PRESIDENT’S OVERVIEW

Members of the Board:

Winter quarter is well underway. As you will see in your other reports we have a number of things going on this quarter. I am very pleased with our efforts to increase retention, graduation and recruitment. Exam Cram was successful as was the hiring of our retention specialist. We are looking into an early alert system to warn students who are in jeopardy of not being successful, a service that provides research into national community college best practices, student success courses for international students, some unique recruitment ideas and, a host of other initiatives that we will be evaluating as we proceed so we can determine if they are worth implementing permanently.

Two issues are of concern for us in the legislature. Our capital budget is being scrutinized carefully but we are hopeful of receiving enough so the TransAlta Commons project isn’t threatened. The other bill to authorize honorary BAS degrees is receiving significant positive support but its success depends on the interest that is being generated around it to keep it going.

The development of the Diesel Degree is going well and we continue to hear good things about the program from the State Board members who will vote their final approval on February 6 or 7. Jake Fay is on sabbatical this quarter with his advanced diesel technology courses but is helping us every day via email to finish our proposal to the State Board and to get us ready for fall.

The advertisement for the next president of Centralia College is out and the resumes are starting to come in. There is a good vibe in the system about individuals who may be applying.

Again keep an eye on the College Calendar. We have had and will continue to have some great Lyceums, basketball games and theater productions throughout the quarter. Almost Maine will be presented in the Wickstrom Studio Theatre beginning February 13.

CAMPUS REPORTS

1. Associated Students – J.R. Siperly
2. Faculty – Sharon Mitchler
3. Classified Staff – Paulette Crane
5. Public Information Office – Don Frey
6. Human Resources – Julie Ledford
7. Student Services Report – Lucretia Folks
9. President’s Report – Jim Walton