Welcome to the first edition of the President's Newsletter. I hope the information will be valuable to you as an employee in my attempt to keep you informed and up-to-date on activities, events, and issues relating to Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

If you have specific questions regarding issues or events at the College, please email or call my office by the 15th of each month. I will provide a section in each publication to answer your questions. The names of individuals who request answers to questions will remain anonymous. Additionally, if there is someone who deserves recognition please forward that information as well.

We are off to a wonderful start this semester. The Fall Round-up Days were terrific. I know the students were very appreciative of the welcome by our employees.

It’s hard to believe, but our work on the Vision 2020 Major Gifts Campaign Plan began way back in 2003. We held the kick-off celebration on September 7th at the Convention Center at Chief Logan State Park. Our Chair, Mr. Buck Harless along with our Foundation President, George Kostas and Board of Governors Chair, Linda Akers were present for the festivities.

Just a reminder…If you haven’t already done so, please forward your comments to me with regard to the governance and academic restructuring as soon as possible.

Now for the news …

Four-Day Work Week

Due to continued increases in gas prices, I determined that placing classified employees on a four-day work week may assist in alleviating some of their costs getting to and from the workplace. The four-day work week is voluntary.

Supervisors or department heads may not deny a classified employee the right to establish a four-day schedule, and must assure that all services are maintained and offices have daily cover-

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Four-Day Work Week (continued)

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to how leave is to be taken, and how your new schedule may impact scheduled holidays.

The four-day work week will be in effect for an indefinite period of time. Those persons who determine they will remain on the current five-day work week will still have the option of working a flex-schedule during the summer months.

New Child Advocacy Center

Southern recently became involved in the development of a Child Advocacy Center for Logan County. Southern has agreed to provide space for the Center in the basement area of the Logan Downtown Annex which is currently being renovated.

The Child Advocacy Center is a coordinated team approach to handling child abuse cases. A free standing Center is essential to a comprehensive team approach and should be a facility that provides safety for children and their families.

Both Merle Dempsey and Pamela Alderman have agreed to serve on both the board and advisory board as the Center gets off the ground.

Lincoln County High School Opens

We’ve been talking and anticipating the opening of the new Lincoln County High School for several years. The time has finally arrived. The high school provided an Open House for students, parents and area residents on August 24th which included a tour of Southern’s new wing. I invite everyone to take the time to visit the new facility. It is just fabulous!

In the coming months and year, we will be working with officials at the Lincoln County Board of Education and the new high school to determine what programs can be developed.

I want to thank Teri Wells, who is temporarily be stationed at our site until a Coordinator is hired permanently.
Governor Appoints New Members to Southern’s Board of Governors

West Virginia law limits the number of years that individuals can serve as members of the state’s college and university Boards of Governors. The term for Mr. Dennis Trader expired on June 30, 2006, and Mr. Bill Grizzell, Superintendent of Lincoln County Schools, resigned from his position in the spring of 2006.

Governor Joe Manchin appointed Mr. Kevin Fowler, CEO of Logan Regional Medical Center and Dr. Anne Seaver, Superintendent of Lincoln County Schools, to assume positions on Southern’s Board, effective July 1, 2006. Both members may serve two, four-year terms. We are delighted to have both of these individuals join the Southern family. They are anxious to be a part of the great things happening at all our campuses, and I hope that you will take the time to bid them welcome.

Incidentally, our Board of Governors will hold its first meeting of the year on September 26th including a session on strategic planning. The group intends to develop an overall Strategic Plan for the College at their annual Board Retreat in October.

Legislative Interim Meetings Held on Campus

For the first time in history, Legislative Interims were held in Logan County. The new Conference Center and Hotel at Chief Logan State Park provided enough space to house guests August 6th through 8th.

The Legislative Oversight Committee on Education Accountability as well as the Joint Standing Committee on Education held their meetings at the Logan Campus, and the Legislative Committee on Juveniles met at the Logan Downtown Annex. The groups were provided tours and information about the College. All members were complimentary of the College and our facilities.

Williamson Campus Task Force

Members of the Williamson Campus Task Force will hold a meeting at the campus on September 12th to finalize their recommendations. When I receive the final recommendations, I intend to provide Williamson Campus personnel the opportunity to comment on the proposed recommendations.

An implementation team will be created to move our plans forward, and will be charged with establishing a time-line and funding strategies for the proposed recommendations. I want to thank Patricia Clay who has served as the Task Force Facilitator. There has been much “behind the scenes” work involved in putting the recommendations together. I know all of us are looking forward to what’s in store for the future of the Williamson Campus. These are certainly very exciting times for Southern.
Several years ago the Legislature passed House Bill 3009, which provides the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education funds each year to assist community colleges in starting new programs or other projects. The colleges are to provide fifty percent of the cost through private resources and these are matched by funds available to the Council up to $250,000.

Most community college presidents will tell you that acquiring private match funds is extremely difficult. Our Major Gifts Campaign could not have come at a better time. We have already received many contributions from local businesses and industry to move forward on our Vision 2020 Plan.

We were recently notified that our proposal to initiate a Respiratory Care Technician program was funded. The program will be located at the Williamson Campus and students will be admitted for the fall 2007 semester.

I want to thank Pamela Alderman who provided the research and assessment for the program as well as writing the grant. Our 2020 Vision Plan is becoming a reality! We plan to schedule a press conference at the Williamson Campus in late September announcing our new program. Cindy Crigger will keep you posted on that event.

Employee Spotlight

- Congratulations are in order for Patricia Poole, Assistant Professor, who was selected by the International Association of Administrative Professionals Board of Directors as the 2005-2006 Distinguished Chapter President of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP). Pat was presented a Distinguished Chapter President’s Watch by International President, Kay Endow, in recognition of this achievement during the 2006 International Convention and Education Forum held in Reno, Nevada in August 7-10, 2006.

- Best wishes and congratulations to Professor Glenna Hatfield, whose Charleston tennis team is among fourteen teams from the USTA/Midwest Section that has advanced to the national championship round of the largest adult recreational tennis league in the world by winning the USTA League presented by Chrysler USTA/Midwest Section Championships, held August 19-20 in Indianapolis, IN. Glenna’s tennis team will compete for the national title at the 2006 USTA League Tennis National Championships scheduled for October 27-29, 2006 in Hawaii.

- Pamela Alderman, Associate Vice President and Dean of Allied Health, was re-elected to serve a third consecutive term as President of the West Virginia Board of Registered Professional Nurses. Pam is a much respected leader of allied health programs and initiatives in the state. This is a great
Bits and Pieces

- Southern in cooperation with the Logan Coal Vendors held a very successful Golf Tournament at the Logan Country Club on August 18, 2006. The Coal Vendors provided Southern with three scholarships from the proceeds of the event.
- The Logan Library is undergoing some renovations and new carpet has been installed.
- Food service is now available at both the Williamson and Wyoming campuses.
- Allied Health applications are now available on CD Rom.
- BB&T has installed an ATM machine on the Logan Campus.
- The Mountain Artisans project continues this year. Appalachian artwork will be installed at the new Lincoln County Site during the fall semester and the Boone Campus in the spring/summer.
- Mr. Carl Baisden was named Director of the Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies, and was introduced at the Major Gifts Campaign kick-off celebration on September 7th.
- The Presidents Task Force on Recruitment, Retention and Graduation will pre-
  sent a preliminary report in late September 2006 and a full report in January 2007. Please make sure you send your comments or suggestions to Katie Smith-Cox or Roy Simmons.
- Enrollment is still behind last year at this time. We are hoping our dual and off-  campus classes will enable us to break even for this semester.

Employee Spotlight (continued)

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- It is with regret that I inform you that Fred Scott, Vice President for Finance, will be leaving Southern on September 30. Fred will assume a new position as the Vice President for Finance at Brazosport College in Lake Jackson, Texas. This new opportunity will bring him home to his children and grandchildren. We all wish him and Judy the best in their future endeavors.
- Also, with deep regret I inform you that Jamie Cope, Graphic and Web Specialist, left Southern on September 8, 2006 to begin work in his new role with the West Virginia Film Institute in Charleston. Jamie has provided us with some beautiful design work, and we will all miss him. We wish him much success with his new career.