



Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President

# Happy Fall! Turn Your Clocks Back October 28th



The fall semester seems to be moving along at light speed. It seems like I just completed and distributed the first newsletter, and now it's already time for another. I remind everyone that many of our full-time classified staff will begin a four-day work schedule October 2, 2006. Those persons who are taking advantage of the four-day work schedule are to post their schedule at a convenient location at their work station or office.

I want to commend our personnel at the Williamson Campus who assisted in the coordination of "Community Appreciation Day." It was a great event with an estimated 200 individuals

from the community who attended. The food and the music were outstanding!



## Williamson Campus Task Force

The Williamson Campus Task Force has completed their work and submitted their recommendations. I will be forwarding the recommendations to all

employees this week to solicit your comments and thoughts on these recommendations. I would ask that employees provide me their comments in writing by

Wednesday, November 1, 2006. At that time I will appoint an Implementation Team consisting of administrators and several members of

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### Upcoming Events:

- October 3-4, National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) Accreditation Visit, Logan Campus
- October 4, Live Press Conference, 2:30 p.m., Williamson Campus
- October 13, College Recruitment Day, Logan Campus
- October 19, Board of Governors Meeting, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Embassy Suites, Charleston, WV

## Williamson Campus Task Force (continued)

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the original Task Force to oversee the next steps of the project. The Implementation Team may revise some of the recommendations based on employee comments.

The Implementation Team will be charged with the development of funding strategies and a time-frame for the renovating the Williamson National Guard Armory and Williamson Campus. Additionally, we will employ an architect to create the design work for the Armory facility

based on committee and employee recommendations.

I want to thank Patricia Clay who has facilitated the Task Force during the past 18 months. She has provided leadership in researching information and compiling data in order for the Task Force to make informed recommendations.



## Student Convocations

For your information, I will hold Student Convocations on each of our campuses in late October and early November. This will be a dialog between me and the students to talk about issues of concern or other timely topics.

This is part of my effort in recruitment and retention in determining what barriers students face here at Southern.

Students will be invited through their Student Government Associations as well as by invitation on their Southern

e-mail accounts. Information acquired from students will be added to the recommendations of the President's Task Force on Recruitment, Retention and Graduation.

## Enrollment



At the writing of this newsletter our headcount enrollment is approximately 2,293 students and our full-time enrollment (FTE) at approximately 1,587 students. This is about a 6 percent decline from last year.

This year's budget was based on an FTE of 1,550, so as you can see, we are just a little bit ahead. The budget last year was based on an FTE of 1,750.

# VISION 2020 Major Gifts Campaign Kick-off Celebration Successful

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The *Kick-off Celebration* for the Vision 2020 Major Gifts Campaign was held at the Chief Logan Convention Center on Thursday, September 7, 2006. Approximately 200 individuals attended the event which was a huge success. Honorary Chair, Mr. James H. "Buck" Harless, was the keynote speaker and presented the College with a check for \$500,000. Officials announced that the Foundation has already received approximately 3.6 million dollars in pledges, commitments, and cash. A goal of seven million dollars has been set with a completion date of 2010.



Southern's new Director for the Mine Academy, Mr. Carl Baisden made his debut at the Kick-off event and spoke briefly about the future of the Academy. Since that time he has been working swiftly and diligently on all aspects of the Academy. We are very pleased to have Carl onboard.

On Monday, October 2, 2006, representatives of Southern will attend a ceremony at the Mountain Laurel Mine in Boone County to announce the opening of their new bath house facilities. Additionally, Southern will be presented with a check from Arch Coal, Inc. for the Major Gifts Campaign in support of the Academy for Mine Training and Energy Technologies.

## Williamson Campus Press Conference

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We will hold a special "live press conference" in the lower lobby at the Williamson Campus on Wednesday, October 4, 2006 beginning at 2:30 p.m.

I invite you to be present for some exciting news for the

Williamson Campus and Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

A reception will follow the announcements.

## College Recruitment ... Formerly "Tech-Prep" Days

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I want to thank Carol Hower-ton for coordinating our "College Recruitment" Days. I encourage all of our faculty and staff to participate in one or more of the scheduled programs, but, I also remind you that participation is voluntary. The faculty who participate are eligible to receive

service credit. Parents are also being invited to the sessions which I believe is a tremendous idea. *College Recruitment Days* are scheduled as follows:

- October 13, 2006  
Logan Campus
- January 26, 2007  
Williamson Campus
- February 9, 2007  
Wyoming Campus
- February 23, 2007  
Wyoming Campus
- March 30, 2007  
Boone Campus



# Questions & Answers

**Question:** I have a question that has been discussed among several employees concerning the Allied Health and Technology Center. There has been talk of a "Wellness Center" that employees would be able to utilize. Is this still a part of the plan for the building, and will it be available to employees?

**Answer:** The Allied Health and Technology facility contains a "Wellness Center." This Center can be used by students, employees and the general public. Our budget does not contain funding to equip the Center at the current time, so we will be seeking grant funds to do so, shortly after we move into the facility.

**Question:** I have a question about the four-day work week in regard to weeks that contain holidays. Is it possible for our schedule to go back to the normal working hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. so we do not have to use annual leave? Also, is there a minimum commute time for staff to be eligible for the four-day work week?

**Answer:** When a holiday falls during the week, employees on the four-day work week schedule will have the option of working the regular five-day, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. schedule, however, this change must be posted at their work area or office. There *is not* a minimum commute time for staff to be eligible for the four-day work week. All full-time classified staff are eligible to take advantage of this option.

**Question:** Is it true we will be getting an across-the-board raise in January 2007?

**Answer:** If you have heard this, it is just a rumor. The legislature will convene in January 2007 for their regular session. The Governor will unveil his budget during his State of the State address and state employees pay increases may or may not be included. If raises are included in the Governor's budget, the legislature will address his recommendations during the session. If raises are approved, I would assume they would take effect July 1, 2007.

If you have specific questions regarding issues or events at the College, please e-mail or call my office by the 15th of each month.

## Employee Spotlight

- **Mr. George Morrison, Professor of English** at the Williamson Campus, has been honored in the 2005-2006 edition of **Who's Who Among American Teachers®**. Mr. Morrison was nominated by a former accomplished student who says he was the one teacher who made a difference in his or her life. This is a great honor in that only students who've been cited themselves in **Who's Who Among American High School Students®**, **Who's Who Among American High School Students-Sports Edition** and students honored in **The National Dean's List®** are invited to nominate one teacher from their

entire academic experience. Our congratulations and thanks to George for making a positive difference in the lives of our students.



- Congratulations to **Mr. Bill Alderman, Assistant Professor of Business** at the Boone Campus, and **Dr. Anne Olofson,**

**Professor of Chemistry** at the Williamson Campus, for receiving the **2006 Faculty Excellence Award** given by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) at its May 28-31, 2006 conference in Austin, Texas. These faculty members were recognized for their teaching excellence in the community college setting. More than 1,000 faculty, staff and administrators were honored for their commitment to serving students at "open access" institutions. Our thanks to Bill and Anne for their dedication to teaching and learning.

## BITS AND PIECES



**Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President**  
Southern West Virginia Community and  
Technical College  
P. O. Box 2900  
Mount Gay, WV 25637

Phone: 304-792-7040  
Fax: 304-792-7046

E-mail: [Joannet@southern.wvnet.edu](mailto:Joannet@southern.wvnet.edu)

Questions about the *President's Newsletter*  
should be directed to Emma Baisden, Assistant  
to the President, at 304-792-7160, extension  
117, or e-mail: [Emmab@southern.wvnet.edu](mailto:Emmab@southern.wvnet.edu)

Please read the President's Newsletter online at:  
[http://www.southern.wvnet.edu/pres/  
administration/PresidentNewsletter.htm](http://www.southern.wvnet.edu/pres/administration/PresidentNewsletter.htm)

- The Classified Staff Council held its quarterly meeting with the president on September 13, 2006. Please contact your classified staff representative for more information.
- The president is scheduled to meet with the Faculty Senate on Friday, October 6, 2007.
- Thanks to the Finance and Facilities Committee in completing their recommendations for the Logan Campus renovations. These will be reviewed during the fall semester.
- The Request for Proposals for a new telephone system for the College will soon be released.
- Please visit the Higher Education Policy Commission's web site to retrieve and review the recent *Retention and Earnings Report*. There is some exciting information with regard to community colleges in West Virginia. The report indicates that for the third year in a row, students earning an associate degree received higher salaries than those who attained a baccalaureate degree when first entering the workforce. There is of course much more valuable information contained in the report that you may want to review.
- I believe it is very important for our students to have something to do while on campus, therefore, I have decided to purchase 58" plasma television sets for each of our four-campus. During the next few weeks, personnel will be mounting them in the student commons areas at each of the campuses.
- Southern's Board of Governors will hold its regular board meeting and retreat October 19-20, 2006 at the Embassy Suites in Charleston.
- Our Medical Laboratory Technology program will undergo an accreditation visit by the NAACLS October 3-4, 2006. Please make our accreditation team visitors welcome.