

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, a teaching clinic at National Campus, and the multi-purpose building for Kosrae Campus; planning for an increase in career and technical education offerings; 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 April

The college will be requesting approval for a mandatory vaccine policy at the September , 2021 meeting. The policy is general and makes reference to all epidemics where vaccines might be available. In August, the National Government made it mandatory for all FSM citizens and anyone or any organization receiving funding from the National Government to be vaccinated. The college falls into this category, so a directive was issued that all employees of the college must be vaccinated.

The college continues to follow condition 4 COVID-19 response plans. However, condition 4 was revised in July after a number of employees became vaccinated. Social distancing was decreased to 3 feet, college sponsored events can be held in person as long as everyone wears a mask and social distancing is observed. Security officers continue to check temperatures and IDs are required.

HEERF Funding plans

We Cares Program and the free laptop program were implemented for eligible students. Other projects include expanding access to internet through community wifi in Chuuk, providing better ventilation in classrooms, fencing campuses to control flow of people entering the campus, generators for those campuses that don't have back up systems, and funding salaries of additional security personnel and overtime hours to keep the learning resource centers open for students needing access to computers and the internet.

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

Preparation of the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) is ongoing. Writing teams have submitted first drafts and the drafts have been reviewed by the technical writer consultant. This fall the drafts go to 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.

The college held a college-wide summit on August 4, 2021. The objectives of the summit were to:

- Prioritize the top three unmet Institutional Set Standards and Key Measures of Success identified in the mid-term report;
- Submit potential projects to address these issues and affect student learning and student achievement; and
- Participate in team building activities to celebrate coming back to more in person college activities.

Two to three projects will be used as the Quality Focus Essay in the ISER. These projects should be innovative and guide activities at the college over a period of 3-4 years.



Kosrae Campus Summit



Yap Campus Summit

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. A mid-term report was presented to the Board at the last 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. PPEC presidents continue to meet monthly.

The office of Institutional Advancement and External Affairs (IAEA) is planning for the 30th Anniversary celebration for the college. The goal is to raise \$500,000 between now and April 1, 2023. A steering committee is proposing a series of events and participation in community activities to in such a way that the college can contribute to the community as well as raise awareness of the college.

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.