

## MINUTES

### **Blinn College District Bryan Campus Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023**

**Committee Members present** were John Nichols, Chair; Kenny Lawson, Vice Chair; Joey Dunn, Secretary; Larry Hodges, Tedi Ellison, and Ginger Carrabine.

**Committee Members absent** were Mike Martindale, Theron Park, and Ron Schmidt.

**Representing Blinn College** present at the meeting were Dr. Mary Hensley, Leighton Schubert, Richard Cervantes, Dr. Jimmy Byrd, Dr. Becky McBride, Dr. Marcelo Bussiki, Jay Anderson, John Chancellor, Richard Bray, Dr. Bennie Graves, Chris Marrs, Tiffany Jenkins, Joyce Langenegger, Michelle McGehee, Max Hibbs, and Melissa Alvarez.

The meeting was called to order by John Nichols at 12:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes** after a proper motion from Mr. Kenny Lawson, seconded by Mr. Joey Dunn, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the September 27, 2022, meeting.

**Academic Updates by Joyce Langenegger, Dean of Academic Support Services, and Michelle McGehee, Dean of Academic Affairs.** The Student Success Initiative offers tutoring to students and is available both in person and on-line. As of April 2022, this program has delivered 1500 hours of tutoring. Academic Affairs provides eCampus Orientation Training for students. Over 39,940 students took advantage of this training between 2019 - March 2023. Blinn's Navigator Program is a student-centered program with faculty and staff volunteers to help teach academically vulnerable students.

Another initiative is the Digital Transformation Program. Blinn has received fifty thousand dollars in state funding for this program. Blinn has also partnered with Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) on a transfer agreement. Under this agreement, students who transfer from Blinn to SNHU will save 10% on tuition. There are six-degree pathways under this agreement which include Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, Graphic Design and Media Arts, Healthcare Administration, Nursing, and Psychology.

**The 88th Legislative Update by Leighton Schubert, Executive Vice Chancellor.** If House Bill Eight is passed this will have sweeping changes to community college funding. The main change in House Bill 8 is to have the majority of state funding for community colleges in the form of an outcome-based funding model as opposed to the current contact hours based funding model. House Bill 8 has passed the House and will now go to the Senate for approval. Under House Bill 1114, Blinn is trying to add the portion of Waller ISD that is located in Harris County to Blinn's

service area. The future goal is to establish a Blinn campus in the greater Waller area. House Bill 1114 has passed the House and will go to the Senate for approval.

**Enrollment Update by Becky McBride, Vice Chancellor for Student Services.** The recent Winter Minimester had the largest enrollment since 2017-18. There are several contributing factors to this increase including advertisement and ongoing correspondence with current and future students.

**Esports and Innovation Update by Max Hibbs, Dean of Engineering, Computer Technology, and Innovation.** The Esports team Valorant had a very successful year. The team was in the top five in the nation all year, are the Fall 2022 South Regional Championships, and won the Spring 2023 Esports GenG Invitational Championship. Blinn is in meetings with College Station/Bryan ISD CTE directors and teachers to develop K-12 Esports locally and in the State.

**Announcements by Jimmy Byrd, Executive Dean of the Bryan Campus.** Beginning mid-May, a major roofing project will occur in buildings A, C, and D. Leighton Schubert announced the College is planning on breaking ground on the new Bryan Administration Building in the summer of 2023 and hopes to have that building complete in the early spring of 2025.

At the request of the Committee, the next meeting will include an update to discuss mental health services to students. The fall meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. by John Nichols.