

President's Report Year in Review 2014

January

- Developed a proposal with Crystal City Administration for the Library expansion.
- Met with financial planners to outline a proposed bond issue for the expansion in Eagle Pass, Crystal City and improvements in Uvalde.
- Worked with Texas State System Vice Chancellor assisting with the Presidential search for Sul Ross State University.
- Held a Strategic Planning Retreat with the Cabinet

February

- Received our bond rating from Standard and Poors – BBB Stable, we had hoped for an A rating; however, due to a flat enrollment period that was not possible.
- Signing ceremony with Knippa ISD on the Early College High School
- Began conversation with Hondo Aerospace and Laughlin AFB on an Aircraft Maintenance Certificate
- Signed Agreement with Rio Grande College expanding access to our freshmen students
- Began the “Conversation with the President” series for students.

March

- Del Rio construction project finished the Chandler Administration Building.
- Received proceeds from our Bond Issuance \$10,000,000
- Signed formal Articulation Agreement with Angelo State University to expand and strengthen our pre engineering program.
- College personnel presented three different sessions at the Achieving the Dream Conference.
- Dr. Rivera and I, attended the Trustee Institute in New Mexico
- Board cancelled election due to unopposed incumbents

April

- Site layout for Eagle Pass expansion approved.
- Budget revision was approved to adjust budget for enrollment decrease.
- Reach agreement with Crystal City ISD to repurpose an existing facility into a welding lab.
- SWTJC Friends and Alumni Network Gala was a huge success and State of the College was presented.
- Formal Review of the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan was presented the Board of Trustees.
- Two VP's announced their retirements: Vice President of Student Services – Dr. Blaine Bennett and Associate Vice President of Institutional Advancement – Dick Whipple

May

- Del Rio construction project finished the Academic Building.
- Engineering work began on the Eagle Pass Expansion project.
- Dean's breakfast was great success as was our 2014 Commencement.

June

- The College hosted 4H Leadership conference for the Southern District of Texas.
- The 2014-2019 Strategic Plan was approved by the Board of Trustees – setting the college priorities and direction for the next five years.
- Board approved the 2014-2015 Operating Budget – incorporating no tax increase, no tuition increase and salary increase for employees.
- All 27 cadets from Law Enforcement Academy successfully passed the State Licensing Exam.

July

- Summer Enrollment indicates an approximately 10% increase.
- Presidents Association agrees to 5 Point Legislative Plan for next biennium.

August

- Cabinet begins on plans to implement Phase 1 of the Strategic Plan
- Work continues on the Accreditation Document
- Board approved the Associate of Science degree in Engineering
- College received the Ray and Edna Woolworth Gift in the amount of \$578,000
- Great Fall Convocation with a nationally recognized speaker and a Fall Kick-Off party at the President's residence.

September

- Open House for the Del Rio Expansion project.
- Palomino Festival was a great success.
- Fall Enrollment indicates an increase in students.
- Awarded two cooperative grants: Pre Engineering Grant with Angelo State and Agriculture transfer students with Texas State University.

October

- Board approved the final plans and design for the Eagle Pass Expansion Project.
- Board approved the purchase of 10 additional acres in Eagle Pass for the development of the Chittim Technical Campus.
- Board approved the sale of \$3,000,000 revenue bonds for the development of the Chittim Technical Campus
- AEP began Phase 1 of our electrical service upgrade.
- Reached an agreement with Continental Tire Proving Grounds to utilize their track to train our Law Enforcement Cadets.
- Attended a SACSCOC On-Site Review
- Began “Conversations with the President for Faculty” series.
- College Rodeo was again very successful.
- Held Open House with Medina Valley and Rio Grande College announcing our expansion of course offering in Castroville.

November/December

- Board awarded the Eagle Pass Construction project to BL Bandy Construction Company.
- Crystal City transferred property to the College for the expansion of a Library Facility.
- Auditors presented the Board with clean audit report and results included an overall fund balance increase of approximately \$439,000.
- In 10 years the Unrestricted Fund Balance has grown from \$1,682,806 (2005) to \$7,848,366 (2014).
- College hosted the annual Christmas Open House and added Christmas at the College with the formal lighting on December 2. The college was selected as best business entry for the city of lights contest.
- President attends White House Summit Expanding Access to Higher Education