

TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY AREA COMMISSION

April 18, 2023

President's Boardroom
Beaufort Mather campus

[Public Comment: areacommission@tcl.edu](mailto:areacommission@tcl.edu)

Minutes

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Randy Dolyniuk, Chairman
Richard Toomey

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT EXCUSED

James Boozer, Secretary, by proxy to Chairman
Dolyniuk
Heath Duncan, by proxy to Chairman Dolyniuk
David Smalls
Sheree Darien, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Richard Gough, President
Laura Dukes, Interim VP Academic
Affairs
Nancy Weber, VP Administrative
Services/VP Business Office
Mary Lee Carns, VP Institutional
Advancement
Rodney Adams, AVP Student Services
Ashley Yoakum, Controller

The April meeting of the Area Commission for the Technical College of the Lowcountry was held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 9:00 AM in the President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather Campus. Prior to the meeting media were notified and provided with the agenda. An email address for public comment is published on the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Dolyniuk called the meeting to order at 9:15 and declared a quorum was present. Mr. Boozer and Mr. Duncan had previously given Mr. Dolyniuk their proxies. He then called for a motion to accept the meeting Agenda as presented. Dr. Toomey made the motion which was seconded by proxy by Mr. Duncan. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the Minutes of the March meeting Mr. Dolyniuk called for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Dr. Toomey made the motion which was seconded by proxy by Mr. Boozer. Motion carried.

Due to Mr. Smalls unexpected absence, we do not have a report this month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Gough asked VP Weber to give an update on enrollment. Enrollment is up FTE by 15% for Fall and FTE for Summer by 15%. This is attributed to our navigators working very hard to get students enrolled, customized messages sent to students to remind them to complete necessary steps to enroll, as well as changes on the Academic side. We are seeing growth as well due to the mini 7-week terms, larger adjunct pool, and more online classes. We are also seeing a large jump in Business courses, especially Cybersecurity. There are fifty-nine students currently and enrollment is growing. Ms. Weber said Marketing has also aided in increased enrollment with targeted mailings and messages

VP Weber submitted a White Paper to the Department of the Navy for a \$600,000 grant that would be awarded \$200K per year for the next 3 years. Mr. Dolyniuk asked how the grant would be spent. Ms. Weber said the College would use it for the Cyber Security SOC (Security Operation Center), staffing, internships, and supplies. Ms. Weber also said she was submitting to the NSF (National Science Foundation) grant, which will, if awarded, will result in a \$12 million dollar grant.

Dr. Gough discussed some personnel advancements at the college. Our new HR director starts April 19th. The Benefits Coordinator has already started and they are interviewing for the third HR position on April 19th as well. Nancy Weber was named Administrative Services VP and is also covering VP of Student Services until that position is filled.

Mary Lee Carns was asked to speak about the Airshow that is happening this week at MCAS. A college-wide team will begin set-up Thursday and will continue through Sunday. Lots of promotional items will be handed out, simulators will be available, and our (non-flying) helicopter will be on site. Continuing Education will be rolling out 36 programs, 24 of which are brand new. Admissions recruitment will be there to get students enrolled. TCL will be wearing our logo shirts. We will have the TCL trailer wrapped and the CDL big rig will be there.

Dr. Gough let everyone know that nursing pinning is scheduled for April 28 at 10:00. The Commission is invited if they'd like to attend. Fourteen students will be graduating.

Jasper County Council will hear budget requests on Monday, May 1 at 4:30 in Council Chambers. Dr. Gough will present. Council is allowing three minutes per presentation. Mr. Dolyniuk suggested Ms. Darien might attend as she is the College's Commissioner for Jasper County.

Mary Lee Carns spoke about the State of the College event scheduled for the 25th of April at the Culinary Institute of the South. They will serve lunch and the keynote speaker is Andrew Ratchford of Global Engagement Strategies. This is a significant event with an agenda for the regional workforce training center. There will be a high-level crowd. Most of Beaufort County Council is expected. Beaufort's Mayor Stephen Murray, Port Royal's Mayor Joe Divito and Bluffton's Mayor Lisa Sulka are expected to attend. The Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation will be there as well as Palmetto Electric leadership. Mary Lee Carns will provide a list of attendees so the Commissioners can review and reach out to their contacts on the list.

Mary Lee Carns said there will be a Foundation Board meeting on May 3rd which will feature the Health Sciences division. They will be showing off all the new equipment Health Sciences has purchased recently.

Dr. Gough gave a quick legislative update. The Senate Finance Committee passed their financial budgets. Monies given to TCL will help scholarships for students, especially since free tuition is ending. He also mentioned a pay increase of 3-5% for employees. There will be no tuition increase at TCL.

Dr. Gough explained he has researched the course fees and requested a small increase and reorganization of fees. There has not been an increase in fees in over 10 years. Some of the fees, particularly high-cost courses like Culinary Arts, are insufficient due to the significant increases in the cost of needed course tools. In the case of Culinary, the significant increase in food costs requires an increase in the course fee. A rate list was presented to the commission and Dr. Gough noted a reduced fee in the tech area and a reduction in late fees. They also added the PTA fee for test prep. During the discussion they reviewed the Barnes and Noble fee for the \$22/credit hour book fee and the First Day Complete. Ashley Yoakum advised we should have Commission approval if we are going to continue this fee. Dr. Toomey made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Boozer was second by proxy, and Mr. Duncan was in agreement by proxy. Motion carried.

Dr. Gough announced that Dr. Frank Rodriguez, Beaufort County Schools Superintendent is our Commencement Speaker. Commencement begins at 5:30 PM on Friday, May 12th at Waterfront Park. There is a President's soiree cocktail hour from 4-5 before the Commencement ceremony at the home of Foundation Board member Pam Scallon.

Dr. Gough said Rufus Pinckney is the recipient of the 2023 Presidential Medallion. Mr. Pinckney is President of the Mather Alumni group and has been the driving force behind the organization of the Mather Museum and Interpretive Center. The Medallion will be presented at Commencement on May 12, 2023.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Dolyniuk said the SERGE/TCL box at the Heritage Golf Tournament was well attended. He wants us to explore how to do it again and how we can make it even better for TCL. Mr. Dolyniuk requested that Ms. Carns send a letter out under both his name as Commission Chair and Charles Sampson as Foundation Board thanking the Heritage Classic Foundation for inviting us to be a part of this year's tournament.

Dr. Gough said that the visibility of signage along SC 278 at the New River campus has long been a concern. Mr. Jim Coleman, TCL Foundation Board member, has graciously offered to pay for a digital sign to increase awareness at that campus. Dr. Gough said that Mr. Beckler is looking at various options and he will up date the Commission as the project progresses.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business Mr. Dolyniuk adjourned the April meeting of the Technical College of the Lowcountry Area Commission at 10:06 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Cullen

APPROVED:



Randy K. Dolyniuk
Chairman



James Boozer
Secretary