

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
December 16, 2005

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, December 16, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Major General Denver Brackeen, Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

Members not present: Mr. Chip Crane and Ms. Veldore Young.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mr. John Adcock, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Audra Kimble, Dr. Jason Pugh, Mrs. Eloise Richardson, Mr. Ray Smith, Mrs. Denise Walley and Mrs. Debra West-Risley.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Vivian Presley – Coahoma Community College; Dr. Tom Meredith and Dr. Bill Smith – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); and Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

Following a group portrait of the Board and Christmas Celebration with the staff, Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

Mr. Walker gave the invocation.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the November 17 - 18, 2005, meetings.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Mr. Napoleon Moore and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda as presented.

REPORTS/ACTION

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher congratulated Mrs. Carolyn Shorter, a long-time employee of the SBCJC, who will be retiring at the end of January 2006 and Dr. Jason Pugh, for recently receiving a doctorate of philosophy.

Dr. Day updated the Board on the Joint Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) proceedings. PEER has asked for additional data, which the agency has

provided.

A Clarion-Ledger article was provided regarding the "Great Progress Being Made in the Clarksdale Area" which Mr. Walker authored (Exhibit I). Other articles that were provided include "(Over)Selling the Community College: What Price Access?" and "Retooling After the Storm"; both of which were published in The Chronicle.

Dr. Stonecypher congratulated Mr. Jimmy Murphy on his appointment to the Mississippi Judiciary Advisory Board.

Dr. Stonecypher made the Board aware that the building would be without heat during the week of December 27-30, 2005, due to repairs being made to the heating/cooling system. Although there is every intention of remaining open, Dr. Stonecypher stated that if weather conditions become unbearable to the point of affecting the health and wellbeing of the staff, it may be necessary to close the offices during this time. A discussion ensued on the possibility of closing the offices for additional days. Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously that Dr. Stonecypher could use his judgment regarding the necessity of closing the offices during the above mentioned timeframe due to conditions in the building.

Dr. Thomas (Tom) Meredith, Commissioner – Institutions of Higher Learning

Dr. Meredith thanked the Board for the opportunity to visit briefly with them. He stated that he has enjoyed meeting with Dr. Stonecypher on several occasions. Dr. Meredith stated that he has previous experience working with the 2-year institutions and appreciates the work that is being done in the community college system. He envisions the community colleges and universities working together to promote higher education and supporting each entity's endeavors. He acknowledged the large number of high-school dropouts and stated that he is committed to working towards reducing the number by working together with K-12 and the community colleges.

MACJC Report – Dr. Vivian Presley

Dr. Presley stated that the Association last met on November 25, 2005. Mr. Charlie Williams, the Governor's Chief of Staff, addressed the Association. Mr. Williams informed the Association that the governor's highest priority this year will be higher education, as well as the training needs and funding for workforce.

Dr. Muse reported to the Association on the Teacher Preparation Initiative program. This continues to be a very successful program; therefore the Mississippi Community College Foundation is looking for ways to continue the funding. The foundation has agreed to form a committee consisting of 2-year and 4-year institutions and private colleges to establish a proposal for the community colleges to offer an associate of arts degree in teaching which would be transferable to the 4-year colleges.

Dr. Presley reported on the upgrade to the video network system that the community colleges recently purchased for \$540,000, which was partially funded by a \$250,000 grant from the Mississippi Department of Health. The fifteen (15) community colleges divided the remainder of the costs to purchase the upgraded equipment that is located on the 6th floor of the SBCJC offices. A vendor will conduct training on each of the campuses for use of the equipment.

Dr. Muse also reported on legislative issues. The Association recently signed an agreement with Interact Communications, Inc., a public relations company that is working on a campaign

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for the colleges. Although Interact did not have anything to report at the November meeting, they are expected to have a report for the Association before the session begins on January 3, 2006.

Dr. Cole led a discussion regarding the Planning Development Districts, the WIA and One-Stop Career Centers. Dr. Cole was appointed to chair a committee to study the role that the community colleges now play in the process, as well as the role that they should play.

The David Halbrook Award, which is presented to the college that has the largest percentage of athletes graduating, was presented to Hinds Community College for this year.

Dr. Stonecypher informed the Board that the Poinsettias that were used to decorate the Board room are gifts to the Board and staff from the horticulture department of Jones County Junior College.

Career and Technical Education Report

Mr. John Adcock stated that Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is requesting to expand its Licensed Practical Nursing Program (LPN) to offer an evening/weekend option at the Jackson County Campus. If approved, they will employ two additional instructors and enroll 25 students. The college also requests approval to offer the LPN program at the Perkinston Campus; with approval they will employ two instructors and enroll 25 students, beginning January 9, 2006. Funds will be provided through WIA.

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's request to expand its Nursing programs, as outlined in "Exhibit A".

Also for informational purposes, Mr. Adcock reported on the Uniform Course Numbering System for career and technical education. By working through the dean's association and RCU at Mississippi State University, SBCJC has been able to add to its website a listing of approved career/technical courses.

Progress with the Career and Technical Articulation Agreement is ongoing. The next meeting will be in January 2006, at which time additional courses will be recommended. In the fall of 2005, Business/Office Technology, Childcare and Drafting were implemented and are now articulated between secondary centers to postsecondary campuses in our state. In the spring of 2006, plans to implement Marketing, Automotive, Metal Trades, Welding, Machine Tool Operations and Culinary Arts will be pursued.

Efforts are being made through a committee to move to National Skills Standards in the area of welding and possibly computer technology. There will be some cost involved, which was taken in consideration when a funding formula for career technical education was established. There is also a continued effort to include as much work based learning whenever possible.

Dr. Stonecypher mentioned that there are continued discussions with the Mississippi Department of Corrections regarding career and technical education for persons in correctional facilities. Currently, funding is routed through the State Department of Education.

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker began by stating that he and Dr. Stonecypher will be attending the State Workforce Investment Board's (WIB) 2-day meeting scheduled for early January 2006.

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Dr. Jason Pugh reported that \$16,000,000 in workforce projects have been obligated for training for FY2006; from that amount there is \$1,356,611.70 pending, which cannot be approved by the SBCJC office until the funds have been secured from the Mississippi Department of Employment Security, see "Exhibit B".

Dr. Pugh updated the Board on grants that are being pursued. Several weeks ago the U. S. Department of Labor announced the \$5,000,000 Pathways to Construction Initiative for the community college system. The SBCJC is in the process of submitting an implementation plan that is due the second week of January, and hopefully the SBCJC will be given the authority to start utilizing the funds in late January 2006. The funds are to be used for Reconstruction Centers of Excellence, with Mississippi Gulf Coast, Pearl River, and Jones County being the emphasized areas. This will cover transportation, marine shipbuilding, and various other construction trades. In conjunction with this project, there is an H1B grant from the U.S. Department of Labor in the amount of \$2,500,000 that is anticipated to begin within the next week.

Another grant opportunity available is the National Emergency Grant (NEG), of which the colleges have accessed approximately \$1,086,904. The Department of Labor WIA funds became available immediately following Hurricane Katrina for emergency situations. The colleges have been working within their local areas to utilize the funds in various ways, see page 3 of "Exhibit B".

Dr. Pugh also shared copies of articles in the news on November 30, 2005 regarding workforce, "Cochran, Lott announce \$5 million for jobs in Mississippi" was published in the *Sun Herald* and "Mississippi to get \$5 million in Katrina aid for job training" that was published by *The Clarion-Ledger*. He also stated that he has been on the *Mississippi Public Broadcasting Network* (radio) twice recently to highlight workforce and the community colleges.

Accountability and Technology Report

Dr. Larry Day stated that the EdNet Board has not met since his report in November.

Dr. Day shared one additional request for **location of classes for Fall 2005**, submitted by Coahoma Community College (see as "Exhibit C"). Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the requested location.

There have been 115 requests for **location of classes for Spring 2006**, which consists of 24 campuses, 6 comprehensive centers, 3 extension centers and 82 off-campus locations. Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the requested locations of classes for Spring 2006, as shown in "Exhibit C".

Mr. Ray Smith provided an invitation (Exhibit J) to the *Creating Futures Through Technology Conference for 2006* for March 22-24, 2006. Due to Hurricane Katrina, the conference will be held at the Grand Casino & Resort in Tunica, Mississippi. The main areas of focus will be administrative technology, which will center on the development of leaders in education and accountability of faculty, administrators and other educators. Among other topics, they will be looking at workforce development and its use of effective and innovative technology programs and resources. This will be the first year that requests for proposals have been sent out instead of presidents appointing presenters for the conference. A committee will be formed to review the proposals and select participants.

Program Report

Mrs. Eloise Richardson was called on to give the **ABE/GED Report**. Mrs. Richardson stated that she has extended an invitation to Ms. Darlene Hester to meet the Board if she visits the Jackson area during a scheduled board meeting. Ms. Hester, from Biloxi, is the GED "success story" that was included in the November issue of the SBCJC Newsletter.

Mr. Danny Seal conducted training recently for the ABE teachers regarding goal-setting for students. Mrs. Richardson reported on a visit from Ms. Cathy Crooks, a representative with the GED Oklahoma Scoring Service, who came to the SBCJC offices to update the department and local testing stations on new features of the system. GED testing services sent a representative from St. Louis, MO, to help the program leaders understand how to better help those who require special accommodations.

Dr. Bradberry reported that IHL has requested that the Board appoint two (2) members to the **Nissan Scholarship Selection Committee**. Dr. Bradberry recommended Mr. Jeremy Smith of Hinds Community College and Mr. Paul Miller of East Mississippi Community College to serve on the committee (see "Exhibit D"). Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board **voted unanimously** to appoint Mr. Jeremy Smith of Hinds Community College and Mr. Paul Miller of East Mississippi Community College to serve on the Nissan Scholarship Selection Committee.

A listing of retirees in the community and junior college system for December 2005 was presented, see "Exhibit E". Also noted on the list is Mrs. Carolyn Shorter, Administrative Secretary and longtime employee of the SBCJC, who is retiring effective January 31, 2006.

Dr. Bradberry reported on a meeting with Dr. Mary Ware (IHL), Dr. Lavinia Sparkman (East Central Community College), Mr. Hilton Dyar, chair of the Dean's Association (Hinds Community College) and others regarding developing a conference for college and university representatives from the Math, Science and English departments to exchange ideas on methodology and content. Jones County Junior College is planning a Science conference for all 2-year science teachers, which will be held in late spring.

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry reminded the Board that the 2006 Legislative Session will begin on January 3, 2006. The **Joint Legislative Budget Office Recommendations** have been received and look promising.

There are several new members to the legislature: Representative David Norquist (28th District) will be replacing Mr. Charlie Capps, Representative Sherra Hillman Lane (86th District) replacing Mr. Joe Taylor, Representative Angela Cockerham (96th District) replacing Mr. David Green and Representative Shaun Walley (105th District) replacing Mr. Randy Pierce.

The Legislative Luncheon will be held on January 24, 2006.

Finance Report

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** the **General Fund 2298 Disbursements for January 2006** in the

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total amount of \$19,418,119, shown as "Finance Attachment 1".

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board **unanimously approved** the **Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements** from Fund 4080 in the amount of \$2,765,419.56 and Fund 4110 in the amount of \$54,642.21 (a total amount of \$2,820,061.77) for November 2005, shown as "Finance Attachment 2".

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** the **Budget Contingency Fund Disbursements (Fund 3296)** for January – June 2006, shown as "Finance Attachment 3".

A report was given on the **Governor's Office and Joint Legislative Budget Committee Recommendations for FY2007**, shown as "Finance Attachment 4".

Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds as of November 30, 2005 were reviewed and are shown as "Exhibits 5a and 5b".

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board **unanimously approved** a purchasing request for **Help Desk support for MSVCC for one year from Presidium Learning, Inc.**, in the amount of \$87,500.00.

Mrs. Gilbert presented a proposal from **Bud Milner and Company for paint labor** for all of the SBCJC sections of the 5th and 6th floor of the Education and Research Center in the amount of \$27,890. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** the Bud Milner and Company proposal for paint labor, shown as "Finance Attachment 7".

Discussion of Location for Board Retreat

Mr. Walker reminded the Board that there was discussion at the last meeting regarding a Board retreat to discuss long-range goals of State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. It has been recommended that the retreat be held in conjunction with the April Board meeting at a retreat location. Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **unanimously approved** that the retreat be held in April 2006, in conjunction with the regular scheduled Board meeting.

Dr. Bradberry provided information regarding locations that he has researched, shown as "Exhibit H". After discussion of the locations, Dr. Bradberry was asked to continue to look at the accommodations, make the decision for the Board and begin making arrangements.

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel authorizations, as follows:

Mr. George Walker plans to attend the state WIB meetings on January 10-11, in Philadelphia.

General Denver Brackeen attended a meeting with the Governor on December 6, 2005.

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Out-of-Town Meetings

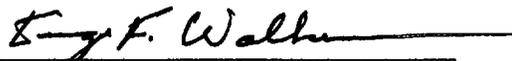
Dr. Bradberry provided an itinerary for the January Board meeting that will be hosted by Southwest Mississippi Community College, shown as "Exhibit F". Plans have been made to leave the hotel at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday to tour Air Cruiser in Liberty, MS.

Pearl River Community College Annexation

Dr. Stonecypher provided correspondence from Mr. Martin Smith (Board Attorney for Pearl River Community College) and a resolution regarding the annexation of the remainder of the college's campus under the City of Poplarville's jurisdiction, see "Exhibit G". Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the annexation as described in the attached resolution.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.



Mr. George Walker, Chairman



Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Career and Technical Education Program Request ----- A
Workforce Division Report----- B
Location of Classes for Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 ----- C
Nissan Scholarship Selection Committee Request ----- D
Community/Jr College Retiree Listing for December 2005----- E
Itinerary for January Board Meeting, Hosted by Southwest Mississippi Community College -----F
Pearl River Community College Annexation Resolution ----- G
Possible Locations for Board Retreat in April 2006 ----- H
Newspaper Articles ----- I
Creating Futures Through Technology Conference Announcement----- J
General Fund 2298 Disbursements for January 2006----- Finance Attachment 1
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for November 2005 ----- Finance Attachment 2
Budget Contingency Fund Disbursements (Fund 3296) for January-June 2006 ----- Finance Attachment 3
Governor's Office & Legislative Budget Committee recommendations for FY2007 -- Finance Attachment 4
Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds – November 2005 -- Finance Attachment 5a &5b
Purchasing Approval for Help Desk Support for MSVCC for one year from Presidium Learning, Inc. ----- Finance Attachment 6
----- Finance Attachment 6
Proposal from Bud Milner and Company for Paint Labor----- Finance Attachment 7