



Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President

March Comes in Like a Lion and Goes Out Like a Lamb

Hopefully the signs of spring will be emerging shortly as I am sure that all of us look forward to the warmer weather. Daylight-saving time begins on March 11th, so the days will be getting longer. Registration for summer and fall will begin on April 2nd. The academic restructuring may directly impact our fall schedule; therefore, we have decided to use the "live" schedule for this registration period. We are asking those of you involved with April registration to work from the live schedule. Copies of the live schedule can be printed from a copy machine if necessary during that time.

In 2006, Governor Joe Manchin appointed a broad spectrum of individuals to serve on the *21st Century Jobs Cabinet of West Virginia*. The group was convened to better understand the challenges confronting

West Virginia in the New Economy, and the urgent need for West Virginia to change its educational system and outcomes to surmount these challenges. Within the last week I have received the report from this group which was presented to the Governor and the West Virginia State Legislature.

The report basically agrees with the Governor in that West Virginia must act quickly to produce a "world-class" workforce or West Virginia will fall behind, never to catch up. The report provides an action plan which addresses the redesign of the high school curriculum, communication skills including the teaching of new thinking skills. It addresses teacher quality, teaching excellence, strategic partnerships, and leadership. I am most pleased that community and

technical colleges have been emphasized.

Governor Manchin has appointed the current Jobs Cabinet to serve as the board of directors for the implementation of the *Global Vision for the 21st Century*. I am certain that more information will follow in the weeks and months ahead, as well as the role of the community college in moving this vision forward.

Believe it or not, commencement is just around the corner. I am delighted that Mr. Tom Heywood of the law firm of Bowles Rice, McDavid, Graff and Love has agreed to deliver the commencement address. One change to the commencement activities this year will be the elimination of the President's Breakfast. Since the hotel at the convention center is now in full operation, the dining area must remain open to the public.

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President Tomblin's High School Visiting Team recently spoke to Logan High School seniors about the benefits of pursuing a two-year degree. The group discussed career choices, financial aid, scholarships, and future programs.

Heywood to Speak at Graduation



Mr. Thomas A. Heywood, a partner in the Charleston office of Bowles, Rice, McDavid, Graff and Love, LLP, and former Chief of Staff and Counsel to the Honorable Gaston Caperton, Governor of West Virginia, will speak at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College's Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 12, as candidates of the Class

of 2007 will be eligible to graduate.

Mr. Heywood has significant experience in health care, corporate, finance and commercial law, and is recognized as one of the "Best Lawyers in America." He currently serves as Chairman of both the firm's Client Development Department and Government Relations group, and is a member of the firm's Executive Committee.

His educational background includes a J. D. in 1982 from Harvard Law School, where he served as Developments Editor of the Harvard International Law Journal (1981-

82) and Editor of the Harvard Law Record (1980-82). He graduated from Stanford University in 1978, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations, with distinction, and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society.

Mr. Heywood has received numerous awards for his public service, including the Alliance for Children Leadership Award (2006); Margaret Baldwin Friend of Education Award (2000) (awarded by the West Virginia Education Association); the Sam Walton Community Leadership Award (1999) (awarded by the Charleston Regional Chamber of Commerce and Development); Citizen of the Year (1999) (awarded by the National Association of Social Workers); the Distinguished Service Award (1996) (awarded by the West Virginia Hospital Association); and the Friend of Education Award (1995) (awarded by the Kanawha County Education Association). He serves on numerous charitable and non-profit boards, and participates actively in many business, professional, civic, and trade organizations.

Graduation will take place at the Earl Ray Tomblin Convention Center at Chapmanville, West Virginia at 10:00 a.m.

Board of Governors Salary Planning Committee

Southern's Board of Governors Chair, Linda Akers, appointed a Salary Planning Committee to review, make recommendations, and develop a plan for future salary increases for Southern employees. Committee members include Kevin Fowler, Chair, George Morrison, Linda Akers, Mike Baldwin, Joanne Tomblin, Shelley Huffman, Jim Sheatsley, Merle Dempsey, Sam Litteral, Carol Trent, and Patricia Clay. Southern's personnel serve in a resource capacity and are provid-

ing data and information to assist the committee in developing its plan.

An open meeting was conducted for the faculty on February 9th to seek input and inform faculty of the progress that has been made thus far. Patricia Clay provided the faculty with data on current market salaries. Prior to the April 24th Board of Governors meeting, the Salary Planning Committee will meet with classified and non-classified employees to present similar

information and seek their input. The Salary Planning Committee is scheduled to make a recommendation to the full board in April, however, Chair, Kevin Fowler, informed the group that funds are limited and developing a salary plan is challenging. Developing a plan will assist the Board of Governors and the president with a process for determining future raises as funds become available.

Your Input is Needed

Southern's Board of Governors member, Dr. David Pierce, suggested last year that the institution develop a set of "Core Values," which represent the true values of this institution. The Board of Governors agreed with Dr. Pierce that core values needed to be established, and it became the agenda for the 2006 annual Board of Governors Retreat.

During the Retreat, Board members developed a draft set of institutional Core Values. Board Chair, Linda Akers, ap-

pointed a subcommittee to review the document. On January 17, the Board of Governors Committee on Core Values comprised of Shelley Huffman, Chair, Mike Baldwin, Anne Seaver, Jada Hunter and Elston Johnson conducted an open meeting to review the draft document.

At the February 20th Board of Governors meeting, the full Board approved the subcommittee's recommendation to distributed the list of Core Values to Southern's constituencies for a

30-day comment period.

I would ask that you take some time to review the Core Values and provide your input to my office by March 23, 2007. The document can be found on our website and it has been distributed for comment to all college employees via e-mail on February 21, 2007. We anticipate that a set of Institutional Core Values will be formally adopted by Board of Governors at its April 24 meeting.

Report from the President's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Recruitment, Retention and Graduation

The final report and recommendations have been submitted to me by the President's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Recruitment, Retention and Graduation, proposing a wide-range of recommendations.

On February 23rd I met with the committee to discuss the recommendations in more detail. At that time I determined that an Implementation Team needed to

be created to review the groups' final recommendations, determine costs, and develop a timeline for the implementation of the recommendations as they can be phased in.

The Implementation Team will convene in the near future and begin their work. Initially the group will distribute the recommendations to all college employees and seek additional in-

put. Many of the groups' recommendations will begin as early as the fall 2007 semester. The Implementation team and I will keep you informed as these projects materialize.

New Academic Structure

Job descriptions have been developed for Deans of University Transfer and Career and Technical Programs positions. I anticipate these new positions will be posted in-house shortly, if it has not already been done by the time this newsletter is distributed.

It is my expectation that these individuals will be selected by the time registration begins in April. After these individuals are selected, we will post positions for new Department Chair and Administrative Associate positions. The new academic structure is effective July 1, 2007.

Harless Receives Lifetime Achievement Award



Mr. James H. 'Buck' Harless, Chairman of Southern's "Vision 2020 Major Gifts Campaign," was honored recently at the *2007 Who's Who in West Virginia Business* luncheon sponsored by the **West Virginia State Journal**. This is an annual event the newspaper holds to acknowledge the best in the state business community. The luncheon was held at the Charleston Marriott and attended by President Tomblin, Board of Governors Chair, Linda Akers, Southern West Virginia Community College Foundation Executive Board members, Phyllis Osenton and her husband Owen, Ron Lemon, Cindy Crigger, Christine Browning, and Emma Baisden.

Mr. Harless was presented with the "Lorenelle White" Lifetime Achievement Award for his successful business and significant contributions to West Virginia. This award was established in 1993 and was named for the late publisher of the newspaper.

Harmony Week Activities Continue to Grow



Pictured are l-r: President Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, Willene H. Moore, The Honorable Phyllis Carter, Dr. Hazo Carter, Jr., and Reverend Gerald Dotson.

The activities surrounding this year's Harmony Week have been tremendous. I want to thank the Harmony Week Committee — Ron Lemon, Christine Browning, Cindy Crigger, Marcus Gibbs, Mike Baldwin, Rita Roberson, J. P. Owens, Randy Skeens, David Lord, Peggy Epling, Patty Brooks, Pauline Sturgill, Beth Deaton, and Angela Dotson — for all the effort they have provided in making this year's event the best one yet.

The programs for public school students, speakers, candlelight services, and the culmination luncheon educate our young people and citizens of the area about diversity, multi-culturalism, and tolerance. This Harmony Week program continues to emphasize how we can all work together to make our communities better. My hat is off to all of the Harmony Week Committee for another great year!

The culmination luncheon is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 2 at the Earl Ray Tomblin Convention Center, featuring the Drum Café.



Dates Set for *Steel Magnolias* Performance

Steel Magnolias, by Robert Harling, is a 1987 off-Broadway play, made into a successful movie in 1989. Based on the author's experience with the death of his sister, Steel Magnolias is a comedy-drama about the bond among a group of southern women in northwest Louisiana.

The action centers around Truvy's beauty parlor and six women who regularly gather there. The drama begins on the morning of Shelby's wedding to Jackson and covers events over the next few years, including Shelby's decision to have a child despite being diabetic and the consequences that result from the decision. We also get a glimpse of the unlikely friendship be-

tween Clairee and Ouiser; Annelle's transformations from a shy, anxious newcomer in town, to a partying woman, then to a religious fundamentalist; and Truvy's relationships with the men in her family.

Although the main storyline involves Shelby, her mother, and Shelby's battle with her medical condition, the underlying group-friendship among all six women is prominent throughout the drama.

Steel Magnolias — The Play
 March 15-16, 2007, 8:00 p.m.
 Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
 Director: Chris Gray
 Managing/Technical Director:
 Martha Maynard

Weather Line

There seems to have been some confusion in regard to our weather line this season. Sometimes one is not aware of a problem until it happens. We have now disassembled all weather telephone lines expect for the toll-free line—1.866.SWVCTC1, extension 450. This telephone number

is listed on the website, and provides up-to-date information on class cancellations and/or delays. We ask that you continue to provide the toll-free number, 1.866.798.2821, extension 450, to our students for the latest weather information.



Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies



Carl Baisden, Director, Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies

The Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technology continues to make progress. Since October 1, 2006, approximately 700 individuals have received training which equates to more than 15,000 contact hours. These include 40 and 80-hour Mine Training, 8-hour FC and ML Retraining, EMT-M and M Plus, EMT-M recertifica-

tion, Mine Rescue I and M, Prep Plant Hazard/Safety, Simulator Instructor Training, Surface Simulator Training, and Warehouse Safety (AC).

BITS AND PIECES

- Congratulations to Polly Donahue on the birth of her new grandson, William Michael, born on February 16, 2007.
- Southern officials met with the manufacturer of the Mine Simulator, David Sherwood, who recently visited the Logan Campus.
- The President's High School Visiting Team spoke to approximately 180 seniors during their February 16th visit to Logan High School.

New Faces



Heather M. Drake
Academic Lab Manager
Logan Campus



Judy L. Hall
Educational Outreach Counselor
Williamson Satellite Site



Joan E. Thompson
Cosmetology Instructor/Coordinator
Boone/Lincoln Campus

New Places



Jennifer R. Dove
Administrative Secretary, Sr.
Williamson Campus



Kristin N. Hodge
Library Technical Assistant I
Logan Campus



Employee Spotlight

Mr. Carl E. Baisden, Director of Southern's Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies, recently spoke to members of the Tug Valley Mine Institute about safety, technology, and training for a new generation of workers in the modern coal industry.

Mr. Baisden announced that a new Mine Training Simulator facility is in the works for downtown Logan which will include a Mine Ergonomics Lab. A Caterpillar rock truck surface simulator is currently being used for training at the Earl Ray Tomblin Workforce Development Center and Administrative Complex (District Office). The Tug Valley Mine Institute meeting will be broadcast on Channel 17.



Pictured l-r: Allyn Sue Barker, VP for Economic, Workforce and Community Development; Carl E. Baisden; Georgene Robertson, Tug Valley Mine Institute President; and Ben Hardman of Fletcher Mining Equipment.

Mr. Perry Jobe, an instructor at Southern's Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technology, is shown explaining the latest in mine rescue equipment to Doug Blankenship and Bruce

W. Smith, both with Calloway Natural Resources. The tools include battery



powered extrication tools to remove pinned or trapped miners. The open case is a mobile command center which is used with thermal imaging cameras to remotely see and record mine conditions during mine search and rescue operations.



Southern
SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA
COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President
Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College
P. O. Box 2900, Mount Gay, WV 25637

Phone: 304-792-7040
Fax: 304-792-7046
E-mail: Joannet@southern.wvnet.edu

Questions about the *President's Newsletter* should be directed to Emma Baisden, Assistant to the President, at 304-792-7160, extension 117, 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.

Upcoming Events for March 2007

- 1-2 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
- 2 Harmony Week Culmination Luncheon, 11:00 a.m., Earl Ray Tomblin Convention Center
Kimberly Pierce Memorial Scholarship Benefit Concert, 5:00-9:00 p.m., Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
- 3 International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) Spring Educational Conference, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Room 111, Logan Campus
Boy Scouts of America "Merit Badge College", 7:00-1:00 p.m., Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
Appalachian Music Festival, 7:00 p.m., Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
- 6 Southern's Youth Leadership Academy, 11:50-1:00 p.m., Lincoln County Site
Sherman High School Visit, 9:00-10:15 a.m.
- 8 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
- 9 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Logan Campus
Mingo County Business Symposium, 9:00-2:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
Math and Science Field Day for Elementary Students, 10:00-2:00 p.m., Logan Campus
- 13 Assessment Day – All Campuses
Southern's Youth Leadership Academy, 11:50-1:00 p.m., Lincoln County Site
- 15 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Williamson **AND** Logan Campuses
- 15-16 *Steele Magnolias*, 8:00 p.m., Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
- 16 Southern's Faculty Fellows, 12:00-4:00 p.m., Room 227, District Office
- 19-24 SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES
- 19-21 Spring Camp for Dehue Head Start, Logan Campus
- 20 Logan County Chamber of Commerce High School Business Symposium, 9:00-1:00 p.m., Room 111, Logan Campus
Southern's Youth Leadership Academy, 11:50-1:00 p.m., Lincoln County Site
- 22 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
- 23 Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Logan Campus
- 27 Tug Valley High School Visit, 9:15-10:30 a.m.
Job Fair, Logan Campus
Resume' Writing and Job Interview Skills Workshop, 1:15-2:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
Southern's Youth Leadership Academy, 11:50-1:00 p.m., Lincoln County Site
- 29 Resume' Writing Workshop, 1:00-2:00 p.m., Wyoming/McDowell Campus
Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Williamson Campus
- 3/29-4/1 Logan High School Production of "Grease", 8:00-9:00 p.m., Savas-Kostas Performing Arts Center
- 30 Institutional Deadline for Submission of Items for the Board of Governors Agenda for its April 24, 2007 meeting
Tech Prep, 9:00-2:00 p.m., Logan Campus
Southern's Rural Leaders Program, 9:00-3:00 p.m., Logan Campus