

## **President's Report February 2019**

### **Legislative**

We participated in Community College Day in Austin on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 45 students and faculty attended this event on our behalf. Students had an opportunity to visit with Rep. King, Rep. Nevarez, and Senators Flores and Zafferini's staff. I believe it was a positive experience for both students and our representatives.

SB2 the senate version on the tax reform bill has been voted out of committee with amendments attached to it. The original bill exempts taxing units that collect less than \$15 million in tax from the 2.5% revenue cap. However, one amendment to the bill would allow voters of small taxing units to opt in to the 2.5% cap. The bill still needs to go through the full senate and a similar bill is working its way through the house. There will likely be a conference committee on the two bills.

I was supposed to attend the Senate Finance Hearing on February 13<sup>th</sup>, however, I came down with the flu and Vice President Sandoval attended on my behalf. We made our case for additional performance based funding (success points). The issue of transferability of credits was also discussed.

Along those same lines Dr. Underwood and myself had, a conversation with Texas AM regarding the transfer of completed core curriculum. They confirmed our belief that they place no value in being core complete; students will still have to satisfy their degree requirements. We have been working with the Coordinating Board and now that we have had this conversation, we will move forward with the Coordinating Board.

### **Other**

Enrollment appears to be on track with our projections.

Thank you to Dr. Watkins and Mrs. Lara for presenting the Showmanship Scholarships at the Uvalde County Stock Show on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

We have learned that the Highway Department is working on installing additional culverts on Garner Field Road by the day care, to address recurring flooding problems. We began work on our portion of the drainage ditch in December and had to put it off because of rain. We made additional progress in early February.

SWTJC Foundation purchased .83 acres adjacent to Chittam Technical Campus in Eagle Pass. In the short term, this addition will help relieve parking issues.

### **Upcoming Meeting/Events**

2/26	Aviation Update meeting with Del Rio Community
2/27	Middle Rio Grande Quarterly Meeting
3/1	PTK Induction Eagle Pass
3/5	EP Faculty Meeting with President
3/6	Grilling with President
3/11-15	Spring Break