

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
April 15, 2005

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, April 15, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Ms. Patricia Randall, Mr. George Walker, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young.

Members not present: Mr. Chip Crane, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson and Mr. Lawrence Warren.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mr. Joseph Larry, Mr. Jason Pugh and Mrs. Denise Walley.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Vivian Presley – Coahoma Community College; Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General’s Office; Dr. Bill Smith – IHL; Ms. Martha Garrett – State Department of Education; Ms. Marsha Kelly – Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service; and Ms. Riva Brown – *The Clarion Ledger*.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

Ms. Veldore Young gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 17-18, 2005, Meetings

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the March 17-18, 2005, meetings.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Ms. Patricia Randall and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda as presented.

REPORTS

Executive Director’s Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by announcing the recent birth of a baby girl to Mrs. Terica McKennis and her husband Willie. Mrs. McKennis works as an Administrative Secretary to Dr. Larry Day. Also, Mr. Jim Southward recently lost his father, due to ongoing health problems.

Dr. Bradberry was called on to talk about an article in the Community College Times entitled “House Votes \$20M for Worker Training”, attached as “Exhibit E”. Language of Senate Bill 2480 provides stable funding for workforce education for the next several years.

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Another article shown under "Exhibit E" was published in The Chronicle of Higher Education, entitled "Community Colleges Seek Their Share". This article reflects that Mississippi does not have the only community college system that is suffering from lack of adequate funding.

A recent press release from Governor Haley Barbour states that, "Education funding in Mississippi is going up, not down" (see "Exhibit G"). He declares education to be the top funding priority in his budget.

One project that is being diligently worked on due, in part, to the amount of workforce funds that will be made available in the upcoming fiscal year is the Workforce Project Policies. Our goal will be to simplify the process and make it easier for the colleges to be able to utilize the funds in the way they are intended (to train Mississippi citizens and give them the skills and background that they need). We will be seeking to enhance our relationship with the members of the Federal Workforce Investment, the Planning and Development Districts, the local workforce boards and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) to continue improving our system. The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) will be asked to approve the proposed policies at their meeting on May 12, 2005. The MACJC will then review the policies at their meeting later this month, before the Board will be asked to approve them next month.

As mentioned in the work session last evening, one project that we are working to accomplish is the electronic transfer of transcripts between the three (3) learning entities (K-12, community colleges and universities). Doing so will save time and effort of all concerned, limit the opportunity for students to alter their grades, and make registration an easier process.

MACJC Report

Dr. Vivian Presley reported that the MACJC last met on March 22, 2005, at the SBCJC office. During their meeting, they discussed issues regarding Mississippi ACT test scores. Dr. Presley stated that over a year ago the Gulf Coast Education Initiative brought a concern to the Association requesting that the colleges examine the current policy of using the ACT test scores for admission to the colleges. It was their concern that by requiring students to take the ACT test prior to enrolling in college it was contributing to Mississippi having a low score on the National level. Most colleges in other states do not require the taking of the ACT test for admission. State Superintendent Dr. Henry Johnson also approached the Association regarding the possibility of colleges using other tests as a placement tool. Dr. William Lewis chaired a committee to review the options. During the review it was revealed that Mississippi's 5-year score trend showed improvement in all score areas, while during the same time the National trends in other states have decreased or remained the same. It appears that other states are not allowing students to take the ACT test unless they feel that a presentable score can be obtained; with this finding, the MACJC decided that looking for other admission tests for placement would be costly and unnecessary.

Dr. Phil Sutphin gave the Association a report on statewide entrepreneurship and the history of the beginning of the small business development centers, which are located on four (4) of the community/junior college campuses. A framework has been laid out for entrepreneur centers at each of the community/junior colleges with the primary mission being to provide access to statewide resources for potential entrepreneurs and provide training opportunities. There will be a rural development conference in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on April 20-21, 2005, at which time this network will be discussed further.

A retirement celebration for Representative Charlie Capps is being held on April 21, 2005, at the Mississippi Delta Community College Campus, at which time the MACJC will present a plaque to Representative Capps for his support of the community college system.

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Dr. Evelyn Webb announced that the 3rd Annual Spring Colloquium for Teacher Preparation will be held on April 18, 2005, at Eagle Ridge, Hinds Community College Campus in Raymond. She is planning to send a proposal to each of the colleges to lease transportation for a bus to take the Mississippi delegation to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, for the conference in 2006.

Marsha Kelly – Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service

Ms. Marsha Kelly, Executive Director of the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (MCVS), stated that the State Office of Volunteerism has been established for approximately 10 years and resides on the 6th floor of this building with a staff of nine (9). The twenty-four (24) member Board is governor appointed and meets monthly. Ms. Kelly gave a brief history on how the MCVS came about and programs of Volunteers in Service to America and AmeriCorp. Since 1996, when the Commission was selected to participate in the Prudential Youth Leadership Institute, they have helped more than 160 high school students receive leadership training and promote youth service in their communities. Through Learn and Serve America, the Commission has granted over \$2 million to 50 community-based organizations. Over 4,000 youth have volunteered in a variety of service-learning projects. Every dollar invested in the Commission returned \$2.75 for Mississippi citizens in the areas of education, health, public safety, and the environment. Ms. Kelly provided a packet of information included as "Exhibit H" for additional information.

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker began by stating that the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) recently met and will meet again on May 13, 2005. Mr. Walker indicated that he was pleased with the outlook for economic and personnel development of Mississippians with the funds that will be made available through Senate Bill 2480 that allows approximately \$20,000,000 of unemployment tax to be utilized for workforce training enhancements.

Mr. Joseph Larry reported that since last month's meeting there has been an additional \$400,000 that has been obligated to the community colleges for workforce training. The Workforce Division received a technical visit from the Department of Labor, which went extremely well with no findings. The Workforce staff will be assisting with the Excellence in Mississippi Quality Awards program that will be part of the conference on April 19-20, 2005, at the Pearl River Resort. Mr. Rodney Hodges is working on modifications to the WIA contract, which seems to be going well.

For accountability purposes, twelve (12) of the fifteen (15) community colleges have been monitored by the Workforce staff this year. Holmes, Itawamba and Northeast are the three (3) remaining colleges that will be monitored by the end of the first week in May. The Workforce staff will attend a meeting with Career and Technical Deans in Biloxi, Mississippi in June. There will be a meeting next week with the Workforce Center Directors at the Excellence in Mississippi Conference where the FY 2006 guidelines will be discussed.

In closing, Mr. Larry stated that last week two (2) of the colleges held industry appreciation luncheons for industries in their districts.

EdNet Report

Dr. Larry Day reported that EdNet last met on March 21, 2005. EdNet is still trying to sell the surplus equipment that was received in the settlement with WorldCom; currently, they have not been able to sell any of the equipment. Eight (8) private organizations submitted proposals to

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lease the excess EBS capacity. The committee is looking at these proposals and has almost narrowed their search down to one (1) at this time. The committee is expected to make a recommendation next week.

Location of Classes for Summer 2005

Dr. Larry Day provided a list of the Summer 2005 Class Locations (Exhibit B). Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board voted unanimously to approve the location of classes for Summer 2005.

Program Report

Dr. Randall Bradberry began by giving an update on activities of the **Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration (CPSCR)**. The Commission last met in February 2005, with 35 schools being registered at 18 locations. Three (3) new programs were approved, those were: Master Automotive/Master Diesel at Nashville Auto-Diesel, Game and Simulation Programming at DeVry University and Veterinary Technology at Virginia College.

The Commission also approved three (3) school renewals, 26 new instructors, four (4) new agent permits and 15 agent permit renewals. Dr. Bradberry stated that only one (1) complaint has been filed this year, but it has been resolved.

CPSCR collected \$7,971.33 in fees for January-February 2005. The total amount received for FY 2005 is \$45,929.91.

In regards to the **IHL/SBCJC Articulation Agreement**, Dr. Bradberry reported that the most recent draft is on the IHL website ([www.ihl.state.ms.us/academic affairs](http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/academic%20affairs)). Once the agreement is completed and approved by this Board and the IHL Board and signed by designated parties the agreement will go into affect.

The MACJC Academic Deans have been in the process of updating the **Uniform Course Numbering System**. All fifteen of the public community colleges in the state use the same number and course prefix system to identify courses. The Uniform Course Numbering document gives a description of each course that is taught at our community colleges and can be reviewed on our website (www.sbcjc.cc.ms.us) under Publications.

Dr. Bradberry reported that the **Adult Basic Education (ABE) monitoring visit from the U. S. Department of Education** the week of March 28 – March 31, 2005, went very well. Interviewers from Washington, D.C., commented that the ABE program in Mississippi was doing several things that they would like to present to other states to use as a model, such as the reporting program that Mr. Ive Burnett created and the *Train-the-Trainer* practice that Mr. Danny Seal originated.

**The meeting recessed at 10:07 a.m. and reconvened at 10:19 a.m.*

Articulating Credit from Secondary Career / Technical Centers to Postsecondary Career and Technical Education

The proposed articulation agreement is being established to accept credit from secondary career/technical centers to postsecondary career and technical education. Secondary students must have completed a secondary career/technical program and scored at the 80 percentile or higher on the Mississippi Career Planning and Assessment System (MS CPAS). The State

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Department encouraged the SBCJC to work towards this effort when we contracted to handle the day-to-day activities of career/technical education. See "Exhibit F" for additional information.

Career / Technical Education Funding Committee Update

Mr. Jason Pugh reminded the Board that the SBCJC is expected to put together a funding policy for career/technical education under the current agreement we have with the State Department of Education. The public hearing was held with representatives from all of the colleges (30-40 people attended) with positive input. Mr. John Adcock and Mrs. Debra West-Risley are continuing to collect data on high cost programs across the state to determine what they are and how to fund those programs. Mrs. Deborah Gilbert has been working on various scenarios to get an understanding of the financial impact of a new funding formula. The Committee will meet for a work session on Monday to put together data that has been collected and possible scenarios to generate a working draft of the recommendations. Hopefully the recommendations will be ready for Board action by the June 2005 meeting.

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry presented the bill summary listings (direct, indirect and resolutions), shown as "Exhibit I". Dr. Bradberry gave a brief review of the legislation that directly relates to the SBCJC office and the community colleges. Since the regular legislative session ended without our budget being approved, the governor is expected to call a special session sometime in May 2005.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda as follows:

Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **unanimously approved** the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2005, from Fund 4080 in the amount of \$2,156,888.95 and from Fund 4110 in the amount of \$50,444.45, for a combined total of \$2,207,333.40, shown as "Finance Attachment 1".

Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and a second by Ms. Patricia Randall, the Board **unanimously approved** a purchase request for computer equipment from Venture Technologies in the amount of \$23,491, shown as "Finance Attachment 2a".

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** payment in the amount of \$10,000 to Venture Publications, Inc., for *Mississippi NEXT: A Guide to Life After High School*, a publication provided to high school students, shown as "Finance Attachment 2b".

Upon a motion by Mr. Napoleon Moore and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **unanimously approved** payment to Plato Learning, Inc., for renewal of 400 Plato Software Licenses for Adult Education in the amount of \$45,000, shown as "Finance Attachment 2c". Dr. Stonecypher reminded the Board that his daughter works for Plato as a curriculum coordinator for seven states (Mississippi is not one of them); therefore, she will not benefit from this purchase.

Dr. Larry Day presented the Quarterly Capital Improvements Report, shown as "Financial Attachment 3". This report is for information purposes only and does not require Board action.

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Mrs. Gilbert presented Financial Statements from Fund 2291 and Special Funds as of March 31, 2005, shown as "Finance Attachment 4". This report is for information purposes only and does not require Board action.

Mrs. Gilbert also provided for information purposes the FY 2007 Budget Requests for Support and Administration; she asked that the Board let her know of anything they would like to add or delete from either budget. See "Finance Attachment 5".

Mississippi Virtual Community College Policy and Procedures

Mr. Pugh provided a copy of the proposed Policy and Procedures Manual for the Mississippi Virtual Community College (shown Exhibit C) and gave a brief history of how the information was compiled to create the manual. Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **voted unanimously** to begin the Administrative Procedures Process by submitting the document for review.

Insurance Advisory Council Nominee

Dr. Bradberry stated that due to the retirement of Mr. Dale Lewis with Holmes Community College, the Board is required to name a replacement to the Insurance Advisory Council on which Mr. Lewis served (see Exhibit D). Dr. Bradberry recommended Mrs. Deborah Gilbert to fill the vacancy. Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by Ms. Patricia Randall, the Board **voted unanimously** to appoint Mrs. Deborah Gilbert to the Insurance Advisory Council.

Election of Officers

Mr. Walker opened the floor for nominations of officers for the July 2005 – June 2006 year.

Ms. Veldore Young made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, to re-elect Mr. George Walker as SBCJC Chairman for the 2005-2006 year. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. **It was unanimously agreed upon that Mr. Walker would serve another year as Chairman.**

Mrs. Brenda Yonge made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Napoleon Moore, to re-elect Mr. Lawrence Warren as SBCJC Vice Chairman for the 2005-2006 year. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. **It was unanimously agreed upon that Mr. Warren would serve another year as Vice Chairman.**

Out-of-Town Meetings

Dr. Bradberry provided a tentative itinerary for the May 20, 2005, meeting that will be hosted by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (Exhibit J) and briefly reviewed the upcoming plans.

The possibility of visiting Holmes Community College in the near future was discussed. The Board indicated that October 2005 or January 2006 would be satisfactory and the decision could be left up to Dr. Starkey Morgan, President of Holmes.

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Ms. Patricia Randall and a second by General

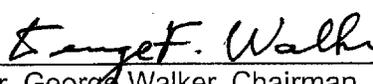
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Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve travel authorizations as follows:

Mr. Walker plans to attend a WIB meeting in Jackson on May 13, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.


Mr. George Walker, Chairman

 5-26-05
Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Workforce Activities Report-----A
Summer 2005 Class Locations -----B
Proposed Mississippi Virtual Community College Policy and Procedures Manual-----C
Recommendation Letter Regarding the Insurance Advisory Council -----D
Community College Times Article, "House Votes \$20M for Worker Training"
and The Chronicle Article, "Community Colleges Seek Their Share"-----E
Articulation Agreement Is Being Established To Accept Credit From Secondary Career/Technical Centers To
Postsecondary Career And Technical Education ----- F
Governor Haley Barbour's Press Release regarding education funding in Mississippi going up, not down-----G
Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services Information Packet-----H
Bill Summary Listings (Direct, Indirect and Resolutions)-----I
Itinerary for May 2005 Meeting at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (Tentative) ----- J
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2005 -----Finance Attachment 1
Purchase Request for Computer Equipment from Venture Technologies----- Finance Attachment 2a
Purchase Request for Payment to Venture Publications for Mississippi NEXT----- Finance Attachment 2b
Renewal for Plato Learning Software Licenses for Adult Education ----- Finance Attachment 2c
Quarterly Capital Improvements Report-----Finance Attachment 3
Financial Statements from Fund 2291 and Special Funds as of March 31, 2005 -----Finance Attachment 4
FY 2007 Budget Request for Support and Administration-----Finance Attachment 5