

PRESIDENTIAL STUDENT FORUM
 HOWARD COLLEGE SAN ANGELO STUDENTS
 September 29, 2022, 12:30 p.m.
 Room SAA 153

Dr. Sparks opened the presidential round table (student forum) by thanking the students for attending. She provided a quick overview of the forum and noted that we try to keep to one hour to be respectful of student’s time.

Dr. Sparks began with introductions. She explained that student roundtables are held at each college site during the semester. She shared that we have been doing roundtables for many years, and we try to do one every semester to get feedback from our students, and then we go to work on the suggestions/ideas that students provide. We are here to make your “Dreams Real.” Do not feel that a negative comment is bad, we want constructive criticism. This is part of our continuous quality improvement process. She stated that we need student feedback on what will make their college experience better, and that sometimes we cannot accomplish immediately, but implement later to improve the college experience for future students. She explained that the suggestions/comments shared today will be sent to individuals on campus for their response/feedback. Responses are posted on the HC website.

The ground rules for the forum were shared: We encourage you to share constructive criticism as we want to hear ways to improve, but we also want to hear about the positive experiences. We want you to feel comfortable. Share things that we are doing well too. Need to remember that we do not get personal. This is not the place to talk specifically about an individual faculty, staff or student. There are other avenues to handle those type of confidential issues.

Dr. Sparks then shared a quick review of the Spring 2022 Student Forum items and then opened the forum to student comments, suggestions and/or questions.

Student attendance is on file in the San Angelo Provost’s office.

SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS	RESPONSE/ACTION TAKEN
GENERAL COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I like this college a lot. Everyone wants to help with our issues • Students feel safe and secure on campus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments to be shared
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES	
<p>Meeting Place for Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need a student connection center, a place to meet • Inquired about the area in the library in the back that is quiet and doesn’t seem to have much traffic; is this an area that students could meet in? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam stated that we will always find a place for students to meet, either in a classroom or one of the conference rooms. Pam has visited with Kleo, Librarian and she is fine if students meet in the back area of the library. Pam also visited with Shane about repurposing the kitchen/snack bar area to be used for a meeting room for students. If this is possible it would take a little time to complete. • We are currently looking at all possibilities for

	<p>this space. We understand the students need to have a meeting place and we are looking at the possibilities of repurposing this space to meet this need. We also understand if we go this direction we will need an alternate source of food for the students and are looking at the possibility of getting a food machine or food trucks on campus.</p>
<p>More Activities in the Student Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asked about the ping pong table and the possibility of another one or other activities in the student center. A lot of dual credit and other students hog the table, and would like to have more activity items to do in there. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can be a challenge since the space isn't constantly monitored. We currently go through several sets of ping pong paddles each year because of the wear and tear. • We can certainly look at the options. We've previously looked at a pool table, but were concerned about loose balls and glass windows. • We have cornhole boards we could set up in there as we explore other options
<p>Outside Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we have more outside activities. The grounds are beautiful and would work for soccer or volleyball in the yards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options can be explored that don't require constant management (checking out balls and equipment, etc.). Will need input from maintenance/facilities.
<p>Food Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food service for students; understand that Budda's Belly is closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam shared we are working on getting a food vending area of the WTTTC and hope to have something later this fall. • We are working on getting a food machine on campus or getting food trucks to cover Monday & Thursday. Tuesday is covered by the free lunch from Baptist Student Ministries and Wednesday is covered with Chick-Fil-A coming on campus.
<p>Required Student Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of students don't check email so don't find out about the trainings. Can we tell about it at orientation and also put up signs? • Need to communicate in other ways instead of just email. Many students will look at signs more than email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should be checking their emails regularly as this is the system that is utilized to communicate with the entire student body efficiently on a wide variety of topics. Flyers will be made and posted in common areas with information about the required training. Additionally, this item will be a topic included in upcoming New Student Orientations (NSO).
CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION	
<p>Bookstore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all students can come on campus all the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The San Angelo and Big Spring bookstore have online store where students can order

<p>time. Can students call and reserve a book and then run out and pick it up?</p>	<p>textbooks, pay and pick up or have the bookstore ship their order. They also take orders over the phone as well.</p>
<p>Online Classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes we struggle in certain online class, due to no organization, no announcements, etc. Each teacher does it their own way, and some are better than others. If you're online you have to figure it out on your own • Students often struggle to adjust to online. It can be complicated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Howard College students are enrolled in an online Blackboard Orientation class that can assist with learning our online system. We also offered and will continue to offer Blackboard orientations at our Dreams Week or Orientation week. Students are encouraged to reach out to their instructor to clarify set up and work through specific issues with their online classes. Our instructional leadership groups are working to revise our online course template and review all online policies to help provide more consistency in all classes. We also hope to allow for more ongoing Blackboard trainings throughout the term. We will send more information to students when we have more details on that plan. We are working on plans to review and revise policies and procedures both from the instructional side and the student side.