



**Board of Trustees
Minutes
Technology Center Conference Room
February 7, 2013
12:30 p.m.**

Members present: John R. Jackson, Jr., Sue Gibson, Dr. Paul Baltz, Ray Noel, Michael Dunn, Doug Cox, Leo Baltz and Dr. Wayne Hatcher. Guests present: Dr. Michael Sullens, Angie Caldwell, Dr. Jan Ziegler, Dr. Roger Johnson, Brenda Gillogly, Priscilla Stillwell, Phillip Dickson, Donna Statler, Ann Savage, Betty White, Julie Edington, Kimberly Bigger, Regina Moore, Karen Liebhaber, Trent Morledge, Becky Baker and Dalton Sullivan of Pocahontas Star Herald. Vickie French was present to record the minutes of the meeting.

John Jackson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Doug Cox to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2012 board meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Sue Gibson. Unanimous.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Retreat

Dr. Wayne Hatcher stated that the board retreat is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2013, at the James Ranch cabin beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Committees/Task Forces

Members received general information regarding the various committees and task forces which exist at BRTC.

College Success Strategies Course Update

Dr. Michael Sullens stated that a College Success Strategies Course will be offered beginning with the Summer I session and required of students testing into two or more developmental classes.

Student Life Update

Trent Morledge, secretary of the Student Government Association, gave an update on the many student related activities planned for the semester. The first annual officer elections are scheduled for April 15-16.

Tuition and Fee Survey

Dr. Hatcher shared the results of the 2012-2013 ADHE data which shows that BRTC is the fifth largest two-year college in the state ranking 15th in tuition and fee rates among the 22 two-colleges. Also provided was the tuition and fees history for BRTC.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Expense Reimbursement for Board of Trustees

Motion by Mike Dunn that the BRTC Board of Trustees authorizes expense reimbursement for each board member performing official board duties during the calendar year January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Motion seconded by Dr. Paul Baltz. Unanimous.

FY13 – Fund 1 – Unrestricted E & G Operating Budget

Brenda Gillogly presented the FY13 – Fund 1 – Unrestricted E & G Operating Budget through December 31, 2012. Data reflected state appropriations, tuition, fees and other income collected and expenditures for the college.

Business Office Reorganization

Mrs. Gillogly stated that following an assessment of the duties and responsibilities of the Business Office there has been a reorganization of space and duties allowing the office to better serve the students and campus community.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

New Faculty

Angie Caldwell stated that Tonya Hankins was chosen as Director of Nursing filling the recently vacated position. Kelsey Jones and Paige Newboles were chosen a Nursing I instructors, and Kelly Whitmire as the Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator. Math for Nurses and Medical Terminology is being taught by adjunct faculty members this semester.

Priscilla Stillwell stated that Amanda Dobbs has been hired as the Weekend College Program Coordinator at the Paragould Campus.

LETA Project Update

Dr. Roger Johnson shared information regarding a meeting held on campus January 11th. The meeting was coordinated by Steve Shults, Director of Law Enforcement Training. Attending the meeting were eight area legislators along with field representatives of Boozman and Crawford's offices, the ALETA Commissioner, key area officials, a PHS school board member and LETA instructors and staff. Principal topics of discussion were proposed legislative items such as active shooter training, professional development for law enforcement officers, on-campus housing for cadets, and other needs related to the program. There was active discussion and participation by all in attendance. A tour of the facility followed with a demonstration of the FATS (Firearm Training Simulator.)

Notification of Name Change

Mrs. Caldwell notified board members of the name change for the Machine Shop program to Machine Tool Technology. The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the name change at their February 1, 2013 meeting.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Official Enrollment Stats/Comparisons for Spring 2013

Dr. Michael Sullens' report compared enrollment data from Spring 2011-Spring 2013. Spring's enrollment of 2,282 students is a decrease of 87 students or -3.7% from last year's enrollment of 2,369. The report also compared females vs. males, full-time vs. part-time, enrollment by counties, enrollment status, and traditional vs. nontraditional students. Paragould's enrollment for the current semester is 768 students compared to last year's enrollment of 795.

DEVELOPMENT

Project SOAR

Dr. Jan Ziegler presented the results of Project SOAR (Sail over Academic Remediation) for last semester at Pocahontas Public Schools. The project was funded in part by Corning Savings and Loan. This session was offered 2 times per week for a period of 4 weeks and focused in Reading and Math. Results continue to be positive and it is hopeful that resources can be found to expand the program to surrounding high schools.

"Growing Stronger 2013" Annual Campaign

Currently the "Growing Stronger 2013" Annual Campaign has donations totaling \$30,777.75, 17% more than this time last year. The campaign runs from July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013. Each board member is encouraged to participate at a level they choose.

BRTC Foundation Gala

The annual BRTC Foundation Gala is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2013, at the Rolling Hills Country Club beginning at 6:00 p.m.

CRD Conference

Dr. Ziegler reported that she, Dr. Hatcher, Ruth Ann Ellis and Dina Hufstedler attended the 46th Annual Council for Resource Development Conference in Washington, D.C. November 8-10, 2012. The mission of CRD is to connect, educate, support, strengthen, and celebrate community college development professionals. The conference was very beneficial.

Grant Updates

Dr. Ziegler stated that all 22 two-year colleges are participating in the PACE (Path to Accelerated Completion) Grant which runs from October 2, 2011 – September 30, 2014. BRTC's allocation over this three year period totals approximately \$516,000. The main focus of the grant is to reduce time to completion for all students. Regina Moore is BRTC's PACE Project Coordinator.

A \$5,000 grant from the Department of Arkansas Heritage has been awarded to fund an event at the REACH sites during Heritage Month in May. The theme for this year is *Saving our Heritage – Arkansas's Historic Structures*. Plans are underway for the event and more information will follow as details are finalized.

The BRTC Library has received a small grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The *Muslim Journeys Bookshelf*, a collection of books, films, and other resources was awarded to 843 libraries and humanities organizations representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. BRTC was one of four Arkansas institutions to receive the award in an effort to introduce the American public to the complex history and culture of Muslims in the United States and around the world.

The National Endowment for the Humanities/Community College Humanities Association grant provides a stipend for Dr. Derek Clements and Priscilla Stillwell for the Bridging Cultures project *REACHing into the Void*. Dr. Clements assembled primary and secondary sources for the slavery components relating to the Rice-Upshaw House and Looney Tavern. Mrs. Stillwell assembled primary and secondary sources related to the Native American connections as well as the REACH settlers' immigration histories. Dr. Ziegler serves as a liaison with the administration and institutional components and will also develop the REACH narrative for the project. Course materials will be introduced in Arkansas History, American History, and World Civilization classes and accessible to both college and to secondary students.

BRTC's Corporate and Community Education has received a \$6,000 grant from the American Association of Community Colleges called Plus 50. The grant specifically states that we will offer three types of training to our current students who are Plus 50 to help them succeed and achieve their goals. Training includes computer technology skill-building, math and English refresher courses, and job search/interview skills. Patti Blaxton will attend a conference in April to learn more about the grant.

Perkins funding through the Arkansas Department of Higher Education for FY13 totaled approximately \$167,000. A site visit is scheduled for Friday, February 8. An award of approximately \$200,000 is estimated for FY14.

Mrs. Caldwell reported that AATYC has obtained an Arkansas Pathway for Nursing Future grant from the Department of Labor. The APNF grant provides funding to support faculty development for integrating more technology into the classroom. The grant also provides funds to provide tutoring for our students by compensating faculty members who wish to tutor outside of their required schedule. The grant will continue until 2016.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mary Sallee Single Parent Scholarship Auction

Dr. Hatcher reported that the annual Mary Sallee Single Parent Auction held in December raised \$3,192. The Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Program currently provides 160% match for the \$5,000 raised by the MSSPS affiliation per year – a total of \$8,000 in matching funds for eligible single parents of Randolph County attending an institution of higher learning.

Law Enforcement Graduation

Law Enforcement Graduation is scheduled for Friday, April 12, at 1:00 p.m. in the RCDC. Guest speaker will be U. S. Senator John Boozman.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Dr. Paul Baltz to adjourn into executive session. Motion seconded by Sue Gibson. Unanimous.

Motion by Mike Dunn to resume regular session. Motion seconded by Doug Cox. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mike Dunn to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. Motion seconded by Dr. Paul Baltz. Unanimous.

Dr. Paul Baltz, Secretary

February 23, 2013