

| DR. NICOLE ROADES, PRESIDENT

The First Thirty Days

Reflecting on the first thirty days, "grateful" is the emerging theme. I am grateful to have been selected for this important role within Southern State Community College. I wish to thank the Southern State team, our partners, the surrounding community, and my family and friends for communicating their support, confidence, and hopefulness in my leadership of our great college. My heart continues to overflow with gratitude for this opportunity.

These early days have been filled with thoughtful consideration about the best strategies for mobilizing teams, those in my immediate circle and beyond, for ongoing excellence. We are fortunate to have outstanding employees who share an earnest desire to serve students and the community and who recognize the urgency of today's enrollment and retention landscape.

Responding to a "First Day Survey" nearly forty individuals offered feedback regarding the College's perceived strengths and opportunities for enrollment growth and institutional transformation. Among the strengths, "relationships" between students, faculty, staff, and within our community emerged as a dominant theme. Perhaps it is no coincidence that "students" and "co-workers" were the chief motivators for inspiring our team members to come to work each day. While respondents identified a more widely diversified list of ideas for future priorities, it is clear that those goals and strategies will rest heavily on harnessing the passion our team members share for students, community, and colleagues.

As the next milestone day approaches, our work will be centered on providing a stable and welcoming start to the fall term. Internally, strategic planning efforts will take shape to launch new strategic goals in 2023.

Positioning for the Appalachian Community Grant

On June 28, Ohio Governor, Mike DeWine, signed House Bill 377 into law. Part of this bill included an unprecedented investment in the people and communities of Ohio's Appalachian

Region--\$500M will be available for transformational projects across the 32 Appalachian counties. Among the major components of the funding include infrastructure (downtown revitalization, community space, culture, etc.), workforce (public/private partnerships designed to strengthen the workforce infrastructure), and healthcare (school or community-based services for physical and behavioral needs of children and substance abuse recovery initiatives).

Early guidance has suggested communities “think big” and prioritize regional collaboration. Southern State has been actively involved in idea formation among constituents and is actively seeking additional opportunities among projects throughout the region. As we await the specific grant guidance, Southern State is turning its attention to the workforce development component yet remaining open to contributions in other investment areas.

President's Activities and Involvement

Since taking office on July 1, I have been involved in the following meetings, calls and events:

- Meeting with GRIT Grant Representatives re: Fiber Optics
- Meeting with OACC Representatives re: Funding Model Analysis
- GRIT Monthly Update Meeting
- OA CC Presidents' Bi-Weekly Meetings
- A A CC President's Summer Institute (Dana Point, California)
- Meeting with Highland County Community Action Representative
- Meeting with Highland County Economic Development Representative
- Meeting with Franklin University Senior Vice President of Strategic Alliances
- Intel 2022 Academic Day
- Appalachian Community Grant Collaboration (Highland County)
- Meeting of Highland County Caucus / Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Opening Week of Fall Semester - Presidential Investiture Ceremony

Focusing on Institutional Assessment and Improving Student Learning

Our regional accreditor, The Higher Learning Commission, emphasizes that “ the institution engages in ongoing assessment of student learning as part of its commitment to the educational outcomes of its students.” This includes not only program assessment, but assessment of the general education program, and co-curricular assessment as well. In June, Dean of Technical Studies Jeff Montgomery attended the advanced session of the Chair Academy, a program intended for mid-to-senior leaders in higher education focused on building leadership credibility and capacity within a team and throughout an organization. As part of an academy project, Mr. Montgomery will be focusing on fostering and improving our culture of assessment at the college. This will include codifying processes for development, implementation, and evaluation of assessment plans and reports, focusing on documenting examples of “ closing the loop” and improvements to student learning based upon assessment efforts, and identifying other opportunities for improvement.

Credentialing Update Project

To ensure continued compliance with accreditation credentialing requirements, forms have been developed to better track transcript reviews for adjunct faculty and CCP high school teachers. This initiative, led by Dr. Jessica Wise, Dean of Instructional Operations and Office Associate Ann Ernst, aligns with SSCC’s Procedure on Hiring Qualified Faculty, as well as the hiring guidelines from the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission. The HR department will also use the newly developed forms for full time faculty to ensure consistent documentation.

Instructional Technology Update

Simple Syllabus, has been successfully integrated and ready for Fall 2022. Simple Syllabus is a centralized, template-driven platform that enables instructors to quickly personalize interactive syllabi directly in the Canvas LMS, saving time and frustration. The application’s unique approach pulls the Master Syllabus into the correct course(s) and guides faculty through the necessary elements of the syllabi that need to be updated for the course section.

awareness and self-management tools to enhance the academic experience.

Recent staff changes have initiated a restructuring of the center. While review is underway of the best process for service delivery, we congratulate

Phi Theta Kappa

Leadership | Selection of additional 2022-2023 officers: Racquel Browder – VP Leadership | Jamison Reed – VP Service | Vanessa Rice – VP Fellowship

Membership | Of the 394 new eligible PTK candidates, 26 new members, 2 honorary members, and 1 transfer member have been added for membership. An additional 572 students have been invited to join the chapter based on their Spring term eligibility.

Events

Honors in Action Conference: October 21-22

Fall Induction: November 17

Projects & Research | The Chapter is working with the Communications Team to conduct student focus groups and surveys to identify priorities in relieving student inconveniences that create obstacles in our student achieving success. Elizabeth Neal will lead the project.

The Honors in Action Project | The Art and Science of Play is the 2022-2024 Honors Study Guide Topic

PTK President Alex Bradshaw has completed the research for the project.

The Chapter submitted a grant application for \$1,000 to be used for the application of the research.

The “action” focus for the project is to have game/movie nights on Friday nights at the campus.

Service | Future dates for trash clean up include August 12, September 9, and October 7 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm noon. All students and employees are invited, supplies for the activity will be available, bring sunscreen and water bottle.

Scholarship | The PTK Member Trustee Scholarship application is open. Ten - \$500 awards are available to cover tuition, fees and books. One application has been received for 2022-2023

identify the strengths to be maintained and built upon and potential areas of improvement. Takeaway items included reviewing our processes with the college community, extending cross-training efforts for the communications tools needed in an emergency, and re-enforcing our relationships with local emergency responders.

Training

Recently, Gary Heaton, the College's Security and Emergency Response Coordinator, attended the National Homeland Security Conference hosted in Cleveland, Ohio, and is scheduled to attend the 2022 Ohio School Safety Summit in Columbus. Presentations and training opportunities will include experts in physical security, mental health, school climate, critical incident response, cyber safety, threat assessment, and more. The free summit will provide an opportunity for school safety, public safety, mental health professionals, and others to share best practices, training, and resources with schools and community leaders across the state. Heaton is working with several of the College's K-12 partners to provide them with safety training.

Benefits and Compensation

Dependent Audit

Southern State has partnered with BMI Audit Services (BMI) to conduct a dependent audit of the medical plan beginning August 1. A dependent eligibility audit allows employers to validate that dependents covered under their health and welfare plans are eligible. Further, working spouses eligible for health coverage through their employer must enroll in their employer-sponsored health plan before enrolling in the College's health plan. This verification is conducted by requesting that employees provide additional information or documentation for their enrolled dependents. Dependent audits are a necessary part of the College's commitment to keep employee premiums down and reduce healthcare costs.

Recruiting and Onboarding

Onboarding

Amie Gardner, who has served as an Adjunct Instructor since 2004, joins the College full-time as a Faculty member teaching Biology courses. The need for a full-time Biology instructor occurred when Dr. Garippa retired in December 2021. She previously worked full-time at Western Brown High School.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

STEM Summer Camp for Kids and Educators

The College offered opportunities for students going into grades 6–12 to attend an R2D2 camp on July 25 and 26 where the students coded domes of mini-R2D2s to operate lights and sounds. STEM educators were also invited to

Yearly Performance Data

2019 – 2020 AY	159 (two months of 0 enrollment due to COVID)
2020 – 2021 AY	180
2021 – 2022 AY	196

The TDA was awarded over \$83,000 through an Ohio Department of Higher Education grant that funds individuals seeking funding for CDL training. The program is comprised of both grants and loans. If the student is employed as a truck driver by a company that has a valid Ohio mailing address (or self-employed with an Ohio mailing address) and is an Ohio resident for a year, the loan is forgiven.

TDA Instructor, Chad Shelton, passed his certification endorsement for School and Passenger Bus training.

JT Smith, TDA Director, has achieved his Master Trainer endorsement. As a Master Trainer, Mr. Smith will be the second in the state to hold the title that Master Trainer, M

