

PRESIDENTIAL STUDENT FORUM
 HOWARD COLLEGE SAN ANGELO STUDENTS
 February 24, 2021, 12:30 p.m.
 Zoom Session

Dr. Sparks opened the presidential round table (student forum) by thanking the students for attending. She shared that HC is excited to meet with them, and explained that normally the forum would be held in person, but we are being resourceful and, in some ways, this is beneficial as this offers an opportunity for our remote students to participate. 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, but this forum will last a little longer, to allow 30 minutes to move to Howard College visioning work.

Dr. Sparks began with introductions. She noted that this last year has been a challenge for all, and the recent artic storm has made their college experience very different. She thanked the students for being such troopers, and commended everyone on how they have adapted and made the best of things. She explained that student roundtables are being held at each college site this week, and shared that we have been doing roundtables for 25 plus years. She stated we attempt to do one every semester to get feedback from our students, and then we go to work on the suggestions/ideas that students provide, which 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 stressed we need their input whether it be short-term or long-term, and shared that we then use their suggestions in making Howard College a better place for current and future students. She stressed that they are part of the HC family and will always be considered an alumnus, and their place in HC is important. She explained that the suggestions/comments they shared today will be sent to individuals on campus for their response /feedback. She then stated in past forums we have reviewed the previous forums items; however, we already shared that information with them through email, so we will not spend a lot of time on the March 2020 roundtable suggestions. She shared that we try to have a forum every semester, but we determined that this year would be done a little differently, so we decided to do a Zoom session. We also had suggestions about how dual credit and online students can provide input, so now we have these students joining us today. No fall 2020 roundtables as it was decided for this year that we would have one for each campus and move forward.

The ground rules for the forum were shared: we want you to feel comfortable and this is a time for constructive criticism. We want to hear from our students on how we can improve their experience. 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 opened the forum to student comments, suggestions and/or questions.

Student attendance is on file in the San Angelo Executive Dean's office.

SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS	RESPONSE/ACTION TAKEN
GENERAL	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment – How welcoming you all were. Everyone that I spoke to up there to include the instructors, was wonderful—made me feel confident about coming back to school 	Comment to be share.
FACILITIES/STUDENT SERVICES	

Food Vendor/Bookstore

- Some of the students think that the bookstore is a little pricey about their food items
 - Is there anything we can do to help our students with this – bring prices down maybe
 - Wondering what we were going to do about the food vendor that is there or just have only the bookstore – Get some hot food
- Dr. Sparks said we are always working to try and have a food vendor on campus. It has been a challenge for a vendor to be on campus as they must be profitable. Have not stopped this conversation. Will look at this.
 - The Texas Book Company shared that our pricing is based on convenience pricing from multiple markets in the state of Texas. We do shops twice a year and update pricing to be at or below. With all that happened this school year, we did not have food and drink assortments or promotions like we had in the past due to the uncertainty of on campus student population. Going into Fall 21, we plan to bring those promotions back and expand our food assortment again.
 - From Shane Taiclet, Director of Administrative Services/SA. We have consistently had a problem with having a food vendor on campus over the years. There have been several that have come and gone and they all left for the same reason: lack of profit. I think lack of profit is because of lack of traffic, i.e. students. Until enrollment increases I don't think there will be anyway to keep a food vendor on campus. I think the only solution at this point is to have food available in the bookstore.
 - Shane visited with the bookstore staff and took photos of their food cases (see attached at end of document). These foods are in addition to standard snacks that are available for someone who would like just a small bite of food. There are several selections available right now and normally more selections than what is shown in second photo, like ham & cheese sandwiches, turkey sandwiches, etc., but because of the "snow-pocalypse" the food delivery truck is behind in deliveries.
 - Three microwaves in the Student Center plus a toaster oven available to heat something bought from the bookstore or something brought from home.
 - Another issue that I should mention is the fact that many of our students are not on campus due to virtual learning because of COVID-19.
 - While this may not be an ideal situation I think this may be our best option given the current climate.

<p>Bookstore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wondering why the bookstore does not sell more name brand (Under Armor, Nike) items • Have plenty of Nursing t-shirts, but no Radiology t-shirts that have HC on them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing: Our assortments in clothing this year was reduced due to the uncertainty of on campus student population down to a more basic assortment. Going into Fall 21, we plan to expand our assortment out and will have some name brand apparel. We will make note of the Radiology shirt request and attempt to have.
<p>HC App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has anyone thought about getting an HC app; could it include the Bookstore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are working on upgrading the student information system and the portal with the new SIS which will be more mobile friendly. Online schedule links to bookstore and will load current schedule books into the shopping cart. I believe right now the bookstore can be reached through the website as well. We are always looking for new ways to get more information into the hands of students and staff. Once new systems are rolled out we will advertise on their functionality.
<p>Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If HC started an outreach program to high schoolers—more opportunities in the college setting. Research opportunities in the summer; HC understand the journey that seniors and juniors have in getting to college 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howard College participates in outreach programs as invited by Central High School and Lake View, which are usually twice a year. HC does participate in outreach programs with the smaller schools on their campuses normally (COVID did restrict this for the last year). We are looking at offering a “Howard College Day” on our campus whereby we would invite students here for campus tours, completion of career assessments, and taking the TSI for applicable students. • Howard College sends information to high school counselors about Jump Start Rate, summer classes, and registration for upcoming semesters. Howard College also utilizes a future applicant’s spreadsheet to begin reaching out these students early on so they are aware of admissions requirements, campus tours, programs offered, and registration dates and deadlines.
<p>Blackboard Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last year when the pandemic happened and we went completely to Blackboard—nothing I could really do because we were already in virtual learning • Anything set up to have mandatory Blackboard lesson on how to connect and use Blackboard • Orientations at HC have Blackboard orientations, but not all students attend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackboard orientations are provided during each campus’s New Student Orientation as well as virtually before each semester as advertised on the HC web site. Additionally, all students are added to a separate, free online Blackboard Orientation course inside Blackboard. This course remains ever-present as a reference tool. Short video clips have also been created and made available on district Facebook pages and the

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could students create a Blackboard video “how to” video for their fellow students 	<p>Howard College YouTube page.”</p>
<p>NSO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for NSO to be mandatory for all students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the continued development of the LEADS program and the new Making Dreams REAL (Reach, Empower, Apply, Launch) Grant we are moving to a required NSO type activity for all students who have successfully completed less than 15 hours of college credits and attending Howard College for the first time. These requirements are in a development phase and will be put in place starting Fall '21.
<p>Health Professions Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there talk about a new Health Professions Building? • St. John’s is getting old – last week with the weather there were many water leaks, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sparks said, yes, this is something that we have talked about, and we know that St. John’s is an aging building. Yes, we need to think about this and plan for the future
<p>CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION</p>	
<p>Internet connectivity at St. John’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are multiple issues with the internet on the St. John’s campus. Too slow in getting computers fixed; Internet slow in connecting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam Callan shared that we are aware of the issues with the internet at St. John’s and have been working with IT department. Just received a \$10,000 grant from local Chamber and the grant will be used for technology needs at St. John’s. Also, trying to do more testing at the WTTC to help with some of this. • Pam also noted that she has talked with the Dean of IT and the Wi-Fi at St. John’s was upgraded last month. • If there are issues or a specific area of need at St. John’s, the students can email the Health Professions Dean or Pam or ask instructors to send an email, and we will address with IT – please let us know if connectivity has improved.
<p>Printing at St. John’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grant go for printing at St. John’s • Have PowerPoint presentations to print and can only print 5 pages at St. John’s – need more student printing access • Printing was free and now we are charging – was easier when it was free; went ahead and purchased my own printer for printing needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam said that we will look into this. After further review the grant received from the SA Chamber of Commerce needs to be used for technology upgrades/connectivity at St. John’s. Grant funds will not be used to purchase paper/toner for printing. • There is a public copier in St John’s that does cost \$.05 a copy that has been in place for several years but we do not require students to use it. Students are encouraged to make copies in the

	<p>Library as is done with other programs in Howard College.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue to explore printing options.
<p>Health Professions Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believe the programs should have some form of pre-requisite – something to get started with (it appears this was related to RMA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This issue was further researched with the RMA students to ascertain what was meant by “pre-requisites”. It was determined additional information regarding the actual studying and academic rigor that was needed to be successful in the program would help new students starting the program. This summer the application process will be modified so that qualified applicants will have the opportunity to shadow the current RMA students (Spring Cohort) to better understand the academic/time commitment before being accepted (or accepting entrance) into the program.
<p>Health Professions Open Lab (Nursing and Radiology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the nursing program it is hard and we are only in person for a short time each week. Maybe an open lab for students to practice skills; have an instructor available to assist students • This would be great for Radiology too – have mannequin available for students to use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This past year the VN program having classes at the HC campus while the “usual” nursing lab is at St. John’s open availability created more challenges with open lab times. The program was able to partner with the CE department to use their lab space and we are very thankful for the time we were able to use it. As the VN program will again be “housed” at the HC campus and not in St. John’s it will be a goal to have more designated lab space available for the VN students. • The ADN program had created additional lab space and availability in the past, based on a previous similar request, and the space was greatly underutilized. That space now houses one of our simulation mannequins. The ADN faculty now offers any student requesting review of a skill or procedure an opportunity to meet in the Nursing Lab on the 1st floor as a one-one learning activity • The radiology mannequin is available for student use. Students just need to coordinate the time with the radiology faculty as we do not have a space for it to be kept out in the open securely. Faculty will ensure students are aware of this option.
<p>New Mannequin for Radiology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new mannequin is needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current Radiology mannequin is relatively new. The program chair is looking into making some adjustments to the appendages of the

	<p>mannequin. The program director is in favor of keeping this type of mannequin since the more expensive mannequins are quite heavy and are very cumbersome related to how the mannequins are used.</p>
<p>Surgical Tech Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently have clinical twice a week (T/TH); could we go more than just twice a week – should have more days face-to-face at the clinical site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technically, the clinical class on Thursday is not a true clinical but rather a lab time to review clinical skills. Surg Tech students work on skills to be used in clinical the entire class time. Tuesdays have two different labs. The instructor would like to see the students more, but with the challenges we have been facing, that is not possible right now. Once COVID concerns are alleviated we hope to rearrange the schedule so the students can get more face-to-face time. As far as having the students actually at clinical, the Surg Tech accrediting body does not allow more than 10 students at a time doing true clinical, therefore, we have to alternate the cohorts when they are at the clinical site, and the cohort who is closest to graduating gets priority over clinical. We anticipate when Shannon finally makes plans for Shannon South’s OR we might be able to have more than 10 students in clinical at a time, with permission from the accrediting body.
<p>Chemistry/Pre-Calculus classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a lot of people transferring to ASU non-medical classes that are considered as pre-requisite are not offered at the San Angelo campus. No chemistry, pre-calculus—could these classes be offered more frequently and in person. Just reading the book can be difficult – less overwhelming to students if offered in person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would love to be able to offer more of these classes both online and face-to-face. We face a challenge in finding credentialed instructors. We have a posting for a Chemistry instructor right now. This is not a challenge that is unique to HC. We do offer the following upper level math sequence which includes face-to-face and online instruction. Summer: Pre-Cal (Online) Fall: Pre-Cal (F2F), Calculus I (Online) Spring: Calculus I (F2F), Calculus II (Online)
<p>GED Program – Packet Pickup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of folks in her class having a hard time to getting there to pick up their packet. These packets have been emailed and it makes it more difficult to follow the class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Angelo AEL offers packet pickup on Thursday 8-6 and students can always call to come in and pick up packets. We also mail out packets to students that do not live in the San Angelo area. Instructors have emailed the packets also in order to meet the needs of all students. We highly recommend the packets to use as future study materials.
<p>Comment – HC Dual Credit Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Especially with the past couple of months of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment to be shared

power outages-very adaptable. Still felt comfortable with doing my work online; had help through the whole process

HC Visioning

Dr. Sparks explained the HC visioning process and that the college goes through a substantive review of our vision and mission every three years. Also, looking at our values and goals. She noted that some of the things we have talked about today will build into this. She asked students that if they had not already done so to complete the HC survey that is part of this process. Dr. Sparks shared that Howard College is celebrating our 75th anniversary with the San Angelo Site celebrating 50 years. All of the campuses make up the 75-year history rich with their experiences. You are all unique – you have gone through a pandemic, arctic blast, San Angelo water issues – this has been a surreal time. She then gave a brief history of the community college in the region sharing that HC is one of the older community colleges in the state of Texas – was originally called a junior college. Angelo State was SA Junior College at one point and evolved to the 4-year Angelo State University. Howard College is now a partner with ASU.

This year we will plan out the next 5 years. Our mission statement is already in place. The HC vision is one that we can dream about as well as our values. What things will we value in our everyday operations. You can provide your input by completing the survey. The survey involves gathering input from employees, students, community members, business and industry and our HC Board.

Have four questions in the survey on the Vision

Where do you see Howard College going in the next 5 years?

- Going to be more known than what it is now

What are the top institutional priorities for Howard College?

What problems does Howard College seek to solve?

- Students at HC are very well taken care of (student from ASU to HC—college experience changed in a good way); Believe we are just going to get better
- Cannot think of anything that needs to be changed – give so many opportunities to students and help – nothing wrong
- Feel the same – went to ASU, but moved to HC and found my college experience at HC opened the door for me
- Feel the same. All of the instructors are helpful—can still talk to former instructors and they are still there to help; love the staff – reassuring faculty and staff

Are there changes that Howard College can make that would make Howard College seem irrelevant?

- I do not know – if we follow and continue to step where we have been stepping HC is doing pretty good
- Absolutely agree that HC is doing great; irrelevant is you stop advertising
- Would need to be another place that would care about you more than the way that HC does
- HC has become more relevant than anything. Growing up it was looked down on – should go to the university, but that has changed now
- Ratio of students to instructors; more of environment of what you are used to in high school
- Talked with ASU before coming to HC. ASU was difficult to navigate-intimidating; then went to HC made all of this easier for me
- Instructors breakdown the course material so that we can get it. Getting those courses down; instructors show so much passion. Faculty love their jobs and love to teach—passionate

Dr. Sparks said that students are what it is all about. We love you all, you are why we are here

She then asked, do you think HC has been a good investment for you?

- Most definitely; probably the best idea that anyone has offered me; help me get back on the right course
- 100,000% fully okay with spending the money at HC – would do it all over again
- I do not regret spending the money; it is a lot of money, but comparing to what my friend had to pay; expensive, but way more affordable – would pay for my children to go to HC
- Just starting out in the GED program; this is good information to hear to know what I am going into soon

Dr. Sparks closed the discussion. She noted that she looked forward to this time with you; great day and keep doing all the good you are doing. Graduation is just around the corner for some; but some of you will be with us longer.

Bookstore Food Items Available in February 2021

