

**TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY  
AREA COMMISSION MEETING  
February 15, 2022 at 9:00  
President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather campus  
and via Zoom <https://tcl.zoom.us/j/5029645792>  
Public Comment: [areacommission@tcl.edu](mailto:areacommission@tcl.edu)**

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Randy Dolyniuk, Chairman  
Sheree Darien, Vice Chair  
James Boozer, Secretary  
Dr. William Small  
Heath Duncan

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Gough, President  
Leslie Worthington, VP Academic Affairs  
Nancy Weber, VP Student Services  
Janis Hoffman VP Administrative Services  
Mary Lee Carns, VP Institutional  
Advancement and Executive Director, TCL  
Foundation

**ABSENT EXCUSED**

David Smalls  
Rick Toomey

**COUNTY LIAISONS**

Alice Howard, Beaufort County Council

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The February meeting of the Area Commission for the Technical College of the Lowcountry was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 9:00 in the President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather Campus and via Zoom. Prior to the meeting media were notified and provided with the agenda. An email address for public comment as well as the Zoom information is published on the agenda.

**CALL TO ORDER and CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Dolyniuk called the meeting to order at 9:00 and called for a motion to approve the meeting Agenda. Mr. Boozer made the motion which was seconded by Dr. Small. Motion carried. Chairman Dolyniuk then called for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as submitted. Dr. Small made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Boozer. Motion carried.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Dr. Worthington reported that her first weeks have been filled with getting to know employees and faculty. She is also getting to know our Dual Enrollment partners in the service area high schools. She and VP Weber, along with AVP Canning, will travel to Hampton in a few weeks to meet with their superintendent and dual enrollment coordinator to begin to build thier program. Dr. Worthington also told the Commission that we lost a faculty memeber to COVID in the past week. Ms. Karen Singleton, nursing instructor passed away as a

result of COVID-19 last week. She said she looks forward to having more to share with the Commission as she becomes more entrenched in the College and familiar with the service area.

### STUDENT AFFAIRS

Vice President Weber began by reporting that enrollment is flat compared to last year with a slight – 1%- drop in FTE. There are 432 Dual Enrollment students registered with a significant increase in Jasper County. While lives are still in upheaval from the pandemic, she feels it's important to understand what is driving the decisions not to continue from Fall to Spring. She is working with Institutional Research to develop a survey for the students who applied for Fall and Spring but didn't enroll. She also said that Enrollment Services and Financial Aid are short staffed with open positions in FA as well as Navigator positions and the Dual Enrollment Coordinator at Whale Branch Early College High School. Dr. Small said he believes the dual enrollment profile in Hampton needs to be expanded to offer skilled trades and programs leading directly to workforce readiness. The medical assisting program currently has three Hampton students enrolled.

### INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Vice President Carns reported on several areas.

Institutional Advancement is tracking applications which are up 59% for Summer and 32% for Fall.

Continuing Education: CE is fully staffed for the first time in several years and has seen a 31% rise in enrollment.

Manufacturing Tech classes will be offered at Wade Hampton high school, not the Mungin Center in order to better capture the students.

Recent talks with the City of Beaufort have been very positive with the city desiring to support the College in a significant way. She is working to match funds in order to purchase an infant simulator ( sym person) for the nursing programs.

Recent conversations with Representative Herbkersman indicate \$2.7 million in the State budget for the expansion of Health Sciences on the Beaufort Mather campus.

Recent talks regarding the dire need and funding for a workforce training center at New River have produced a possible matching of funds with the State and the County at \$10M each for the training center. After a brief discussion, Chairman Dolyniuk asked for a motion to name the workforce training center the *General Arthur E. Brown Workforce Training Center*. Mr. Boozer made the motion which was seconded by Ms. Darien. Commission vote was unanimous in favor and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

TCL Foundation: Ms. Carns said the Foundation is working with potential estate endowments totaling nearly \$1M.

April is Community College month and Ms. Carns asked the Commission to 'save the date', April 5, for a standing reception and State of the College report at the Culinary Institute of the South.

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Vice President Hoffman report on the following Capital Projects:

Culinary Institute: Final CO is in process awaiting the clearing of some details, i.e. handrails.

Renovation of Buildings 2,4,6, and 8: She reminded the Commission that these projects are to be paid for with \$3.5M received from the State in 2016.

- Building 4 / Health Sciences is complete with an energized radiology lab and new equipment
- Buildings 2, 6, and 8: The lowest bid came in significantly over budget so therefore some decisions will need to be made to reduce the scope , increase the budget or, more likely, both. Dr. Gough said that value engineering is the first preference but will still need to increase the budget. Ms. Hoffman said the there are capital reserve funds remaining from the state for deferred maintenance. Most of the funds were expended on badly needed roof replacements and HVAC replacement. She believes the remainder can be applied to this project and will request this from the Commission when the time comes.
- CDL Pad at Mungin Center is in progress. We have received the DHEC permit and now await the SCDOT permit.

### SCATCC

In Mr. Smalls absence, Mr. Duncan commented on the recent Commissioner's Academy presented by the SCATCC. He said it was very well done; the morning segment was particularly helpful. He wanted to extend his appreciation to David Smalls and said that we should be proud of how well he represented TCL.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Gough reported that the Beaufort County School District is hosting a weekend long seminar entitled African American History Education Conference. The event spans three days and will showcase the art, history, music, and the Gullah Geechee culture in one place. The goal is to allow people of all ages to understand the area and the rich and diverse history by taking it deeper than just a classroom. The first day will be held on the Beaufort Mather campus and BCSD has partnered with the Mather Alumni group to include the story of the Mather School. This is the first year this has been held and Dr. Gough said he looks forward to the success of this event and growing TCL's role.

Dr. Gough reported to the Commission that he has appointed AVP Rodney Adams as the DEI ( Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion) Coordinator for the College. Dr. Gough said that this position is a natural fit for Mr. Adams as he currently oversees the TRIO programs which include support for first generation college students and the Talent Search program which identifies and mentors high school students wishing to continue thier education post graduation. He is working with Dr.Don Orso to develop and administer a DEI and climate survey at TCL. They expect to administer the survey during the month of April. The results of the DEI and climate survey will be shared with the Commission.

Dr. Gough said that he recently asked the system office to provide salary information from Colleges of comparable size to TCL. He was particularly interested in the salary comparisons for Nursing Faculty. The comparison reveled 14 people below average salary compared to other schools. The majority of those were nursing faculty. He is working with VP Hoffman to bring those individuals up to the average. Several positions on the staff side were identified as well. While it may take some time, he is committed to bringing salaries up to at least the average in the Technical College System.

Commissioner Boozer asked about the status of the rental properties that are to be sold. Dr. Gough said that the county is very interested in purchasing them and are working through the requirements now.

Dr. Gough and the Commission discussed the Presidential Medallion and Dr. Gough said that this year he would like to present the award, given to a community member who has contributed to his or her community and personifies the values and mission of the College. Dr. Gough would like to present the award to Reece Bertholf, a TCL graduate who went on to earn a four year degree and a Masters from the Citadel. He currently serves as assistant city manager for the City of Beaufort and will be the speaker at 2022 Commencement in May. The Commission discussed the criteria for the Presidential Medallion and Chairman Dolyniuk asked for a motion to approve presentation of the Presidential Medallion to Mr. Bertholf. Dr. Small made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Duncan. The Commission vote was unanimous in favor and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chariman Dolyniuk discussed the meeting schedule and new approach to the agenda by having the Vice President's report to the Commission on a rotating basis rather than at every meeting. He would like to see the guest speaker series continue and hold the meetings at various locations in the College service area.

He attended the recent inaugural CONVERGE event sponsored the Beaufort County Economic Development corporation which brought together over 400 business and government leaders and community members committed to making the Lowcountry the best place in the country to live and do business. He commented on the energy – and synergy – created by the event and he hopes it will become an annual gathering.

The March meeting will be held at the Culinary Institute and will be a retreat/planning meeting. Mr. Dolyniuk said he would like the Commission to consider their role with the College and what they can do to increase and sustain enrollment and think strategically about what the Commission, as the governing body, and Commissioners as individuals do to positively influence workforce development.

Mr. Dolyniuk asked if there were any general comments. Ms. Darien also attended the CONVERGE event and echoed his words regarding the energy created and the hope that it becomes an annual event. Dr. Small expressed his concern regarding the recent banning of certain books. He also stated his concern with regard to students in the most rural areas needing transportation to a workforce training center at New River. The Commission and leadership team discussed regional transportation issues and options, of which there are few. No actionable solutions were reached.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mr. Dolyniuk adjourned the February 2022 meeting of the Technical College of the Lowcountry Area Commission at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Cullen

APPROVED:



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Randy K. Dolyniuk  
Chairman



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James Boozer  
Secretary