

President's Report November/December 2015

Construction

Eagle Pass Academic – The addition to Building D is complete and Rio Grande College has taken possession of the building. The main construction of the academic and library building is scheduled to be completed around December 5. The furniture is on order and will be in shortly. We have classes scheduled for the new building in January and expect everything to be in order by then.

Eagle Pass Technical Campus – Construction continues to move along. We anticipate our first classes on this campus in the Fall of 2016. Work continues on the classroom building. We have a Welding Exhaust system bid for the board to consider as we move forward with the project.

Crystal City Library – We have rebid the project for a third time. The bids are not exactly where we would expect them to be for a project this size. However, we believe they are within range that we recommend moving forward with the project.

Partnerships

Dual Credit/Early College High School – We held our first Early College High School steering committee meeting with Dilley and Del Rio. Discussed ways we could improve the program in the future. All three schools have had their initial progress meetings and all are moving forward.

Other

SACSCOC On Site Visit – By now you are aware of the fantastic results we received from our reaffirmation team. Three years ago I stated that one of my big goals was go through accreditation without any recommendations. I will share with you that many on my leadership team had doubts, and thought I was crazy to make that kind of commitment, it takes a lot hard work and commitment to make the necessary changes to achieve that milestone.

I want to thank the Board, your support and trust in my decisions, recommendations, and appointment of my leadership team made it all possible. The college could not have achieved this great report without the leadership of my vice presidents.

I have included a copy of the official report from the committee in your board packet. It is preliminary until the SACSCOC Board formally adopts in June of 2016.

Conversation with President – Conversations are ongoing every month. These sessions continue to provide valuable information and reinforce the student engagement piece of our Quality Enhancement Plan.

Parade – The College continues to participate in area parades. (Spinach Festival/Hondo Night Parade/Uvalde Christmas Parade)

Employee/Family Halloween Festival – On October 23, we held a Halloween Carnival for SWTJC employees and their families. The event was originally scheduled at the President home, but due to weather concerns it was moved to the Matthews Student Center. The event was well attended – employees and their families had a great time.

Upcoming Events –

SWTJC Christmas Open House December 1, 11am – 1pm (Matthews Student Center)

SWTJC Christmas Tree Lighting & Posada – December 1, 6pm-8:30pm (Rodolfo R. & Dolores Flores Student Services Building)

SACS Annual Meeting (December 5-8) Houston, TX