Jim Skidmore recently hired a group of consultants to assist community and technical colleges with the recruitment and retention of adult learners. The legislature has now placed a focus on recruitment of the adult population, because the state must depend on an educated adult population if it is to meet the demands of a skilled workforce. Five representatives were selected for each institution including the president to develop specific strategies for their colleges. Southern's representatives in addition to the president include: Darrell Taylor, Prudence Barker, Katie Smith-Cox and Cindy Crigger. The team will be working with the consultants and our strategies through December. We will share these results and plans with everyone during All Governance Day in December.



Just a reminder that Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2, 2008.

## Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College Board of Governors Members take Oath of Office

The Board of Governors welcomed three new members at its September 9 meeting. Ms. Melissa Creakman, Purchasing Director, issued the Oath of Office to student representative, Robert Jude of Canada, Kentucky; Thomas Heywood of Charleston, West Virginia; and Jada C. Hunter of Williamson, West Virginia.



## Williamson Community Appreciation Day

The annual Williamson Community Appreciation Day was held at the Williamson Campus on September 14, 2008 in conjunction with the King Coal Festival, and the event was well attended. My thanks to those at Southern that helped with the festivities.



*Pictured l-r: Eddie Curry, COTIGA Development Company, President Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, and Charlotte Curry*

## Academic Department Luncheons

As I mentioned to you on All Governance Day, I plan to schedule luncheon meetings with each of our academic department chairs and faculty. The luncheons will take place throughout this academic year. Emma Baisden is working on the schedule. This will be an opportunity to fellowship and discuss issues and concerns. I am looking forward to the meetings and hope that everyone will plan to attend their specific luncheon. The luncheons will be held on the dining room on the fourth floor of the Allied Health and Technology Center.

# Holiday Schedule

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Now that we have established a permanent four-day work schedule, I know many of you will have questions about the upcoming holidays. Although this has already been distributed college-wide, I am including the holiday schedule that was approved and developed by the Classified Staff Council. The schedule includes all dates the college will be closed for holidays this academic year. If the Governor declares any additional holidays, we will inform everyone of changes to our current schedule.

**Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College  
Holiday Schedule  
Fiscal Year 2008-2009  
Revised June 4, 2008**

July 4, 2008 ( <i>Friday</i> )	* Independence Day
September 1, 2008 ( <i>Monday</i> )	* Labor Day
November 27, 2008 ( <i>Thursday</i> )	* Thanksgiving Day
December 22, 2008 ( <i>Monday</i> )	Alternate
December 23, 2008 ( <i>Tuesday</i> )	Alternate
December 24, 2008 ( <i>Wednesday</i> )	Alternate
December 25, 2008 ( <i>Thursday</i> )	* Christmas Day
December 29, 2008 ( <i>Monday</i> )	Alternate
December 30, 2008 ( <i>Tuesday</i> )	Alternate
December 31, 2008 ( <i>Wednesday</i> )	Alternate
January 1, 2009 ( <i>Thursday</i> )	* New Year's Day
January 19, 2009 ( <i>Monday</i> )	* Martin Luther King's Birthday
March 19, 2009 ( <i>Thursday</i> )	Alternate
May 25, 2009 ( <i>Monday</i> )	Memorial Day

\* As designated by West Virginia Code §2-2-1 and Title 135 Procedural Rule of the WV Council for Community and Technical College Education, Series 14 Holidays §135-14-3.1.

For the purpose of taking into consideration Southern's academic calendar and four-day work week schedule, holidays indicated as "Alternate" are in lieu of Columbus Day, Susan B. Anthony Day, Veteran's Day, Lincoln's Day, 1/2 day on Christmas Eve, 1/2 day on New Year's Eve, President's Day, and West Virginia Day.

## Gear-Up Grant

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As you are aware, Southern is a participant in the recently approved Gear-Up grant. Gear-Up goals include: increasing academic performance and rigorous preparation of students; increasing the number of students who are prepared for college and training; increase high school graduation rates and the number of students going on to college; increasing the families knowledge about college and financial aid and collaborate with a variety of partners.

Our new Deans in the Enrollment Management Unit will be working closely with the Regional Gear-Up Coordinator that will be located at Southern's District Office,

and other site coordinators located at qualifying high schools. I believe this will provide great opportunities for Southern to reach new students and adults, and to assist with increasing dual credit opportunities.

## President's Leadership Academy

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We will be instituting a new program for the administration at the College beginning this November. The ***President's Leadership Academy*** will provide an opportunity to engage our administration in discussions on leadership, and how we all can better lead and move this institution forward to meet the daunting challenges of the next decade. This group will be reading

books and periodicals as part of their discussion materials.

After the completion of the first year, I will begin scheduling Leadership meetings with all of our employees for the 2009-2010 year. I intend to engage everyone in the discussion of not only leadership, but also seek their advice, concerns and comments on our vision, mission and strategic direction.

## Center for Allied Health and Technology Grand Opening

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The "Grand Opening" of the new Allied Health and Technology facility is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2008 beginning at 11:00 a.m. A Committee is currently working on the details for the event. All employees are invited to attend with permission of their supervisors.

## Williamson Facility

All of you have witnessed what has been happening with the credit markets across the country in recent weeks. They are very volatile which may present a problem for the Community and Technical College System to proceed with their bond sale for the planned technical facilities. We received a recent email from the Vice Chancellor for Administration, Dennis Taylor, regarding this issue. He has indicated that even though the market is volatile it will not prevent them from reviewing proposals for bond underwriters. With their assistance, they will evaluate how best it will be to proceed. This situation will most likely cause a delay in the planning for our new technical center at the Williamson Campus, however, I do believe it will only be a delay.

### Recent Events



*Cindy McCoy and Jada Hunter, Williamson Community Appreciation Day*

*September 8, 2008, Dean Lucas spoke to the Williamson Kiwanis Club*




*Pictured l-r: Ron Lemon, Emma, Kendra and Kayla Baisden, President Joanne Tomblin, Williamson Community Appreciation Day*



*Virginia Kimbler receives Shell Family Scholarship. Pictured l-r: President Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, Southern Foundation President, George Kostas, Virginia Kimbler, and Ron Lemon, Vice President for Development*

## Upcoming Events

- October 8-9 Chancellor's Leadership Institute
- October 8-9 Technology Assessment — Joanne Chabot
- October 9 Van High School Visit
- October 16-17 Board of Governors Retreat, Stonewall Resort and Conference Center
- October 17 WV Council for Community and Technical College Education Meeting at Marshall Community and Technical College
- October 22 Sherman High School Visit
- October 22-24 WVCCA / WVAD Conference, Oglebay Park, Wheeling
- October 30 Scott High School Visit
- November 4 President's Leadership Academy
- November 6 PEIA Health Screening
- November 12 Grand Opening, Center for Allied Health and Technology, 11:00 AM
- November 13 Mount View High School Visit
- November 18 Board of Governors Agenda Committee Meeting
- November 19 Liberty High School Visit
- November 22-28 No Classes — Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 27-28 College Closed — Thanksgiving Holiday



**Southern**  
SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA  
COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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*Questions about the **President's Newsletter** should be directed to Emma Baisden, Assistant to the President, at 304-896-7402 or by e-mail: Emmab@southern.wvnet.edu*



If you have specific questions regarding issues or events at the College, please e-mail or call my office by the 15th of each month.

### Welcome New Employee



Velva Pennington  
Administrative Assistant  
Communications and Finance  
Logan Campus