

Communications Council
March 3, 2017
Minutes

Learning Day- A draft agenda was shared with attendees, and detailed agenda will be shared the week of Learning Day.

Celebrations

- *Dr. Fair Appointment to National Position-* Dr. Brandy Fair was just named the 2018 Experiential Learning in Communication Division Program Planner / Vice-Chair for the National Communication Association.
- *Culinary Students Compete in Chicago-* Two teams of six students each travelled to the American Chef Association competitions in Chicago. The knowledge bowl team received a silver medal; it was the second year for GC to compete. The other group went for the cooking competition. In their first year for this competition, the students were 1.4 points out from medaling. I am excited to celebrate the work of our students and professors, Chef Bryant and Chef Weatherly.
- *College represented at Texas Community College Teachers Association Convention-* Two professors and a student traveled to Austin for the TCCTA annual convention. Culinary Arts and Hospitality Director Rusty Weatherly presented a workshop titled “Working with Sugar: How to Up Your Presentation on Dessert Plates.” Professor Mary Linder traveled with student Jonas Arellano who presented during the opening plenary session. Jonas’s speech titled “Forging a Path: Breaking Down a Wall” shared his story as an immigrant child and the impact a community college professor had on his journey. Jonas was asked to speak because he serves as the Texas Regional President of Phi Theta Kappa.
- *United Way Award-* United Way of Grayson County recognized Grayson College as the Best Workplace Campaign in the small company category. Gretchen Huff serves as the Chair of our on-site campaign. She has done a marvelous job over the last four years in this role.
- *Instructor Renders Aid-* Jamie McKinney (nursing) was able to assist a student who was having a seizure until safety personnel arrived on campus.
- *Career Day at South Campus-* Over 225 middle schoolers and 30 elementary students visited the South Campus learning about all of the opportunities for them at Grayson College. Local media covered the event. A big thank you to all of our volunteers who made our Middle School Career Day a HUGE success! Those people are: Kim Weber, Ellen Dryden, Paula Cavender, Amanda Schoeder, Patti Hamilton, Martha Hernandez, Richard Taylor, Richard Davis, Joanna Barnes, Joleen Yeager, Chase Machen, Matt Hamilton, Chad Thomaselli, Bryan Beezley, Aimee Flynn, Doyle Roy, Amanda Gordon, Brooke Ross, Matt Morris, Pavel Goral, Leon Deustch, and Gretchen Huff.

Building Updates

- Residence Hall has priority for opening Fall 2018.

- Residence Hall- as of now, the budget allows for a 60-bed building but the Board authorized the rendering of a third floor, which would allow for 100 beds at the cost of an additional \$1.6 million. This building will be located behind Culinary Arts Building.
- Distillery plans were shared.
- Student Success Center will be placed north of the Administrative Services Building. The first floor will contain the college leadership. The second floor will provide space for the math hub, tutoring, testing center and writing lab.
- Significant renovation will occur in the Administrative Services Building allowing for growth and a one-stop-shop for students
- CTC Addition for Advanced Manufacturing plans were shared.

Other News Shared:

- Jennifer Becherer has joined Grayson College as our new HR Director
- Final documentation for the ultimate NSF grant approval was submitted yesterday. \$200,000 grant received from SEDCO and DDA matched by Workforce Solutions (\$100,000).
- A \$2.1 million grant has been received. The grant will allow Grayson College to train approximately 1,100 new and existing workers with our partners.
- TSTEM grants have been updated.
- Logan Maxwell is doing great work with QEP/Math identifying a sequence for developmental math with NTCCC.
- The Strategic Planning and budget process kicking off after spring break.
- A team of 14 will be attending Texas Pathways #2 next week in Dallas.
- Several program directors presented to the Board of Trustees (Mika Pierce, Aimee Flynn, Bryan Beezley, Robbie Jackson, Tonya Hance, Jamie McKinney), and they did a phenomenal job.
- Dr. Washburn praised Dr. Smarr's work for the faculty and staff data summits.
- South Campus Update: LVN applications are being accepted. UIL is April 6-8 and volunteers will be needed. South Campus is holding a district meet on March 24.
- GC is hosting 80 schools for UIL theatre festival.
- We are moving forward on NetNet project. Preparing to rewire AT building over spring break. Continuing to update wireless access throughout the campus.
- Mid-term grades for dual credit students are due March 24.
- A charging station for devices is located in the library. Wireless printing is now available.
- Financial Aid is hiring a loan counselor. Jason Zellmer has joined the team.
- Registrar Update: All of the 2016 state reports have been completed and are certified. We're in compliance 2 weeks prior to the deadline. Rhonda Marroquin has been promoted to Assistant Registrar. Degree Audits for 16-17 are in the system. The 17-18 audits should be done in early April.
- Advising Update: Jeanne Williams identified 312 students who completed 60 hours or more. 19 of those will be auto graduated because their major is correct. 29 can receive a degree if they change their major, so the office is getting in contact with them.
- Fivestudents went to Austin for Community College Day. Evening of Excellence is April 11 at 6-7:30pm.

- There's a waiting list for students to participate in the SSS program. The students toured TWU last week and will visit UTA in April.
- The Small Business Development Center has served 135 clients since October 1, 2016. Fifteen businesses have opened since that time as well.
- TSI Changes will not result in an increased "cut score" for math in August.
- Doyle Roy passed the certified welding inspector's exam.
- Hope for Holt- Susan Holt is fighting breast cancer. The Student Nursing Association is holding a fundraiser for her in culinary arts. Donations are being accepted for a silent auction.
- The Faculty Portal has been updated. Background work has started for e-signature.