

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



April 24, 2010 - May 14, 2010



TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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TCC trustees say farewell to Law, debate next move

By Angeline J. Taylor
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

The last hour of Tallahassee Community College's Monday trustee meeting went from one emotional high to another.

One moment, TCC trustees debated about how to proceed after President Bill Law leaves to become president of St. Petersburg College. The next minute trustees are saying tearful goodbyes to Law, who has led TCC for eight years.

Law announced that his last day would be Friday. He's leaving now to take care of personal issues before starting his new job in early June.

"It has been eight fantastic years," Law said to trustees. "Together, we have travelled the path."

Earlier, trustees unanimously approved naming Barbara Sloan, TCC's vice president of academic affairs, as interim president.

But trustee chairwoman Karen Moore hoped to leave details of Sloan's temporary presidency to two trustees — Frank Messersmith and J. Allison DeFoor II. Trustee Bill Hebrock, however, didn't feel comfortable with Sloan starting to work as president without her salary being finalized.

"I'm unhappy that we're in this situation to begin with. We're three days away from her start date," Hebrock said. "I don't think you should delegate (her contract and compensation) to two out of seven officers."

"Mr. Hebrock, you delegated yourself as a one-person officer," Messersmith countered, referring to Hebrock's motion to include a salary and other conditions to Sloan's hire as interim president.

Hebrock and other trustees agreed that the interim president should not be allowed to apply for the president's job.



Bill Law (Democrat files)

Hebrock added that condition to approving Sloan. He also included Sloan's May 1 start date. Her salary will be brought up to Law's base salary of \$295,000.

Law told trustees that TCC's president has a contingency fund for the presidential search. The board is hoping to pay no more than \$50,000 for a consultant and \$40,000 for the remainder of the search. Those details will be ironed out at a board retreat. The date for that retreat will be finalized at the May trustees meeting.

New St. Petersburg College president prepares for his new gig

Bill Law, named the new president of St. Petersburg College in April, began his move to the job Monday by announcing his resignation from [Tallahassee Community College](#).

The Tallahassee Democrat reports that Law, [TCC's](#) leader since 2002, told his trustees that he would leave the school after Friday. That way he can deal with some personal business before moving to SPC in June.

"It has been eight fantastic years," Law said to trustees. "Together, we have traveled the path."

The trustees named Barbara Sloan, vice president of academic affairs, interim president.

WCTV - April 27, 2010

TCC to hold 44th Commencement Ceremony on Saturday

Reporter: Press Release from TCC

PRESS RELEASE from TCC

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (April 27, 2010) – [Tallahassee Community College](#) will hold its 44th Commencement Ceremony at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 1 at the Donald L. Tucker Center.

Interim president Barbara Sloan will preside over the ceremony while outgoing president Bill Law will serve as guest speaker.

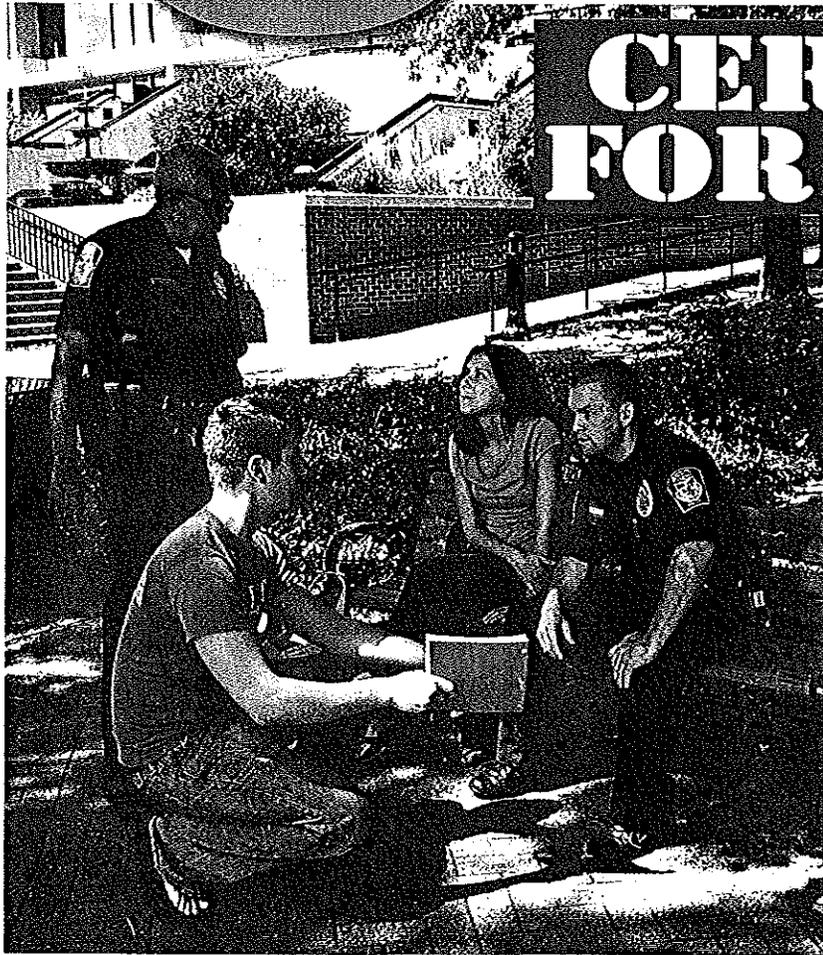
[TCC](#) has graduated 3,096 A.A., A.S. and A.A.S. students during the 2009-10 academic year (Summer 2009, Fall 2009 and anticipated Spring 2010) and more than 400 will participate in Saturday's ceremony.

In addition to Saturday's Commencement, students from the College's Division of Health Care Professions are holding their traditional ceremonies this week.

Graduates of [TCC's](#) Nursing Program will hold a pinning ceremony at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 29 in Turner Auditorium. Those graduating from the College's Dental Hygiene Program will be recognized during a ceremony at 6 p.m., Friday, April 30 in the College's Center for Workforce Development.

University Business

SOLUTIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT

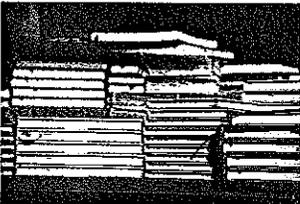


CERTIFIED FOR SAFETY

Why pursuing accreditation for your campus law enforcement makes sense—and how the department can achieve it. **30**



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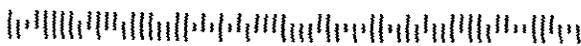


BOOKSTORE TRENDS
Rentals, technology making textbooks more affordable. **41**



OBAMA'S 2011 BUDGET FOR COLLEGE PREP, HIGHER ED
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ONLINE EDUCATION
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VICE PRES ADM/CFO
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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A New Chapter for Campus Bookstores

By Tim Goral

Rental programs and new technologies are helping to make textbooks more affordable.

universitybusiness.com

THE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE AT TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY College (Fla.) uncovered a problem in the course of its annual student survey. “What we noticed last spring was that more and more students were not buying textbooks, period,” says Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Teresa Smith. “They told us that in our surveys. They wrote comments like, ‘I just didn’t buy my textbook this semester’ or ‘I borrowed the chapters I needed from a friend when it was time to study for an exam.’”

The reason most often cited, Smith says, was the cost. “Most of them said they didn’t have the money or didn’t want to spend that much on a textbook. Some said they couldn’t afford all their textbooks, or would only buy a few and get by with borrowing the rest. That troubled us greatly, because we know that students who do not have access to textbooks do not finish the course, or they finish it with less than desirable results and they can’t transfer.”

Textbook costs have risen as much as 60 percent in recent years, according to the ►

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A New Chapter for Campus Bookstores

Student Public Interest Research Groups—with the average cost per student at about \$900 per year.

The problem has not gone unnoticed. Legislators in 34 states have proposed more than 100 bills aimed at controlling textbook expenses, yet few have made much of an impact. A federal law that takes effect in July calls for colleges and universities that get federal aid to provide students with the ISBN and retail price of all required and recommended college textbooks in an online database.

While this provides students with some indication of what their textbooks will cost, it doesn't do much to help them save money.

Last year, Congress set aside \$10 million to fund textbook rental programs, which have had varying degrees of success from independent campus stores. Students have been able to buy books online for years through such outlets as Amazon and eCampus.com, and they've been renting books through independent stores and online vendors such as Chegg.com.

But campus stores operated by national distributors like Follett and Barnes & Noble have advantages that the others don't. As the largest campus bookstore operators in the country, they have the muscle and safety net in place that can let rental programs develop and catch on. Both distributors have launched pilot book rental programs aimed at a small segment of their campus bookstores. Both programs will be expanded this year with more campus stores participating.

HOW RENTAL PROGRAMS WORK

Just as with other kinds of book rental programs, students get the use of a new textbook at a significantly reduced price for the duration of the semester. However, because they supply a credit card number when they rent a textbook, the store is protected if the book is returned in an unusable condition with pages torn out or defaced.

For the major distributors, a book has to be rentable at least twice, and preferably more, to make it profitable. Some books are more amenable to renting than others. Literature and math books that aren't likely to be updated frequently, for example, are more rentable than books that deal with changing technologies or advances in medicine. Bundled packages that include a CD or DVD may not be rentable because the disks often require a password or serial number to access material.

"The decision really comes down to whether a book is going to be readopted in a course or not. Otherwise it's tough to put it into the rental program," says Vince Smyth, director of auxiliary services at the University of North Florida, which operates a Follett store.

"One way to ensure that in the long term is to have the faculty actually commit to a three- or four-semester adoption of a text," he says. "That would make it an automatic choice."

Smyth's store, which serves more than 16,600 students, made nearly 377 of its 1,987 titles available for rent last fall when it began

the program. This year, the number is slightly higher.

For Smith at TCC, the college needed to make a commitment to provide as many titles as possible to put in the rental program.

"We have a progressive adoption schedule at TCC in that our faculty has to agree to adopt a textbook for at least two, preferably three, years," she says. "We are very concerned about the cost of education to our students."

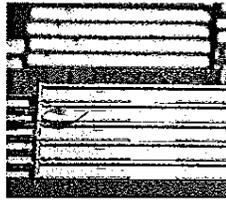
But, she says the major distributors have a pretty good idea already what books are purchased most often.

Indeed, Follett and Barnes & Noble look at book choices across all their client schools nationwide to determine which ones are likely to be readopted for another term.

Additionally, because they are national chains, a rentable book that might not be readopted at one school can be put back into the system elsewhere.

'Since we started the [rental] program, our bookstore sales went up overall by 13.8 percent. That is significant, considering that our enrollment is up only 4 percent.'

—Teresa Smith, Tallahassee Community College



Follett began its rental program last fall in seven pilot stores, which resulted in about \$2 million in savings to students in a single term. Barnes & Noble began its rental program in January of this year, so the numbers aren't fully in yet, but the chain is already planning to expand it to more of its campus stores.

"We sell textbooks online and we sell them in our stores," says Jade Roth, vice president for books at Barnes & Noble. "We know that there is a large percentage of students who are at home or in the dorms or wherever, placing their textbook orders online at two o'clock in the morning," she says. "If we give them the option to buy that way, we also wanted to give them the option to rent that way. And because we have an on-campus presence as well, we have an advantage over other online booksellers. If a student makes a mistake and orders the wrong book or whatever it may be, they can bring it into our on-campus store and we can solve their problem right away. There's no shipping time involved, and no back-and-forth with e-mails."

(As this issue was going to press, Follett announced that it, too, was launching an online component to its rental program.)

SAVINGS

The bottom line, however, is the bottom line—for students, that is. Rental programs help students save money, says John Hall, vice president for administration and campus operations at The University of Texas at Arlington.

"We've been trying hard to maintain affordability for all our

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A New Chapter for Campus Bookstores

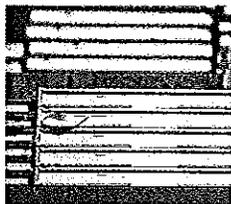
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students, and textbooks have been a major cost concern. The UT system has really made an effort to make the required course materials list available to students as early as possible so they have an opportunity to shop around for the best prices," he says. "They found that, in some cases, it was less expensive from Amazon, and in some cases, it was cheaper to go through the bookstore. The rental program has just made it more affordable for students to get their books from us." Hall says just under \$200,000 in savings were realized in the first semester of the program.

With textbooks costing less, one might wonder whether students are spending their savings in other parts of the bookstore. Although anecdotally there is more money being spent, it's too early to say why.

"We have increased our overall sales in the bookstore, but I don't know that savings on rentals has moved money over to other areas," says Smyth at UNF. "I suspect that some of the money saved from rentals does go to that, but I think I would attribute it more to the fact that we've doubled our store size and have been able to introduce additional lines."

"Interestingly, since we started the program, our bookstore sales were up overall by 13.8 percent," says TCC's Smith. "That is significant, considering that our enrollment is up only 4 percent. Many of our students are Title IV Pell eligible and every dollar they may save in textbooks they get back as a disbursement, which goes to other expenses they have, like child care, or gas for their vehicles. So, while students are spending more in the bookstore, we won't know if there is a correlation for some time. However, if all it took

'I think there will be a lot more options and the campus bookstores are going to have to change and be more flexible in getting those options to students.'

—Vince Smyth, University of North Florida

to get students back in the store was to put in a rental program then that's great."

"The big benefit to the college bookstores is that they can offer more of what their students want—more choice, more price points, more savings," says Roth.

Early results indicate that the rental programs are a hit, and the distributors regularly seek feedback to fine-tune them, says UNF's Smyth.

"From my conversations with our university bookstore council, everyone has been very positive about it.

"Follett conducted a survey that asked students to rate their overall satisfaction with renting textbooks. The results were

that 92.9 percent were satisfied or very satisfied. Just 3.32 percent said they were dissatisfied," he says. "That tells me it's a pretty good program that's in place."

THE CHANGING BOOKSTORE

Textbook rentals represent just one part of the evolving college bookstore scene. The biggest change has been the growth of digital books. Every few years over the past decade, word would come of a new digital text reader that would make the printed page obsolete, but that didn't happen. The early readers had problems, and the publishing industry was reluctant to pay the high price it cost them to digitize books. But now things have changed. Digitizing is much faster and cheaper, and the readers have worked out many of the problems that kept people away from them. Amazon's Kindle reader and Apple's new iPad may be getting the media attention now, but at least four other majors vendors are readying their own readers for release later this year.

And even though digital texts are readily available online, some see the college bookstore as becoming the go-to place for their digital needs, as well.

"People will still want the advice they can get from a real person," says Smith. "They're going to want someone who can make sure they get what they want and can help them with their purchase. I see the college bookstore as being that place."

"I think the college bookstore is going to be all about choices. We've been selling digital texts in our stores since 2003," says Roth. "They are still a very small percentage of our sales, but we see that

growing over time, as digital becomes a significant option. The bookstore of today is already so different from what it was 20 years ago, and I think it will change even more."

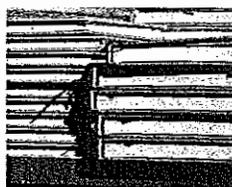
"This is definitely an interesting and exciting time for bookstores," says Smyth. "I think digital texts and the open access textbooks [free, online texts]

we're starting to hear about have potential, but there are still a lot of people who just want hands-on solid books. I think there will be a lot more options and the campus bookstores are going to have to change and be more flexible in getting those options to students.

If a book is available as a digital text, our manager will tell the professor that it's another option."

But whether it's a rental program or a digital download station, the campus bookstore will continue to live up to its moniker.

"That's great for the students because they have the materials they need and that's great for the college," says Smith. "To me that's a win-win for everybody." ■



Resources

Barnes & Noble, www.bn.com

Chegg, www.chegg.com

eCampus, www.ecampus.com

Follett, www.fhcg.follett.com

Student Public Interest Research Groups,
www.studentpirgs.org



I got my associate's degree in Respiratory Care at TCC. Now I work full-time, at a hospital, while earning my bachelor's degree at a university.

Kaley Elkins
*A.S., Respiratory Care,
Class of '09*



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Tallahassee Democrat - March 21, 23, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, May 1, 2010

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Holub is new director at TCC Wakulla

By Jennifer Raymond

Holub isn't a stranger to TCC Wakulla or the county.

She has volunteered her time, as well as her services to the center and was hired as an instructor prior to serving as the director.

She originally got involved in TCC Wakulla through the Ecotourism Institute's green guide certification guide.

"I have an extensive background in environmental education," Holub said.

She helped set the curriculum for the guide and then taught small business development and marketing classes.

"I was here a lot," Holub said.

Holub said she and husband Tim Jordan developed the Wakulla Ambassador Program, which is a hospitality program to welcome visitors to the area.

Classes for this program are taught at the center.

"We had the idea, but didn't have the venue for it," Holub said before the center.

In December 2009, Holub was contacted by then-director, Dr. Mary Wolfgang, who told her she would be retiring and wanted to recommend Holub to fill her position.

Holub accepted the recommendation and replaced Wolfgang.

Holub hopes to continue with what Wolfgang was doing with the Center and expand it.

"She laid a really great foundation," Holub said.

Holub said TCC Wakulla's mission is to educate and train people to become more marketable in the work place. This can be directed toward someone who wants to improve in their current job, someone who wants to obtain education in hopes of finding a job or someone who wants information, training and education to start their own business.

Currently, the center offers the green guide program, which educates people about the environment around them, as well as allowing them to



Bonnie Holub

network with others and expand environmental and cultural awareness. It also offers classes on grant and business writing, green construction and the Wakulla Ambassador Program.

The center also offers free tutoring for students of Wakulla County.

"They are the future work force," she said.

Right now, Holub said, TCC Wakulla is heavy on ecotourism.

"It's successful and people like it," she said.

However, she hopes to expand on what is offered.

"We're wanting to add classes, certifications and training in other areas," she said.

Holub said through personal contact, written surveys and focus groups she is hoping to hear from the people in the community about what types of classes they would like to take.

"We're trying to get the pulse of the community," she said. "The center is here to serve the community. We welcome ideas, suggestions and opinions about what people want from this center."

Holub said she also wants to research and find out what types of jobs are available right now so that they can offer those types of classes and when someone finishes the training or completes the classes, they have a chance to move into a job.

"We want to prepare people for the needed work force," she added.

Holub is new director at TCC Wakulla....

continued

types of jobs are available right now so that they can offer those types of classes and when someone finishes the training or completes the classes, they have a chance to move into a job.

"We want to prepare people for the needed work force," she added.

Holub said that many people wonder why the Center doesn't offer credit courses. She said TCC said it's because the population of the area isn't high enough and the need hasn't been demonstrated.

"We're not ruling it out for the future," Holub said. "With a demonstrated need for certain classes, there would be a greater chance of getting credit classes started here."

She said there has also been a lot of requests from students and parents for TCC's College Success Course.

"There's a chance we may be able to get that started here," she added.

Holub first moved to Wakulla County in 1979 from Tampa. She worked as an administrator for the Wakulla County School District for five years. She then worked as a project manager for Wilderness Graphics Inc. in Tallahassee for two years. The company was responsible for designing signage and environmental exhibits. She then went to

work for the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve as the first public information, education and outreach coordinator for the reserve. Then, in 1989, she opened her own business, Bonnie Holub and Associates, a communications and education business. In her business, she gave educational seminars and training, both nationally and internationally. She said the focus of her business has now shifted to mainly freelance writing.

Over the years, Holub has written script for a environmental program that aired on PBS, worked as part of a four-member team to train coastal property managers in Portugal for the NOAA and served as director for the Wakulla County Tourist Development Council.

"I've been involved in a lot of community groups and organizations," she said.

An open house at TCC's Wakulla Center will be held on Thursday, April 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. to give the community an opportunity to meet the new director and suggest classes to be offered at the Center.

"We look forward to working with the school district, chamber of commerce, Workforce Plus and with all the community members in setting the course for this center," Holub said.

WCTV - May 1, 2010

TCC Graduates Walk the Stage

This was a proud day for several local graduates and the loved ones who looked on.

Reporter: Candace Sweat

EMAIL ADDRESS: CANDACE.SWEAT@WCTV.TV

Tallahassee Community College had a commencement ceremony this evening at the Leon County Civic Center.

About 400 new graduates walked the stage to receive their associate degrees to the loud cheers of friends and family.

The school says this is the largest graduating class it's had in a few years.

State budget includes money for Tallahassee area

Reporter: Press Release from TCC

Tallahassee-area highlights in the \$70.4 billion budget passed by lawmakers Friday.

Leon Schools: \$224.7 million, up 0.5 percent

Gadsden schools: \$39.8 million, down 1.19 percent

Wakulla schools: \$34.7 million, down 0.6 percent

Tallahassee Community College:

n \$4.4 million for Allied Health Education Center

Florida State University:

n \$12.9 million for College of Law renovations

n \$11 million for Applied Sciences building

Florida A&M University:

n \$23 million for pharmacy building

n \$15 million for Crestview health education program

FAMU/FSU College of Engineering, \$4.2 million

Tallahassee Democrat - May 3, 2010

Salary nearly doubled for TCC's Sloan

By Angeline J. Taylor

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Administrator Barbara Sloan's role as interim president of [Tallahassee Community College](#) is nearly finalized.

Her ascension to the presidency doubles her salary from \$143,166.50 to \$295,000. The higher figure represents outgoing [TCC](#) President Bill Law's base pay. Law's last day as president of [TCC](#) was April 30.

Contract details for Sloan were discussed by attorneys and trustees Monday afternoon. [TCC](#) trustees Frank Messersmith and J. Allison DeFoor II are in charge of the subcommittee to iron out details regarding compensation and responsibilities.

The two men met with [TCC](#) attorney Bill Mabile and Sloan's attorney, Palmer Proctor. However, their decisions on Sloan's contract will not be finalized until the full trustee board votes on May 17.

Sloan specified that her contract reflect that she be returned to her former position as vice president of academic affairs once a new president is found.

Messersmith said Sloan being named president of [TCC](#) is "well deserved."

After the meeting, Sloan said the [TCC](#) community "can expect effective leadership to continue the strategic and daily plans of the college."

Trustees plan to hold three meetings today to discuss compensation for Law, a trustee retreat concerning the presidential search and hiring a consultant to assist with the search.

TCC trustees rank consulting firms to help in presidential search

BY ANGELINE J. TAYLOR
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Trustees at [Tallahassee Community College](#) may rely on an old work associate to help them pick a new president.

A trustee sub-committee met this morning and named consultant Jeff Hockaday as a top pick to help in finding TCC's new president. Hockaday was the search consultant hired more than eight years ago to find outgoing TCC President Bill Law.

Trustees Frank Messersmith and Eugene Lamb ranked Hockaday their No. 1 pick.

The trustees also ranked two other firms behind Hockaday – The Clements Group out of Salt Lake City, Utah and Anderson & Associates in Charlotte, N.C.

Final decision on the search consultant will be made at TCC's full trustee board meeting on May 17.

TCC Trustees to meet today to plan for a new president

BY ANGELINE J. TAYLOR
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

[Tallahassee Community College](#) trustees have scheduled three meetings today to usher in a new leader and properly compensate outgoing president Bill Law.

Trustees will discuss the selection of a presidential search consultant at the 10 a.m. meeting to take place at 1558 Village Square Blvd.

The 2:30 p.m. meeting is scheduled to discuss a planning retreat concerning the presidential search.

Then at 4 p.m., trustees will discuss compensation for Law at 200 W. College Ave., Suite 311A.

Return to [Tallahassee.com](#) for more details.

TCC dental hygiene students achieve 100 percent pass rate

The 19 [Tallahassee Community College](#) students who graduated from the institution's dental hygiene program passed the national board examination for their profession, according to communication specialist Rob Chaney.

Chaney said the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination is a required exam for students wishing to be registered dental hygienists. The exam has about 400 questions covering medical and dental information learned during the two-year program, Chaney said about news release.

Michelle Edwards, dental hygiene program chair, said this is the 13th time in the 17-year history of the program that TCC graduates have "hit the 100 percent pass rate."

"This was the first time the exam was computer-based, so to achieve a 100 percent pass rate is very exciting," Edwards said.

TCC's Dental Hygiene Students Earn Something To Smile About

Graduating class for TCC's 2010 Dental Hygiene Program receives 100% pass rate on their national exam and beats national score average.

Reporter: Press Release

EMAIL ADDRESS: NEWS@WCTV.TV

On April 30, 19 students graduated from [Tallahassee Community College's](#) Dental Hygiene program. The class received even better news by learning it had achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination.

The Dental Hygiene National Board Examination is a required exam for students wishing to become a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH). The exam, given to students who graduate from a nationally accredited dental hygiene program, has approximately 400 questions covering all aspects of medical and dental

information learned during the two-year course of study.

According to Michele Edwards, Dental Hygiene Program Chair, this is the 13th time in the last 17 years that TCC graduates have hit the 100 percent pass rate. This year's exam also came with a new twist.

"This was the first time the exam was computer-based, so to achieve a 100 percent pass rate is very exciting," Edwards said.

The class average was 85.1 percent, significantly higher than the national average of 81.8 percent.

Tallahassee Democrat - May 5, 2010

TCC trustees start president search

BY ANGELINE J. TAYLOR

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

[Tallahassee Community College](#) trustees took crucial steps toward selecting a new president Tuesday.

Three different sub-committees met throughout the day. They ranked a list of search consultants, planned a board retreat and discussed compensation for outgoing TCC President Bill Law. Their issues, however, can not be finalized until the full board votes on May 17.

Trustees Frank Messersmith and Eugene Lamb met Tuesday with TCC attorney Bill Mabile. They narrowed down their selections for a consultant to assist in the search for a new president. Their ranking was based on qualifications, budget and Florida experience. Consultant Jeff Hockaday was their top pick.

Hockaday was hired as the consultant more than eight years ago when Law was chosen as TCC president. He was one of the few consultants with experience in selecting a community college president.

"I'm firmly in favor of Hockaday," Lamb said. Also, trustees Kimberle Moon and J. Allison DeFoor II were assigned to review Law's compensation with Mabile.

Moon was concerned about a clause in Law's employment contract that allowed him to have an additional annual leave payout providing he gave 365 days notice. Moon and DeFoor agreed that Law informed them when he applied for the St. Petersburg College position.

The contract says, "However, should Dr. Law voluntarily leave the position of President within the next four years (prior to April 30, 2010), Dr. Law will forfeit all additional annual leave."

Law's last day was April 30. Law's annual leave comes to \$54,934.65, according to a preliminary report.

Trustees agreed to have an administrator verify the figures prior to the board vote.

In other news, Moon and trustee chairwoman Karen Moore planned a board retreat for May 28 at Wakulla Springs Lodge. The two met with Steve Evans — who has agreed to facilitate the discussion.

Message from the President

By Kimberly Moore

Greeting Fellow Chamber Members and Community Stakeholders:

As we prepare to enter the month of May, your Chamber has been hard at work meeting the needs of our members along with providing much-needed support in our community.

During April, the needs among our business community continued to grow – with the ability to access capital being ranked at the top of the list. The lack of access has resulted in a number of our businesses closing. Therefore, I am calling on every Chamber member and local resident to support our local businesses by shopping locally whenever there is an opportunity to do so. Without your support our business community will not survive or thrive.

Community Service

Over the last month we have experienced an increase in calls from local residents seeking food for their families. To ensure that we are working aggressively to meet this basic need, the Chamber has initiated a food drive that will be ongoing until the community need is addressed. The Chamber encourages its membership and the community at-large to get involved in supporting those most in need. If you would like additional information or would like to get involved, please contact the Chamber office at 926-1848 for more details.

Member Benefits

As with the previous report, the Chamber office has been buzzing with activity. The first activity involved the kickoff of the Brown Bag Lunch and Learn series offered in partnership with Florida State University's Jim Moran Institute, FAMU Small Business Development Center and [Tallahassee Community College](#). The following classes have been conducted: Leadership Essentials, and Promoting Your Business through Advertising and Publicity. The attendance during both of the classes was at or near capacity.

Just as a reminder, the classes are open to all Chamber members at no cost and a nominal fee for non-Chamber members. If you haven't signed up for this great learning opportunity, please contact our office today.

In addition, the Chamber held its first ever Business to Business - Breakfast in the Park. This event was well attended and served as the Chamber's effort to celebrate all of the Wakulla businesses and their employees. The Chamber appreciates the strong support of the following sponsors who were integral to the event's success: Florida Commerce Credit Union, Burger King, Mack's Country Meats, The Wakulla News, Wakulla.com, Wildwood Inn and Resort, Wal-mart and Winn Dixie. Additionally, as President I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to the Internal Events Committee, volunteers and "our world famous cooks" who arrived in the wee hours of the morning to serve up a world class breakfast.

Marketing and Outreach

Over the past month we have taken a very direct approach in getting the word out about the Chamber's role and involvement in the community. For starters, the Chamber has produced its first commercial which will air on both WCTV and Comcast stations throughout the year. We have also worked to provide a voice for the Chamber on local radio stations throughout the county and region. Additionally, our partnership with The Wakulla News and Wakulla.com continues to remain strong. Please be sure to provide feedback regarding our marketing approach along with your ideas on how to get the word out even more.

Membership

Despite the current times, businesses understand just how vital the support of our local Chamber is in advocating for a strong business community. With that said the Chamber continues to attract new members.

However, we do understand that times are tough and if you are a current member and your dues have not been paid, please be sure to contact us to discuss options for payment. As I have stated in the past, the Chamber's existence is based solely on the investments made by our businesses and individual supporters.

I would encourage each member to serve as an ambassador in reaching out to non-members making them aware of the benefits afforded through Chamber membership.

Message from the President....

continued

Advocacy

As the final days of the legislative session neared, the Chamber did have reason to take a position regarding Senate Bill 6 which moved to overhaul the education system as we know it. As a Chamber, we recognize the local school system as being the largest employer in the county and the role they play in preparing our next generation of workers. Therefore, it was imperative that a formal position be taken. I am pleased to report that our position and support were both duly noted by the school district and Governor's office.

Moving forward

As we move into the month of May, the Chamber will

continue its busy work to ensure that the voice of business remains loud and clear. Included below are the areas currently under review:

- Level of Service (transportation)
- Sewer Connections

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Yours in service,

Kimberly A. Moore, MBA

President, Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce

WCTV - May , 2010

PTLEA Corrections Students Achieve 100 Percent Pass Rate On State Exam

According to Andrea Blalock, Corrections Coordinator, this is the first class to hit the 100 percent mark under her leadership

Reporter: Press Release

EMAIL ADDRESS: NEWS@WCTV.TV

News Release from [Tallahassee Community College](#):

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.–

On April 27, students in the Corrections Basic Recruit Program Class #367 graduated from the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy (PTLEA) at the Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI).

The class has since learned it has achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement State Officer Certification Exam (SOCE).

Passing the SOCE following completion of an academy is required prior to employment as a corrections officer in Florida.

According to Andrea Blalock, Corrections Coordinator,

this is the first class to hit the 100 percent mark under her leadership.

"I am very proud of the students and instructors who worked extremely hard to accomplish this goal," said Blalock.

TCC Assistant Vice President Jim Murdaugh stressed the importance of this accomplishment.

"The average pass rate among all other academies in Florida is 83 percent," said Murdaugh. "To achieve a 100 percent pass rate for a class is the best indication of excellence in the classroom available."

For more information on upcoming classes and enrollment, contact Andrea Blalock at (850) 201-7659.

Tallahassee Community College

Democrat staff reports

Dean-Whitton, Glenn Scholarship winners named: [Tallahassee Community College's](#) Division of Science and Mathematics has announced the recipients of the annual Dean-Whitton and Ray Glenn Scholarships. The scholarships honor the memory of former faculty members Eleanor Dean, Etta Mae Whitton and Ray Glenn. The following students received the Ray Glenn Scholarship (\$200 each): Olisaemeka Anaeto, Ludmila Gomes, Dashawn Matias Gillian Smith and Hunter Tyre. The following were awarded the Dean-Whitton Scholarship (\$100 each): Olga Conners, Matthew Kishe, Daniel Lee, Kevin Matungwa, Katelyn McCabe, Breanna O'Neal, Uyen Pham and Ray Tyre.

Three win Smiles by Beck Scholarship: Three students in [Tallahassee Community College's](#) Dental Health Programs have been awarded scholarships, courtesy of Drs. Glenn and Marci Beck of Tallahassee. Recipients of the Smiles by Beck Scholarship are Dana Hila, a first-year dental hygiene student from Naples; Tracy Sponsel, a second-year dental hygiene student from San Leandro, Calif., and Susie Buckles, a dental assisting student from Tallahassee.

Tallahassee Democrat - May 10, 2010

TCC trustees to hold three committee meetings today

[Tallahassee Community College](#) trustees plan to meet in three different sub-committees today to continue their planning for a new president.

Trustees have scheduled meetings at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m.

The first two meetings are scheduled to take place at 253 E. Virginia St. The third meeting is scheduled for 1558 Village Square Blvd.

Return to Tallahassee.com for more details.

TCC helps Gadsden county inmates earn GED diploma

By line

PUBLICATION

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (May 6, 2010) - On Friday, May 7, 41 inmates from the Quincy Annex in Gadsden County will receive their General Educational Development (GED) diploma during a special graduation ceremony.

The ceremony will take place at 9:30 a.m. in the Liberty County Corrections Institute Chapel.

"Friday's GED graduation will continue what has become a successful partnership between the Quincy Annex and Tallahassee Community College's GED Program," said Harriett Abrams, Program Coordinator of Adult Education at TCC.

"Because of the dedication and commitment of TCC instructors and inmate tutors, 70 inmates at the Quincy Annex have received their GED diploma (since the program's inception in August 2009) and another 47 inmates took their GED exam on April 27 and are currently awaiting the test results."

According to Darryl Ellis, Classification Supervisor at the Quincy Annex, the expected pass rate from April's GED exam is at least 80 percent, thus raising the number of inmates to have received a GED diploma to more than 100 – or 25 percent of the total inmate population at the Quincy Annex.

Grant funding has allowed TCC to hire Adult Education Instructors who teach, assist the Quincy Annex by structuring the GED classes, and oversee the course instruction. Inmates who have teaching experience and college degrees are also instrumental in providing instruction and tutoring. Additionally, inmates, many of whom earned their GED diploma in the past year, now serve as tutors.

"The inmate tutors are expected to maintain a high level of contagious enthusiasm," said Ellis.

Once inmates begin the program, they are expected to earn a GED diploma within 90 days of instruction. Currently, two-thirds of the students are able to meet this goal.

Looking ahead, the Quincy Annex currently has 75 students enrolled for the GED program in the coming months.

For more information on the ceremony, contact Harriett Abrams, (850) 201-6104, or Darryl Ellis, (850) 627-5446.