

## **President's Report May 2022**

### **Maintenance**

Upon further evaluation of the current parking and additional parking requirements with addition of the LEA modular building we decided to add an alternate bid of 45 parking spots to the site work bids. We will not have the bids evaluated in time for mailing of the board packets, but we expect to have them ready in time for the board meeting.

In the interim, I approved an AEP easement request for the relocation of the transformers for both the Witt Building and the Modular Building in order to expedite the construction of the transformers. There is a several month delay in acquiring the transformers and AEP would not proceed with the order until we had the easement in place.

We are evaluating different location for a maintenance storage building (metal building).

We have applied for Limited Use Permit with the Edwards Aquifer Authority for our two wells. This would provide us with 1.4-acre feet of water per well. One well serves the irrigation of the campus, the second well covers the irrigation of the President's home and the rodeo arena area. We received a letter advising us to install meters on the well and apply for the permit. In addition, we will begin investigating the possible lease or purchase of water rights to meet our needs.

### **Other**

We are still waiting to hear from our grant application for the Good Jobs Challenge. That decision will provide us the necessary information on the specific direction for future technical program expansion. As we have stated in the past, it is imperative that we continue expanding our technical footprint.

We have been in negotiations with the City of Hondo for several months regarding the lease of the facility. The existing lease had not been modified since 2011 and no payments for the current year have been made. We believe the proposed lease represents a fair adjustment and recommend Board approval.

### **McKenzie Scott**

When we received the McKenzie Scott Gift, we made a conscious decision to hold off on any plans for the monies since we were focused on spending down the HEERF funds. Last month we asked the board to establish the McKenzie Scott Scholarship. We are now asking the board to approve \$750,000 for instructional and student success innovations. We would like to contract with IDesign, a firm that will revamp our online course offerings. We have identified 32 courses at a cost of \$672,000 and grants will fund \$290,000, with a balance of

\$382,000 from the McKenzie Scott gift. In addition, we proposed the establishment of an internal Innovation Grant in the amount of \$150,000 to provide mini grants to faculty and staff that have innovative ideas that advance student success. The remaining \$218,000 would be available for additional instructional and/or student success initiatives.

Although the McKenzie Scott Gift was unrestricted, we feel that the focus on instruction and student success is in line with those items that led to the gift, focus on student success for an underserved population.

## **Fall 2022**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has granted us authorization to report our contact hours via 8-week terms as opposed to the traditional 16-week reporting time frame. This is important since next year is base year and contact hours generated during Summer 2022, Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 will be used to calculate our State Appropriations for the subsequent two years. Had they not granted approval our 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week term for Spring 2023 would have been counted in next summer and excluded from our base year.

## **Budgets**

We continue to work on our budget and should be ready for a Board Budget Workshop in June.

## **Upcoming Meeting/Events**

5/13	Deans' Breakfast (8am – 11am)
5/13-14	Commencement Ceremonies
5/19	May Board Meeting
5/23	Zoom meeting with THECB Commissioner Keller
5/30	College closed for Memorial Day
6/16-18	CCATT Annual Conference
6/16	Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
6/23	Potential rescheduled June Board Meeting and Budget Workshop