SMALL BUSINESS CENTER OFFERS RESOURCES FOR AREA BUSINESSES

The Small Business Center at Beaufort County Community College has recently been established as one of forty such centers throughout the state of N.C. sponsored by the N.C. Department of Community Colleges. The center offers services for area businesses with little or no direct cost to them. A variety of topics on the "how to's" of business as well as the psychological aspects of running a business are presented by top people in the field. The center also provides one-on-one counseling and referral services through cooperation with the Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC), the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), volunteers -- both retired and in business, and other agencies and organizations at the local, state, and federal levels. Through the resource center individuals will be able to obtain materials for use in their business. Individuals can work with software on a personal computer, view videotapes, or listen to audiotapes. In many cases, these materials may be checked out.

Bill Morgan was recently approved by the BCCC Board of Trustees to direct the newly formed Small Business Center. Morgan, a Washington native, will work closely with small business owners and prospective owners in the college's four-county service area. Morgan will have several responsibilities as director of the center. These duties include: 1) developing seminars, workshops, and continuing education courses for small businesses; 2) directing one-to-one assistance for small businesses; 3) providing an up-to-date resource center; 4) identifying needs of small businesses and initiating plans and activities to meet these needs; 5) encouraging exchange of ideas and open communication; and 6) establishing a network of individuals and organizations concerned with small business needs.

BCCC President James P. Blanton feels that Morgan will be a valuable asset to the small businesses in the area. "We are pleased to have a person of his talent with the college," says Blanton. Morgan is well qualified for the position. He is the owner of Lewis, Inc. in Washington and is a member of the Downtown Washington Merchant's Association. He has also been president of the Washington Square Merchant's Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Chamber of Commerce.

Through partnerships and linkages with businesses, agencies, and organizations, Morgan can provide timely information and assistance. According to