

**MINUTES**  
**Bluegrass Community and Technical College**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Newtown Campus – Classroom Building, Room 123**  
**June 1, 2016**

**Members Present:** Annissa Franklin, Chair; Pamela Brough; Joshua Hoekstra; Florence Huffman; Robert McNulty; Robert Rowland; S. Dudley Taylor; Ron Walker, Jr.

**Absent:** Katlyn Jefferson

**Others Present:** Lisa Bell, Dr. Greg Feeney, Mary Forbes, Dr. Augusta Julian, Mark Manuel, Dr. Laurel Martin, Senator Reginald Thomas, Charlene Walker, Dr. Palisa Williams Rushin

**I. Welcome / Introductions**

Board of Directors Chair Annissa Franklin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chair Franklin recognized Dr. Laurel Martin, Associate Vice President for Advancement, and welcomed all to the meeting.

Chair Franklin started the meeting with a statement that many board members have served for a number of years, and there have been many changes to the budget since that time. She thanked Dr. Augusta Julian and BCTC leadership for their work and expressed appreciation for faculty and staff sacrifices that have kept the college going while graduating more than 2,000 students each year.

On behalf of the college and the foundation, Chair Franklin asked each board member to consider completing a pledge form for a donation to the BuildSmart campaign. She remarked that these commitments make a statement in the community when our leadership can tell others that 100% of the board has made a personal, financial investment in the college's work.

Chair Franklin next requested a change to the order of items on the agenda to allow reports to flow more smoothly. She suggested the board receive Item III. A., *2015 – 2016 Budget Update*, prior to Item II. C., *President's Evaluation Committee Report*. This will allow members to hear all budget information in one report. Chair Franklin requested a second change to the agenda to receive Items III. C., *Strategic Plan Progress Report – Annual Priorities 2016 – 2016 Highlights Report*, following Item II. D., *Strategic Planning Committee Report – Approval of 2016 – 2022 Strategic Plan*.

Robert Rowland made the motion to approve suggested revisions to the agenda. Florence Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. (NOTE: Minutes have been reordered to the original agenda for consistency.)

**II. Business Meeting****A. Approval of Minutes, March 2, 2016**

Minutes from the March 2, 2016, Board of Directors meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Dudley Taylor to approve the minutes. Pamela Brough seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**B. Budget Committee Report – Approval of 2016 – 2017 Budget**

Mr. Taylor, Chair of the Budget Committee, reported that committee members met last week. He noted that Lisa Bell did an outstanding job of putting together a difficult forecast for the coming year. At the meeting, Ms. Bell explained the process for projecting revenue realistically, taking into consideration historic declines and current conditions.

Mr. Taylor noted that the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) Board of Regents will consider a \$9 per credit hour tuition increase at their June meeting. The tuition increase will help to balance next year's budget. Salary savings, bad debt expense reductions, continued collection of past debt, and other cost saving initiatives have all assisted with keeping the budget under control, even with reduced tuition revenue and state allocations.

Mr. Taylor provided updates on new costs that have to be considered in the next fiscal year. When the Georgetown Advanced Manufacturing Center opens in the fall, there will be operational costs associated with maintaining the building. An amount of \$400,000 was added to the budget for operations of the new campus. In addition, the college is working to fund the estimated \$6 million capital construction related to renovating the Leestown Campus.

Mr. Taylor complimented Ms. Bell and the college leadership on management of the budget, realizing the strain it puts on the faculty and staff year after year. He stated that the board recognizes that state support has dramatically decreased from around 60% to less than 20% of the budget over the past several years, which has prompted increases to the cost of tuition for students.

Mr. Taylor stated that once the budget is approved, it will be sent to KCTCS where it will be included with the other college and system budgets. He said that we should be proactive in telling legislators how BCTC has been impacted financially. Some of the specifics of the effects on colleges get lost when legislators are only looking at the system-level information.

Ms. Bell pointed out that KCTCS completed an internal reallocation of 0.5%, which gained the college \$422,700. This amount offset the state budget cut of \$422,200, so BCTC came out \$500 ahead. KCTCS leadership has acknowledged the funding discrepancies among the colleges as they continue to work toward a more equitable distribution of funding. In addition, KCTCS leadership has lowered the required reserve amount; it used to be \$1,633,400, but that has been lowered to \$1,211,500. This helped several colleges to balance their budgets.

Ms. Bell has included a \$6 million placeholder for the Newtown and Leestown capital projects. Some of this will come from fund balance, in addition to the \$1.7 million of nonrecurring allocations that were made as in past years.

Mr. Taylor made a motion for approval to submit the budget as presented to KCTCS for inclusion as part of the system budget. Ron Walker seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Chair Franklin thanked Ms. Bell and the committee for their hard work.

**C. President’s Evaluation Committee Report – KRS 61.810(1)(f)**

Bob McNulty, Chair of the President’s Evaluation Committee, remarked that he met with the committee recently to review Dr. Julian’s performance during the past year. He stated that Dr. Julian prepared an extensive document with many valuable contributions made by herself and college personnel from July 2015 to June 2016. In particular, he noted the highlight of the groundbreaking for the Newtown Campus Science Education Center.

Mr. McNulty stated that the Allied Health and Nursing program pass rates continue to be very impressive. He commented that he spoke with a representative from Baptist Health Lexington who said that many of their nurses and surgical technicians graduated from BCTC. She was concerned about the recent budget cuts and a possible direct impact to the healthcare workforce. Mr. McNulty expressed appreciation for the legislative efforts and Dr. Julian’s work in this area.

Bob Rowland expressed interest in the number of students who transfer from BCTC and asked if there was a mechanism to monitor their success rates. Dr. Julian noted that the college works with the National Student Clearinghouse, an organization that tracks information about enrollments, transfer, and other data. She noted that there are reports that the college can request, and BCTC received information from the organization about our transfer students this week.

Dr. Julian reported that our overall four-year completion rate for students who go on and complete a bachelor’s degree is 11.6% over six years. The rate for our benchmark institutions is 15%. The completion rate for the BCTC 20-24 age group attending full-time is 40%, which is higher than the benchmark institutions at 34%. For students older than 24 attending full-time, the rate for BCTC is 61%, compared to 49% for the benchmark institutions.

Mr. Rowland also commented on efforts to support financial literacy and loan defaults. He is very interested in providing information to students early on, as this type of liability can impact a student’s future tremendously. Dr. Julian noted that students receiving financial aid are required to receive information and explanations about loans and how to manage those obligations. There is also some instruction about financial literacy in the first year experience courses.

Dr. Palisa Williams Rushin remarked that BCTC has the second lowest default rate in the system, and the staff conducts financial aid literacy workshops throughout the year. Staff members are required to provide counseling to students when they take out a loan and when they are preparing to graduate. Dr. Julian agreed that we should continue to look for opportunities to provide assistance and education surrounding these topics.

Mr. McNulty asked if Governor Matt Bevin could be invited to college events to gain a better understanding of our operations and the services that are provided. Dr. Julian noted that Governor Bevin and Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Hal Heiner visited the Danville Campus for a tour and spoke to students. They were on campus for almost three hours. Mr. McNulty said he appreciated Dr. Julian's sensitivity to the political climate. He noted that this skill makes Dr. Julian a valuable asset to the college.

Mr. McNulty said that the committee felt that Dr. Julian has exceeded expectations and they are glad she is serving as the president of the college. The committee recommends that Dr. Julian be given the highest rating on her evaluation.

A motion was made by Mr. McNulty to give Dr. Julian the highest possible rating and submit that information to Dr. Jay Box, KCTCS President. Mr. Rowland seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Chair Franklin will prepare a letter outlining the board decision and send it to Dr. Box to include as a part of Dr. Julian's evaluation materials.

Ms. Huffman noted that she attended the Women Leading Kentucky award luncheon in May, and Dr. Julian was honored with the Martha Layne Collins Leadership award. Dr. Julian was a panelist at that event, along with the other two honorees. Ms. Huffman appreciated Dr. Julian's ability to represent the college with her professionalism, and she is honored that Dr. Julian continues to serve the college well by helping the faculty, staff, and students with tremendous leadership. In addition, she appreciates the way Dr. Julian continues to advance us in the community due to her presence at various events.

#### **D. Strategic Planning Committee Report – Approval of 2016 – 2022 Strategic Plan**

Ron Walker, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, reported that the committee met last week to discuss the 2016–2022 Strategic Plan. The initial draft was provided to board members in the packet, but there have been some slight revisions to that document based on feedback from the meeting. These changes are related to the proposed measures. Mary Forbes noted that the items in italics are KCTCS proposed measures, and those in bold are Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) measures. Neither of those measures are final yet, but she said they could become performance funding metrics in the future. Dr. Julian remarked that those items will be reported through KCTCS.

Strategic Initiative 1 is to increase student access and success by managing college enrollments to optimize student success. Mr. Walker noted that the college will do this by increasing academic opportunities and services. He noted a change to a measure to include a graduating student survey to identify links to businesses and industries in the student's area of interest. This will allow us to get a better feel for how students perceive their experiences here. A second change was related to a measure related to transfers from under-represented populations.

A third change is identifying a way to measure how we keep students and what credentials they are earning. The committee is adding a component to measure referrals to agencies, counseling that is provided, and other items that are being done but are not currently tracked. This will show other ways we are giving students the ability to succeed.

Mr. Walker stated that Strategic Initiative 2 promotes excellence in teaching and learning. The committee is adding a graduating student survey with links to industries in areas of interest to the measures. In addition, the committee decided to add awarding credit for prior learning as a part of the measure because the college will be doing more of this going forward as a way to give students credit for their experiences. This helps students shorten their time and gives them the ability to take other courses and expand their horizons.

Mr. Walker noted dual credit programs and partnerships with high schools expands our reach to students, makes students aware of the college, and provides a nontraditional means for starting college. Mr. Walker noted that looking at pass rates in math and English courses is the foundation for this success. Dr. Julian said that we want to be sure we continue to emphasize and build on the success of our reading partnerships and other strategies. Mr. Walker noted an additional measure of enrollment in alternative schedules to see what gains can be made there.

Under Strategic Initiative 3: Cultivate an inclusive learning community, Mr. Walker noted that the board has heard about many successful activities led by Charlene Walker. The college will be implementing training in cultural competency for faculty, staff, and students as a part of this initiative. Mr. Walker remarked when professional development opportunities are not available, there have to be other ways to inspire the faculty and staff.

There were no changes under Strategic Initiative 4.

Under Strategic Initiative 5: Build resources for an effective and sustainable college, the committee added a measure related to the amount of scholarships and other support the college receives. The committee also added work climate survey review as part of this initiative.

Mr. Walker remarked that there was a lot of discussion by the committee, and these changes will help us measure our success with these initiatives and make improvements for our students.

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the college's 2016–2022 Strategic Plan as proposed from the committee. Ms. Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **III. Information / Discussion**

#### **A. 2015-2016 Budget Update**

Ms. Bell referenced the 2015–2016 budget status narrative that was provided in the board packet. She called attention to the revenue detail page, as there is a column on the right with mostly positive numbers and one negative. In this situation, the negative is a positive because summer revenue is exceeding the budget. The college currently has taken in \$100,000 more this summer over last summer.

Ms. Bell noted that there are other good news items in the report, as well. Bad debt expense improvements continue to help the budget. The year-end entry is still forthcoming, but she projects that it will be a positive amount of a \$1 million savings. Book sales remain consistent although commission is slightly below projections.

Chair Franklin thanked Ms. Bell for her report.

#### **B. Facilities Update**

Dr. Julian provided a quick overview of our two major projects that are currently ongoing: the Georgetown-Scott County Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) and the Newtown Campus Science Education Center. Several photos were shown of the progress to date.

Dr. Julian remarked that the Georgetown AMC will be close to completion by this fall. It is suggested that the board meet in Georgetown this September, and members will walk through the building at that time. Lieutenant Governor Jenean Hampton spoke at the Advanced Manufacturing Technician graduation ceremony in May about her experiences in the manufacturing sector.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Science Education Center was held in April at the Newtown Campus. There were approximately 100 attendees. Chair Franklin represented the board at that event.

Dr. Julian stated that the Leestown Campus entrance project and other remodeling are also being planned. The allied health and nursing programs will be moved to the Leestown Campus. The dental hygiene program is staying at Cooper for now, as it is too expensive to relocate and was recently renovated. The goal is to move quickly once the manufacturing programs move to the AMC this fall. Leestown will also have a different traffic pattern once these changes are implemented.

Mr. Taylor suggested talking to some area hospital groups about naming and renovation assistance for the nursing program. There are many groups that have a large presence in Kentucky that may be willing to help. Dr. Julian agreed that this is a good opportunity to have some conversations with healthcare partners. Dr. Martin pointed out that Lifepoint is one of the top five donors of the BuildSmart project. Dr. Julian remarked that the University of Kentucky (UK) has been a great partner on the Pharmacy Technician program that will start in the fall. They are funding a position for the first year. This is another example of how we are building good relationships with our partners.

**C. Strategic Plan Progress Report – Annual Priorities 2015 – 2016 Highlights Report**

Dr. Julian remarked that the Annual Priorities Highlights Report is prepared each year to review the annual priorities and show how the college performed in achieving the goals. She noted that a number of these items also appear in her presidential evaluation report. Dr. Julian thanked the leadership team and the faculty and staff who work hard to accomplish the items listed in this report. Dr. Julian commented on several highlights.

This year, the Fifth-Year Review was submitted to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) report is a part of our accreditation. Ours focused on improving reading skills. The faculty created reading partnerships that brought reading faculty together with faculty in technology, math, history, psychology and others areas to imbue the courses with reading strategies based on the course content. The project created synergies and relationships across the college and has positively impacted students. Dr. Julian reported that this has changed the culture of the college, and she is very proud of what the faculty has accomplished with limited resources.

Dr. Julian said many are working to build relationships for student referrals for those who need adult education services in the counties that we serve. This is a positive step toward helping our students be successful.

There are many initiatives around college preparation that will help students. The First Year Center has ramped up and is offering additional support including financial aid, study skills, test taking, broader knowledge research, and more. They are working to find ways to loan out equipment. This is another wonderful project with great staff.

Career Development and Counseling, along with veterans support staff, are doing excellent work. BCTC was given military friendly status, which is a nice recruiting tool for students.

Dr. Julian noted that we had an increased focus on inclusive hiring this year. Our Fellows program has had success in bringing on faculty with diverse backgrounds. We will continue to make improvements that support populations in burgeoning areas.

There have been lots of Multiculturalism and Inclusion activities this year, many of which are listed in the report. SDEM has reported that enrollment for students of color has remained constant, even with falling overall enrollments, which is a significant accomplishment.

Dr. Julian noted the merger of Academics and Workforce Solutions this past year. She reported that they are doing excellent work under Dr. Greg Feeney's leadership. The Danville AMT program was implemented this year and has gone well. Faculty in computerized machining and manufacturing are now working to develop a work-and-learn program model.

Dr. Julian continues to focus on legislative and community relationships. She reported that our legislative interns did an outstanding job working for members of both parties, and we received lots of good feedback from the legislators. Overall, we have had 12 interns over the years. This is a good program and a wonderful opportunity for those students. Legislative Day was a bit different this year, as several area employers were invited to attend along with BCTC representatives. The employers were very positive and complimentary about the value of what we are doing for their businesses.

Dr. Julian stated that we continue to reach out and be involved in the neighborhoods, communities, and regions that we serve, and we still have some special emphasis at the Newtown Campus. Our marketing department continues to do a lot of good work. Fundraising efforts were significant this year. The largest allocation came from the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, as they appropriated \$1 million to the BuildSmart campaign. Many people were involved in that effort, and we appreciate them being a partner.

Dr. Julian noted that those are just a few of the highlights in the report. She credited the faculty and staff with starting and sustaining many initiatives and the success of many efforts to help students and reach out to partners. Dr. Julian is extremely proud of their work.

Mr. Rowland asked, if Chase Bank or another partner makes a donation, is that all for BCTC or is it distributed across the system? Dr. Julian said it works both ways. She noted that KCTCS is generally positive and supportive of our efforts. They assist with research and strategies.

Dr. Julian explained that we are moving forward with \$3.2 million in fund balance to complete the agency bonding requirement for the BuildSmart project, but we will continue to raise money and build relationships.

Ms. Huffman asked about the online awareness and prevention training for employees regarding sexual assaults. She noted that when the Newtown Campus was acquired, there were some concerns about the neighborhood and safety for students, faculty, and staff. She wondered if there have been any significant safety problems on the campus since it was opened. Dr. Julian responded that she knows of no situations where there

was a person outside the college that created a security/safety issue. More security and safety issues occur around the Cooper Campus due to the proximity to UK.

**D. Board Calendar and Communications**

Dr. Julian remarked that we recently celebrated commencement with our students. Participation was down a little this year, possibly due to the Kentucky Derby and Mother's Day events on the same weekend. Our commencement speaker was Craig King, President of R. J. Corman Railroad Group. We have a good relationship with him, and BCTC provides a lot of training for their employees. Debbie Holt was this year's recipient of the Carolyn Beam faculty award. She has served the college for more than 40 years and was highly deserving of this honor.

Katlyn Jefferson, the student board representative, took part in the ceremony by introducing our outstanding graduates. Ms. Brough represented the board at both the commencement ceremony and the Graduate Achievement Recognition Reception. The reception serves as recognition for outstanding graduates. It was a wonderful day filled with celebration. Chair Franklin thanked Ms. Brough for stepping in and representing the board at those events, as she missed being there.

Chair Franklin noted that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7. We are planning to meet in Georgetown and tour the new Advanced Manufacturing Center, which will be close to completion. New officers will be elected, and Chair Franklin distributed a nomination form for members to indicate interest in having their name considered. A ballot will be prepared for member use in the election.

Dr. Julian announced that we will be welcoming at the September meeting Nick Harding, the new president of the Student Government Association, and the newly elected staff representative, Dr. Jeffrey Herron.

**E. Functional Area Updates**

Ms. Bell noted that a big focus for Finance and Operations is on closing out the fiscal year. Many staff are working hard to ensure the process goes smoothly. In addition, staff are doing the full physical inventory of assets, required every year. These individuals make sure we are accountable as good stewards of our resources.

Ms. Bell remarked that the bad debt expense rate average is 13%. This is a three-year rolling average. The college is down from a 40% average in 2012, so tremendous progress has been made in this area. In addition, she reported that the Bursar's Office had a 99.9% accuracy rate in their deposits.

The payroll system is going live in an electronic format today, so paper timesheets will no longer be used. Mr. Walker asked if the college would see a financial savings from this implementation. Ms. Bell reported that we may be able to adjust Payroll

staffing. There are currently three employees, so she will monitor that closely. Staff are still required for review and balancing requirements.

The maintenance area has entered into an Energy Savings Performance Contract that will allow us to obtain \$2 million in equipment and controls that we could not afford to purchase up front. The contract will provide needed upgrades and renovations. The Lawrenceburg Campus roof replacement project will be underway soon. This year, the maintenance group has completed over 4,200 work orders in addition to other assignments from their supervisors. The security staff has responded to approximately 200 incidents, mostly for medical reasons, as they are designated first responders.

Kay Glass, a team leader in Housekeeping, won the Staff Excellence Award for support staff. Ms. Bell was very pleased that she was recognized for her hard work. Ms. Bell noted that she is proud of all of the dedicated and committed staff in Finance and Operations.

Dr. Feeney remarked that he has learned a great deal since starting as Vice President, Academics and Workforce Development, in January; he is excited to address the challenges for his area. He noted that it has been rewarding to see things from this new perspective. Overall, the top three items he is proud of from the past six months include:

- Academics has two new deans, who were selected after an internal search. Tammy Liles and Dr. Karen Mayo are doing a great job and are adding value to a really good team within Academics and Workforce Development.
- The faculty were willing to increase their load for next year. This was a tough decision based on our budget as we looked for ways to save money. Dr. Feeney was proud of the faculty for their willingness to listen and to have frank and open discussion.
- There is a great deal of activity surrounding our academic programming.
  - The Surgical Technology program will be expanding and the Pharmacy Technician will open Fall semester. The Paramedic program will start in January. All three are a result of requests from the community. There has been great support from UK and other community partners to get these programs approved and implemented quickly.
  - Developmental Education continues to work on co-requisite courses and will build on that in several other areas in the future.
  - In July, faculty are piloting a free boot camp for students. It will support students who may need a little extra assistance to prepare to enroll in a higher level developmental course than their original placement. Retesting will be free to those who attend.

Dr. Feeney also noted that Workforce Solutions served over 300 companies this year to support training and education needs. Ten companies are new to our roster. He is very impressed with the work done by this group.

Ms. Walker noted that Multiculturalism and Inclusion (M&I) has been very busy the past several months. In January, the Lexington Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Committee brought Danny Glover to the celebration. Many BCTC students participated in the annual march, as well as Dr. Julian and other faculty and staff. One of our students won a MLK scholarship to Kentucky State University.

As part of Black History Month, M&I invited Jonathan Blanchard to the Lyric Theatre to share a history lesson taught via music. Attendees were invited to “pay what you can” for admission, and the program was well received. Later in February into early March, diverse high school students were invited to all of our campuses for “Super Someday.” Over 800 students took part in this event. Tates Creek High School had 25 seniors participate in a visit; of those, 16 are now enrolled at BCTC.

Ms. Walker reported that the MOSAIIC conference was in April. Several partner colleges have come together to form the Central Kentucky Diversity Consortium, and they work together on a diversity conference; the MOSAIIC is now a part of that conference. The keynote address was given by Dr. Peggy McIntosh. BCTC sent over 60 faculty, staff, and students to that event. Ms. Walker received thank you notes from many students who attended.

The Louis Stokes minority support grant that includes BCTC was featured in the national report for the successes for Kentucky and West Virginia. BCTC had two former students who participated in the symposium this April. Ms. Walker and her staff are preparing for the CARNEGIE HALL camp, and they are also working on a 10-year reunion banquet.

Mr. Walker reported that five students graduated from Kentucky State University through the BLINKS program. Ten students have successfully completed the program so far, and two will be going on to study in a master’s degree program at the University of Louisville this fall. Five students are graduating from BCTC this year and will be transferring to Kentucky State in the fall.

Finally, Ms. Walker noted that Erin Howard has taken several students to Costa Rica this month for a study abroad program.

Chair Franklin thanked everyone for their informative reports.

#### **IV. Announcements**

Chair Franklin welcomed Kentucky Senator Reginald Thomas as our guest and invited him to make some remarks.

Sen. Thomas said that he was happy to speak because BCTC is important to him. He reminded the board that he once served as a member. He noted that the landscape of higher education is changing in the state. Beginning in 2017–2018, the state will move to a performance funding model. The Senator is supportive and noted that 32 states have adopted this model for funding higher education. He said, however, that

Kentucky will be the first to implement performance-based funding coupled with a ten-year period of budget cuts; other states have adopted this model with increased appropriations. Since 2008, higher education has been cut by 31% in Kentucky.

Sen. Thomas stated that the legislature will focus on three items in the future: graduation rates, retention, and enrollment. Institutions that are not successful in these areas will suffer, as all higher education will be measured using these factors. There are only 19 months to prepare, and he wants BCTC and UK in his district to find success with this new model of funding. He is pleased with what he heard tonight about graduation, retention, and enrollment, but the college leadership must focus on those items going forward. He stated that he believes Dr. Julian is well qualified to lead BCTC at this time.

Sen. Thomas also remarked that as of July 1, the state will have a \$320 million budget surplus, but forces in the government chose to cut the budget. Dr. Julian said that we all appreciate what the Senator is doing for us, delivering a message of the importance of education in Frankfort.

Ms. Walker wondered about the situation with Kentucky State University. Sen. Thomas stated he wants them to thrive, but he is focusing on his district, and he wants to ensure the message is delivered to leadership. He noted that many of his family members are graduates of Kentucky State, so it is near and dear to his heart.

Mr. Taylor stated that he believes we have reached a plateau in education; the state used to back all of the colleges and universities, and that support has been receding significantly. As that happens, competition between the institutions will get tougher, especially as the economy continues to change. One example is there are three law schools in Kentucky, and graduates are not able to find a job. As we talk about enrollment, retention, and graduation rates, we must also ensure that students can find employment so they can pay back their debt.

Sen. Thomas noted the concerns about graduating too many students in certain careers. Many issues will be examined and discussed over the next two years. He believes that students should be supported to pursue their passion. He said that we have to be smart about our dollars, and focus on needed professions.

He believes there is merit in competition regarding funding from the state. He knows the faculty is doing a good job in a difficult atmosphere, and he is proud to be a part of this. Frankfort's job is overseeing dollars spent to advance the Commonwealth. He noted that BCTC is a great value for students.

Mr. Taylor said that as an accountant, he is very concerned about the pension system and that it has not historically been funded sufficiently. Now the legislature is cutting education to find money to fund the pensions. The legislature is responsible for a retirement system that has to get money from the taxpayers to keep it going.

Mr. McNulty noted that dual credit courses should be better supported. Fayette County Public Schools recently reported that dual credit costs will be increasing, which is difficult for them to absorb. He remarked that those courses are a great way to get students ready for college, and he is concerned about the impact that will have on future students.

Sen. Thomas said that costs will increase for dual credit courses beginning in July. Public education was flat-lined this year, so while their costs increase they will not receive any additional state funding. He agrees that it would be a serious casualty to lose those opportunities for students. He noted that some counties have students graduating with a year of college already completed. Dr. Julian said that those programs help students get through faster and help with completion rates for the college. She said we are awaiting final word about a scholarship that will be available for dual credit students to help schools with the increased costs for these classes.

Dr. Julian thanked Sen. Thomas for sharing this information with the board. She expressed appreciation for his willingness to give us his understanding of the future, no matter how difficult the message, and thanked him for his continued support.

Chair Franklin reminded members to return campaign pledge forms to Dr. Martin and nomination forms to her before departing.

**V. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Ms. Huffman, seconded by Ms. Brough, and the motion carried. At 8:08 p.m., with no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be September 7, 2016. The board will meet at the current Advanced Manufacturing Technician program location at Toyota North American Production Support Center, and travel to the new Georgetown-Scott County Campus at the end of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammi O'Neill  
Office of the President

Augusta A. Julian, Ed.D.  
President