

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
WORK SESSION  
October 24, 2002

The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) met for dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson Hilton in Jackson, Mississippi, on October 24, 2002. Following dinner, board members and staff moved to the Jacksonian Board Room in the Hotel.

The following members were present: Mr. Napoleon Moore, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Ms. Patricia Randall, and Mr. George Walker. Members Absent: Major General Denver Brackeen, Mrs. Sara Fox, Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Mr. Lawrence Warren, and Mrs. Brenda Yonge. SBCJC staff present included: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Sandra Lucas, Mrs. Denise Walley, and Dr. Evelyn Webb

Chairman, Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher gave an update on activities of special committees examining the issue of transferring post-secondary vocational technical education from the Mississippi State Department of Education (SDE) to the SBCJC. He stated that the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) committee chaired by Dr. David Cole identified the issue of "trust" as a problem area. In order to promote comfort levels with the proposed transfer, Dr. Cole's committee drafted guidelines for how post-secondary programs would be administered. These guidelines were presented to the MACJC for review and additions at their meeting in Oxford on October 22, 2002.

Dr. Stonecypher distributed a copy of a draft letter to Dr. Henry Johnson, State Superintendent of Education, outlining a proposal to initiate a contract between the SDE and the SBCJC for the management of day-to-day activities of post-secondary vocational/technical education. The SDE would receive all federal funds and forward the pro-rata share of post-secondary vocational education funding to the SBCJC for disbursement. The SBCJC would make decisions concerning approval of programs at the colleges. He asked the Board to review the draft letter.

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on a proposal presented to the MACJC by the Mississippi National Guard (MNG) requesting that Hinds Community College participate in a program to deliver coursework for guardsmen. The courses would be broadcast over a video education classroom network owned by the MNG. The MNG chose Hinds because of its proximity to their broadcast center and the fact that Hinds is already participating with the MNG in other educational programs. The MACJC voted to support Hinds Community College's delivery of this program on a pilot basis. Dr. Webb stated a request from Hinds would be forthcoming to add this program to its Location of Classes Form. The SBCJC will compensate Hinds for students enrolled in the program according to established guidelines for all distance education courses taught.

Dr. Stonecypher gave a report on the National Institute of Standard Training (NIST) project. NIST is a federally operated program that has been housed at the Mississippi Manufacturing Technology Institute at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM). The program helps small and medium manufacturing plants in evaluating their operations and identifies areas for improvement. The federal government has made a

decision to move the program from USM; however, they are offering Mississippi an opportunity to make a proposal to retain the program at another site within the State. Currently, negotiations are being made to secure the program for administration through the Mississippi Technology Alliance (MTA). Mr. Pete Walley addressed the MACJC at the October meeting and presented a proposal utilizing the community and junior colleges as partners in this collaborative effort. The federal program would provide reimbursement-matching funds for cash and in-kind contributions.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert distributed copies of the SBCJC Policies and Procedure Manual pages related to the GED State Policy. She reviewed a section detailing charges for additional GED Diplomas and transcripts and highlighted a change regarding the acceptance of business, corporate and/or educational institution checks. The policy change will be formally presented for the Board's review and action during the regular SBCJC meeting.

Dr. Evelyn Webb gave the board an update related to Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School. She stated that the SBCJC does not set admission standards for the college – each college has its own admission procedures and guidelines. The SBCJC does, however; set the standards for reimbursement to the college, and colleges usually ask for SBCJC staff to be involved in special decisions to admit or not to admit students. For the last three years some Mississippi community colleges have been accepting diplomas from Cornerstone. Dr. Webb reported that there are two Cornerstone Christian Schools. The school located in Bellview, Nebraska has classrooms and teachers.

She stated that problems with admission occur because Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School, located in Townsend, Georgia, is a non-traditional school that grants High School diplomas to students who meet their minimum requirements for enrollment:

1. You must be 17 years of age.
2. You must have been out of school for at least three (3) months.
3. You must have at least entered into the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade at your last school.
4. You must fill out an application for enrollment and return it to Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School.
5. Enrollment and testing fee must be paid with application. **This program does not allow monitors or tutors to charge any fees in addition to the \$65.00 registration and testing fee.**

Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School requirements for graduation are:

1. You must order the testing packet (containing tests for Language Arts, Writing Skills, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics.)
2. You must send in a copy of your driver's license or birth certificate for your file.
3. You must send in a copy of your withdrawal form from your last high school if you are 17-19 years old.
4. You must complete all tests and return packet to school for grading.
5. You must have a grade of seventy (70) points or better on each of the five tests.
6. You must complete any and all study guides for subjects that did not have a passing grade of seventy (70) or above.
7. You must retake any tests that did not have a passing grade of seventy (70) points or better for any and all subjects required.

8. You must have all fees paid in full.
9. You must have your testing monitor sign your verification sheet.

Dr. Webb then briefly highlighted the SBCJC Standards for Quality and Accountability that must be met for community and junior colleges to qualify for appropriations.

Dr. Webb reported that currently Cornerstone students are enrolled in 5 of our colleges. She also stated that one college had contacted her office inasmuch as they had received applications for admission from 40 Cornerstone students for the Spring 2003 Semester. Other colleges have also received requests for admission from students from the following schools: Faithview Christian School, Brandon Christian Academy, Merinather Christian School, and the Home Career School. SBCJC staff is continuing to research this issue and will keep the Board updated.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert reviewed Finance agenda items as follows:

1. Education Enhancement Fund and Budget Contingency Fund Disbursements for October 31, 2002, from Funds 4080, 4110, and 3295 in the total amount of \$2,690,837.56;
2. Quarterly Capital Improvement Report;
3. Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and 3291 for FY 2003 as of September 30, 2002; and
4. Report on FY 2002 SBCJC Revenue and Expenditures.

In other business, Dr. Stonecypher stated that a copy of the SBCJC newsletter had been prepared and mailed to each Board member. After a discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to continue the newsletter and prepare it for distribution monthly between regular SBCJC meetings.

Also, Mr. Walker discussed with the Board the possibility of moving the date of the December SBCJC meeting up by one week. After the members have checked their schedules, the matter will be brought up for full Board review and action during a regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.