

President's Note

Contents

*Celebrations and
Announcements*

Legislative Update

Building Update

Facilities Update

Financial Marks

Foundation Update

HR Update

*Veterans Mandatory
Attendance*

Website Update

Canvas Contract Extension

Upcoming Events

Celebrations and Announcements

Texas Economic Development Council Awards

Grayson College is part of a group who was recognized by the Texas Economic Development Council with the Workforce Excellence Award. The **Texoma Regional Consortium** was recognized for developing and implementing a comprehensive career awareness and skills training initiative. The partners include Denison Development Alliance, Sherman Economic Development Corporation, Workforce Solutions Texoma, Denison ISD, Sherman ISD and Grayson College as well as many local industry partners. The Workforce Excellence Award program recognizes exceptional contributions by a Texas community or region that has implemented successful workforce initiatives. The TEDC's Workforce Development Committee reviewed applications from twenty (20) communities and organizations. Nominees were then judged on five criteria: innovativeness, transferability, community commitment and leverage, measured objectives, and secondary benefits. Grayson College is proud to be a part of this team.

Skills Development Grant Check Signing

Commissioner Andres Alcantar, of the Texas Workforce Commission, presented a \$2 million check to Grayson College for a skills grant. This is the largest skills grant that Grayson College has received to date. The grant will provide 44,301 hours of training to more than 1,200 people through partnerships with Beacon Hill, Carrus Specialty Hospitals, UHS/Texoma Medical Center and Wilson N. Jones Regional Medical Center. The Center for Workplace Learning is to be commended for this work.

History Professor Completed Doctorate

History Professor Matt Hamilton completed a Doctorate of Philosophy in American history from the University of North Texas. His area of focus was the Antebellum South (1820s-1860s), and specifically Southern concepts of identity, nationalism, and secession. His dissertation examined the 1860-61 secession crisis in the State of Maryland and how conflicting loyalties to the South and the Union paralyzed that state's actions in the crisis.

Financial Aid Presented at Unit4 Conference

Director Donna King and Assistant Director Amanda Howell presented at the Unit 4 Conference on financial aid processing with CAMS.

Cosmetology Licensing Pass Rates

For the period of September 2015 through August 2016, all cosmetology students have passed the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations.

Professor is a Contributing Author

Dr. Pawel Goral, government professor, is a contributing author in a new book, *Currents in Transatlantic History: Encounters, Commodities, Identities*. The forty-ninth annual Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lecture Series, "Currents in Transatlantic Thought," was organized to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the University of Texas at Arlington's doctoral program in transatlantic history. Six alumni of the program, including Professor Goral, were invited to return and present their ongoing research in this new approach to history that focuses on the complex process of interchange and adaptation that began when Africans, Amerindians, and Europeans first came into contact. The essays stemming from those lectures cover a variety of topics grouped around three unifying themes—encounters, commodities, and identities—that illustrate the potentiality of transatlantic history.

Athletic Outcomes

The Grayson College Viking Baseball had an average team GPA for Spring 2017 of 3.29, and the team completed the season with an overall record of 37-14 finishing 2nd place in the conference. They were ranked as high as 9th in the country by the NJCAA and 12th in the country by Perfect Game. The team finished 3rd in the Regional Tournament one game from the Championship game.

Tyler Ivey and Taylor Floyd were named 1st Team All-Conference and Seth Mullis was named 2nd Team All-Conference. Tyler Ivey was named Region 5 North Pitcher of the Year, 1st Team All-Region, and 3rd Team All-American. This continues the team's streak of 5 consecutive years with an All-American and 16 out of 21 years with at least one All-American.

Tyler Ivey was drafted in the 3rd round by the Houston Astros. Seth Mullis signed with UNLV. Brad Barnett signed with Maryland. Mark Gottsacker signed with Keiser University, and Taylor Floyd committed to Texas Tech University.

The Lady Viking Softball had an average GPA for Spring 2017 of 3.19, and the team finished the season with a 32-25 overall record. Sophomore Jacye Grimm becomes the first Lady Viking under Coach McBrayer's leadership to earn All-American recognition. Grimm's impressive plate appearances awarded her the spotlight with 21 homeruns, 92 hits, a .447 batting average, and 70 RBI's. All-Conference Team placements were shared with the Board during the May President's Report. The Lady Vikings placed 4th nationally in homeruns (101), 7th in walks (213) and 10th in extra base hits (213).

Phi Theta Kappa Recognition

Omicron Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa received the Billy Bird Jackson Award from St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Denison for their work holding food drives to establish a Grayson College food pantry. For the past two years, Grayson College has been the number one contributor from organizations in the community toward the food pantry at St. Luke's.

Veterans Office Community Partnerships

The Veteran Services Office signed a memorandum of understanding with the Pottsboro Resale Barn (Lakeway Christian Church Community Resale Barn). This facility will give veterans top priority with emergency funding, utility assistance, furnishings for apartments, etc. It will be an excellent resource for our veteran students. The Veteran Services Office has agreements like this one with other groups such as the Salvation Army, Texoma Community Center, Making Dreams Real, The Grayson County Shelter and Four Rivers Outreach.

High School Culinary Award Winners

Seventeen students from four area high schools competed in the third annual high school culinary competition. Winners who choose a culinary or hospitality management degree are eligible to receive a scholarship sponsored by Top Innovated Professionals of Service and Spirits (TIPSS).

Savory Category Winners:

- 1st Place Jessica Schmidt-Pilot Point
- 2nd Place Kaili Blackwell and Monica Rubio- Van Alstyne

Sweet Category Winners:

- 1st Place Javier Martinez and Ezequiel Gutierrez- Pilot Point
- 2nd Place Garrett Douglas and Brooke Bramer- Van Alstyne

Adult Education Scholarships

Twelve Sherman ISD students were awarded scholarships in the amount of \$1,600 each to attend either welding or patient care technology (PCT) classes. A student from Sam Rayburn also received a \$1,600 scholarship for PCT courses. These students graduated from their high schools on Saturday, June 3 and began classes at Grayson College on Monday, June 5. This funding is directly aligned with AEL Integrated Education and Training, so these students will also participate in contextualized tutorials.

May Graduation

Grayson College awarded more than 500 degrees and certificates during its commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 12. Included among the graduates were

two early college students from Tioga High School, Luis Perez and John London. The 2017 recipients of the President’s Award, Victoria Perry and Billy Robinson, were announced. The designation honors an outstanding graduating student who has performed well in the classroom while simultaneously engaging in service to others on and off campus.

Legislative Update

Overall, Grayson College realized a decrease in funding year-over-year in the amount of \$422,928. Increases were realized in core funding and student success points, as the legislature realizes that the work of guided pathways requires colleges to make difficult choices to improve student success. Examples include not allowing students to register for courses they do not need (lock-step-degree processes), revising our programs to only include 60-credit hours (instead of up to 72-hours), and automatic graduation procedures. These decisions impact contact hour reimbursements, our current largest bucket of funding.

	<i>Increased/Decreased</i>	<i>Per Year Funding</i>
Core Operations	\$180,406	\$680,406
Student Success Points	\$2,347	\$643,701
Contact Hour Funding	-\$574,881	\$5,512,153
Special Item: Vit & Enology	-\$30,800	\$319,200
Total Change	-\$422,928	Total Funding \$7,155,459

Viticulture and Enology (Grape Growing and Winemaking)

Funded at \$319,200 per year is our viticulture and enology program. This program was categorized as a “special item” within higher education, which received a lot of attention during the session. At one point, the Senate de-funded all special items. We are grateful for the opportunity to receive this funding to meet this regional and state needs of the winemaking and grape growing industry.

Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

SBDC funding (~\$104,000 per year) was restored from an early-session total cut. Funding for this program funnels through Dallas County Community College District as a special item, and we’re told that the funding was restored to 90% of prior funding which should allow us to continue to operate that program. This program helps businesses to fully develop their plans and to seek loans through local banks, which is particularly important as small businesses grow to serve an expanding Grayson County.

Baccalaureate Degrees - RN to BSN (Nursing)

The Governor of Texas signed into law the Community College Baccalaureate bill (SB2118) to provide affordable access to baccalaureate degree programs leading to high-wage, high-demand jobs. Community Colleges with a tax base the size of Grayson College’s will be able to offer up to three bachelor degree programs, pending

Governor Abbott's signature of this legislation. Grayson College stands ready to prove the Texas Legislature made the right decision to place their confidence in Texas community colleges as we pursue offering the RN to BSN [nursing] degree. The enabling legislation is but the first step in a long process to make this a reality. If ultimately approved, the college would still need to begin the work of,

- (a) refining the degree program
- (b) obtaining Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approval to offer a Baccalaureate degree,
- (c) securing regional accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) (Level II accreditation), and
- (d) receiving additional accreditation from our nursing accreditor.

Grayson College was one of ten colleges that sought authorization to offer a baccalaureate degree. Grayson College is proud to be a part of the teamwork that made this happen. I'm reminded of a Henry Ford quote, "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." Our efforts have involved many individuals, here and across the state, all pulling in the same direction. At multiple points, different members of our team have stepped to the front to carry the torch. During those moments, each rose to the occasion. One person from Grayson County who really made a difference is our Representative, Larry Phillips. He truly went above and beyond in his efforts with to push this legislation across the finish line, ultimately creating a pathway for Grayson to offer this degree.

Co-requisite Model for Developmental Education

HB 2223 requires that colleges develop a co-requisite model for developmental education. Each institution will create developmental education using a co-requisite model where a student concurrently enrolls in a developmental education course and a freshman-level course in the same subject area. By 2021, each institution shall ensure that at least 75 percent of the institution's students enrolled in developmental coursework are enrolled in a co-requisite model. This will be phased in with an initial requirement of 25 percent for the 2018-2019 academic year.

If a student fails to satisfactorily complete a freshman-level course we must review the plan for the student and offer to the student a range of competency-based education programs to assist the student in becoming ready to perform freshman-level academic coursework in the applicable subject area.

Building Updates

The college is on track with construction projects for the Advanced Manufacturing Lab, Residence Hall and Student Success Center. However, the college is still looking for ways to cut costs for the Viticulture and Enology Lab, and that project timeline is being reevaluated.



The first groundbreaking was held on Jun. 27 for the Advanced Manufacturing Lab. Read more about the groundbreaking from the [Herald Democrat](http://www.heralddemocrat.com/news/20170627/gc-breaks-ground-on-manufacturing-classroom) <http://www.heralddemocrat.com/news/20170627/gc-breaks-ground-on-manufacturing-classroom> or watch it on [KTEN](http://www.kten.com/clip/13446837/manufacturing-jobs-drive-new-lab-at-grayson-college) <http://www.kten.com/clip/13446837/manufacturing-jobs-drive-new-lab-at-grayson-college>.

Facilities Update

The college is working to issue a request for proposals for an update to the central plant chiller system. The current recommendation is to increase the size of the chiller units, replace the water tower, and explore other technologies that will improve efficiency for the 6 buildings served by the units.

Facilities reviews continue, with the latest including a walk-through of the South Campus and Viking Dorm. Vice President Brown and Danny Cazzelle have been doing this for several months, resulting in many improvements in each building, including painting, identifying other issues such as leaky pipes or replacing ceiling tiles.

It appears that we may have to relocate some of the outdoor storage spaces used by maintenance as we continue to explore the location of the parking lot for the dormitory. We are uncertain at this time of whether there will be a financial impact.

Grayson Meets State Financial Marks

According to the "Financial Condition Analysis of Texas Public Community College Districts," an annual report prepared by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for the Governor's Office and the Legislative Budget Board, Grayson College is in good financial health. The report assesses the overall financial health of the 50 community colleges in Texas. There were only 24 colleges meeting all of the thresholds, including Grayson College. An annual report about the financial condition of the state's community colleges is required by a rider in House Bill 1, General Appropriations Act (Section 13, page III- 211), 84th Texas Legislature.

Foundation Update

Foundation Scholarships Awarded

As of May 31, the Grayson College Foundation has awarded 407 scholarships equaling \$475,744. It is anticipated that by the end of July that additional scholarships will be awarded. The average award is \$1,168.

Supporting the Dream Campaign

In early May it was reported that the Foundation met its annual campaign goal. The final amount raised through the 2017 "Supporting the Dream" annual campaign is

\$424,764. Which is \$64,764 above the goal of \$360,000. The Foundation received several additional gifts before the end of May.

Scholarship Award Process

The Foundation, Business and Financial Aid Offices have worked to streamline the awarding of scholarships. Benefits of this collaboration include use of common account and fund codes and awarding scholarships earlier in the process to assist with the finalization of determining financial need. Ultimately, this should decrease the number of students taking out loans.

Human Resources Update

Arts & Humanities Chair Named

Dr. Brandy Fair has been named the Arts & Humanities Chair for Grayson College. Her appointment comes after being nominated by faculty and interviewed according to the defined process for hiring chairs at Grayson College. She has served GC admirably for the last 12 years. The position she is moving into is a new role that combines Fine Arts, Literature and Language and Social Sciences Chairs. She will have faculty program leads assigned for Fine Arts, Sociology/Psychology, Government/History, and Literature/Language.

Program Leads Selected for Fine Arts and Humanities Pathway

Carla Fanning will assume the role of program lead for sociology/psychology. Dr. Matt Hamilton will serve in the role for history/government/economics. Kellie Matherly will serve as the program lead for language and humanities, and David Tercero will serve as program lead for fine and performing arts.

Harvey Returning to Faculty Position

Dr. Keri Harvey served Grayson College as Chair of Education and then Education, Business, and Technology. We appreciate her service and acknowledge her accomplishments while in these roles. She is returning to full-time faculty in the Education Department.

McBrayer Named Program Chair for Education/Kinesiology

Mike McBrayer will serve as Chair of Education/Kinesiology, with the education department reporting through him. He will remain as Athletic Director and Head Softball Coach.

Graves Named Chair of Business and Technology

Dr. Wade Graves has accepted the position of Chair of Business and Technology.

Weatherly Named Chair of Career and Human Services

Rusty Weatherly will serve as Chair of Career and Human Services.

Barber Moves to Interim Workforce Dean

Beginning Jul. 5, Dwayne Barber will officially assume his role as Interim Dean of Workforce Education.

Schroeder Becomes Director of Teaching and Learning

With the retirement of Frances Haratyk, the college has restructured the Teaching and Learning Department. In addition to the role she has played in the Teaching and Learning Department, she will now also assume the duties of the former teaching and learning specialist as it relates to faculty and students with Canvas.

New Hires

The following employees were hired since May 9, 2017:

- Katrinka Bartush, Faculty, Biology
- Robert Carpenter, Faculty, Advanced Manufacturing
- Allison Collins, Faculty, Associate Degree Nursing
- Amanda Green, Faculty, Vocational Nursing
- Jessalyn Diehl, Admissions Specialist, Admissions
- Kayla Strange, Admissions Specialist, Admissions
- Fabian Garcia, Theatre/Drama Technical Director, Fine Arts
- Alisha Danner, Financial Aid Advisor*, Financial Aid
- Linda Krueger, Loan Counselor, Financial Aid
- Margaret Shankles, Enrollment Specialist - TMC, CWL
- Tasheena Taylor, Enrollment Specialist- WNJ, CWL

**Internal promotion*

Employee Assistance Program

Grayson College has entered into an agreement with Alliance Work Partners to provide work-life and wellness assistance to employees and their family members. Benefits include a 24-hour call center, solution-focused counseling, convenient counseling locations (up to 6 visits per incident), SafeRide program, management consultation, and critical incident response. Benefits began June 1. Cost of this service is \$1.49 per month for each employee with an annual estimated cost of \$8,153.

Veterans Mandatory Attendance

Students using Veterans benefits to attend Grayson College will have attendance monitored until the time the student drops, graduates, or completes the program. Unsatisfactory attendance shall be reported to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) even if the VA student has completed the required number of hours to complete and no refund is due to the student and/or refund sources.

Therefore, the attendance policy (15% of the total program and/or being absent five {5} consecutive days) will apply throughout the student's stay in school. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course for non-compliance to the VA student attendance policy.

Website Updates (Career Pathways, Catalog and Search Functionality)

We are proud of the work of the Marketing and Public Information team that continues to make progress toward improving our communications within and outside of the campus. This month I'll highlight their work on the website.

The first celebration is an update of the website to reflect our **Career Pathways**. The content of the pages in this section will continue to change and grow. Please note that under each of the Career Pathways, the programs/courses of study list connects directly to the catalog (which now primarily resides in our website). The catalog includes overview, degree plans, course descriptions, and in some cases capstone experience and local employers. These pages will soon replace existing program pages (and outdated program brochures). There will be some department pages that remain, but the content on those pages will not duplicate information that can be found in the catalog. To access the new website, click on Pathways in the drop down or go to <http://www.grayson.edu/Pathways/index.html>.

In addition to this change, there is an update to the search functionality, pruning old pages that are outdated (old Programs and Majors pages). They continue to work toward a goal of reducing redundancies and inaccuracies while giving everyone the same information in a more streamlined format that is mobile friendly especially considering that 30-40 percent of users access the site on mobile devices.

Canvas Contract Extension

The college exercised an option to extend the contract for Canvas, our Learning Management System (LMS), through 2020. This locks in our current rates, while also resulting in a slight savings (~\$2000).

Upcoming Events

- July 4 - Grayson College Closed for Independence Day
- July 10 – Summer II classes start
- July 10-11- Nursing Symposium
- July 12-15- TACC Summer Conference, San Antonio
- August 3 – One and Done Registration
- August 21 – Fall classes start