



Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President

Autumn Has Arrived



This semester is well underway! I have traveled to several of our campuses on numerous occasions already, and had the opportunity to speak to many of our students. I have received various complements about our faculty and staff, as well as the programs and courses in which they are enrolled. The atmosphere has been very pleasant.

In addition to talking with our students, I have been talking to many of you about

your concerns and ideas regarding how we can improve our services to students and how we might better organize ourselves to provide them. I sincerely appreciate the input I have received and welcome comments from all of our employees. If I have not spoken with you in a group or individually, please feel free to send me your ideas or make an appointment to visit with me before the end of the fall semester.

The need to improve our **Emergency/Crisis Management Plan** is becoming ever more important to students and employees on our campuses. In recent days we have had a bomb threat and a fire at the Logan Campus. As you know, both situations are very serious. These incidents, as well as many others, are becoming more apparent on college campuses around the country. While we do have a plan and procedures in place concerning handling

College Recruitment Plans

On All College Day I requested that each unit and department at the College submit two recruiting activities that they would complete during the year. I have received many plans



and some great ideas. I will be following up at the end of the semester on what has been accomplished and will share that information with everyone in future newsletters.

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Ted Williams at a recent college fair

Message from the President

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emergencies on our campuses, I believe we need to do better. A group is now working on revising our current plan. When the plan is complete, I am going to ask that training take place at each of our "All College Day" events so everyone can be apprised of proper procedures during any emergency. Additionally, I will be working with Sam Litteral and Merle Dempsey on campus security issues.

Things are moving along with the Allied Health and Technology Center. Repairs are in progress from the flooding events that took place this fall. The phone installation is underway and lab furnishing should arrive before the end of the semester. I anticipate that we will begin moving offices this month and continue throughout the semester. Classes should begin in the new facility in January. Hopefully supervisors have reviewed the moving schedule and will be prepared to have their

staff ready to move when notified.

I want to remind everyone that one of the purposes of this newsletter is not only to keep everyone up-to-date on what is happening college-wide, but also to answer questions from our employees. Be reminded that you can email your questions to me by the 15th of each month. Your question may be one that others have as well. It is very important for all of our employees to be informed about what we're doing at all our locations.



For those of you who missed the Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies Press Conference on September 18th, you may view it on the College's website.

It certainly was an exciting day for Southern and all of the communities we serve. The College announced its Rapid Response Mobile Communications Unit "**Task Force 1**", which is equipped to assist in mine rescue, and the purchase of two rescue vehicles that will help West Virginia, not only with mine rescues, but with any emergency situation or incident.

Additionally, Southern offi-

Mine Rescue Press Conference

cially entered into an agreement with the Kentucky Coal Academy to share resources, equipment and curriculum to further the development of a National Mine Safety Rescue Training Center devoted to the advancement of training and technology of mine rescue in the United States. We should all be very proud of this accomplishment for Southern and the future of this institution.

I want to commend Allyn Sue Barker, Carl Baisden, and the staff of the Academy for the extraordinary work they did to make the press conference successful. My thanks to those

individuals who worked behind the scenes: Cindy Crigger, Ron Lemon, Christine Browning, Marcus Gibbs, Mike Baldwin, Tim Ooten, Lee Stroud, Randy Skeens, Sandra Podunavac, Jaime Crum and Emma Baisden. This was a big event that took a lot of time and effort. It proves that teamwork does produce great results.



Pictured l-r: Jim Pitrolo, Governor's Office; Kevin Fowler, Board of Governors, Chair; Mike Rutledge, Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training; Senate President-Lieutenant Governor, Earl Ray Tomblin; Chancellor Jim Skidmore; Robert Brown, Vice Chair, WV Council for Community and Technical College Education; and President Joanne Jaeger Tomblin

Williamson Community Appreciation Day

The annual Williamson Community Appreciation Day could not have been better! A crowd of approximately 200 people turned out throughout the afternoon at the Williamson Campus on Sunday, September 16th to listen to gospel music and feast on a fantastic country meal of pinto beans, cornbread, kraut, fried potatoes and dessert that was prepared by Ms. Thelma Maynard of the "Southern Snack Shop."



This year the College presented a Certificate of Appreciation to retired radio personality George Warren of WVKM/WHJC radio of Matewan, in appreciation for his coverage of College events throughout the years. The radio station provided live coverage of the Community Appreciation Day event throughout the afternoon. It was again another great College event!

Appalachian Leadership Honors Program

The Appalachian Leadership Honors Program Advisory Committee held its first meeting on the Williamson Campus, September 18, 2007.

The program will begin this fall at the Williamson Campus as students are selected through an application process. The

goal of the program is to prepare the next generation of business, political, and academic leaders as they enter America's workforce by enhancing their leadership skills and instilling a foundation of impeccable character in those emerging leaders.

The leadership program was initiated by Williamson native, General Robert H. "Doc" Fogle, now the President of Mississippi State University. Pauline Sturgill will coordinate the program for Southern. More announcements are forthcoming.

Board of Governors September Meeting Update

Our Board of Governors held its first meeting on September 18th. As required by law, the Faculty Senate and Classified Staff Council are to meet annually with the Board. Faculty Senate Chair, Martha Maynard, provided the Board with an overview of the Senate's composition, discussed policies which the Senate has been working on and outlined plans for the academic year. Other Senators attending were Jeff Hanichen,

Chuck Puckett and George Morrison.

The Board approved a resolution to distribute the following policies for a 30-day comment period: SCP-3201, Challenging a Course/Credit by Examination and SCP-3401, Independent Study. They deferred action related to revisions to and/or submitting for the required 30-day comment period on SCP-2125, College-wide Employee Person-

nel Policy, SCP-2156, Drugs in the Workplace, and SCP-8600, Board of Governors Operational Guidelines. They also granted formal approval for the submission of a Flex-E Grant application to the West Virginia Development Office in the amount of \$10,000 to be used to support the Rural Leaders Initiative. Additionally, the Board discussed plans for its October planning retreat where they will be working on strategic planning.

BITS AND PIECES

- Congratulations to Sue Wolford on the birth of her new grandson, Braxton David Wolford, born on September 13, 2007.
- Best wishes to Ms. Connie Keeney, Purchasing Assistant in the Finance Department, who retired September 15, 2007.
- Best wishes with future endeavors to Mr. Ryan Patrick, Technology and Engineering Instructor, who resigned September 30, 2007.
- Best wishes with future endeavors to Ms. Patsy Cutlip, Foundation Accountant, who resigned September 27, 2007.
- Best wishes with future endeavors to Ms. Therasa Webb, Manager of Human Resources, whose resignation is effective October 15, 2007.

New Places



Retha Marcum
Administrative Secretary, Sr.
Social Science Department
Logan Campus



Ireda Pruitt
Administrative Associate
University Transfer
Division
Williamson Campus



Employee Spotlight

- Congratulations to Debbie Dingess for attaining the designation of a Certified Compensation Professional (CCP) by the Worldat-Work Society of Certified Professionals.

Upcoming Events

- October 8, 2007, Dedication Ceremony for the Public Higher Education Center, Beckley, 1:00pm
- October 10, 2007, Van Junior/Senior High School Visit, 8:00am
- October 15, 2007, Wyoming County East High School Visit, 9:30am
- October 17, 2007, Liberty High School Visit, 9:30am
- October 18-19, 2007, Board of Governors Meeting and Retreat, Stonewall Conference Center, Roanoke, West Virginia
- October, 29, 2007, Dr. Brian Noland, Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Logan Campus tour, 10:00am.



2007 Williamson Community Appreciation Day, September 16. Pictured l-r: Rita Roberson, Katie Smith-Cox, Dr. Cindy McCoy, President Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, Allyn Sue Barker and Pamela Alderman.