NWACC President Appoints Two to Cabinet Status

Brunen, Hinds now responsible for duties of Elliott

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (Feb. 8, 2013) – Dr. Becky Paneitz, NWACC President, announced the interim appointments of two individuals to her College Cabinet today. Dr. Meredith N. Brunen and Steven R. Hinds will join the College’s leadership team. College Cabinet members act in an executive leadership capacity, providing insight and governance in policy, operations and personnel management.

Brunen and Hinds will be assuming additional responsibilities with the upcoming departure of Wyley Elliott, Vice President for Public Relations and Development. Elliott has accepted the position of Executive Editor for Celebrate Arkansas magazine effective Feb. 18.

Brunen, Executive Director for the NWACC Foundation, will continue providing oversight to the fundraising and philanthropic efforts, and supervising the staff of the NWACC Foundation, including the Alumni Relations and Scholarship Coordinator, the Foundation’s Business Manager, an Administrative Assistant, and a part-time Planned Giving Officer. She also will continue leading the College’s planned giving efforts. She will now supervise the Development Coordinator for the Melba Shewmaker Southern Region National Child Protection Training Center and provide strategic leadership to complete the $3 million renovation campaign. She also will now provide executive leadership to the institution’s development initiatives aimed at institutional growth and diversification of the College’s resource base.

Hinds, Executive Director for Public Relations and Marketing, will continue to oversee the College’s brand, be the primary spokesman for the College, and supervise the staff of the Public Relations and Marketing department, including the Director of Marketing, Senior Graphic Designer, Communications Specialist, Public Relations and Social Media Specialist, two part-time graphic designers, and a part-time Social Media Coordinator. In addition, he will now serve as the principal liaison between the College and a myriad of internal and external constituencies, lead the Presidential transition process, and serve as the Cabinet representative on various committees and task forces.
Paneitz, NWACC president since 2003, announced in April that she will retire from the post in June 2013 after 10 years of dedicated service to the college, its students, faculty, staff, and its surrounding communities. Paneitz led the college during a time of tremendous growth and development, helping make it one of the largest and most effective community colleges in Arkansas and the country.

Dr. Evelyn Jorgenson, who has been named the next President of NWACC, will begin her tenure on July 1. Brunen and Hinds will remain in their interim Cabinet roles as part of her transition process.

NorthWest Arkansas Community College is a smart choice for students wanting to pursue quality higher education. As an accredited institution through The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, NWACC is a public two-year institution that serves and strengthens its surrounding communities in Benton and Washington counties by helping our students maximize their potential and exceed expectations. With state-of-the-art facilities, NWACC provides excellent academic instruction and workforce training needed to succeed, offering personalized attention from highly respected faculty, staff, and administrators. For more information, visit www.nwacc.edu.