

President's Report

August 2018

Facilities

Garner Science Building

Our work is progressing nicely. We will have the majority of the work completed before school starts. The building has seen a drastic improvement. The only delay we foresee is the installation of the replacement vent hoods that will arrive in mid-September. We are making allowance with our faculty to accommodate this delay.

Safety and Security

We have submitted our required report to the Governor's office regarding campus security. Our staff has also conducted an internal survey to assess our students, faculty, and staff perspective on security. The results of those surveys are being utilized to enhance our security and preparedness.

Student Success

Dual Credit

Over this summer, three major statewide studies on Dual Credit were completed. Our plan is to present a summary of each of these studies at our September/October Board meetings. These results may shape legislation in this upcoming session.

ATD

We received a letter from our Achieving the Dream coach, praising our student success rates compared other ATD colleges. I have attached a copy of the email and will provide the information in a report format in September.

Legislative

I have included for your review the Legislative Priorities agreed upon by Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) and Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT).

- Funding - \$144 Million increase across all 50 community colleges – Approx. \$500,000 for SWTJC
- Dual Credit – 30% of graduates will have 12 SCH by 2030 & expanding TEOG to include financial aid to dual credit students
- Workforce Education – supporting Skills Development and JET Grants.

Other

Community College Policy Submit – VP Underwood attended this policy summit with other South Texas community colleges and legislators to discuss our legislative priorities.

Base Water rights impact on tax valuations – VP Tarski attended a presentation by Dr. Perrryman discussing the impact on losing the base water rights and their impact on tax valuations in our county.

TACC annual conference – attend the annual conference where we finalized our legislative priorities and strategies going into this next legislative session.

PTK Leadership – had a productive meeting with members of PTK to discuss the emphasis of their upcoming college project.

SACS-COC Summer conference – four members of our team attended the conference. Our 5th year report is coming up in 2021.

Upcoming Meeting/Events

8/22	Faculty Convocation
8/27	First day of Classes
8/29	MRGDC Annual Meeting
8/30	First Public Hearing
8/31-9/2	Palomino Festival
9/6	Second Public Hearing
9/20	September Board Meeting