

Meeting Minutes

MECC Local Advisory Board

Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Kline Foundation Boardroom

MEMBERS PRESENT

SCOTT	WISE	LEE	NORTON	DICKENSON
Rodney Baker	Bonnie Elosser	Gail Elliott	Tim Cassell	Burl Mooney
David Kindle	Mike Abbott	Emily Kinser		
Keith Wilson	Alane Lovern	Gary Perdue		
Freda Starnes	Betty Cornett			
	Teresa Adkins			

MEMBERS ABSENT

Helen Chadwell

Ms. Amy Greear was not in attendance due to previously scheduled commitments out of town. Dr. Westover will give the Foundation report

Others Attending:

Mr. Cameron Cope – President, MECC Student Government Association
Lana Kennedy – Chair, Association of Classified Employees (ACE)
Sarah Gilliam – President, Faculty Senate
Dr. Kristen Westover – President
Mr. Ron Vicars – Vice President of Finance and Facilities
Peggy Gibson – Executive Assistant to the President

CALL TO ORDER

The Mountain Empire Community College Advisory Board met on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. in the Kline Foundation Boardroom at Mountain Empire Community College. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rodney Baker, Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Alane Lovern to accept the September 18, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Abbott and passed unanimously. (Exhibit 1)

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Baker reported on the following information items:

Mr. Baker introduced our newly appointment Board member, Mr. Gary Perdue, representing Lee County. Mr. Perdue will be filling the unexpired term of Dr. Vickie Brown who resigned from the MECC Advisory Board in the Spring.

Save the Date

- The MECC Christmas Luncheon is planned for Friday, December 13, 2019 at 11:30 p.m. in the Goodloe Center of Excellence/Board Hall

transferring from our colleges to four-year institutions in computer science, computer engineering, and computer software fields.

- Language amendment to the Appropriation Act for Site Development – Currently the VCCS is the only institution of higher education that pays for its own site development if it has a building appropriation. The VCCS has requested a language amendment of the Appropriation Act to remove the requirement for site development costs outside of 5 feet of the building to be paid from local funds.
 - New Economy Workforce Credential Grants (FastForward) – The FY2020 appropriation for the VCCS’s New Economy Workforce Credential Grants program is \$13.5 million. The VCCS has communicated to SCHEV a request for an additional \$4 million in each year of the new biennium. If successful, the funding level for the program would increase to \$17.5 million in FY2021 and \$21.5 million in FY2022.
 - “Virginia Promise”/Affordable Pathways to Community Colleges to meet high demand/high value workforce needs/G3 – Governor Northam will be proposing a means of increasing access to workforce education by initiating state investment in community college high demand/high value workforce credentials.
- Dr. Westover shared that the Direct Enrollment Pilot Program is going well - MECC is part of the Pilot program. The goal is to eliminate developmental education prerequisites and to shorten the time that students take to get to college level completion of their college math or English courses.
 - Dental Assistant program is scheduled to begin in the Spring 2020.

Vice President of Academic Affairs & Workforce Solutions – Dr. Vickie Ratliff

Dr. Ratliff reported on the following items:

Along with our SACSCOC accreditation, MECC has also completed two other successful accreditations:

- Respiratory Therapy
- Health Information Systems

Dr. Ratliff mentioned that her unit has been actively involved in a variety of projects and events, including the following:

- Dental Assistance program (CWIA)
- Metal Fabrication Lab (CWIA) – Scheduled to begin in January 2020 - Grant was received in July
- Construction program – funded by the RSVP Grant and will be followed by Customer Service
- Trunk or Treat
- Home Craft Days
- Library’s Maker Space
- DECA competition which was very successful. As a result, several dual enrollment and area high school students will compete in the State competition

Dr. Ratliff shared that she and Kim Dorton were provided the opportunity to join Ballad Health on a site visit in South Carolina to a potential new program for Virginia the opportunity to expand the EMS programming in Virginia to Community Paramedicine which would require a Legislative change but could lead to opportunities to assist with health care to those that are uninsured. Initiative would be mostly funded by Ballad Health. Information regarding this opportunity will be forthcoming.

EAB Navigate, is now underway. EAB is a statewide technology platform to help students navigate through the admissions process (career path, advising, etc.). There have been some issues but are hoping these will be resolved before the rollout in December.

Dr. Ratliff mentioned that MECC's Student Services area recently initiated a Thanksgiving project that was also a huge success. The initial goal was to help 50 students in need by providing items for a Thanksgiving meal which included a voucher for a turkey or ham. With participation from the entire College, the goal was exceeded and 100 bags were given out today.

Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services – Mr. Ron Vicars

Mr. Vicars reported on the following items:

Information Item(s):

Local Funds Expenditure Report – Mr. Vicars reviewed with Board members the Local Funds Expenditure Report ending October 31, 2019. (See Exhibit 5 with details)

Personnel Report – Mr. Vicars reviewed the personnel report ending November 15, 2018. (See Exhibit 6 with details)

Mr. Vicars mentioned that the Dalton Cantrell LED Lighting Project is approximately 90% complete

Action Item(s): None

Vice President of Institutional Advancement – Ms. Amy Greear

Information Item(s):

Ms. Greear was not in attendance during tonight's meeting due to preparing to defending her doctoral dissertation at UT Chattanooga in the morning. Dr. Westover gave the following report on behalf of Institutional Advancement Report:

As of today, the Foundation has raised \$650,714. The Lee County Endowed Scholarship committee has met and is planning for a February 14 Valentine's Dinner fundraiser to benefit the Lee County Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship has received a matching gift from the Slemp Foundation. The MECC Foundation has established three new endowed scholarships since July and has received two major gifts to support existing scholarships.

We recently attended the CASE Conference for Community College Advancement Leaders in San Diego.

Dr. Ratliff and Ms. Greear also met with an ARC representative on future grant planning.

In the next month, the Foundation will be working to complete our annual mailing and will hold the Giving Tuesday online fundraiser. The Foundation has planned several alumni breakfast events to be held in coordination with two of our major corporate sponsors who also employ our alumni – Komatsu and Ballad Health. The Foundation is hoping this will be a great opportunity to contact alumni where they are and show our appreciation to our corporate partners.

Action Item(s): None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee (Did not meet)
Finance and Facilities Committee – (Did not meet)

Curriculum and Student Affairs Committee: Dr. Vickie Ratliff presented the following items for Board approval:

ACTION ITEM(S):

- MECC Program Advisory Committee Members - Dr. Ratliff presented for approval the updated Program Advisory Committees. She mentioned that the lists had recently been updated and included all new members.

A motion was made by Ms. Bonnie Elosser to accept the new members as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Kindle and passed unanimously.

- Career Studies Certificates –

- EMT Basic Plus
- Mechatronics Technology
- Supervisor Training and Development
- Smart Farming I
- Smart Farming II
- Welding Operator II

Dr. Ratliff shared with the MECC Advisory Board that the new Career Studies Certificates presented for consideration are a result of the Governor's G3 Initiative, "Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back". She shared that one of the guidelines for the VCCS were for colleges to review their current curricula as well as to identify new curricula or repackaging of existing courses from current certificate or degree programs in order to create employable industry recognized credentials using shorter staffable programs or three sets. Faculty within the Career and Technical area met to review programs and decide what would fit within the criteria and followed the approval process. (See Exhibit 7 with details regarding each Certificate presented)

Mr. Tim Cassell brought to the Board's attention that the Curriculum and Student Affairs Committee had met this afternoon prior to this meeting and shared that the Career Studies Certificates had been approved by this Committee. As Chair of the Curriculum and Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Cassell made the motion for full Board approval of the above mentioned Career Studies Certificates, as presented. Ms. Gail Elliott seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

COMMENTS

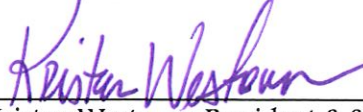
Mr. Baker and Mr. Abbott recently attended the VCCS Chancellor's Retreat/Annual Meeting of Boards in Richmond, VA and mentioned that the meeting was very positive and worthwhile. Mr. Baker and Mr. Abbott also participated in one of the SACSCOC Committee meetings during the SACSCOC reaffirmation.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. Next meeting date is scheduled for January 21, 2020.

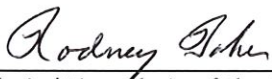
Peggy Gibson, Recorder

Respectfully Submitted,



Kristen Westover, President & Secretary to the Board

APPROVED:



Chair/Vice Chair of the Board



Date