

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Student Success Committee		
<b>Members attending:</b>	Martin Aucoin, Scott Baker, William Brothers, Cheryl Contino-Conner, Johnathan Dean, Michael Despeaux, Mark Ellison (chair), Bethany Emory, Melody Lawrence, Eddie Lunsford, Barb Putman, Debbie Smith, Dawn Wick, Jody Woodring		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	January 23, 2017	<b>Time:</b>	10:00 am
<b>Meeting Purpose:</b>	Improving the quality of students' experiences from consideration to graduation.	<b>Meeting Chair:</b>	Mark Ellison
		<b>Prepared By:</b>	Mark Ellison

**1. Discussion notes** *(add rows as necessary)*

● **Smoky Mountains STEM Collaborative (Patsy Allen, Coordinator):**

- She provided brochures and discussed a number of upcoming initiatives including a balloon project; a viewing of the eclipse in August; a frisbee project with Matt Cass; a globe project and environmental monitoring.
- Patsy indicated six week internships are available paying \$500, with no food or lodging costs.
- The STEM club has been active. A trip to Marshall Space Flight Institute is planned for March.
- Starry night programs for public will be offered soon (dates to be announced). Volunteers are needed.
- Cheryl CC suggested including information about the program in the weekly student newsletter that is distributed by email.
- Cheryl CC also suggested that all associate in science students automatically be included as part of the STEM Club.
- Discussion also focused on the possible need to cancel classes from noon-4:00 p.m. on August 23, 2017 (eclipse day).

● **QEP (PEAK) Update (Mike Despeaux, Director of Career Services):**

- Mike is now director of career services and is coordinating the QEP.
- A new career counselor is being hired for the Career Services department.
- The name of the QEP is still PEAK which now is an acronym for Professional Expectations And Knowledge.
- PEAK is being piloted in three ACA classes during the spring semester. Training sessions will be held in May/June for other ACA instructors.
- A pilot will be started in the spring 2018 semester related to career planning.
- Emphasis is being placed on using technical resources such as LinkedIn; internships; networking and interview skills.

- **Financial Aid Updates (Melody Lawrence, Director of Financial Aid):**

- Default rate draft information will be released in February and will be based on 2014. The rate will come in around 14% or 14.5%. The prior year it was 23.6%.
- A vendor has been hired to contact students who are delinquent on payments.
- Tyler Cook and Sayward Cabe are developing a Blackboard course with financial literacy tools
- FAFSA opened in October (earlier than previous years due to changes in federal guidelines). Currently 750 students have submitted financial aid information compared to usually 150 at this time. Awarding has not started. Financial Aid is waiting on software patches to begin this process.
- The SCC Foundation scholarship application opens February 1.
- Melody emphasized the need to educate faculty and advisors about the consequences of registering students for classes outside of their program of study listed in Colleague. Advisors must check the program first.
- Melody is currently looking at SAP warning policy and evaluating data. This will be taken to ISSA.
- The [Goodnight Scholars Program](#) at NC State is now offering 10 scholarships a year valued at \$19,500 annually to North Carolina Community College transfer students.

- **Residency Determination Service (Martin Aucoin, Director of Enrollment Management):**

- A new centralized [Residency Determination Service](#) will be used by all public higher education institutions in North Carolina beginning February 20.
- Residency Determination (for in-state/out-of-state tuition purposes) will no longer be made at the college level. **In compliance with recent state legislation and NCCCS policies, all post-secondary applicants to SCC beginning February 20th will be required to complete a residency determination online interview with the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS).** These changes will likely impact ALL students applying to NC Colleges and Universities in some way. RDS is tied to receiving in-state tuition at public colleges/universities AND North Carolina state financial aid/grants. This centralization will ensure consistent residency determinations across the state while giving students and institutions accurate and timely residency classifications.
- This change will not affect Career & College Promise students or students who have applied or enrolled prior to February 20, 2017 unless they have a gap in enrollment of more than two terms or they wish to change/appeal their current residency determination. **Students applying to SCC on or after February 20th will be required to complete a residency determination online interview with the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS) as part of the online application process. This will significantly increase the amount of time it takes to apply online and the amount of information they will need available when applying.**
- A student's residency status prior to the Census Date is what will be billed. If a student's status changes later a refund will be provided.
- Students who are continuously enrolled will not need to submit additional residency applications.
- Students who are not enrolled for two or more semester will need to submit an updated residency application.

- **Cheryl CC (Orientation RAT):** Online orientation is being updated to align with the seat based format.

- **Barb Putman (ACA):** The ACA instructor's guide is in the process of being updated and will include a career planning module.