

The Noon News

May 4, 2009

Published by



Waterloo Exchange Club

Hawkeye Community College Update – President-elect Sharon Droste invited Hawkeye Community College President Greg Schmitz to stop by and give us an update (our last report was in Sept. 2007) on happenings at HCC. He is in his fourth year as president of the institution.



L to R: Sharon Droste, Greg Schmitz - H.C.C. President and William Kay

Dr. Schmitz began by describing the challenges HCC faces due to the economic situation. For HCC, planning for the downturn started in November, 2008. At that time they started working on the premise of a decrease in funding in the range of 2-5% for the year 2010. The current thinking is the reductions they see may be somewhat higher than the original estimate.

HCC receives about 40% of its revenue from the state, 48% from tuition and 12% from local property taxes. Since HCC's tuition is the 9th highest in the country and local property taxes are maxed out too, they feel that they have to look internally for solutions to revenue shortfalls. Dr. Schmitz told us that they have considered three responses: (1) do nothing; (2) cut equally across the board or (3) align available resources in areas they perceive have growth opportunity and the community needs long term.

The HCC leadership has elected to take a strategic view and use option three. They are currently examining the needs by sector area (like health care, advanced manufacturing, etc) and revising their strategic plans.

In the meantime, they are taking tactical actions to make ends meet—like freezing salaries and benefits for next year, using furloughs to reduce pay, privatizing custodial services, etc.

R. Schmitz told us they are continuing to expand in the ten county area they serve where it makes sense and that they will be adding 2-3 new programs annually for the next 5 years or so.

HCC is a much needed resource. Good leader working a sound plan...

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program : A.C.E. Student of the Year
Prayer : Bill Swisher
Pledge : Jackie Kugler
Menu : Cheeseburger with Fries

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

May 11: A.C.E. Student of the Year
May 18: Closed Business Meeting
May 25: No Meeting—Memorial Day
Jun 01: So Proudly We Hail Program
Jun 08: Club Casino Night

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

May 11: Cheeseburger with Fries
May 18: Prime Rib Sandwich
May 25: No Meeting—Memorial Day
Jun 01: Tuna Salad Croissant with Fruit
Jun 08: Grilled Chicken Sandwich with Fries
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

May 09: William Kay
May 10: Eric Rottinghaus

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Every day I get up and look at the Forbes list of the richest people in the world. If I'm not there, I go to work." - Robert Orben

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Social Committee - Would you like to attend an outing designed by this bunch? Well, you got a chance.



L to R: John Woods, Don Faris and Mike Knapp

It's a bus trip called "Salute Where". The date is May 16th. Boarding time is 6:00PM. Approximate return time is midnight. The cost is \$44 per person. Invitations should have been received. Contact one of these otherwise.

Guests - Mica Lorenz was our Guest today. Mica is a Hawkeye Community College Trustee and also happens to be Exchangite Mike Knapp's wife. *Editor's note: We wonder which role Mica was serving in today. She had to wonder when Mike left home in the Hawaiian shirt and his best hat...*

In any case, Mica, we are glad you came and hope to see you again soon.

Message from Sharon Droste - Sharon asked that this message be included: "A heart-felt thank you to my anonymous "Exchange Friends" who sent me the beautiful flowers for my birthday. They are beautiful and very much appreciated."

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