JDCC Planning Assumptions for 2006-2007

Planning assumptions describe the economic, demographic, regulatory, and internal environment in which the college operates. They provide parameters and challenges for realistic goal-setting. The following assumptions are considered an accurate reflection of the environment in which the college operates.

1. The basic purpose of Jefferson Davis Community College will remain unchanged, but workforce development will be given more importance as a college initiative due to economic conditions in the county.

2. Level funding is expected for 2006-2007. There may be a reduction in federal funding for Perkins, Upward Bound, and/or Adult Education. The college will need to be prepared to absorb salary step raises and benefit increases, if any.

3. Since funding will continue to rely primarily on state appropriations, external funding from business and industry, state and federal sources, and private donors will continue to be important for the college to meet the challenges of a diverse student population.

4. The number of students who are underprepared due to the lack of a high school diploma or who are deficient in one or more academic skills necessary for collegiate success will continue to increase.

5. The number of first generation and non-traditional college students from groups that have historically been denied access to higher education will continue to increase.

6. The majority of students will be dependent on federal financial aid programs in order to attend college.

7. Continued professional development of faculty and staff is needed to keep educational programs and delivery systems current with technology and other educational practices.

8. Student retention, completion, and goal attainment will be a major institutional priority.

9. Emphasis will be placed on marketing, enrollment management, and retention.

10. Dual enrollment courses will be taught at area high schools.

11. Jefferson Davis Community College and regulatory bodies will continue to emphasize planning, measurement of outcomes and evaluation to demonstrate effectiveness. The College will begin preparation for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmation visit.

12. Institutional research will continue to be used for decision making.

13. Student housing will continue to deplete funds needed for efficient operation of the college.

14. Students will increasingly enroll for online/hybrid courses.

15. The college will serve as a regional WorkKeys Assessment Center.

16. The partnership with the Alabama Technology Network and the JDCC Training for Business and Industry Program will be strengthened.

17. Renovation of facilities continues to be a priority. The Neal Colonial Center renovation will be accomplished through private funding.

Approved by the Executive Council on March 22, 2006