May 1, 2014

College Update

This is a busy period of the year, so I will keep this report brief. There is surely much to celebrate. We have honored our faculty and staff members of the year at the Employee Recognition event on April 25, where we also recognized retirees and those who have reached milestones in length of service to Pitt Community College. Just ahead we have the various pinning ceremonies, student honors clubs induction events, graduation ceremonies for both credit and adult high school students, and many other occasions to honor student success. Early registration for summer and fall are underway, and in June we will begin the Divisional New Student Orientation sessions.

And once again we have a major diversion and obstacle of the weather, which has indeed been a challenge this semester. Thanks to all the faculty and staff who have kept the momentum going through several interruptions.

At this point, our numbers for both summer and fall semesters are flat or down in applications and registrations. Thanks for your support in analyzing where improvements in processes, programs, and retention of students might be considered which would enable us to realize our goals of Student Access and Success.

Dr. Brian Miller, Director of Planning and Analysis, has led a committee drafting Strategic Goals and Objectives, which we will review and prepare for sharing with the Board of Trustees this summer. We will also bring a revised Mission and Visions statement to the Board later this month. Our goal is to present the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan to the campus at the Fall Convocation on August 13.

With the NC General Assembly slated to begin their Short Session in a few weeks, I have met with our local delegation on our state budget priorities for 2014-2015, and I am happy to say that Governor McCrory has endorsed part of our proposal and we have several advocates in both House and Senate for our proposals. I will keep you posted on progress. PCC’s county budget presentation is next week and we will know in June how we stand in this important portion of our funding.

For several years a group of faculty and staff from across the state of NC has worked to streamline the developmental education portion of our programs and their interface with both applied and transfer academic programs. Stephanie Woodley, Mathematics and Physics Department Chair, has been in the thick of the math portion of the changes, and she has created, with the help of PCC’s Institutional Advancement staff, a video which describes the changes in detail which relate to specific courses, degree requirements, and university transfer. I recommend that you take the time to watch it at http://youtu.be/fm9fC9ti4wo. Many thanks to all the PCC employees who have worked on these changes and will be helping us progress in this transition period.
Announcements and Recognitions

**EXAM JAM** will be held at the Tutorial & Academic Success Center on Monday, May 5, from 3 PM-8 PM in both T-19 and T-21. Please pass the word to students!

**Rick Owens** (Asst. VP, Admin and IT) graduated from Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Institute on May 1.

**Andrew Walker** (CAP) and **Nicholas Vick** (TASC) completed the NC Community Colleges Leadership Program. Cynthia Jernigan was on the Program’s Board.

**Mitch Butts** (Humanities) wrote and directed (with Amy Whitley-Anthony) “The Last 24 Hours of Lincoln,” which was performed by the PCC Drama Club on April 11-13.

**Jessica Jaimes** (Director, PCC Global) received a NAFSA scholarship to attend the national conference, the only person in NC selected.

**Patricia Baldwin** (Chair, Univ. Transfer/Foreign Languages) was selected to serve on the United Way Board of Trustees.

**Matt Amante** (Fine Arts) had a sculpture selected in the DownEast Sculpture Exhibition to be displayed on Railroad Street in Winterville for the next year.

**Don King** (Instructor/Advisor) served as Volunteer Coordinator for the 2014 Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society, organizing over 200 volunteers, including 100 from the PCC community. This was a tremendous community support project!

**Jasmine Spain, Nicholas Vick, and the Men’s Resource Center** hosted a reception for speakers and participants in the Leadership Lecture Series, awarding certificates and announcing the first “Man of Substance” award to **Ernis Lee** (Continuing Education).

Best wishes for a glorious and productive month of May!

G. Dennis Massey, President