

Athens Technical College
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2023
9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Kyle Brown
Mr. Phil Bettendorf
Mr. Tom Denny
Mayor Fred Perriman
Mr. Mike Sale
Mrs. Ruth Tellano-Daniel
Dr. Reginald Woods

MEMBERS ABSENT

Judge Cheveda McCamy

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Fred Perriman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. welcoming everyone to the September board meeting

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Denelle White, Program Chair for Surgical Technology, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Surgical Technology Program. A surgical technologist is someone who assists the surgeon before, during and after surgery. They prepare operating rooms making sure a table is set up with all the necessary supplies/equipment that is needed for the surgery. They are responsible for counting the surgical tools before, during and after the surgery, and ensuring they are sterile. They are also responsible for marking medications that is going to be used during the surgery.

The Surgical Technology Program at Athens Technical College was first accredited in 1988. The last self-study was conducted in 2020 and the next self-study will be in 2030. Ms. White told the board members a little bit about herself. She has been a surgical technologist for twenty-five years and a program director for sixteen years. She enjoys working with students and informing people on what exactly a surgical technologist does.

The program has five measurement outcomes they must account for which include retention, pass rate, placement rate, employer satisfaction and graduate satisfaction. The diploma was discontinued in recent years and transitioned to an Associates in Applied Science. She currently has six students enrolled with twelve to start in January. She also has a waiting list for students wanting to get into the program.

A student's clinical rotation consists of the second half of Summer semester and runs through Fall semester. They must complete 120 surgical cases consisting of 30 cases in general surgery and 90 cases in specialty surgery. They currently have four clinical sites and are working on expanding to include more sites.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Perriman called for approval of the August 2023 minutes. Phil Bettendorf made a motion to approve the minutes and Mike Sale seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The minutes were approved.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Kathryn Thomas is at a SACSCOC On-Site Committee meeting today. Octavius Davis presented the Financial Report as of August 31, 2023.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Kristen Douglas presented an update on Academic Affairs. She has a program termination and several Technical Certificates of Credit (TCCs) for approval. The first Dr. Douglas presented was the termination of the Consumer Economics Program. We had an articulation agreement with UGA for this program, however, due to curriculum changes in UGA's Consumer Economics Program, the articulation agreement was terminated. Our current Consumer Economics Program does not transfer to other institutions nor does it prepare students for career opportunities. We are recommending the program be terminated with a specific teach out plan for any current students.

Dr. Douglas presented the Child Development Specialist TCC for approval. This TCC would be embedded in the Early Childhood Care and Education Program and would allow students to enter the workforce through a shorter program.

She presented three new TCCs in Barbering. These would consist of Barbering Fundamentals, Barbering Assistant and Barber II and all three would be embedded in the current Barbering Technology Program.

She presented a newly developed TCC, Cancer Registry Management. There is a shortage of Certified Tumor Registrars with their only being thirteen NCRA accredited certificate programs nationwide. This TCC does not exist through TCSG and we would like to create the certificate for the system. We would be the only technical college to offer it.

Dr. Douglas asked the board for approval of the Consumer Economics Program termination, approval of the Child Development Specialist TCC, the three Barbering TCCs and the Cancer Registry Management TCC. Tom Denny made a motion to approve and Phil Bettendorf seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. All of these items were approved.

Our SACSCOC visit is coming up October 9th – 12th. They have been working hard on preparations for this visit. The SACSCOC team will be visiting four off-site locations including the Elbert County Campus, Morgan Career Academy, Morgan County Transportation Depot, and Greene College and Career Academy.

Her team presented the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) at our College Wide Faculty/Staff meeting in August. They enjoyed some fun while learning about our QEP including playing the Athens Tech Family Feud. Faculty/staff received QEP t-shirts and coasters. The QEP will be presented during our SACSCOC visit.

We have an accreditation visit coming up in November for our Paralegal Program. It will be a virtual visit.

We have 980 dual enrollment students for Fall semester and 55 dual achieve students.

They are working on apprenticeships with Rivian.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Lenzy Reid gave the board an update on Student Affairs. Mr. Reid presented a PowerPoint presentation about enrollment and Fall welcome back week for students. Enrollment for Fall semester is 4,230 with 32,098 credit hours. This is an increase compared to Fall semester last year when we had 3,865 students with 29,117.5 credit hours.

Mr. Reid presented photos from the Fall welcome back week.

They are planning to bring back student ambassadors.

The QEP was presented to students.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Al McCall gave an update on Economic Development. They are providing training to plumbers with the Georgia Municipal Gas Authority.

There will be a Forestry Forum on November 8th on the Elbert County Campus.

They have been doing a lot of Serve safe classes lately. Provided a class to ten people in Elberton last week. Also provide classes to Chick-fil-A in Commerce and Whitworth Women's Facility in Harwell. There will be a Serve safe open enrollment class in Athens coming up soon.

They provided leadership training to Farm View in Madison.

They did some crane and rigging training for Matthews.

Also provide some forklift training in Athens.

They are still working with providing digital badges to students who have completed training.

ADULT EDUCATION

Fabersha Flynt provided an update on Adult Education. They have an Adult Education Fall Conference in Atlanta this week. This is the first one since Covid.

She is excited to be a part of the Talent Pipeline Grant that we will be a part of. It will provide much needed help with the childcare worker shortages in the State.

She has been going into communities and promoting the Career Plus High School Initiative.

She is working with Economic Development on IETs to find programs to get students into the workforce. They are working together on providing trainings such as OSHA 10, forklift and Serve Safe.

Ruth Tellano-Daniel thanked Ms. Flynt for speaking at Kiwanis in Hartwell recently.

COLLEGE UPDATES

Josh Paine provided an update on the Athens Tech Foundation and Public Relations. The Athens Tech Foundation awarded twenty-eight scholarships for Fall semester. There has been \$59,000 in scholarships awarded to students so far this year. There has also been \$30,000 in retention awarded. A total of \$92,400 has been awarded to students by the Foundation.

They will be starting their internal campaign next month for employees. There will be an appreciation event on October 30th from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

We received 219 college applications through our social media and 616 through our search engine marketing.

He is working on promoting the dual achieve program.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Daniel presented the President's Report. There will be a Governor's Workforce Summit in October. The Governor has some new initiatives he may announce. We are the number one State to do business for ten years in a row.

She attended the September State Board Meeting where all technical colleges presented their Capital Outlay projects. The Commissioner reviewed the list and narrowed them down to the top five projects. She is happy to announce that our project was selected as number one on his list. This project will consist of phase one of the Walton County Campus renovation of \$9.875 million dollars. She is hoping to make the Governor's list.

She is happy that our enrollment is up over 8%, which exceeds the goal we had set as well as the goal TCSG had set.

The graduate placement report will be coming out today. We are seeing a 31% increase in graduates as well as an increase in awards. This is the highest increase of graduates of any technical college.

She is looking forward to our SACSCOC visit in October, which only occurs every ten years.

She has working with Rivian and SK Battery a lot lately.

She is seeing an increase in the number of companies coming to Georgia.

She met with the Lt. Governor about dual enrollment funding. They are looking at possibly stopping funding for colleges. We do not get any additional funding for dual enrollment. If they stop funding the program in the manner that it is funded now may cease to exist.

She was asked to serve on the Southeastern Presidents Roundtable.

Each year at our College Wide Faculty/Staff meeting two people at the college are presented with OWL Awards. She has asked this year's winners to come to the board meeting and speak to the board. She introduced Linda Long and Dean Shawana Stanford. Ms. Long spoke about the path that led her to the college. After starting out as a student and then holding many positions at the college, she is currently the Assistant Director of Financial Aid. Dean Stanford spoke about her work at the college. She has been at the college twenty-four years and truly enjoys helping students. She is the Dean of General Education, Online Learning and Dual Enrollment.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Perriman thanked Dr. Daniel for all of her hard work and dedication to the college. Chair Perriman asked board members if they had anything to comment. Dr. Reginald Woods recognized Chair Perriman for his help in raising \$48,000 for the City of Madison to benefit parks and pedestrian safety. Dr. Woods presented an article in the September AARP magazine about the grant awarded to the City of Madison.

Chair Perriman mentioned to board members that he would like to email each of them to schedule a time for them to have lunch together.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Dr. Andrea Daniel, President
Rebecca Allen
Executive Assistant
September 19, 2023

Next scheduled Board Meeting: October 17, 2023

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