

Cooperating Raleigh Colleges (CRC)

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMITTEE MEETING

Shaw University
February 16, 2017
Gwen Webb, Chair, Host

In Attendance: **Gwen Webb**, Vice President for Finance and Administration, Shaw University; **Rocky Yearwood**, Vice President for Administration & Chief Financial Officer, William Peace University; **Marla Tart**, Vice President for Financial and Business Services, Wake Technical Community College; **Amy Orders**, Director of Administration, Communication & Planning for Finance and Administration, NC State University; **Walter Davenport**, Chief Financial Officer, Saint Augustine's University; **Jenny Spiker**, CRC Director.

Committee Chair Gwen Webb welcomed the group to Shaw and asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell us about some of their key responsibilities and issues.

Gwen Webb--Shaw:

- Has been at Shaw since 2011 first as a consultant then as controller and vice president for finance since May of 2016.
- She's originally from Philadelphia.
- Shaw has had a positive turnaround in enrollment and increased fundraising.

Walter Davenport—Saint Augustine's:

- Is a CPA who worked in a number of high profile CPA firms and retired from those roles in 1998.
- He has come back from retirement a number of times—as CFO at North Carolina Central, a member of the UNC Board of Governors and now as VP for Finance at Saint Augustine's. He plans to stay in that position until December 2018.

Amy Orders—NC State:

- Is both an administrator and a faculty member in the College of Education where she teaches physicists how to teach.
- One of her roles is as the administrator in the same role that Katina Blue had with emergency management at NC State.

Rocky Yearwood—William Peace:

- Has been at William Peace since 2011, and his first week was when the college announced it would go coed.
- The university has had enrollment challenges but since adding men the enrollment has grown.
- One of their unusual and controversial revenue sources has come from purchasing the Seaboard Station shopping area next door to them.
- He came to Raleigh from Florida, where he grew up and worked for a university with 60,000 students

Marla Tart—Wake Tech:

- Has been in her new role since August of 2016.

- Is an accountant who has also worked in CPA firms.
- Deals with an institution that is growing every year—both with new campuses and more students.

Jenny Spiker—CRC Director:

- In her 10th year as director
- Summarized the mission and activities of CRC:
 - For 49 years stressing a variety of cooperative activities among cohort groups and programs, such as students cross-registering and sharing library resources.
 - Key committees (academic affairs, student affairs, finance, registrars, librarians, etc.) often initiate programs bringing together new groups of cohorts, such as study abroad coordinators, HR directors and those overseeing adjunct professors.
 - Recent years have stressed connections to the community such as economic impact, preparing elementary and secondary teachers, area transportation and emergency management.
 - This committee was key to creating the emergency management workshops and in bringing the HR directors together and working on transportation issues with the city.
- **Reports on current/past projects**
 - **Meeting of HR leaders +special session on federal labor wage and hours rules** —Jenny told the group about this group’s meeting last year and having a second special session about the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act)’s proposed changes. They met on Sept. 22 in anticipation of the December deadline and then the FLSA changes were put on hold and are now in limbo. Several people in this finance group said concentrating on the possible new FLSA regulations did help them improve some of their policies even though the changes haven’t taken place.
 - **Emergency management/security project**—Jenny also told them about the recent workshop on Violence Prevention and Threat Assessment and that the organizing group is meeting next week to work on more plans for more activities to bring together people from a wide variety of college/university departments and people from the community as well. Rocky is on the planning group.
 - **Staff professional development**—Jenny told them about one of the newest projects that has a group starting plans to come together about staff professional development. She drew their attention to the sheet with notes from the first meeting and said she’d send them the list of people from each of the institutions who are working on this. They are likely to have a workshop this summer or fall with an emphasis on early-career employees.
- **Topics to explore**
 - **Enterprise Risk Management:** They suggested we contact David Rainer, Associate Vice Chancellor of Environmental Health and Public Safety at NC State. Then we could invite a cross section of people to discuss this topic and have a planning meeting. We might also invite the NC State MBA students who have a major risk management project to provide content for a workshop or meeting.
 - **Title IX:** They suggested we work with the HR committee on the CLERY element as well as plan for another meeting or workshop on the topic.

- **ADA:** They suggested we explore these issues, and Jenny said they are already getting a group together for that purpose.
- **Veterans Affairs:** This was another topic they suggested we explore since the number of veterans on campuses is increasing yearly.

- **Helping each other with advice:** Gwen pointed out that her job often goes beyond her specific training, and several others indicated that as well. They agreed to help each other when questions and new issues arise. These resources were also recommended: APPA (education facilities network), URMIA (University Risk Management and Insurance Association), CSHEMA (Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association).

- **Next meeting:** They said continuing to meet in the spring semester still works for them.

--Submitted by Jenny Spiker