



TJCSGA Bulletin

Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way. **iLead!**

Community College Day in Review

Community College Day was a huge success this year. It was very different from previous years but had a tremendous effect on ourselves, our legislators, and our fellow students.

On February 4, 2009, students from community, technical and junior colleges gathered on the steps of the Capitol building in Austin. We gathered as a collective and united group to voice our concerns about the rising cost of college and the financial support once promised by our legislators. TJCSGA President Shane Scott stated that “state appropriations are less than 30% of the once promised 100%.” Where did the promised money go? Who is left to bear the burden? Local taxpayers and ultimately, college students by raising the cost of tuition.

Our goal for attending is to have more funding for two-year colleges across the great state of Texas. Scott left us with a statement that should be remembered by all, “funding for community colleges is not an expense, it is an investment!” We should always think of our college careers as an investment not only in our future, but in the future of our communities as well.

TJCSGA President Shane Scott’s Presidential Address at Community College Day can be viewed on the TJCSGA Facebook page.

Contact Information

President Shane Scott,

Navarro College.

president@tjcsga.org

Vice President Kaci Allison,

Amarillo College.

vicepresident@tjcsga.org

Secretary Angela Hernandez,

Wharton County Junior College

Fort Bend Tech Center.

sec@tjcsga.org

Treasurer Emma Gomez,

El Paso Community College.

treasurer@tjcsga.org

Parliamentarian Edwin Mariano

El Centro College.

parl@tjcsga.org

Editor Charity Wilson,

TSTC-Waco.

editor@tjcsga.org

Host Broderick Wilson,

Blinn College Bryan.

host@tjcsga.org

Advisor Heather Atchley,

Amarillo College.

advisor@tjcsga.org

Advisor-Elect Arvis Jones,

El Paso Community College.

advisor-elect@tjcsga.org

Community College Day at the Capitol is something I have looked forward to since my freshman year, 2007, when I attended for the first time. I think it is such a great way to show our legislators that we are watching, and we want to see results for our colleges. So often the focus is on the universities of our great state, but we all know that many students start in the Community College realm and work their way up. This year, I had the honor of representing Blinn College-Bryan on the Executive Board as State Host at Community College Day. I was able

(Greetings continued on page 5)

In This Issue

Meet TJCSGA Host	2
Tribute to Miz Jones.....	2
Blast from the Past	2
Proposed Resolution.....	3
Intent to Run.....	4
CCD continued.....	5
CCD in Pictures.....	6
T-Shirt Swap	7

Meet the TJCSGA Host Broderick Wilson

I am Broderick V. Wilson and I wear many hats: father, husband, student, sergeant-at-arms, son, and brother just to mention a few. I graduated from Bryan High School where I played football and ran track. I was born and raised in Bryan, Texas, and am the oldest on seven children. I first became interested in student government at TSTC Waco where I received my Associates Degree in Automotive Collision Repair and Management. Currently, I am working on obtaining my Associates Degree in Criminal Justice at Blinn College Bryan. When I graduate, I hope to work in juvenile corrections and attempt to make a difference in someone's life along the way. My main concern is the happiness and well-being of my family which consist of my loving wife, three sons, and a daughter. They are my life. In the small amount of spare time I get; I like to take the kids to the park and just have a good time playing frisbee, throwing the baseball around, and playing football.



**"Great
leaders inspire
greatness in
others."**

Meet the TJCSGA Advisor Elect Miz Jones

A tribute to Miz Jones

I once thought Miz Jones was a prude and very rude. But in all actuality, I was a fool cause she is really cool.

Miz Jones, she like art. It has a fond place in her heart. Dragged us all to a museum, which was not all to loathsome.

On the coaster, Miz Jones went up and down, Held her own as she went round and round.

If you do this dare, Just stand up straight and start to swear. You'll get into trouble quick cause Miz Jones will give you a lick.

Now, she's not one to write. Hopefully, she takes this light. But she was fully warned And I'll be darned If she doesn't get a kick out of this.



See even the other advisors are scared of her!!!

Written By:
Charity Wilson, TJCSGA Editor

Resolution to Support Textbooks in Electronic Format*

- WHEREAS, College Students are increasingly required to buy textbooks at exorbitant prices from their classes,
- WHEREAS, College textbook publishers are forced to recoup their investment in new textbooks the first semester they are offered, as they receive no income from the sale of used textbooks,
- WHEREAS, Bookstores are increasingly growing in monopoly on college campuses across the state, charging as much as 33% markup on every new book sold,
- WHEREAS, Bookstores choose to purchase back textbooks based on the number of books sold and the number of classes to be taught the next semester,
- WHEREAS, There exists an unspoken war between textbook publishers and college bookstores, serving to drive the prices of textbooks higher as they try to garner the most profit,
- WHEREAS, TJCSGA has lobbied for assistance from the Texas Legislature for many years to no avail,
- WHEREAS, New technology has been introduced that allows textbooks to be presented in electronic format at substantial savings,
- WHEREAS, The Amazon Kindle, an electronic book reader, retails for \$359, the price of a Biology textbook, and the books retail at \$9.00,
- WHEREAS, Students would not be able to sell back the electronic book, but with enough demand more textbooks would be available in this format,
- WHEREAS, Amazon.com currently has an option to request books in Kindle format, all one need do is click the link and an email is sent to the publisher requesting it in that form,
- WHEREAS, Success in this arena would dramatically cut the prices of textbooks to the students, end the battle between the publishers and bookstores funded by the students,
- WHEREAS, The Texas Junior College Student Government Association represents over 1 million students across the state, be it
- RESOLVED, The Texas Junior College Student Government Association, meeting in general session requests their member colleges to encourage their constituency on their campuses to request their textbooks on the Kindle format, thus lowering the prices paid by the students to successfully complete their classes.

Submitted by: Joseph Bassett
Blinn College—Bryan Campus

*Proposed resolution.

Brookhaven College for TJCSGA President

We, here at Brookhaven College, are proud to announce for the first time our candidacy for President School of the Texas Junior College Student Government Association. For many years now our school has felt privileged to be a part of this organization. To be a part of a group that brings this many different schools together from across the state into a single entity is a uniquely special thing.

However, with every unique group comes a unique set of problems. Our group is in the second largest state in the union and the distance that separates us has proven to make effective communication very difficult. This is also a group of mostly two year students and that means that every two year period, we have a completely new group. Needless to say, this can cause some confusion, especially for those schools with entirely new SGA groups. If we even have one “bad” year the result could be several years of set back.

Brookhaven College is ready to meet these challenges both in the short and long term. Our experience as Region II President School and with working with groups such as the American Student Association of Community Colleges has prepared us for this task. To bind us together now, we are proposing this year a few activities for the whole state to take part. These will not only give us common ground for the year to come but all the whole group to work under a common banner.

When it comes to securing our future a more abstract method is required. No **one** school can bring about a stable future for TJCSGA. No amount of resolutions or amendments to our constitution can guarantee that we will not have poor leadership. Every school has to work together to enhance our communication and to bring about a sense of camaraderie. Brookhaven College is ready to take the charge on this front. It will take a strong school to set the precedent for success in the years to come.

Brookhaven College has a unique vision for TJCSGA. We can see a time when those six letters are no longer just a tongue twister for new students. We can see a time when all community college students know what this group is. We see a time when to be a part of this group is something to be truly revered. When our politicians and leaders from all across the state stop what they are doing and listen to what we have to say.

This would be a golden age of TJCSGA and is by no means around the corner. This is a long journey that will take many years, but like every long journey we have to start somewhere. So let Brookhaven College with its experience and vision lead you at the start of the great journey.

Vote for Brookhaven College, we can take you there!

Vote for Brookhaven College for President. We can take you there!!

Intentions to Run for State Positions Announced

The following is a list taken from the TJCSGA website about who have already announced their intent to run. Please note that this is only intentions. Until all proper forms are turned in, nothing is finalized. I fully encourage all colleges to consider running for a State position and come to the State Convention prepared if you decide to throw your hat into the ring.

President: Brookhaven College
 Vice President: Navarro College-Corsicana
 Secretary: El Paso Community College
 Treasurer: Howard College-Big Spring

Parliamentarian: Blinn College-Bryan
 Host: TSTC-Waco
 Editor of the Bulletin: Amarillo College-Amarillo
 Advisor-Elect: Open

(Region II Continued from page 1)

to help in many different aspects and work with the leaders who made this day possible.

Overall, I thin Community College Day was a great success this year and our legislators heard our voices loud and clear. If they didn't then they better know that we aren't going anywhere and we will continue to fight for our cause until we see action. Thanks to all who participated and to the Executive Board and Advisors who helped to make Community College Day at the Capitol 2009 a great success.

—Seth W. Christensen

Blinn College-Bryan
2007-2008 TJCSGA Student of the Year

Students and administrators from Lone Star College-Kingwood attended the 2009 Texas Community College Student Day at the Capitol in Austin, Texas on February 4th. The students were allowed to question their local senators and representatives to gain knowledge on their positions regarding a variety of issues concerning community college students today. Among those topics were increasing textbook prices, decreased funding from the state, and the need for greater grant assistance. Lone Star College-Kingwood is a constituency of Representative Brandon Creighton, who was kind enough to give his opinions and advice.

My name is Brittany Westmoreland. I am the Freshman Executive for Trinity Valley Community College. I am thrilled to say that Community College Day was so much fun and such an amazing experience. I know I speak for the rest of the officers and senators

that attended when I say that we learned so much. The lunch was great and the speakers were excellent. I know that our favorite part was getting to meet wit not only our State Representative, but also our State Senator. We were given private tours of their offices. I found our Senator, Robert Nichols' office to be very amusing! He had animals that he had hunted from all over the world mounted around his office. It was very interesting. Our Representative, Betty Brown, is a strong advocate for Community Colleges, and we discussed things like keeping textbooks in circulation longer, instead of publishing companies always making new editions and thus forcing students to have to buy the brand new book, and other things like steps being taken to close the technology gap in East Texas.

All around, the trip was very insightful and beneficial to our school. The result of such an educational trip spurred our United States Congressman, Jeb Hensarling, to come and speak at our weekly Student Senate meeting on Tuesday, February 17. We discussed President Obama's new Stimulus Package and ways we as students can have our voices heard on the national level. You can watch/hear the meeting with Congressman Jeb Hensarling at http://www.tvcc.edu/videochannel/JebHensarling_Sound_Bytes.mpg Thank you to everyone that participated in Community College Day. I know that it was a great success due to the people that attended.

North Central Texas College Gainesville campus Student Government Association attended Community College Day on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 as

well as on February 19, 2009. On February 4, NCTC held meeting with Diane Helms, from Senator Estes' office as well as Representative Hardcastle and his staff. On February 19, NCTC held meetings with the Legislative Advisors from Representative Parker, Representative Phillips, and Representative Crownover's office as well as met with Representative Crownover and Representative Hardcastle. The students that attended one or both of the events were: Heather Wright, Stacy Roberts, Josh Morrison, Kyle Roberts, Jon Meagher, Jennifer Campbell, Timona Hendricks, Bethany Reese, Christina Lawrence, Shiqi Liang, Grace Wilson, Danya Wilson, Susan Olivares, Laura Wright, Ashley Page, and Advisor Kim Brown.

Yajaira Zamora and Jorge Dimas from Laredo Community College gave Senator Judith Zaffirini the Community College Champion Award at Community College Day on February 4 for "her loyalty and her hardwork, and talent in moving our agenda forward." You can view the video of Senator Zaffirini accepting the award on the TJCSGA facebook page.

Some pictures and videos from Community College Day have been posted to the TJCSGA facebook account. Please feel free to add yours or email editor@tjcsga.org to have pictures added to the TJCSGA website.

Also, group photos taken by Bob Daemmrich Photography, Inc can be viewed and purchased at http://www.printroom.com/pro/bob_photo.

Community College Day in Pictures



Trinity Valley Community College



Midland College



TJCSGA Executive Board
Front Row: Angela Hernandez, Emma Gomez, Charity Wilson
Back Row: Arvis Jones, Edwin Mariano, Kaci Allison, Shane Scott, Heather Atchley
Not Pictured: Broderick Wilson



North Central Texas College—Gainesville



T-SHIRT SWAP

- ◆ **Bring 5 T-shirts or Sweat Shirts to the TJCSGA Convention**
- ◆ **Swap With Others**
- ◆ **Meet Other Colleges**
- ◆ **See Other College's T-Shirt Designs.**

Make New Friends