

Athens Technical College

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

August 16, 2022

9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Rebecca Dally
Mrs. Ruth Tellano-Daniel
Mr. Tom Denny
Dr. Reginald Woods

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Kyle Brown
Mr. Steve Hollis
Judge Robert Motley
Mayor Fred Perriman
Judge Lawton Stephens

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Rebecca Dally called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. welcoming everyone to the August board meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Daniel and the Leadership Team presented an Enrollment PowerPoint presentation. This is the same presentation that was done for the Commissioner. Dr. Daniel began the presentation with some background information on the college. Athens Technical College is the third oldest technical college and the first college to get SACSCOC accredited. We offer 191 programs in our eleven county service area. We have four campuses including Athens, Elbert, Walton and Greene.

Our strategic plan consists of five items: student success, faculty/staff investment, workforce and community development, technology integration and sustainability. Our credit enrollment has decreased since Covid began; however, we are working diligently to get those numbers back up. We have students from 105 Georgia counties and twelve states. Approximately 50% of our students are under 21 years of age. We have a job placement rate in the mid to high 90s. We currently have a yield rate of 61.8%. Our goal for FY2023 is to get the yield rate to 65%. We will have a SACSCOC Reaffirmation visit in 2023.

Dr. Kristen Douglas presented on Academic Programs. We currently have Nursing programs at our Athens and Elbert Campuses. We are in the process of adding it to our Walton Campus. We have several nursing partnerships, which include: Piedmont Athens Regional, St. Mary's Hospital, Elberton Memorial Hospital, Morgan Medical Center and Northeast Health District. We are offering a new option for students called Registered Nursing Assistant.

We have the Agriculture Science program on the Athens and Elbert Campus, which includes degrees in Precision Agriculture, Animal Science, Ornamental Horticulture and Poultry Production and Processing. The new Agricultural Science Complex was recently completed on

the Elbert Campus, which will include classrooms, labs and a separate arena. By AY2023 we want to have a cohort of 25 students in the program.

A new program recently added on the Elbert Campus is Conservation Law. Athens Technical College and Ogeechee Technical College are the only two technical colleges offering this program. The program is housed in our new Agricultural Science Complex. We want to have a cohort of 20 students by AY2025 in this program. The Commercial Truck Driving program is offered on our Elbert and Walton Campuses. We are hoping to increase enrollment by 100% in that program in AY2023. Two other programs we offer on our Athens Campus as well as online is Computer Support Specialist and Networking Specialist. We are hoping to increase these programs by 20% in AY2023.

Emerging Technologies program is offered on our Athens Campus and online. This program includes degrees in Mobile Programming Specialist, Mobile Security Technician, Personal Robotics, and Video Game Design Specialist. Our goal is to increase enrollment by 50% in AY2023. The Industrial Systems Technology program is offered on our Athens Campus. We are getting ready to begin construction on a new Industrial Systems Technology Building on our Athens Campus.

The Precision Machining program is offered to dual enrollment students at the Walton and Hart Career Academies. We are hoping to increase enrollment by 50% in AY2023. The Welding Technology program is offered on our Athens and Elbert Campuses. Our goal is to increase enrollment by 40% in AY2023. We currently have two transfer programs, Consumer Economics and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Our National Board Exam pass rates are some of the best in the state with several of them having 100% pass rates. Several of our programs have program accreditations that must be obtained in addition to SACSCOC accreditation. In Fall of 2021 we had 802 dual enrollment students which was 20% of our student population. Our target number of students for dual enrollment and career academies by AY2023 is 900 students. We also have dual achieve and career plus. We have applied for Cognia accreditation for these programs and are awaiting news on our approval. The goal for online learning is to have 400 courses being offered to students by AY2023. Our eCampus pilot began Summer semester and has 206 students. By AY2023 we are wanting to have a 15% enrollment increase in eCampus.

Al McCall presented on Economic Development. They had several FY2022 accomplishments including training over 3,500 individuals; working with over 220 different companies in our service area; providing over 53,000 training hours, which brought in over \$310,000 in revenue for the college. The FY2023 goals include training 4,000 individuals; working with over 240 companies in our service area; providing 60,000 training hours; and bringing in \$350,000 in revenue.

Some of our industry partners include Pilgrim's Pride, Purina, Nibco, CertainTeed, Jittery Joes, and Zaxby's. The CNA program has the highest pass rate in the State of Georgia. In 2021, the CNA lab received a \$65,000+ upgrade to state-of-the-art lab equipment. The ManufactuREADY program is a six-week program offered to people who are unemployed in order to help them obtain a job. The Driver's Education program is still being offered and each class has filled up every time.

They provide many company contract training including CPR/First Aid/AED, ServSafe Manager, Forklift Operator, Microsoft Office Suite and Lean Six Sigma. They are providing students with virtual technology in order to offer them career pathways that might not have otherwise been considered. They use transfer VR headsets that give students an on the job experience in a hands-on simulation.

Fabersha Flynt presented on Adult Education. Their FY2023 projection goal for enrollment is to get numbers back to where they were pre-Covid. They want to have 877 students. The projected completion rate is 25%. One of their biggest initiatives for the fiscal year is to increase presence in the community. We have planned "Coffee & Connections" to help engage the community. There are several ways we plan to retain our students which includes a financial literacy fair, having career services specialists/success coaches, and providing commit to complete.

She attended the Council on Adult Basic Education (COABE) this year. We received the 2022 National Award for Advancing Workforce Development for Adult Learners, which included a check for \$2,000.

Kathryn Thomas presented on Facilities and Improvements. There were many infrastructure and renovation improvements from FY2018 to FY2022, which included things like new computers, new security cameras, new roofs on buildings, new carpet, HVAC upgrades, and demolition of the Compass Church. There are a few projects that are in progress that include HVAC control system renovation in the J Building, updating the facilities master plan, which is a requirement for SACSCOC, and the Nursing renovation at the Walton Campus. Our goals for FY2023 include a new roof for Building J, stucco repair for Building A, a Commercial Truck Driving Range at the Walton Campus, and a greenhouse for the Elbert Campus.

We have some future opportunities that include renovating existing spaces for a Welding Lab at the Walton Campus, Warehousing and Distribution for the Athens Campus, expansion of Cosmetology/Esthetics on the Athens and Elbert Campuses, and Medical Assisting on the Athens Campus.

Lenzy Reid presented on Student Affairs. There are several ways we recruit students to the college. Some of these include Tech on Tuesdays, on-campus tours, counselor workshops, probe fairs, new student and parent orientation, and program exploration. From time to time we provide potential students with Free Application Week in which we waive the application

fee. We also participate in recruitment events in our community including junior college fairs at schools, 4-H State Conference, decision day events, and school district events.

Our Academic Support Center is part of Student Support Services in which students are provided tutoring. This can be done either in-person or online. There are many ways students can get involved in the college including being on the Athens Technical College Student Advisory Council (ATCSAC), being a student ambassador, or joining a program-specific organization. We have a variety of events on our campuses including Spring Fling, Fall Festival, and Honor's Day.

We have a Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), which helps to address issues that students may have. Our Police Department is dedicated to protecting and serving our college. Their FY2023 strategic goal is to obtain Police Department Certification.

Josh Paine presented on Institutional Advancement. In FY2022, we increased our digital marketing efforts, created a new Admissions video, developed a new brochure, launched an "Achieve More" podcast, and promoted open faculty/staff positions via social media. Our FY2023 goals include increasing storytelling across platforms, produce a new brand/impact video, and continue with podcast videos.

For the past year, he has been working with a company on a new website design. It will have streamlined navigation and content and focus on program pages. It will be a responsive and mobile friendly design. He is hoping to launch the new website in the Fall.

They are working on establishing community relations. LEAD Athens and Leadership Walton took a tour of the Athens Campus. The Walton County Chamber of Commerce had a Coffee and Connections.

The Athens Tech Foundation provided \$131,446 in student support for 2021. This was a 74% increase from 2019. The Foundation in FY2022 worked on fundraising priorities, marketing/storytelling, and increasing awareness of scholarships and applications. Some goals for FY2023 include a new work plan and having a signature event for our 35th anniversary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

We do not have enough board members present for a quorum today, however, Becky Allen will be contacting the absent board members to obtain their approval for necessary action items. Chair Dally called for approval of the April minutes. Tom Denny made a motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Reginald Woods seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The minutes were approved.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Kathryn Thomas presented the FY2023 Annual Operating Budget. This includes locally generated funds, TCSG funds and external grants and contracts. Ms. Thomas asked for approval of the FY2023 Annual Operating Budget. Dr. Reginald Woods made a motion to approve and Tom Denny seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The FY2023 Annual Operating Budget was approved.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Dally asked board members if they had anything to comment. Dr. Reginald Woods asked if we have programs that need scrutiny. Dr. Douglas reported earlier about critical enrollment. Dr. Douglas commented that she has not begun yet but will be looking at programs to see if some changes are needed to be made.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Chair Dally adjourned the meeting with appropriate motion and second at 10:24 a.m.

Dr. Andrea Daniel, President
Rebecca Allen
Executive Assistant
August 16, 2022

Next scheduled Board Meeting: September 20, 2022

** Denotes action items that require a vote for approval by the local board.*