The College Council met on Thursday, August 17, 2006. Members absent were: Bernie Wall, Robin Sessions, Cornelia Miller, Doug Barnes, Delinda Hurry, and Clair Sanborn. Members present were: Susan McBride, Kathleen Hall, Latitia McCane, David Jones, Sherry Martin, Mike Tedder, Lyn Gill, Jamia Presley, Lee Barrentine, and Ada Adams.

Dr. McBride opened the meeting and provided results of the College Accountability Performance Profile (CAPP). She reviewed each of the ten components which were: enrollment, academic transfer, career and technical programs, health professions, developmental studies, learning resources and technology, student services, financial and physical resources, workforce training, and adult education. She thanked Lee Barrentine for his work in the high schools since JD’s enrollment of high school graduates is high. She said that enrollment of 25 to 35 year olds are about 17% down state-wide. Some reasons for this is declining population of this age group, soaring gas prices, high employment rate, and changes in the nursing program curriculum. Dr. McBride reported that she is pleased with the CAPP process and format and quite pleased with Jefferson Davis Community College’s results. This process has identified areas of strength and areas where improvement is needed. Strengths include: Transfer students, Nursing Program, Student and Employer Satisfaction Rates, and Workforce Training. Areas for focus/improvement include: Enrollments (we continue to work on this), Developmental Studies (Dr. McCane is participating in the state-wide committee to address development studies), and Adult Education (Clair Sanborn, as the relatively new director, has already made improvements.)

Results of the Institutional Effectiveness Survey were discussed. Some areas that appear to be in need of improvement are: only 77% felt that custodial staff keeps college building neat and clean; 62% reported that on-campus parking is adequate; and only 71% feels that JDCC provides a safe environment during the evening. Remarks pertaining to these areas follow: Custodial staff will be provided with checklists to be sure they are addressing the items on the contract that should be completed. The parking issue is being addressed. The company that bid on the parking project could not get a bid bond, and the college had to advertise the job again. Bids will be opened on August 29th. Regarding a safer environment at night, the business office is working with Alabama Power to install high powered lights which should give off more light than existing lights. Kudos went to the office of the Dean of Business Affairs, recruiting, student support services, and bookstores on both campuses for receiving 100% on the survey.
Dr. McBride introduced the college’s commitment to diversity by asking members to review the definition of diversity that was prepared by the college diversity council. She asked current council members to read it and provide feedback to her. She asked if anyone had any comments about the commitment. One member asked what plans the diversity council has other than preparing the statement. Dr. McBride responded that a speaker will be invited to campus to discuss diversity. Mr. Tedder said if anyone wants to see a diverse group of individuals on campus, to come to the campus ministry program on Fridays. Everyone is invited to this event. The first meeting this fall will be on August 25th.

Dr. McBride discussed the character trait for the month, benevolence. She gave an example of benevolence by some of the college’s active and retired employees recently when they contributed money to purchase bonds ($1500 each) for Terry and Judy Strength’s children to assist with their college education. The college had already set up scholarships for the children to attend JD, but the additional contribution was made to supplement the scholarship and to provide encouragement to the children. One of the council members shared that she enjoyed the section in the magazine entitled “Let There Be Light.” In light of this, Dr. McBride stated that from what she had heard, Jamia Presley was to be commended for her attitude during registration in “giving students pickles.” She thanked Jamia for the friendliness in which she assisted students.

With no further business, the council adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Ada Adams