INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The 2012-2013 NC State Budget is now official. On Monday July 2, both the House and the Senate voted to override the Governor’s veto of the budget. This means the Conference budget is now enacted. The budget, that now becomes law, contains the majority of our NCCCS goals, which includes the reinvestment strategy and targeted provisions. This biennial legislative session would not have been as successful without the support of our elected officials, Trustees, and the entire community college family working together. The System Office is busily preparing the budget for the July State Board meeting so allocations can be made in the most expedient manner.

More than 50 representatives from Asheville, Brevard/Transylvania, Black Mountain/Swannonoa, Haywood, Henderson, and Madison Chambers of Commerce traveled to Raleigh for a two-day legislative visit. Participants were able to meet with local legislators in an effort to communicate local and regional priorities including job creation, regulatory reform, tax reform, and education/workforce funding.

The Blue Ridge Conference Hall and Thomas Auditorium facilities continue to experience steady activity from entities such as the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra, Hendersonville Community Band, Latino Advocacy Coalition, Folkmoot USA, and others. A brief summary of 2011-2012 activity levels is below:

- Blue Ridge Conference Hall was the site for 228 total events (39% external, 48% internal, 13% BRCC co-sponsored with external entity)
- Thomas Auditorium (Gallery) was the site for 205 total events (50% external, 47% internal, 3% BRCC co-sponsored with external entity)
Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees
Serving July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Appointed by the Governor
John C. McCormick, Jr., Chair
Ronnie Pepper
Sandy Tallant

Appointed by the Henderson County Commissioners
Bill Farrell
Chip Gould
Andrew Tate
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Appointed by the Henderson County Board of Public Education
Kenneth Butcher
Kohlan Flynn, Vice Chair
Betty Gash
Patricia F. Jones

Appointed by Transylvania County Commissioners
Teresa McCall
Scott Elliott

Student Government Association President
(ex-officio, non-voting)

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION
Curriculum
Blue Ridge Community College and Wingate University have recently established an agreement outlining course equivalents for students preparing for the Wingate Pharmacy Program. Students may apply for Wingate’s program after completing the outlined courses at Blue Ridge (a bachelor’s degree is not required).

The BRCC Baja SAE team closed out its competition season on June 9 and 10, placing 56 out of 115 colleges and universities in an international engineering design competition. BRCC was one of only two community colleges entered. Next year, the Baja team plans to travel to competitions in Cookeville, TN, and Rochester, NY, with a new and improved car.

Early Childhood Instructor Kathy Allen has been appointed to the Commission on Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation, a nationwide accrediting body.

BRCC is one of nine community colleges to receive an Accelerating Opportunities grant. This grant of $75,000 per year for three years will allow the College to offer adult students without a high school diploma the opportunity to pursue a diploma while also working toward a certificate in select College programs.

BRCC has been awarded the Contextualized Family Literacy Grant in the amount of $36,805 to operate the family literacy program for ESL students. This a federal grant dispersed by the NCCCS.

Two students from BRCC, Nate Shawver and Cub Hope, received a grant to attend the Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training, presented by the Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute. This two-week training session in Iowa, held in June, taught the students to become trainers in HazMat and related areas.

Transylvania County Campus
Delores Hogsed was recently
given the title of Outstanding Member of the Year.

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/CONTINUING EDUCATION

Sierra Nevada’s HR Manager Carrie Alden and Logistics Manager Stan Cooper met with several EWD/CE staff in mid-June. The group toured the CAVE and the location for the simulated factory floor and Mechatronics Program. Sierra Nevada officials agreed to serve as advisors in the development of training using the wet line equipment. The group discussed BRCC’s involvement with customized training, profiling, pre-hire training, and assessment. There was also a discussion about hosting a Job Fair for the company in late fall 2012. Sierra Nevada plans to begin hiring in early spring 2013 and be fully operational by November 2013.

Technology Camps on the Henderson County Campus
June 18 – 21
• Area high school educators attended the Camp TECHhead for Educators. This three-day event introduced high school counselors and teachers to career opportunities in the world of advanced manufacturing. Highlights included participation in a variety of hands-on activities, dialog with local manufacturing professionals, career information, and visits to local companies. Educators emerged with a more realistic understanding of the variety of opportunities in the advanced manufacturing arena, valuable local manufacturing contacts, and concrete ideas for using this information with students.

June 25 – 28
• Camp TECHhead for high school students allowed junior and senior high school students the same experience as the educators.

July 9-12
• The Young Engineers Camp will allow students to explore careers in engineering and earn three credits toward BRCC’s Mechanical Engineering Technology, Associate in Applied Science degree.

Career Camp for Educators on the Transylvania Campus
• In early June, high school teachers participated in a Career Academy for Educators. Twenty-four Transylvania County school teachers, counselors, and Blue Ridge faculty spent three days exploring Transylvania County business, industry, and educational opportunities in order to effectively prepare their students for education and employment opportunities. The Academy also increased the participants’ awareness of the programs and resources that Blue Ridge Community College has to offer at the Transylvania County Campus.
Blue Ridge Community College has contracted with Higher One, a financial services company, to bring students a new benefit: the Blue Ridge Access Card. This partnership allows the College to expedite financial aid disbursements and student refunds by using direct deposit to distribute refunds to them. This means money will be available to our students much more quickly than with traditional paper checks. Although there may be fees associated with the use of a debit card, students electing to use direct deposit will not be charged any fees. The College is working with Higher One to ensure that fees are minimized.

DIVISION OF STUDENT SERVICES

Enrollment Management/Counseling/Recruiting
Student Services hosted a Career and College Promise (CCP) Orientation on June 28. High school students received information about CCP, class schedules, fees, and attendance requirements, as well as a tour of classrooms. Another Orientation will be held on July 10.

A new online Student Orientation officially went "live" on July 1. Students will still have the option to attend a face-to-face session.

Early College
Henderson County Early College (HCEC) High School received 68 applications from rising freshman for the 2012-2013 school year. The new year will begin on August 7 as they welcome 45 new freshmen. These students will not participate in college coursework during the first semester to allow them time to become acclimated to the environment and expectations.

HCED students finished their school year on Thursday, May 24. During their awards ceremony, 59 students were recognized for receiving all A’s or B’s in their high school and college classes. Although many students exceeded the 10 hours of required community service, one student was recognized for completing 296 hours of community service during this academic year.

Two HCEC students, Hannah Baldwin and David Ayala, attended Rotary’s Youth Leadership Academy at the beginning of the summer.
Student Government Association
The 2012-2013 Student Government Association Officers were recently announced:
President: Krishnaveni Balakrishnan
Vice President: Austin Moncrief
Vice President (TCC): Victoria Brookshire
Treasurer: Jasmine Davidson
Secretary (TCC): Emily Robbins
Public Relations: Dannah Southerland

DIVISION OF TECHNOLOGY

Learning Technologies
Of the 833 students enrolled for the Summer term, 333 students are taking fully online courses. Additionally, 239 students are taking hybrid (partially online) courses. Seventy-nine courses for Summer are offered as online or hybrid. Ninety online course observations for Spring 2012 were completed as either self reviews or formal reviews.

Educational TV
An interview about the early years of Blue Ridge Community College, hosted by Lee Anna Haney with Dr. William D. Killian, aired on BRCC-TV (Channel 112 on Morris Broadband) during the week of May 21.

Information Technology
Google Maps
Blue Ridge is one of the first schools in North Carolina to participate in a pilot project with Google called Google Indoor Maps. Google Indoor Maps augments Google’s existing free Google Map service by adding more granular maps that show individual buildings and classrooms on campus. This new service can help students and community members find their way around campus. We anticipate it will be available to the general public by November 2012. According to Google, this new functionality will be immediately available to anyone with a Smartphone or mobile device that runs the Android version of the Google Maps application; it is anticipated to be available to any computer via the Web version of Google Maps in 2013.

Power saving
We are in the process of deploying an automated system that will help reduce our power consumption. This new system will automatically turn off or power-down any computer monitor that is turned on but hasn’t been used in over 20 minutes. In addition to the power-saving benefits, this system also reduces the risk of unauthorized access to unattended computers by requiring employees to re-enter their password to regain access.
Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded the Foundation a $15,000 Family Literacy Grant to fund salary costs for on-site instruction and educational activities for preschool children. The grant also includes training and travel for the early childhood educators to attend activities related to the project. The project utilizes the resources of Blue Ridge Community College and Henderson County Public Schools to provide a comprehensive family literacy program to non-English-speaking families in the College service area. Program components include ESL instruction for parents, preschool childcare and educational activities, parenting education, and parent and child together time.

Pardee Hospital Auxiliary has increased their curriculum scholarship support from $6,000 to $8,500. They will continue to fund continuing education scholarships at $4,000. This brings the Auxiliary’s scholarship awards for 2012-2013 to $12,500.

The Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation 2011-2012 audit will be conducted during the week of July 9.

Plans are underway for the Trustees and Directors Social and Annual Fundraising Kickoff on Monday, September 10, from 4:30-5:30 in the afternoon. Invitations will be sent out soon.