BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

MR. JIM ELLIS, Secretary Southeastern IL College Board
MR. JOHN KABAT, ICCTA Board Representative
DR. JONAH RICE, President Southeastern IL College
MR. TERRY WILKERSON, President Rend Lake College
IMPETUS...”Invention is the Mother...”

NO TIME FOR WALLS IN OUR BUSINESS...

SHRINKING ENROLLMENTS, SERVICES, AND BUDGETS
Rend Lake College

➢ Small CC
➢ Rural Southern Illinois
➢ 3,700 FT/PT
➢ $22.5 million operating budget
➢ Funding
  ➢ 40% state
  ➢ 40% tuition
  ➢ 20% local taxes/other
➢ Outmigration is growing
➢ 35% smaller from a decade ago
➢ Reserve more than doubled in a decade
Southeastern Illinois College

- Small CC in rural southern Illinois
- 1,800 FT/PT
- $12,000,000 operating budget
- Budget
  - 40% from Tuition
  - 40% from State
  - 20% from Local Taxes/Other
- Outmigration growing
- 30% smaller than a decade ago
- Budget reserve increased over double
Board Member Perspectives

➢ Skeptical past
➢ Some current intra-board background
➢ Financially-driven ideas resonated
➢ Student access and success focus
DISCLAIMER: “ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING”
“Better Together: How formal alliances between groups of institutions are providing new learning and research opportunities—plus expanding project funding options.”

- University Business

➢ Working Together, Working Alone
  ➢ Repetition
  ➢ Shallow on all sides

➢ Survival of Partners

➢ Student Access
Never ask someone to do what you aren’t willing to do yourself.
Goals of Presentation

• Describe transformative ACADEMIC collaborations among colleges
• Describe transformative NON-ACADEMIC collaborations among colleges
• Identify key ingredients for successful transformative collaborations
• Define significant elements in policy agreements to foster transformative collaborations
Neighbors????
Landmines of Leadership

- Consolidation
- Death of Mascot
- Trust thy Enemy?
- Hostile Takeovers
- Curriculum Mismatch
- It’ll Never Work
- Goldfish and Betas
EVERYTHING IS NOT ALWAYS AS IT SEEMS!
Points of Intersection

➢ Starting Points
  ➢ Consortium
  ➢ Inter-district Agreements and Programs
  ➢ Chargebacks

➢ Next Steps
  ➢ Staff Intersections/Sharing
  ➢ Shared Programs
  ➢ New Agreements
The Leadership Mountain

“Freeze, Earl!...Something rattled!”

- Board Action
- Master MOUs
- Follow-through of Staff
- Student Discipline
- Student Assessments
- Consistency of College Policies/Procedures
- Details We Haven’t Thought of Yet
### Points of Intersections: Starting Points

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<th>Needs Assessment</th>
<th>New Agreements</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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<td>Staff</td>
<td>Staff Share</td>
<td>GRAPHIC DESIGN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Agreement</td>
<td>Master Agreement</td>
<td>All the Above Plus</td>
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Creating a Culture of Transformative Collaboration

**WHAT**
- Bonding/Social
- Group Lunches with Task
- Shared travel
- Openness, Trust, Tenacity
- Governance Connections (foster trust)

**WHO**
- CAO and academic team
- CSSO and transfer team
- CFO and fiscal officers
- Legal (IGAs)
- Accreditation officials (site and programs, etc.)
- Of course...Board
Academic Transformative Collaboration

• Non-Starters
  • OTA
  • Ag Certificate
  • Physics
Academic Transformative Collaboration

• Winners
  • Classes (seats and sections)
  • Vet Assistant
  • Massage Therapy
  • GED
A Postscript of Perspectives
Service Area Transformative Collaboration

• Non-starters
  • Graphic design
  • Security
Service Area Transformative Collaboration

- Winners
- Maintenance
- Administrative support for academics (NUR)
RLC Maintenance at SIC
Literally "Building Bridges...and Walls, Too!"
Future Transformative Collaboration

➢ Allied Health
➢ CTE
➢ Low Enrollment Areas
➢ Administration/Support

...Just around the corner
Power of Partnerships

➢ Programs Saved
➢ Services Provided
➢ Systemic Culture
➢ Community Support
Advantageous for Everyone

- Balance benefit and burden
- Trade fair and be honest
- Advance region, don’t divide districts
- Checkers vs chess
- BUS Concept
- Play to Strengths
- Re-define the “BOX”
- Trust and respect
Future Forecast

➢ Determine direction together
➢ Avoid forced and dictated curriculum
➢ Working together preserves independence
➢ Competing guarantees isolation
By the Way...

- No jobs lost...at either place...so far
- Financial...play to strengths
- Deliver on the promise
- Failure can teach
- Slow might go, fast is last
- Celebrate wins
Food for Thought

➢ When quitting is not longer the answer, you are halfway there.
➢ Today’s mighty oak is yesterday’s nut that held its ground.
➢ Life is an adventure to be lived, not a problem to be solved.