

**Manatee Technical College  
Board of Governors  
Minutes for January 26, 2017**

**Present:** John Beckwith, Jay Bush, Jeanette Eddy, Omar Edwards, Tim Fanning, Lisa King, Joshua Matlock, Michael McKnight, Martha Meyers, Lisa Pierce, Bill Stoltz, Erin Sulbaron, Michelle Todoroff, Valerie Viands, Doug Wagner, John Ziemnicki

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by John Ziemnicki.

Mr. Ziemnicki welcomed everyone and thanked all for attending. Introductions were made.

**Minutes of the October 14, 2016 Meeting:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2016, meeting. Motion passed.

**Reports:**

**Grants Update and Enrollment Reports:** Mr. Ziemnicki asked if the board had any questions about the grants update or the enrollment report that were emailed prior to the meeting. There were no questions or comments on the reports.

Doug Wagner asked if members liked the format of receiving the reports ahead of time by email. The group indicated that they preferred receiving reports in advance by email. Members are encouraged to email, text, call Mr. Wagner with any questions at any time.

**Budget Update:** Mr. Wagner reviewed a handout he provided regarding the current State of Florida Workforce Education funding model. The issue is to ensure that all 49 school system run technical colleges/centers are funded at 100 percent of the present funding model to guarantee equity, continuity and consistency across the state. Currently MTC is receiving approximately \$.94 per \$1 earned. Next year it is estimated that MTC will receive \$.90 per \$1 earned if adjustments are not made. Mr. Wagner presented information on the funding formula to the county commissioners and legislators in December while letting them know that we want/need to be funded at 100 percent. Help may be needed from this board to help have all technical colleges/centers funded at 100 percent. Our legislative delegation is receptive to this issue and it is certainly not the first time they have heard this.

Martha Meyers asked how Manatee County and MTC compare with other districts and colleges/tech centers. Mr. Wagner stated that there are 67 school districts in Florida. There are 49 tech colleges/centers in 29 districts. MTC has the fifth largest enrollment in the state and is number one in the number of programs offered. MTC increased instructional hours by more than 11 percent last year for career and technical education and serves approximately 5,000 students annually.

**Reports from MTC Administration:**

**Update on Council on Occupational Education (COE) Accreditation Process and Visit:** Valerie Viands reported that MTC is in the midst of the COE reaccreditation process. Teachers and staff are working hard on the self-study and gathering the necessary documentation. The team leader for the visiting team will be at MTC on February 1 and 2 to review the preparations for the entire team visit. The team will be at MTC on March 6.

**Date Change for April Board of Governors Meeting:** Dr. Viands proposed changing the April 20, 2017, MTC Board of Governors meeting to March 6, 2017, at 5 pm. The previous meeting had been scheduled to coincide with the advisory committee dinner. The advisory committee dinner has since been rescheduled to March 6 to coincide with the COE team visit. *A motion was made and seconded to reschedule the next MTC Board of Governors meeting from April 20, 2017, to March 6, 2017, at 5 pm. The motion was approved.*

Jeanette Eddy and Michael McKnight explained what to expect during the COE team visit. The team will be looking at everything from program enrollment to follow-up of our students' employment after graduation. **Please plan to stay after the BOG meeting to attend the dinner.** The team will expect to speak with/interview every staff member. In addition, they will want to speak to the members of the MTC Board of Governors. During the dinner we will have BOG members seated at tables together (if you serve on a specific advisory committee, you may sit with your program). Please bring business cards with you to give to the team members who speak with you. This will help as they need to make a record of everyone they speak to.

Mr. McKnight shared that the COE Self-Study has been written to address each criteria and it is pretty much ready to go. It has been a huge job to gather all of the documentation for the exhibits. He feels that we are on track.

#### **Council on Occupation (COE):**

The following plans were emailed to members along with the agenda prior to this meeting.

- Standard 3 – Placement & Follow-Up Plan
- Standard 5 – Instructional Equipment & Supplies
- Standard 5 – Media Services Plan
- Standard 6 – Health & Safety Plan
- Standard 6 – Physical Facilities Plan
- Standard 6 – Technical Infrastructure Data Privacy, Safety, and Security
- Standard 7 – Refund Policy
- *Standard 10 – Student Services Plan – Hard Copy Provided at Meeting*

COE requires that these plans are reviewed and approved annually by the MTC BOG. Members were asked to review these plans and bring any suggested changes, comments, etc., to this meeting. In the future these plans will be presented to members three to four at a time throughout the year. The Student Services Plan was not sent with the others, but was reviewed with the board by Ms. Eddy.

The plans were discussed. *A motion was made and seconded to approve all plans as presented. Motion was passed.*

#### **Group Discussion on Postsecondary Educational Requirements in the Workplace:**

Mr. Ziemnicki gave examples of how technical training benefits entry-level employees in the drafting field. He stated that it is beneficial for workers to come to him with training. To work at his company, employees do not need to have a four-year degree. Technical training is the best way to get a foot in the door.

Mr. Wagner commented that the push in education is for all to have a four-year college degree. However, many jobs are not necessarily in need of a four-year credential. How does this work in your field or business?

Jay Bush spoke on the needs in the public safety field. Technical training is great for getting in the door. Degrees are required for promotions. The good thing here is that many organizations provide tuition-reimbursement for their employees.

Tim Fanning addressed the situation for the hospitality industry. Servers being promoted to management – the fast track is for those with a degree in hospitality or communications. Those without degrees can move up the ladder going through the traditional steps which takes longer. Mr. Fanning said they like hiring employees who are attending or who have completed the culinary program as these folks have a true interest in the career field. He went further discussing technical training to say that it would be great to have members of the management team trained and/or licensed in refrigeration. The time and money this would save would be tremendous. It was suggested that MTC could look into providing specialized training in refrigeration or other areas for the hospitality industry. Restaurants could send designated staff for training.

Michelle Todoroff informed the board that she receives a lot of calls from area employers looking to hire high school students with no training to fill their vacant positions. There is a shortage of employees in career and technical fields in this area. Many students attend MTC first, acquire a skill and have a good job while attending college.

Erin Sulbaran shared her experience that if you have a technical skill, it is a great way to attend college while working in a job with benefits. She worked as a cosmetologist while attending college. The flexible schedule of this profession was great while in college as well as to come back to at different stages in life. An additional benefit is that these skills are good across the country.

Mr. Ziemnicki spoke of the number of veterans that are served at MTC and the benefit of having that population attend our school.

Josh Matlock stated that MTC is doing a great job but on a broader level the story is still that you must get a four-year degree. The story should not be either or, but both technical college and college. Students can take better advantage of a four-year degree with a technical degree. A better story needs to be told.

Tim Fanning added that the restaurant industry is losing employees to the construction industry. In his restaurant he can start someone at minimum wage or someone with a higher wage who has a certificate in the field and who has already expressed an interest on this career path. He wants to hire employees who are looking for long-term growth and prefers hiring MTC graduates over four-year graduates becoming their waiting room for the position they are really seeking.

Lisa Pierce shared that with the new taxes for roadways the need has and will continue to increase for inspectors and DOT certified employees. What they are finding is that applicants are way over-qualified or those with experience have recently moved to Florida and don't know the Florida regulations. This area does not have the trained people to meet the needs. How can MTC work with Ad-Vance to quickly train potential employees; some of whom will have the appropriate experience, but from other states.

Oliver Freeman said he is proud of MTC and likes to brag about the successes of the school. He frequently recruits for the school.

Martha Meyers suggested to Ms. Pierce that we piggy-back with Hillsborough County construction fair that is geared toward transportation. Ms. Meyers is working with Gulf Coast Builders to put on a construction rodeo geared to high school juniors and seniors and include Suncoast Technical College and Manatee Technical College.

Omar Edwards said we are missing a golden opportunity by not recruiting from the Adult Education Program. They are working toward all of their students having a three to five-year plan to include receiving GED, learning to speak English, receiving a career and technical education certificate and becoming employed. He is in contact with employers for students to work a flexible schedule that would not interfere with their school schedule.

Ms. Todoroff indicated that there are 115 students who are dual enrolled at MTC and Manatee County high schools. Braden River High School as the most dual enrolled students followed by Lakewood Ranch High School. Most of the high schools returning to a seven-period day has really hurt our dual enrollment numbers.

Mr. Wagner invited all to stay and attend our mid-year graduation at 6 pm this evening.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

### **Future Meetings**

March 6, 2017, 5:00 p.m

### **Graduations and Other Important Dates:**

February 15, 6 p.m. – Dental Assisting, East Campus Auditorium  
March 1, 6 p.m. – Law Enforcement, Cantrell Hall  
April 3, 6 p.m. – Practical Nursing, Cantrell Hall  
April 11, 6 p.m. – National Technical Honor Society Induction, Cantrell Hall  
April 27, 6 p.m. – National Adult Education Honor Society Induction, Cantrell Hall  
June 8, 6 p.m. – Optometric Assisting, Wagner Auditorium  
June 19, 6 p.m. – Patient Care Technician, Cantrell Hall  
June 20, 6 p.m. – Dental Assisting, East Campus Auditorium (tentative)  
June 21, 6 p.m. – Law Enforcement, Cantrell Hall  
June 22, 6 p.m. – Adult Education, Cantrell Hall  
June 26, 6 p.m. – Main Campus Graduation, Cantrell Hall  
June 29, 6 p.m. – Practical Nursing, Cantrell Hall  
August 12, 6 p.m. – Practical Nursing Executive, Cantrell Hall