At its regular meeting on January 21, 2014, the District Board of Trustees reviewed a presentation on “Degree Works” by Mrs. Carolyn Fonville, Advisor, Student Affairs. Degree Works is a web-based academic advising, degree audit, and transfer articulation tool that gives students and advisors the ability to track progress within a program. Additionally, the Degree Works software allows students to do “what if” scenarios that show their progress should they change to another academic program or degree. Mrs. Fonville further demonstrated the features of the program by going through the degree audit of an LSSC student by the name of Lake Hawk. Degree Works is currently being introduced to the student population.

The Board voted to change the date of its regular meeting in February. The meeting date is now Tuesday, February 25, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. at the Sumter Campus. It is anticipated that the Board will change the date of its March meeting when it meets in February.

The Board approved the appointments of the following full-time faculty (effective 1-2-14) James Thomas (Computer Science), Julie Brooks-Fason (Psychology), Jeremy Norton (Political Science) and Andrew Young (Biology). Also approved were the appointmens of Dr. Mary Ann Searle as Vice President of Enrollment & Student Affairs; Dana Slatton as Director of Budgeting & Accounting; Beth Skipper, as Title III Grant Manager; Ryan Harrison as Manager, Educational Talent Search; Sara Covil, as Minority Education STEM Program Manager; Alba Rodriguez as Registrar; Jason Wintersdorf as Maintenance Service Worker I Grounds; and James Youngblood as Programmer/Analyst. The following promotions were approved: Jan Tucker to Senior Specialist in Human Resources; and Francine Costa to Early College Center and Sumter Workforce Academic Advisor.

The following items were approved or accepted by the Board:

- 2014-2017 Strategic Plan
- Curriculum Revisions recommended by Curriculum Committee and President
- Employee Nancy Muenzmay’s request for approval to campaign for political office (Lake County School Board)
- Monthly Fiscal Report for December 2013
- Facilities Update indicated many completed projects: VP Suite & IT Office area (SSB), repainting selected areas (SSB), repainting Science-Math Bldg. first and second floor hallways, carpeting Leesburg Library, first phase of Network Operations Center renovation, and updated highway and signs visible to traffic.
- Purchases over $25,000 from November 1 – December 31, 2013 for technology refresh items or technology planned items for 2013-14 and for maintenance of existing technology and for buses used by our CROP program.

Revisions of Board Rule 5.01 – Administrative and Faculty Contracts were first lodged with the Board at its November 2013 meeting. Since then, the faculty, department chairs, deans and Cabinet have reviewed the Rule again and clarity of the revisions has been improved. The Rule was lodged with the Board for another First Reading in January. The Board will be asked to act on the revisions of Rule 5.01 at its February meeting.

Dr. Mojock reviewed items of interest:

- The Sumter County Partnership for Workforce Innovation and Education is under the direction of Dr. Matthew Basham who has been overseeing the operations of
  - Turf and Golf course Maintenance which meets the needs of the service area and those of the Veterans’ partner “Combat to Careers.” The “Good, Better, Best” program will include free online programs, fee-based programs, and on-campus courses which will better fit the needs of business and industry.
• Electrical Distribution Program (Utility Line Worker) will possibly incorporate a Commercial Driver's License program as graduates are required to have a commercial driver’s license A (truck) and B (trailer). Duke Energy has started talks with us about adding an Electrical Relay program (only the second or third of its kind in the nation).

• The Allied Health and Public Health partner initiated a phlebotomy program, and the first class was full with a waiting list for March classes.

• 9-1-1 Dispatch Telecommunications will start at the end of February 2014.

• Some topics being discussed in Tallahassee:
  - There are indications that there will be no major legislation in education during the 2014 Legislative Session.
  - Textbook affordability - colleges are being encouraged to keep an edition for three years.
  - Veterans will register at colleges in Florida as “residents of the state” and will not be subject to pay out of state fees.
  - The Commissioner of Agriculture has proposed that the state electrical tax be reduced from 7% to 3.5% with the total receipts being used to fund the PECO (Public Education Capital Outlay) list.
  - The Council of Presidents continues to press on the Legislature to use the “compression funding” method to decide on a college’s appropriations. This method of figuring appropriations places all colleges on a more level playing field and reduces the gap between the “haves” and the “have nots.” Because this method of figuring was used by the Legislature last year, LSSC received more funding. It is hoped it will be used again for 2014-2015.
  - Some Tech Centers in Florida want to use the word “college” in the names of their institutions and offer college credit toward Associate of Applied Science degrees. One of the difficulties with the idea is that qualifications for associate degree instructors require a master’s degree, and currently most Tech Centers do not have such faculty.

• The Trustees and Dr. Mojock are spending a lot of time talking with members of our Legislative Delegation about funding a much-needed world-class Science Lab Facility at the South Lake Campus. Although this project is not currently on our PECO list, we want to receive non-recurring general revenue this year in order to start planning the project.

• LSSC’s Board Rule and Administrative Procedures regarding “guns on campus” adequately cover the requirements of the recent Appeals Court ruling on the subject.

• Spring 2014 registration for the District indicates headcount 4,198, down 7.04% from 2013, and FTE at 1163, down 5.77% from 2013, mostly due to the drop in Dual Enrollment. Fee paying FTE is down about 2.4%. There has been an increase in online registration by Dual Enrollment students as well as regular students.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. on the Sumter Campus.