

**Athens Technical College**  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
February 20, 2024  
9:00 A.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Josh Paine introduced the college's two Rick Perkins Award finalists. First, he introduced our runner up, Kye Haymore, Program Chair for the Paralegal Studies Program. Ms. Haymore has been a member of the American Bar Association since 1996 and has been teaching paralegal classes for the past seventeen years. Ms. Haymore spoke to the board members and told her journey to becoming an instructor at the Athens Technical College.

Mr. Paine introduced our Rick Perkins Award winner, Coleman Simmons, Program Chair for the Air Conditioning Technology Program. Mr. Simmons graduated from this program in 2004 and began teaching at the college in 2012. He became the program chair in 2015. Mr. Simmons told board members his story and how technical education has benefited him.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Perriman called for approval of the January 2024 minutes. Tom Denny 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 presented the Budget Amendments. There are several budget amendments this month, including funds from TCSG and external grants/contracts. Ms. Thomas asked for approval of the budget amendments. Ruth Tellano-Daniel made a motion to approve and Phil Bettendorf seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The budget amendments were approved.

Kathryn Thomas presented the Financial Report as of January 31, 2024.

### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

Dr. Kristen Douglas presented an update on Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness. The Paralegal Studies Program had a virtual accreditation visit last week. There were no findings and only some minor suggestions. The program will be reaccredited.

We received notification that our Dental Program will be reaccredited through 2029.

There are two ways to change curriculum at the college. It can be changed by a curriculum committee's approval or through a probe by TCSG. We recently found out through a TCSG probe that our Practical Nursing program will be shortened and will go from a diploma program to a certificate program due to a federal change. Our faculty can make this change but will be doing some extra information sessions for students regarding the change.

They are working to make some changes to our QEP to be submitted to SACSCOC. These were some minor suggestions that SACSCOC had while they were here visiting in October. Once the changes are submitted then we should receive our reaccreditation information back in June.

Our dual enrollment program is doing great. Dual enrollment students are almost 25% of our student population.

We have 64 students for Spring semester in our Dual Achieve Program. We hope to have 15-20 students graduate this Spring.

Enrollment by traditional students has increased 11%.

She has been involved with a workforce development strategic plan committee with the Athens Chamber. They are taking a trip this week to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to visit the West Alabama Works Program.

Dr. Douglas introduced Beth Thornton who is our new Director of Library Services.

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Lenzy Reid gave the board an update on Student Affairs. He passed out information regarding enrollment. Enrollment for Spring 2023 was 3,450. We had an increase for Spring 2024 to 3,864 students which is a 12.5% increase.

Mr. Reid presented a PowerPoint presentation with photos of our award winners for GOAL, Rick Perkins, EAGLE and Adult Education as well as the Walton Explore ATC Program Expo that was held last week. There were 140 students who attended on Wednesday and 134 students attended on Thursday. These were students from different schools in the area.

Graduation is May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am at the Classic Center. Adult Education graduation is the same day at 2:00 pm.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Al McCall gave an update on Economic Development. He has been on several company prospect visits lately.

They have recently provided CPR training to Caterpillar. They will be providing more CPR training to them in March.

They have also provided CPR training to the Early Childhood Care and Education Program.

They are still providing OSHA 10 training at Whitworth in Hartwell.

They recently provided leadership training for employees at Striplings who want to be managers.

They have submitted their driver's education contract for renewal. They have to renew the contract once a year. The next driver's education class will begin April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The next CNA class will begin March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

Fabersha Flynt gave an update on Adult Education. They are working on enrollment numbers. We are 38% above the state average in measurable skills gains. They are providing Saturday classes for people who can't get here during the week. The state goal for GEDs is 9,000.

We have an open house in each of our eleven-county service area except for Taliaferro. You can stop by any open house and get information and meet our instructors.

They have several Adult Education conferences coming up in March.

## **COLLEGE UPDATES**

Josh Paine provided an update on the Athens Tech Foundation and Public Relations. He has been working with Fabersha Flynt to promote the Adult Education open houses.

He has also been working with Dr. Douglas on new program flyers.

TCSG has added a new inquiry form through Target X to our website for potential students. The form will generate an email to either Admissions or Adult Education.

He is working to promote free application month which is coming up in March as well as the Georgia Match Program.

The Athens Tech Foundation was given a \$100,000 endowment for CNA scholarships.

The second annual Illuminate event is coming up in April. So far they have raised over \$45,000. Their goal is \$100,000.

The Athens Tech Foundation recently held a Parliament Society event which had a good turnout.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Daniel presented the President's Report. She thanked the Frances Wood Wilson Foundation for the \$15,000 grant we received for students.

She thanked Representative Houston Gaines who has graciously agreed to be our graduation keynote speaker.

She is happy to see how our enrollment is growing, especially with traditional students.

She thanked Governor Brian Kemp for including in his budget the Walton County Campus renovation.

She thanked everyone for all the successful program accreditation visits.

We are excited to have thirty-nine students competing at Skills USA this week.

### **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Chair Perriman thanked all the board members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the board meetings each month.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Chair Perriman adjourned the meeting with appropriate motion and second at 10:00 a.m.

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Dr. Andrea Daniel, President  
Rebecca Allen  
Executive Assistant  
February 20, 2024

*Next scheduled Board Meeting: March 19, 2024*

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