ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
December 20, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am at NHTI – MacRury Hall #136,

Members Present:  Chair Jeremy Hitchcock, Vice Chair Nick Halias, Leif Becker, Steve Guyer, Nancy Pierce, Anthony Poore, Ashley Rennie, Ross Gittell, Harvey Hill and Susan Huard.

Members Absent: Ralph Rojas

Others Present:  Andrea Gordon, Pam Langley

1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2012

VOTE: The Committee, on motion by Mr. Guyer, and seconded by Mr. Poore, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2012 meeting as presented.

2. Program Approval – River Valley CC

Vice President  Andrea Gordon discussed the proposed Associate of Science in Mathematics and Science degree. Students in the STEM disciplines desire an AS versus an AA, and an AS in Mathematics and Science aligns with the four-year institutions to which RVCC students typically transfer. Concentration tracks will include Mathematics, Physical Science, Biological Science and Engineering.

A recommendation was made to market the AS and educate businesses about science degrees.

A brief discussion was held regarding the factors considered when establishing a new program and the need for programs to be transferable.

An inquiry was made regarding math requirements for the program. Ms. Gordon stated that the cut score on the placement test is 78 on the diagnostic piece and understands that students need to be advised appropriately as to the expectations of the program.
A lengthy discussion was held regarding the increasing number of students entering college under-prepared for college level math courses, and the need for additional math requirements in the high schools. Ms. Gordon stated that RVCC’s math department chair is working with K-8 schools in their area on math curriculum. Intel Math is a content-intensive professional development program that teaches teachers how to effectively teach math.

**VOTE:** The Committee, on motion by Mr. Guyer, and seconded by Mr. Poore, voted unanimously to approve the AS degree in Math and Science for River Valley Community College, effective Fall 2013.

3. **CCSNH Innovation Fund**

Dr. Gittell stated that 38 proposals were submitted for the Innovation Fund which is encouraging given the short timeline for submissions. Proposals were received from all seven campuses and the system office. Proposals fell into three categories – technology, program redesign, and STEM field initiatives. Judging will take place tomorrow and 10 – 12 finalists will be selected to give an oral presentation.

4. **Guidance Counselor Relationships Discussion**

A general discussion was held regarding high school counselors and the need to educate them about the Community College system so that they can help guide students in their post-secondary education decision making. Studies have shown that students who attend a community college are more successful upon transferring to a 4-year institution. A recommendation was made for a Community College panel to present to the Superintendents’ Council.

5. **Other**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanja Cloutier  
Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor