TO: DCCCD BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: JOE D. MAY
DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2014
RE: WEEKEND MEMO #31

COMMENTS FROM JOE D. MAY

Good afternoon!

This week has been filled with opportunities to talk with advisory boards and councils; to discuss how we want to improve the transfer process for students; and to express how valuable our advisors are at every college and location in the District. It has been a pleasure to share the vision of our Board of Trustees with so many people this week, and we’ve also learned about how the Ebola virus is affecting our communities.

Let me share some details with you: Chancellor’s Update - October 17, 2014.

We continue to focus on workforce, transfer, and employment opportunities for our students to help them succeed in school and in their search for careers and professional development.

Enjoy your weekend, and we'll talk again next week.

Joe May

(Note: For the best viewing experience, please use the latest version of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Opera, or Apple Safari.)

Eastfield College

Advance Student Success — Eastfield College students claimed 22 awards at the Texas Community College Journalism Association Convention, which was held at The University of Texas at Tyler on October 10. Sidney Murillo won first-place honors in the live editorial writing contest, while Caitlin Piper took second place in the live copy editing contest. In the live competitions, students compete under a tight deadline, with no help from advisers or other students. Students also won 20 awards in the canned contest for work published in Eastfield College’s The Et Cetera (student newspaper) and The
Alternative (literary magazine) during the 2013-14 academic year. Award winners include Kevin Cushingberry Jr., Justin David Tate, Caitlin Piper, Aki Ohashi, Miguel Padilla, Yolanda Ramirez, Alex Hernandez, Billy Dennis, Genesis Castillo, and Jessica Martinez. The Et Cetera also won its third consecutive Division I Sweepstakes Award, which is presented to the newspaper with the most total award points in the live and canned contests. Six students, along with Student Publications Manager Beth Langton and faculty adviser Lori Dann, represented Eastfield College at the Convention, where they participated in journalism workshops and student editor roundtables. The keynote address was delivered by Steve Blow, columnist for The Dallas Morning News.

Ensure Institutional Effectiveness — More than a hundred local professionals attended the fall Technical Advisory Councils meeting at Eastfield College on October 15. At the individual program meetings, Council members provided feedback to career and technology program representatives about their employment needs and made suggestions about curriculum and assessments. DCCCD Chancellor Dr. Joe May was the keynote speaker at the event; he gave a presentation on the importance of career and technical programs in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Programs represented were Accounting, Auto Body Technology, Automotive Technology, Business Office Systems and Support, Computer Aided Design and Drafting, Child Development, Computer Information Technology, Criminal Justice, Digital Media, Electronics, Management, Machining/Advanced Manufacturing, Police Academy, Social Work/Substance Abuse/Gerontology, Welding, and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning.

Foster Employee Success — Eastfield College Adjunct Art History Professor Josh Rose gave a presentation of his comic strip “Cosmo” to students, faculty, and staff in the college library on October 15. The presentation, which was followed by a question/answer session, was part of the college’s celebration of its Common Book, The Illustrated Man, by Ray Bradbury. Rose also serves as manager of docent and teacher programs at the Dallas Museum of Art. Other recent Common Book Project events include a visit by Eric Flint, New York Times best-selling science fiction author; a presentation on Superhero Science by representatives from the Perot Museum of Nature and Science; and film viewings of Gravity and Invasion of the Body Snatchers.

More than 20 Eastfield College faculty members participated in a Student Retention Strategy session on October 8, where each shared at least one strategy for engaging and retaining students. The program was part of the college’s Fall Coffee Hour: Bring Your Own Best series of faculty enrichment programs. Faculty coordinators Nick Vera (Speech) and Amy Dennis (Developmental English) organized the event.

North Lake College

Our Students — On October 1, North Lake College hosted a Financial Reality Fair and Majors/Careers Fair in the Student Life Center. Students were given the opportunity to increase their knowledge of career opportunities associated with the major of their choice and to realize the financial impact of that choice on their lifestyle. This “real-life” experience provided students with information for goal setting and planning for the future. In addition, a panel of local career professionals spoke to the students and reinforced the connection between academics and careers.

On October 3, North Lake College’s TRIO Student Support Services and the P.A.S.S. (Promoting Academic Student Success) program held a Student Success Week workshop in the Student Life Center. SWAG 101 (Sacrifice, Will, Attitude, and Gratitude), a motivational workshop, provided students with strategies for success in college and tips on how to take charge of their college career. The session was presented by North Lake College’s Dr. Marcos Arandia, philosophy/government instructor, and Dr. Darryl Howard, religion instructor; the workshop was open to all students, staff, and community members.
Our Employees — Lesly Castillo, College Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator at North Lake College, attended the Irving Independent School District Teacher of the Year Celebration, held in the MacArthur High School Auditorium, September 23. The Teacher of the Year and the Secondary Teacher of the Year for the 2014-15 academic year were announced.

On September 17, Kent Seaver, director of Learning Resources at North Lake College, was a panelist for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) webinar, “21st Century Initiative: Dramatically Improve College Readiness.” At the invitation of the AACC and the National Council for Learning Resources, Seaver addressed activities affecting North Lake College and the DCCCD as they relate to prior learning, as well as diagnostic testing and modular education.

Cedar Valley College

Our SACSCOC Activity — Cedar Valley College and Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy hosted a Substantive Change Committee visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), October 14-16, with Marlon Mote serving as SACSCOC liaison for Cedar Valley College. In addition, at the request of SACSCOC, Cedar Valley College documentation will be featured in the Resource Room at the 2014 SACSCOC Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for December 6-9 in Nashville, TN. As stated in the official request, “We would like to allow other institutional representatives to view a few good examples of recent documentation that has been submitted for reaffirmation.”

Our College — On October 15, the Cedar Valley College Office of Student Life sponsored the 2014-15 Performing Artist & Speaker Series for students and staff at the college Performance Hall. Guest speaker was Josh Elliott, who presented on Wine To Water, the Cedar Valley College Common Book for 2014-15. Wine To Water is a local nonprofit organization based out of Boone, NC that focuses on providing clean water and adequate sanitation to needy people around the world. An Appalachian State University alumnus, Elliott created the first official Wine To Water campus club for a university while attending the institution.

Our Community Outreach — On October 17, Cedar Valley College representatives Patricia Davis, Tim Samuels, Henry Martinez, Monroe Mayes, Ruben Johnson, Gerald Andrews, and Olivia Guerra, along with special guest Paula Sullivan, president of The Wright Resource Group, attended the DeSoto Chamber of Commerce Luncheon — State of the City. The event was held at the DeSoto Town Center; Carl Sherman, mayor of DeSoto, was the featured speaker. Sherman provided an overview of the city’s budget, analysis of current and anticipated growth, and an economic development and community partnerships update; he also discussed pending and proposed city projects.

Our Resource Development — Dr. Jennifer Wimbish, president of Cedar Valley College, along with college representatives Patricia Davis, executive dean of community and resource development, and Tim Samuels, interim executive dean of continuing education, attended the idX Impact Dallas One Year Recognition Luncheon, held October 9 in Cedar Hill. The invitation-only event included a facility tour, workforce development discussion, lunch, and a presentation. The celebration featured a special gathering of state and community dignitaries, including Texas State Senator Royce West and Texas State Representative Helen Giddings, to celebrate the launch of a new collaborative model for future economic growth. Key government, education, and business officials participated in a discussion that focused on jobs in America and the need to develop a skilled labor force in the area under a new initiative, Community Collaborative Model for Economic Growth, which seeks to develop a skilled employee resource pool for local manufacturers and explore funding for a local training center.
El Centro College

David Goomas (psychology faculty, El Centro College) and Paul Yeow (School of Business, Monash University, Selangor, Malaysia) have had an article published by the peer-reviewed journal, Safety Science (http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ssci.2014.07.016). The article, entitled “Outcome-and-behavior-based safety incentive program to reduce accidents: a case study of a fluid manufacturing plant,” examines an innovative team-based and tiered safety incentives program at a dairy manufacturing plant. The program implemented two initiatives, i.e., an outcome-based approach through tiered monetary incentives and a behavior-based approach through regular peer monitoring and feedback on compliance with safety precautions and safe behaviors.

Led by Toni Holloway, college coordinator of outreach and recruitment, El Centro College West Campus recently hosted the first of four Fabulous First Fridays for seniors at Pinkston High School. The event represents a partnership between the West Campus and the high school as they work together to increase student awareness of the college admissions process, financial aid, time management, and career preparation. Fabulous First Fridays are scheduled from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the first Friday of every month during the academic year.

Former El Centro College art student and employee, Liz Covert, was featured in the Dallas Life section of The Dallas Morning News on October 5. Covert makes jewelry and home decor, and once a month, she works as a blacksmith at a park in Arlington. The article, which also quotes El Centro College faculty Michael Anthony, may be accessed at http://www.dallasnews.com/lifestyles/headlines/20141003-dallas-life-metal-artist-savors-slow-work-in-a-fast-world.ece.

On October 13, the El Centro College STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Center hosted STEM Explore Day. El Centro College faculty Nancy Fields’ environmental science class visited with STEM staff and learned about the Center’s resources and services. Students received tips on how to put together or improve their resumé. An environmental consultant from the City of Dallas Public Works Department presented information on careers in environmental science.

LeCroy Center

LeCroy Center Provost Dr. Pam Quinn chaired the first-ever joint committee meeting of two Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Advisory Committees on October 13 in Austin, with more than 40 professionals from throughout the state. Members of the Learning Technology and the Graduate Education Advisory committees met jointly to review distance learning program quality, new program development, and emerging new formats, such as competency-based education. With more graduate-level programs coming online throughout Texas, graduate deans came to the Learning Technology Advisory Committee, made up of community college and university distance learning experts, for advice and direction. Featured experts represented Lamar, Texas Tech, and Western Governors universities.

Veraina Boudreaux, district eCampus help desk manager, recently participated in a textbook review of Organizational Behavior in the 21st Century by Christopher Neck, Jeffery Houghton, and Emma Murray. Boudreaux stated that she was very honored and excited to participate in reviewing a book that helps students build a more sustainable future by making informed decisions which contribute to long-term organizational success. She currently teaches organizational behavior online for Eastfield College. Boudreaux holds a master’s degree in organizational management.

Richland College

Sustainable Community Building — More than 400 Richland College, Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), City of Richardson, Richardson Chamber of Commerce, and Associa representatives attended a check-signing ceremony on October 15 at the Associa Shared Services Center in Richardson, where
Richland College was awarded a $449,988 Skills Development Fund grant by the TWC. The grant will be used by Richland College Garland Campus Corporate Services staff to train 222 new hires and 79 incumbent workers at the Associa Shared Services Center. Associa, North America’s largest community association management firm, has more than 150 branch offices in the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Event speakers included Andres Alcantar, TWC chairman; Texas State Senator John Carona, Associa president, chief executive officer, and chairman; Laura Maczka, Richardson mayor; Dr. Kay Eggleston, Richland College president; and Shellie Heard, Richland College Garland Campus dean of resource development.

**Student Success** — The 50-voice Richland College Chamber Singers performed for the American Nurses Credentialing Center National Magnet Conference, held at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center on October 8. Singing Barry Manilow’s “One Voice,” the choral ensemble was enthusiastically received by the 7,000 conference attendees. The Chamber Singers are conducted by Dr. Michael Crawford, Richland College associate dean, School of Humanities, Fine, and Performing Arts, and choral director.

**Employee Success** — Heather Lozano, Richland College assistant dean of continuing education and workforce training, has been selected to serve on the Richardson Symphony Orchestra (RSO) Board of Directors for 2014-2017. The RSO Board has five committees, each focusing on a specific set of Board initiatives. In 2014-15, Lozano will serve on the Educational Connections Committee.

**Institutional Effectiveness** — On October 14, Richland College’s senior leadership team met with the chairperson of each of four Richland College institutional cross-cutting Strategic Planning Committees to finalize the charge, expectations, and timelines for their 2014-15 Organizational Action Plan initiatives. The chairpersons will present tri-annual reports to the senior leadership team to track progress toward each goal.

**Mountain View College**

**Fostering Employee Success** — The third annual Excellence in Teaching and Learning Conference (formerly known as the Mountain View College Adjunct Faculty Conference) will take place October 18, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. This year’s conference, Enhancing Engagement in the Classroom, will include the sessions: Increasing Student Engagement in Your Math Class; The Edutainer: Utilizing Immediacy in Large Group Instruction Courses; Building Connections Through Writing; and more. The keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Mario Rivas, a nationally recognized speaker and author who has published extensively on student leadership, counseling, and teaching practices.

**Community Outreach** — On October 18, Mountain View College will host the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce “Village Fair” Public Safety, Health, Education, and Sustainability Fair from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mountain View College Athletic Complex. The event will feature representatives from the Dallas Police and Fire departments, animals from the Dallas Zoo, live music and entertainment, arts and crafts, electronics recycling, Zumba, face painting, and more. The Fair is free and open to the public, and will take place rain or shine. For more information, please go to [www.publicsafety.oakcliffchamber.org](http://www.publicsafety.oakcliffchamber.org).

**Institutional Effectiveness** — The Mountain View College fall theatre production, *Metamorphoses*, will take place in the college Performance Hall on October 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m., and on October 25 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. In the play, adapted from Ovid by Shelby-Allison Hibbs, the myths of Ancient Rome come vividly to life with a collection of tales of gods and mortals, romance and revenge, hope and rebirth. The matinee on October 25 is a special performance for the students of Mary Bethune Elementary School. All performances are free and open to the public (except for the special matinee).

**Community Engagement** — In celebration of Mole Day, Mountain View College will host “A Day of Astronomy With Moles” on October 23, from 2 p.m.-10 p.m. This event is a collaborative effort by
Mountain View College and Trinidad “Trini” Garza Early College High School faculty across multiple disciplines, including government, chemistry, biology, and physics. Activities will include a solar eclipse observation in the afternoon, sky observation in the evening, and a 3D viewing of the movie, Gravity. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please email ssokhansanj@dcccd.edu.

Brookhaven College

Student Success — The challenge was accepted and met. The Brookhaven College Student Government Association, IGNITE, and the Green Team Coalition were challenged by the North Lake College Student Government Association to register 1,000 new voters between the beginning of the school year and the final registration date — October 6. Students worked up to the last day to register 1,026 new voters (in just six weeks). Approximately 10 students and staff members were certified to register voters. They, along with a group of Dallas County volunteer voter registrars, visited 65 classrooms and held registration rallies throughout the registration period to reach the goal.

Employee Success — This year, the Brookhaven College State Employee Charitable Campaign Committee added a dunk tank to the fundraising festivities and raised another $250+ toward the college’s overall goal. Jason Sickles of Facilities Services coordinated the event and got volunteers from the college police, athletics, administration, Office of Student Life, and Facilities Services. Tommy Gallegos, Napoleon Hill, Brandon Rains, Kevin Hurst, Brian Borski, Grant Sisk, and Andrew Deibert each volunteered for at least a 15-minute shift in the tank, and each took at least one dunk! Sickles, along with Mary Milligan (Faculty) and Mason Martinez (Facilities Services), “stirred up” students and employees to toss a few balls for a good cause.

Community Engagement — On October 14, Dr. Thom Chesney, Brookhaven College president, spent most of his day in charge of an educational institution — but it wasn’t Brookhaven College. He, along with Texas State Representative Stefani Carter, spent the day as co-principals of George H.W. Bush Elementary School in Addison. Morning announcements, library time, classroom visits, administrative team meetings, and cafeteria time were all part of the “adventure.” The Principal for a Day project of the Dallas ISD requests business and civic leaders to spend a day at a public school to increase understanding of the strengths and challenges of the schools in the Dallas ISD.

Institutional Effectiveness — With health and safety so much in the news in Dallas, Dr. Juanita Flint, executive dean of the Brookhaven College Health and Human Services Division, chose to cancel clinical sessions for all students in the Allied Health programs to refresh them on universal precautions and Ebola. Since universal precautions is one of the first skills these students learn, Flint decided everyone in the Nursing, Radiologic Sciences, and Emergency Medical Services programs should undergo a refresher training course with lecture and practice drills on how to properly use personal protection equipment, as well as receive up-to-date and factual information about Ebola. Flint wrote in a message to faculty and college administration, “Our programs understand the critical nature of this adversary, and we want to prepare our students to protect themselves and, by doing so, they will protect those in their care.”

District Office

Dr. Sharon Blackman, DCCCD provost, educational affairs, gave the closing keynote address, titled “Redesigning Adult Education for Workforce Success,” on the opening day of the Texas Workforce Commission’s (TWC) first Adult Education and Literacy Symposium, which was held in Austin, October 8-10. TWC awarded over $60 million to more than 28 workforce regions in the state of Texas — the first award of Adult Education funds from the Commission. DCCCD is the lead organization in the Dallas County consortium, which includes Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas plus several independent school districts, community-based organizations, and Region 10.
Ella Shaw, manager of scholarship administration for the DCCCD Foundation, presented a program, titled “Up for Grabs: DCCCD Scholarships,” on October 15 at Mountain View College. Students interested in applying for one or more scholarships offered by the District were invited to attend. They received information about scholarship eligibility and how they could qualify for a DCCCD Foundation scholarship; what types of scholarships are available; essay tips; how to earn the necessary scholarship letter of recommendation; and other details. Shaw was invited by Cathy Edwards (Mountain View College Office of Student Life) to make her presentation; she will share similar information with El Centro College students on November 13.

The DCCCD District Office hosted a Texas Completes Commit to Complete signing reception for employees during the districtwide Commit to Complete events, held September 22-26. The 2013 signees who earned their degrees were honored with a completion T-shirt and signing pen, plus “I Have Completed” lapel tags. The 2014 honorees signed the Commit to Complete board and received “I Committed” lapel tags along with recognition T-shirts. DCCCD Chancellor Dr. Joe May shared remarks at the reception, including his story about being a first-generation college student. He encouraged employees to “continue what they started” and to be role models for DCCCD students. Generous donations for the Commit to Complete signings include: $2,500 from the Dallas Regional Chamber for DCCCD student giveaways; the signing reception for District Office employees (sponsored by the District Office Organizational Development Office); and event graphic materials, signee T-shirts, lapel tags, and signing pens from the District Marketing Office. The District Office Commit2Complete committee included second-year coordinator and DCCCD Texas Completes member Jackie Glee, Kathy Cook, LaShonda Richardson, Ann Hatch, Dr. Mary Brumbach, and Roberta Nicholson.