

President's BOR Report April 6, 2021

This report is structured with “duties and responsibilities” for the president of the college.

The responsibility and authority of the CEO for the quality of the institution is derived from the PL7-79, chapter 7, Section 21, (1)(IV.B.2) and Section 21(2)(IV.B.3) authorizes the CEO to approve the selection and appointment of employees of the college.

- A. Fulfill all obligations of the president as outlined in 40 FSMC 721 of the establishment law of the college.

As outlined in the Self Evaluation of December 15, 2015, report specifically on Standard IV.B.1- *“The institutional chief executive officer (CEO) has primary responsibility for the quality of the institution. The CEO provides effective leadership in planning, organizing, budgeting, selecting, and developing personnel, and assessing institutional effectiveness.”*

I have been and will continue to rely on the very capable team of vice presidents to assist in running the college in the absence of a full-time president. We continue to work as a team and have had at least monthly cabinet meetings to discuss continued operation of the college in these unusual times. Initiatives include best uses of HEERF CARES Act funding, management of the college’s COVID-19 response plan; securing funding for the student center at National Campus, the Multi-purpose Technical Building at CTEC, and a teaching clinic at National Campus; planning for faculty professional development day; and review of the college mission, values, and strategic directions in preparation of the next 5-year integrated educational master plan.

COVID-19 Response Update Since December

The college received permission from ACCJC to again offer most courses through distance learning through Spring 2021. The college submitted a substantive change proposal requesting permission to continue with distance learning for most programs at the college to ACCJC in January and the proposal was approved by ACCJC at the February 23, 2021 meeting.

The college continues to follow condition 4 COVID-19 response plans. All staff, faculty and students are required to wear masks and IDs on campus and practice social distancing. Visitors must also wear masks on campus. Security officers are stationed at campus entry points to take temperatures and record names.

National Campus and CTEC moved to condition 3 for two weeks in January, as a precautionary measure when the ship, Chief Mailo, arrived in Pohnpei harbor with one crew member testing positive for COVID-19. Both

campuses re-opened when it was determined there was no community spread.

- B. Retain and maintain full accreditation from ACCJC/WASC.

ACCJC approved the Distance Learning Substantive Change Proposal on February 23, 2021.

Preparation of the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) is ongoing. Writing teams are to have first drafts by May 21, 2021. The drafts will be reviewed by committees for accuracy and completeness, a more final draft will be prepared and made available for third party comment, then final review by the college and the Board of Regents. The report is due to the external peer review team by August 1, 2022.

- C. Ensure development of the next Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023 and Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

The Strategic Plan 2018-2023 has been completed and approved by the BOR. VPIEQA has prepared a short presentation for the Board on recommendations related to the mission and strategic directions during the April 2021 meeting. The next phase is to act on the recommendations and begin preparation of the next 5-year integrated educational master plan.

- D. Continue to assess the organizational structure and reporting procedures and make changes as needed for a more efficient and effective institution.

Cabinet continues to meet to discuss a wide range of topics and issues. I continue to meet with each vice president individually as needed to ensure effective leadership and continuity at this time of transition.

- E. Implement a Reengineering/Sustainability Plan to ensure long-term sustainability of COM-FSM.

Continue with current plans for long-range sustainability.

- F. Continue and strengthen internal leadership capacity building efforts.

The college provides resources for faculty and staff to take courses, earn degrees, and attend conferences and trainings that support their development and service to the college. Everyone is being encouraged to attend conferences with a great number being offered virtually and often for free.

- G. Enhance overall standing of COM-FSM and advocate for the college in all areas.

Memberships in the Association of Community College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges are current. Information regarding workshop and conference opportunities with these agencies and ACCJC are shared with faculty and staff. Interim President continues to attend functions sponsored by the diplomatic corps upon invitation.

As Interim President I am focusing on prioritizing the National Infrastructure Development Plan, the need to retain and attract qualified personnel, monitor Compact renegotiation or termination and develop contingency plans, build on fund-raising, grant-writing, and endowment-building capacity and providing quality educational experiences during COVID-19 pandemic. These agenda items will remain as a focus unless directed differently by the Board of Regents.