

Board of Trustees Meets With Area Legislators

Written by Administrator

Tuesday, 06 October 2009 15:27 -

The Colby Community College Board of Trustees held a special dinner meeting on Monday, Sept. 28, to meet with Kansas legislators. Senator Ralph Ostmeyer and Representatives Jim Morrison and John Faber attended the dinner held in the Student Union.

CCC President Dr. Lynn Kreider welcomed the legislators to campus and updated them on college initiatives and funding challenges.

Dr. Kreider explained the impact of the \$430,000 state funding cut to the college. Although an increase in enrollment for fall 2009 will help close the gap, Dr. Kreider said that the college will be required to further reduce expenses to balance the budget.

New programs of study were also discussed including hybrid courses that combine face-to-face and online learning. Additional programs include Entrepreneurship, Massage Therapy, Feedlot Certification, expansion of the EMT program, Culinary Management and the evening LPN to RN program.

Dr. Kreider discussed the growing number of 2 + 2 agreements with four-year colleges. CCC recently signed a 2 + 2 agreement with Fort Hays State University for elementary and secondary education. Students can complete their bachelor's degree in Colby without traveling to the Hays campus. An agreement was signed in September with Tabor College to provide an RN to BSN program to be taught on the CCC campus.

Challenges facing the college were discussed. Dr. Kreider told the legislators that CCC did not request a mill levy increase this year. He discussed the disparity

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among community colleges in property tax receipts. Colby receives approximately \$2.1 million from property tax assessments. Garden City Community College with a similar number of students receives over \$9 million.

Dr. Kreider explained the sources of funding for the college are received from four sources. Approximately 25 percent of revenues are equally derived from state funding, tuition and fees, local property taxes, and miscellaneous sources such as grants, bookstore revenue, etc.