

**ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
WEDNESDAY, April 21, 2021, 5 PM
Via Zoom Technology**

Present: F. Watson, R. Martucci, F. Hannes, T. Hunter, B. Vacca, T. Weddell, M. Murphy, M. Bruni,
C. Warren

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

The following is a transcript of the recorded board meeting.

Chair Watson: Good evening everyone. This meeting of the Orange County Community College Board of Trustees will now come to order.

II. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chair Watson: Next item on the agenda is the consent agenda. Before we take up a vote, I just want to mention that if there is any item in the consent agenda that a trustee wishes to have moved to item E for discussion, we will hear that as well. Does any trustee request a removal of an item? Hearing none, the Chair will entertain a motion for approval of the consent agenda.

Trustee Vacca: So moved.

Trustee Murphy: Second

Chair Watson: It's been moved and properly seconded. Is there discussion on the Consent Agenda? Hearing none, all in favor please indicate by saying "aye".

All: Aye.

Chair Watson: All Opposed? Motion carries.

I just realized that I didn't have Secretary Murray call the role. I apologize for that. Secretary Murray are you ready?

Secretary Murray: I am ready. Here we go.

Chair Watson: Okay, go right ahead.

Secretary Murray: Chair Watson?

Chair Watson: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Martucci?

Trustee Martucci: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Murphy?

Trustee Murphy: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Hunter?

Trustee Hunter: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Vacca?

Trustee Vacca: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Weddell?

Trustee Weddell: Present

Secretary Murray: Trustee Warren?

Trustee Warren: Present

Secretary Murray: Okay, you have quorum. I do know that Trustee Hannes is having a little trouble with the link so I'm probably gonna go off camera now and try and help her, so she should be here shortly. But you can go forward.

Chair Watson: Thank you very much. Okay, next item on the agenda is reports section. First report, Dr. Kristine Young, President.

III. REPORTS:

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Dr. Kristine Young)

Dr. Young: Right. Thank you, Chair Watson. Tonight for my report, I am keeping it 100% positive. In the spring, we enjoyed celebrating the accomplishments of students and employees as it's the season where they are recognized with some of the highest awards that the College and the System and other entities can recognize them with. So, Board, I do want to call out a number of students and colleagues at the College who have been recognized recently because there are some terrific accomplishments embedded in these students...so first...and colleagues.

So first, tomorrow, not one, not two, not three, not four, but five...five students are going to be recognized as PTK or Phi Theta Kappa, All New-York Academic Second Team members. That's a large number of students. If you are new to the board, PTK, Phi Theta Kappa is essentially the community college equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa. So, these students have not only exhibited academic excellence but PTK also demands a demonstration of leadership, service and fellowship. So, these are well-rounded students.

The five students who will be recognized are:

Jonathan Campos from Cornwall on Hudson. He has already graduated from us recently. His concentration with us was Biology. He is presently at NYU and he is studying Nursing.

Spencer Hughes is from Port Jervis. He is studying Accounting. His intention is to transfer to SUNY Oneonta and Trustee Weddell, he wants to be a CPA.

Trustee Weddell: Good for him.

Dr. Young:

Kelly Lloyd is from New Hampton and she...ah, Trustee Hannes is with us. Kelly Lloyd is in our OTA program Trustee Hannes and of course, she wants to be a practicing Occupation Therapy Assistant upon completion of her studies, from SUNY Orange.

Jack Morin is from Pine Bush. He is studying History with us. His intent is to go next to New Paltz where he will continue studying History or switching to Library Studies. He is undecided about his ongoing path.

And finally, Mya Zylberberg is from New Windsor. The interesting thing about Mya is she is still in high school. She is a student at NFA. She is part of our PTECH program. So, she is currently studying Cyber Security and her intent is to move on to a career in Digital Forensics. So, yeah...so Dr. Hackman and I were able to spend time with some of these students last week, filmed a little...filmed...old timey, we recorded some video with them to be used in the celebration tomorrow where they'll join other, ...ah, typically it's SUNY and CUNY join celebration. We'll see what it is tomorrow, but a very virtual celebration this year. But we'll recognize them tomorrow. So, fantastic recognition for five of those students.

Three other students were recognized last week on April 14 by Chancellor Malatras, receiving the highest possible award for the State University of New York. They were recognized as Chancellor Award students.

So, you will recognize one of these names most definitely trustees, as Nick Kanan, was one of those students. Nick was of course interim trustee, I think in February, so you saw for yourself Nick's excellence. So, he was recognized with SUNY's highest award.

The other two students: one was Elizabeth Kimber. Elizabeth...I don't know how zoom contains Elizabeth. If any of you have ever met Elizabeth, again, Dr. Hackman and I, Carol, Mike Albright, all got to spend some time with these students. We kind of re-created an informal way of getting to spend some times with these students as if we were going to Albany together for the banquet and celebration. Again, it's a virtual celebration.

Elizabeth, in her last semester with us, got the call that she had been waiting for which was to go to Academy, as she calls it. And she is now a Corrections Officer. And Elizabeth is working...and this is the job that she wants...in a maximum-security Men's prison. And Elizabeth pulls this off in every way. She is pure joy, but she is pure, like, energy, and a terrific human being to be recognized with that award. And we certainly took the opportunity to tell Ms. Kimber, like, you gotta go back to school too. So, I think she may hopefully be thinking about New Paltz in her future as well.

Finally, the third student who was recognized by the Chancellor is Jennifer Tancin. Jennifer, you know, another outstanding story as you can imagine.

Jennifer came to SUNY Orange partially because of the pandemic but not for the reasons that you might think. The time became available in her schedule because her full-time job was no longer available to her. But she is at SUNY Orange right now, wrapping up her studies but also full-time going to New Paltz. And as a consequence, is going to get Orange and New Paltz done in a three-year time frame. And is studying, I think psychology, or at least that's how I walked away thinking about...I think psychology and has aspirations I think to be a clinical psychologist. And you can just tell she's probably going to create new therapies or new therapeutical in the future. Just an understated, but such a brilliant human being.

So, congratulations to these students from SUNY Orange. So, eight students who have been recognized recently.

But let's not leave out our employees. Thank you for the opportunity. Just on Monday, we recognized two of our colleagues at SUNY Orange with the President's Award for Excellence. We...thanks to the recommendation of Shared Governance and their appropriate committee, we are now distinguishing...we've long had the President's Award for Excellence, but we really distinguish it now from the Chancellor's Award for Excellence to say let's use the President's Award for Excellence to recognize faculty and staff who are earlier in career who are showing great promise and excellence early on. And we'll reserve the Chancellor's Award for those who have had a longer time period to amass a longer CV over a longer period of time. So, I'm so pleased to recognize two ascending stars in the SUNY Orange community.

And the first is the President's Award for Excellence in Faculty and in Teaching and that is Assistant Professor Vinnie Marasco. Vinnie is an Assistant Professor of Sociology. He's been with SUNY Orange since 2013. Couldn't be a more involved, respected, classroom teacher. Board, you may not know him by sight, but you've seen the Strategic Plan, you've seen Middle States presentations. Vinnie is in the thick of everything. Vinnie is always involved in all of our...all College affairs. So...this is...certainly, we're so pleased to have Vinnie as a shining star and we hope a long, long career at SUNY Orange.

And the other award on Monday, that was recognized, President's Excellence for Professional Service went to Chris Thurtle. Chris Thurtle is the Assistant Director of Communications for New Media so he works with Mike Albright and there's a few trustees who got to see a lot about him just yesterday on the task force for Enrollment. So, Chris has been a driving force behind a lot of the social media and web presence over the past ten years and is just a powerhouse. And as the recommender said he makes recommendations about how to improve things knowing full-well he'll be the one who's asked to do those things. And he does it without hesitation and does it with excellence. So, another early career award for deserving Chris Thurtle.

And, finally, the last recognition I'd like to give today. Board of Trustees, you and I share an administrative assistant in the form of Ms. Carol Murray. And she

does not know this is going to happen...look at her, she may have just pulled a muscle and I did not mean to do that. But today is Administrative Professionals Day so I wanted to take this moment and recognize Carol for how she supports us. I cannot imagine that the nine trustees and one president assembled here are easy in any year. But certainly 2020 and 2021 has not made it any easier. So, Carol's career at the College...Carol, you would have to tell me how many years it spans but I know it spans two presidents, multiple vice presidents for Academic Affairs and one Rad Tech Department. So, I wanted to recognize you on Administrative Professions Day to the people you serve.

Trustee Vacca: Congratulations Carol, that's great.

Secretary Murray: Thanks so much. I appreciate all of you and I love working with all of you. And eighteen years now, so...yup. I started as a part-timer and just kind of went all the way through the college, working with students, faculty, then presidents.

Trustee Weddell: You don't have your degree yet?

Dr. Young: She earned her degrees.

Secretary Murray: I've got my degrees, yeah. But thanks so much. I appreciate it Kris and yeah, you guys are great and yes, it has been a crazy year but if we laugh, we're okay. We just keep laughing.

Trustee Vacca: Kris, that says a lot about the caliber of our students and our faculty I think with all of the awards. That's great.

Secretary Murray: Yeah. Thank you.

Dr. Young: Thank you. And we should have Chancellors Awards to announce on the Faculty and Professional Service side in May if hopefully if the pattern holds here. But that, Chair Watson, that concludes my planned remarks unless there's any questions.

Chair Watson: Trustees, any questions? I will just once again say congratulations to all of the awardees. We are proud of everyone and we wish the students well. And Secretary Murray, I just have to add to that and say that you've done a tremendous job I'm sure...I call you 50 times a week. It's much appreciated.

Secretary Murray: Thank you.

Chair Watson: Alright, our next report is our Governance President, Paul Basinski.

Secretary Murray: Okay, so Paul Basinski is not here yet. I suspect he got tied up in Executive Committee Chair Watson so if you could maybe move to the next report and I'll watch for Paul.

Chair Watson: We'll do it.

Secretary Murray: Thank you.

Chair Watson: Next on the agenda is our Student Trustee and this is three days straight that I've been in meetings with Trustee Warren. So, I am going to call him the hardest working trustee in the business. Welcome Trustee Warren.

B. REPORT OF THE INTERIM STUDENT TRUSTEE (Christopher Warren)

(Moved up in agenda to Item B as Mr. Basinski had not arrived yet.)

Trustee Warren: We're all working hard. Appreciate that Chair Watson. Once again, thank you everybody for considering the student voice. We really appreciate it, and I can't reiterate that enough. Also, thanks for stealing all my thunder, Dr. Young. You spoke on behalf of Nick, Jen and Elizabeth better than I could have so appreciate that. On a side note, before I get into my report, I want to reiterate likely why the three professionals who were highlighted by the President's Award really have an impact on students as well. Vinnie Marasco, he responds to me every week when I send out highlights. Chris Thurtle, he's helped us with the Veteran's Club, getting us our information online. And Carol obviously has been instrumental in all of this. I think not only do they help the Faculty but they're helping students as well. So that's...they're well deserved for the awards.

As I did last week, I'll talk about some specifics around campus and then I'll tie in some thoughts of the student body as a whole.

So, recently completed some events on campus including the Pottery Paint....And, we'll be hosting a drive-in movie whichat 8 PM in the Wawayanda...There will be free pizzas for 40 vehicles. So I know they had a great success rate last time and really tied the campus community together. They'll be hosting.....

Campus-wide events. We recently had...oh, well I thought that Dr. Young was gonna speak about our interactions with the Chancellor. And so perhaps she could give a...or somebody will give a faculty perspective on that. But as students we really appreciated the ability to meet with the Chancellor and talk about some of our perspectives. He seemed to be quite receptive, and it was a great opportunity for us to meet in an open forum type of discussion. And then our president, Nick Kanan, he actually spoke at a press conference. He did a great job, so I was really proud of him for that, and I know he represented the students well.

Campus-wide events coming up as well. This weekend. SUNY Orange will be participating in the SUNY Fest which is the SUNY wide digital concert with pop star, Kesha, if anybody knows who that is. I know that I was talking with some folks and it seemed as though that was the only one that some older trustee members may even recognize. So, that was interesting to hear. And the Apprentice Players Club will be hosting their spring event, called Flash in the Dark, at 7:30 on April 23 and the 24th and at 3 PM on the 25th. That will be hosted on Facebook Live so if anybody is interested in attending, you'll be more

than welcome to join. SAGA will have a graduation on May 30 and the annual awards Convocation will be held digitally on May 18th. So the department chairs and AVPs will be there and trustees, you're more than welcome to join. I'm sure I'll attend as well.

Student Snow Day Resolution was endorsed by the Faculty Assembly. Apparently, this is the first student drafted resolution in recent years. So that was great to hear, that we're making all the difference. And that'll ensure that students in this digital environment in the fall have the opportunity to stay current with their studies, assuming no issues arise.

We held our Interclub council which I alluded to during our last meeting, and it was great to talk with all the clubs and see what's working for folks and what's not. I know that that's been a real crutch for some folks and been incredibly helpful in helping them get through the semester. Some folks talked about how their involvement in clubs is really what got them through the semester, and it was incredibly helpful for their mental health. So that was exciting to hear, and it allowed us to think about how we're gonna continue moving considering a portion of our semester next fall will be in the online environment.

The Senate elected a new treasurer, Vanessa Wellhausen. She is a SUNY Buffalo graduate and has returned to SUNY Orange for her nursing degree. So, she'll be here next semester as well and I'm sure she'll be involved on campus. So, you'll likely here her name again.

And we will be holding our election for student trustee of next year, here shortly. The applications are due at the end of the week and there is one applicant and likely a few more. So, you will have a student representative next year.

I was gonna talk about our student accomplishments but thankfully Dr. Young touched on those as well. So, I'll tie...I'll switch hats real quick and talk about the Veteran's Club real quickly. We're trying to attempt new methods of engaging with students so we're actually hosting a video game tournament that will tie together the student veteran population and others on campus as well. And we've published our first newspaper of the semester, a newsletter highlighting some academic and vocational resources for our vets on campus. So, we're really excited about that.

And now, transitioning into some concerns and interests of the student body as a whole. We followed up at length with Faculty and Administration on a conversation about blended courses. We had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Young, Dr. Hackman and many of the department chairs as well. As a whole, it was very productive, and they were receptive to our suggestions. Kind of tying into some of Trustee Weddell's suggestion, we provided suggestions to the Administration. One of which was to provide our students and I should say potential students with a better definition of what blended means. And so that's something that I know that the Administration got to back to our president, Nick Kanan about; essentially providing more clarification so students know what they're getting into. Right now, the message that folks see when they register

for classes is as follows: “Blended, remote online learning that integrates some synchronous, real-time instruction, at the designated days and times. Some remote online instruction may be required during the scheduled days and times on the schedule.” So, we feel that that is too vague but with that being said, the Administration is working towards coming up with a better definition. And that will provide the students with better clarity and allow them to figure out which courses they would like to enroll in for the fall semester. We really appreciate all the support and willingness to hear our concerns. It seems as though that it’s gained some traction, so once again thank you.

Students are also somewhat concerned but also aware that the Administration is concerned about their ability to access additional resources once they return to campus. That includes utilizing the library for tutoring sessions and their ability to interact and learn from one another in the lounges on campus. I know this is going to be a challenge with social distancing and what not. It sounds as though it’s at the forefront of Administration’s concerns. And the students as a whole appreciate that because it is an important consideration of theirs as well.

That basically concludes all of my talking points, but I do have a couple things worth noting at the end. I want to say this as a word of encouragement. I want us to remember that the education of our students should be at the forefront of every decision we make. Every decision we make should be made in order to improve the education of our students and to provide a return on investment for the taxpayers of New York State and Orange County. I’m a third generation Orange...SUNY Orange student. I love this community. I look forward to supporting our next generation of students and I think it’s important to consider the students in every decision we make. I’m also really proud of the students who endured the struggles of this online education. In the last month as Chair Watson illuded to, I’ve been involved in many conversations and meetings with folks, and I’ve heard often people talking about zoom fatigue and being tired. And not...I don’t want to say avoiding but dreading that next zoom meeting. And I think students feel similarly and it’s important to keep that in mind. Many, many students feel similarly, and the data is concerning, that mental health of students is in steep decline this last year. I think it’s important we consider those when we’re making decisions on how to move forward in the wake of this COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you again, Chair Watson, Trustees. I appreciate you guys taking the time and effort...it’s a serious effort...to listen to students voices here at SUNY Orange.

Trustee Hannes: Well said Chris and all-encompassing and quite impressive, your representation of the student body. And you are absolutely right. Rough year, lots of mental health needs and thank you for stating it as you did.

Trustee Warren: Thank you.

Chair Watson: Trustee Warren, I too want to thank you for your commitment and the time you’re spending, your efforts and your representation of your fellow students is tremendous. It’s greatly appreciated. We had heard before you arrived that

you would bring that kind of focus to the trustee board and we're grateful to you and grateful for it.

I just have one quick question. Do you happen to know how many veterans or active-duty service personnel are on our campus?

Trustee Warren: We have about 180 to 200 members of the military community. So, that includes dependents, reservists, active-duty folks and veterans.

Chair Watson: Wonderful. Once again, thank you for that report.
Next, the College Association. Vinnie Cazzetta.

C. REPORT OF THE COLLEGE ASSOCIATION (Vinnie Cazzetta)

(Moved up in agenda to Item C as Mr. Basinski had not arrived yet.)

Mr. Cazzetta: Thank you Chair Watson. Good evening board. Nice to be with you tonight for the College Association report, which contains four items.

Item Number One, the board met on Monday and highlights from that meeting. We welcomed our newest board member, Trustee Warren. We also did a review of the finances and updated the board on the budget process for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. And we had an update from Sandy Mathes on the Food TEC program.

My second item is the Lab School Ad hoc committee will meet next Monday, their third meeting in a series of meetings. So, next Monday they will meet again.

Number Three, I continue to conduct Executive Director transition meetings with Paul Martland. He will assume the role of Executive Director of the College Association on June 1.

And finally, much to the surprise of the Association and to Follett, the Bookstore manager resigned unexpectedly last week. However, we do have a strong Bookstore Assistant Manager who has been with the College for a number of years, Jennifer Labinsky. She will serve in an Interim role. She's done this before and has done it well. And she will be in that role until a replacement is found. And Follett is on a fast track to get a new manager on board to support SUNY Orange. And that concludes my report for tonight, Trustee Watson.

Chair Watson: Thank you. I'll call you President Cazzetta once again. Any questions for the Association trustees? Hearing none, we'll move forward.

Next, the Foundation Board, Dawn Ansbro. Dawn are you with us?

D. REPORT OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD (Dawn Ansbro)

Moved up in agenda to Item D as Mr. Basinski had not arrived yet.

Ms. Ansbro:

I am. I had to figure out my video there for a second. Nice to see everybody. Thank you so much for having me.

I wanted to start my report tonight by letting you know that Ulster Savings Bank reached out to us shortly after Chancellor Malatras was here and made the announcement about the refrigeration grant. They were so moved by the grant announcement that they offered us \$3,000 towards the food pantry, as a grant. They were happy to do it. We obviously thanked them profusely. So that money now sits in a fund. We're prepared to stock the refrigerator as soon as we get it with the money from Ulster Savings Bank. If you know of anybody from Ulster Savings Bank, please do thank them on our behalf as well.

Golf. We are golfing in June, June 17 at Otterkill. I'll mention it again. I want to thank Trustee Watson and Trustee Hunter and Trustee Martucci for their support to date. And certainly...I would be remiss if I didn't tell you that there are sponsorship opportunities still available. And we would certainly love to see everybody come out and golf. As you all are probably aware, the money that we raise at the Golf outing does go to support athletic scholarships here at SUNY Orange. So, I know Wayne Smith is very excited about getting back out on the course. And he and Stacey Morris, as always, have been wonderful partners in the planning of this event.

We had a very successful Alumni concert, virtual concert, on April 9th. I don't know if any of you had a chance to participate in that. It was a little...just over an hour. We had two alumni groups. One alum who graduated in 2010 and one who graduated 2020. Two very different music styles but very well done. We raised almost \$1,500 for the student emergency fund through that event. So, thank you to everybody who participated and who listened. It was just a lot of fun, always nice to highlight our alumni who are doing such great things.

And speaking of highlighting Alumni, we also had a wonderful Alumni Career panel with the Education and Human Services Departments on Wednesday, April 7. We had five alum who came and spoke about their, their experiences at SUNY Orange, both here and after SUNY Orange and kind of what that initial career experience was for them. They spoke a lot about...they gave a lot of advice to our current students about what they should do...kind of spoke about their own struggles. It was really very well received. I know the Education Department is already thinking about what to do for next year. So, we're excited to be able to bring those alum and of course, the alum are always excited to talk to current students. So, it's a great partnership there.

Scholarships. So, our scholarship...our first round of scholarship applications did come to an end on April 1st. I know last I spoke to you we were trying to get as many applications in the portal as possible. We did not do as well this year as we did in years past. I suspect it's just the environment because I believe it is not for lack of trying on anybody's part. I know Admissions and Gerianne's group have been great. Academic Advising has been terrific about trying to spread the word, Faculty as well for returning students. We spoke to many high school guidance counselors and encouraged them to spread the word. We ended up with....where am I this year...we had only 61 entering applications for

this round, 180 applications for returning students and 50 applications for graduating students. Now I will that we are reopening the portal again on May 1 for entering students only. So, it will be open again during the summer from May 1 to probably about July 23, is what we're looking at right now. And, obviously, we'll be back in touch with the guidance counselors to encourage them to encourage students. We do know from past experience that we do get more students to apply in the summer months than we do in the spring months. Last year, just for example, we had 112 students applied the first round. We had 147 students apply in the summer. So, I'm currently working with the College Scholarship committee to...I'll call it save, for lack of a better word, more entering scholarships for the summer session so that we have more opportunities to award students who are making decisions over the summer.

And that concludes my report unless anybody has any questions. Thank you all.

Chair Watson: Thank you for that report. Hearing no questions, we are moving forward with our meeting.

Next up. Once again, before we move on, Paul Basinski, has he joined with us yet?

Secretary Murray: Yes, he is here Chair Watson if you'd like to have him do his report.

Chair Watson: Yes, I would.

Secretary Murray: Thank you.

E. REPORT OF THE COLLEGE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM (Paul Basinski)

Mr. Basinski: Thank you Chair Watson. Good Evening trustees. Fred, thanks for letting me speak out of turn.

Chair Watson: No problem sir.

Mr. Basinski: Yes, and I have four words that are music to everyone's ears at meetings. Let me be brief. I want to say that Governance is wrapping up operations for the academic year in the next few weeks. We are receiving recommendations at this moment from our various committees on issues ranging broadly from academic policy, related to academic standings at the College, for a vote that we hope to hold on that matter at our final Assembly in May. We're also dealing with recommendations regarding academic policy related to developmental courses. We're always sensitive to the developmental population at the College and their needs and are taking them into consideration as we look at revising that academic policy.

I can tell the board that we also endorsed at our Assembly this past week, a state-wide Faculty Council of Community College's resolution with regard to the need for Faculty and Staff to provide input with respect to course modality as we moved to remote operations in the past year.

I want to say that we are so pleased that Dr. Young honored two of our members, Professor Vinnie Marasco and Chris Thurtle, with president's awards at our Monday Assembly. I can't think of two more deserving folks at SUNY Orange, and I want to thank our Professional Recognition and Awards committee for the help with that process.

We are pleased to see the development of new remote instruction classrooms, in Bio-Tech in particular and had a presentation on that from our IT specialists. We need more of them. I hope it's the tip of the iceberg, the creation of those new learning environments at SUNY Orange.

I want to give a shout out to Trustee Tom and the Enrollment Task Force. We had a very lengthy but very productive conversation about how to deal with enrollment matters moving forward at SUNY Orange, just yesterday. And I am pleased to be a member of that enrollment task force.

And, finally, I'll say, that...fifth year as governance president...I've got one year left, with the trustees at SUNY Orange and I look forward to providing leadership for shared governance for one more year as their president. Thank you, folks for the time to present these remarks.

Chair Watson: Trustees, are there any questions for Governance? Hearing none, we will move on to our Middle States Self-Study Update. And we have, hopefully, all three of our super stars with us: Christine Work, Dena Whipple and Michele Iannuzzi. Please go right ahead.

F. MIDDLE STATES SELF-STUDY UPDATE

(Christine Work, Dena Whipple, Michele Iannuzzi-Sucich)

Dr. Iannuzzi-Sucich: Very good. Thank you very much Chair Watson. So, I'm going to begin our presentation this evening. Hello everyone and thank you for allowing us to provide you with yet another monthly update. So, next slide please. Thank you.

So, our agenda for this evening's meeting. First, we're going to give an overview of the self-study preparation visit that took place on April 8th with our Middle States liaison, Dr. Paul Starkey, at which point in time, our self-study design was discussed. We will offer, multiple times during this presentation, our thanks to everyone who participated. And that of course, includes Chair Watson and Trustee Hannes. We will further talk about how anyone from the College community can access the self-study design and review that document at their convenience. We will share with you the feedback provided by Dr. Starkey and our next steps in our process. We will further summarize our activities for the spring 2021 semester which include a broad sweeping review of the evidence that we have available that we are in compliance with the Middle States standards. And then finally we will ask for comments and questions from the board. Next slide please.

So, to begin then with our overview of our visit with Dr. Paul Starkey on April 8th. This was called the Self-Study preparation visit. As you are aware, it was necessary for us to hold this visit virtually this year, due to the circumstances that we currently find ourselves in with the pandemic. And, that visit proceeded very smoothly in the remote environment. We were able to host meetings with, not only the board representatives, Chair Watson and Trustee Hannes, but an open forum for the College community at large, a meeting with the Self-Study Steering Committee, meetings with myself, Dena and Christine, and of course a meeting....a personal meeting with Dr. Starkey and Dr. Young.

So, the goal of that visit, just as a brief reminder, is to informally assess the College's preparation for this self-study process and reinforce the partnership between the College and the Middle States Commission. And Dr. Starkey was excellent at doing precisely that. He is a real partner in this process and has made it abundantly clear that he is more than willing to assist and help in anyway that he can providing us guidance as we move through our process.

The focus of course for that visit was the Self-Study design. The Self-Study Design is that document that is our road map that we will follow for the next two years as we take this introspective look at our policies, processes, procedures at SUNY Orange and determine whether or not we fully meet the standards that Middle States has set forward.

So, that visit then provided the Steering Committee an opportunity to discuss that design with Dr. Starkey in depth and get his feedback. And so that feedback will be shared with you in a future slide in this presentation by one of my co-chairs. And also, once again, the meeting with Chair Watson and Trustee Hannes during which Dr. Starkey shared with our colleagues on the board, the importance of this self-study to the institution and the role that the board plays in providing documentation for their processes as that does fall under one of the Middle States standards. Next slide please. And I'll turn it over to Christine now.

Ms. Work:

Thanks Michele. Good evening everybody and I'm loving that it's still light out during this meeting. I'm not sure if everybody else appreciates it too but it feels like very refreshed and renewed so it's definitely springtime.

So, this is an obvious slide. It's our thank you slide. And we cannot express enough to all of the constituent's involved in our Self-Study Design development as well as those who participated in our preparation visit. Just to say thank you, sincere thanks for taking that time during such a busy time of the semester but also just during the challenging pandemic world that we live in anyways. But we also wanted to mention that at Assembly we had the opportunity to thank those colleagues of ours who did also participate in the open forum. And I think Dena could probably correct me because I think she has the total number. We were about 80 strong, so 80 Faculty and Staff and I believe maybe a couple students were participating in that open forum and I just think that that really signifies the commitment for the self-study process and the value that we always feel in regard to self-evaluation and continuous improvement. And then again special thanks as well to Dr. Young, as well as Chair Watson and Trustee Hannes for

your dedication of time in meeting with our liaison Dr. Starkey. We thank you for you know again, engaging with him in regard to our self-study process. The next slide please.

As Michele noted, we're very committed to make sure that, again, all of our constituents, Faculty, Staff, students, board members are kept in the loop and updated as we are moving along every step of the way in this process. So, we have this portal, portlet that our internal audience is using to access our information including the Self-Study Design, Assembly presentation. We're still a little bit not up to date on the public facing side of that but once our Self-Study Design is approved by Dr. Starkey then that will get ramped up as well. So again when...we'll discuss a little bit more detail of those next steps with our Self-Study Design but once that is approved by Dr. Starkey we'll make sure that the board members all have a current copy of the roadmap as well. Next slide.

Okay, so what you've all been waiting for right, the feedback. The overall feedback to the Self-Study Design document was "outstanding." And I use this word, outstanding in quotes because it literally is what Dr. Starkey had said many many times throughout all of our sessions with him. And I have to say on behalf too of the co-chairs of the Steering Committee and the working groups that we're both proud and pleased that our document was well-received. So just to note too that there were only two items that Dr. Starkey felt he would like us to address in our revision to him. The first feedback is that he would like a little bit more information in our institutional profile section. So, this is the first section of the self-study design that talks about the institution. It's an overview. It includes who we are, it includes recent developments, includes information on recent strategic planning and Vision, Mission, Value and Goals. So, he wanted more information, he wanted us to tell our story, he wanted to know more of who we are. And the reason for that is that when our team chair is selected that this document is also going to be sent to him or her. And that is their first foray into SUNY Orange. So, he definitely wanted it to be a little bit more descriptive, wanted us to include much more of our bragging rights as we should. So, the co-chairs are working on that feedback. We had a Steering committee meeting today and we had gotten some great suggestions, good ideas in regards to those bragging bits as well.

The next feedback item that we are to attend to is in the section, it's called the Evaluation Team section. So, in this section, the purpose is to help Middle States select who our team is. Who are those peer evaluators that are going to be coming in 2023? So, part of this section includes a description of who we'd like to see in regards to our evaluation team. And, I just have a couple bullets that I can remind you all of. In that...in that...in that evaluation team we would like to see experience in a strong shared governance environment, experience in a strong union environment, prefer members within and outside of New York State, prefer members with multi-campus or branch campus experience, experience with distance learning and hybrid programs, as well as experience in the AAS programs and Allied Health fields. And there's a few more items as well. But what we need to provide to Dr. Starkey in the Self-Study Design is an actual list of some of these institutions that meet these categories. So that

again when Middle States is looking through all of the institutions that they accredit to identify peer evaluators in the different categories that they have, we've provided a little bit of a, like a head start, a little bit in regards to matching up who those institutions are that meet the characteristics that we are as an institution as well as what we've identified are important to us. We also are to provide a list of the aspirational institutions. These can't be within SUNY systems and they can't also extend beyond the accreditation of Middle States. So, for example in our Steering Committee meeting today some members had thrown out St. Petersburg College. They had been you know leading members in the Guided Pathways movement and are a few steps ahead of us in that process. So that would be an example of an aspirational institution.

And then too, they were interested in looking at just a little bit more specifically in the enrollment of our program. So, we will provide all of this information to Dr. Starkey as we revise that Self-Study Design. And I will ask for the next slide please. And then Dena. Thank you.

Dr. Whipple:

Thank you Christine. Good evening everyone. So, our next steps, we wanted to give you just a snapshot of what the next couple of weeks will bring. So, our next steps include the addition of the information that Christine just mentioned into our Self Study Draft. This draft will then be discussed...we have a meeting set up with Dr. Young and Dr. Hackman next week. We talked a bit with our Steering committee today, so we have a number of conversations to have before we submit this final document to Dr. Starkey. Our goal is to submit this by next Friday, April 30th. At that point, then, on behalf of Middle States, Dr. Starkey approves and accepts this Self-Study Design, so it now becomes our official document and our official road map for the self-study and guides us over the next two years. The Self-Study Design in its final form will then be shared collegewide. So, Christine noted that we have this internal portal that houses this document as it is now. That will be updated and shared out with the College community as well and will be accessible for all of you as well to review that document should you wish to do so.

So, the remainder of the spring semester work, we did want to quickly outline, you know what's happening. We did have an April Steering Committee meeting just this morning and it was a great opportunity to ask our working groups to give us a progress report on their work to date. As you know, they have assembled their working groups, some have had two, some three meetings already. So, we had a chance to hear collectively how that progress is going and it was a wonderful opportunity to share ideas and have some brainstorming for what's been working with different working groups. As you can imagine, they all approach it a little bit differently, but we feel we've provided a good framework for them to move forward and to still have some uniqueness within their process for meeting the criteria and starting to work on the evidence gathering.

So, we do...we are going to ask that the working groups submit the interim reports that they're working on now. We had a due date of May 1st. Just an update to this slide. This morning the working groups actually requested a

possible extension on that date. So, we are just gonna have some conversations, look at our timeline to try to give them a little bit more time where needed. So that May 1st date may shift back just slightly but will still fall within the timeline for us to be able to give them feedback on those interim reports which is really our goal as co-chairs. This feedback that we can provide will allow them to set activities up for the fall semester and really move into the semester with a strong plan in place. So, we did have a May meeting sort of to be determined. I think the way that we're going to go now, because it seems to be a better way to serve the working groups, is rather than a full meeting just to have individual meetings with them to address their needs.

And then just...the focus and the theme now is just building evidence. So, our work now shifts to directing and supporting the working groups to identify the evidence and the data per their standards criteria. The second bullet here points to a number of items that are already in place that they will start to look through and gather information. This is certainly not an exhaustive list, but we provided this to them as a place to start. And these are some of the date points that they can start pulling from in order to begin to address their criteria. So, as we had presented to all of the stakeholders on campus, we do know that information exists in many places. And so, we have also asked that as folks are...as we go into the summer, particularly Cabinet, we are asking that should they come across something that they think will be helpful to our process, to feel free to share that information with any of the co-chairs. So, we also extend that to you as well. We certainly appreciate the board's support and should there be something you think we should have access to you, you can share it with any of us or maybe through Carol would be the appropriate way to go.

So, we thank you very much for your continued support. This concludes our report, and we'll just ask if there are any questions of the co-chairs. Thank you, Chair Watson.

Chair Watson: You're very welcome. Trustees, questions?

Trustee Hannes: Well, not a question and not a comment but an addition. The rest of the story of Dr. Starkey's visit is what our terrific trio-chair team has not said. That Dr. Starkey offered kudos to the Steering Committee, for the outstanding, that is true, design document. But further, he has asked to be able to utilize this as an exemplar for other colleges of what an outstanding design document should look like. Congratulations Steering Committee. Well done.

Chair Watson: I too would just like to make a quick comment that came out from our meeting with Dr. Starkey. Dr. Starkey has volunteered to spend time with our entire trustee board. We expressed to Dr. Starkey that we had some newer board members that had not been through a self-study. And he said that he would be willing to get on a Zoom call. He would spend whatever time was required. He said that he could expand his presentation to an hour or a half a day or a full day. So, I would definitely like to hear from the trustees whether or not they would be interested in engaging Dr. Starkey at any point, even if it's just for an hour. And, if I were to come away from our discussion with Dr. Starkey, I always think that the Middle States Self-Study process is a way for us to showcase our

institution. But as he spoke, one of the points that came through, to me at least, is that the self-study is an opportunity for us to improve our institutions. He spoke very highly of our co-chairs, their engagement, their vision, the plan in of itself, how impressed he is with it. So, we are off to a tremendous start. Once again, I just want to publicly thank the three co-chairs and everyone who has participated in the initial planning and design of the self-study. I'm sure it will go smoothly and I'm looking forward to participating in any way that I can. So, thanks once again to the team. Trustees? Okay, hearing no further comments, we will move on to our special reports. Next special report is a 2021-2022 Tuition and Fees Recommendation from Paul Martland. Paul are you there?

G. 2021-22 TUITION AND FEES RECOMMENDATION

(Paul Martland)

Paul Martland: I am. I have been unmuted which is good. For those of you who have been involved in this process far longer than I have, you know that it is normally incumbent on the person in my job to come here and explain all the reasons why our preliminary budgets are not looking healthy and why there is a gap to be closed and justifying a tuition and fee increase, in spite of the fact that it adds burdens to our students.

I am very happy to say that I am not here with that message. I am not here with a presentation really of any kind other than to say that the Administration does not recommend any increases in tuition or fees for Academic Year 2021-2022.

And the reasons for that are first of all, we have a strong fund balance starting position due to better than expected results for last fiscal year. We've had strong financial performance in fiscal year 21 and first influx of federal funds in the CARES Institutional Act provisions have aided us greatly in this fiscal year. And the second wave of federal funding through the CRRSAA Act will continue to provide strong support to our budget process in fiscal 22. So, there is no gap to be closed this year. So, we concur with the recommendation that was made by Shared Governance and recommend that there be no increases in tuition or fees this year. I'm happy to answer any questions that people might have.

Trustee Hannes: Good news indeed.

Chair Watson: Okay, questions trustees? Hearing none, Paul, we thank you for that recommendation and will deal with that in a future section of this meeting.

Next on the agenda, Old Business. We are going to have a report from the Enrollment Task Force. And if you have not heard at this point, this is becoming one of my favorite meetings that are conducted at the College. This enrollment task force is filled with heavy hitters and we are having a tremendous time discussing enrollment, expanded, what we should do. New and fresh ideas are coming from this committee. So, we're excited about it. So, Tom, I'll let you give your report. I won't steal your thunder.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report of the Enrollment Task Force (Tom Weddell)

Trustee Weddell: Glad you think it's one of your favorite committees. Well, I always love a good debate you know that. Anyway, yes, we've been meeting...and we've been meeting on a pretty regular basis here to try to shake this up and really get...We've gotten down to trying to figure out what marketing needs we may need and what support team we may need and we're getting ready to put our budgets together and finalize that and see where that all ends up. But very encouraging and everybody's really kind of on the same page here and sees the real importance of our enrollment and for the continued success of SUNY Orange. And it's very very encouraging that there are so many people that are willing to help really try to get into a good process, to get into a good system and even improve some of our technology that we have that we use for marketing as well as some of our internal technology to help enrollment out. And I think that we're starting to formulate that. It's not completed yet as to dotting all the "i"s and crossing all the "t"s, but we've certainly gotten some great input and some great thoughts behind this. And I'm really encouraged that we should start to see some kind of a change here in our enrollments and hopefully SUNY Orange becomes famous because we're gonna be the first ones with big increases in our enrollments the next couple of semesters. So, I'm excited about that and I'm really...I really want to thank the Enrollment Task Force, Gerianne and Maynard, that they do a great job in really trying to pull things together. And now we have Mike that's on our committee as well. He's with the technology and the marketing side and I see that that's gonna be great help to really get that going. And again, I appreciate Paul Basinski being on the committee as well and sharing his thoughts. And so, I'm really encouraged and I'm hoping that we can really springboard off of this COVID thing and really hope to move forward with a lot of good stuff from this and I'll be really surprised if we don't see some kind of improvement in our enrollment. And we really need to really turn that around and get that back to being a strong enrollment. And we have a lot of new things with our Strategic Plan that would also require some additional marketing and make sure people are aware of and can participate in that as well as with our Strategic Plan overall. So, I'm excited to really...and I'd like to say Fred that the people we have on the committee are very enthused and really want to get...want to see the results so we'll get there. And that's my report unless anybody has anything to add to that that's on the committee.

Trustee Warren: I have something worth noting. In our discussions, we recognize that nearly 40% of students who are joining the SUNY Orange team have learned about us just through conversation with other folks. I think that's something that we need to focus on as well...is ensuring that the students we gain, we retain. Because considering the 40% of students...new students who come here are hearing about us from others, it's those who are here should have an amazing experience. I think that that should be a focus of ours as well. Yes, committing money and resources toward researching and finding new students. But also

making sure that students who are here are expressing their experiences in a positive way, assuming that they have a great experience. But I don't know how necessarily to do that, but the 40% figure really struck me as important. And you saw the comparison of that with what we get from online revenue versus that from television revenue, peer to peer interaction is the biggest way to get our word out there. So, I just throw that out there.

Trustee Weddell: I really appreciate your input on that and that was one of the thoughts that I walked away from that presentation...that we discussed yesterday. I was a little disappointed that it was 40% because I can tell you most businesses get their new businesses...about 80%, comes from word of mouth or somebody who has already done business with you and is happy that they've done business with you. So that has an area, I believe, I don't know if we'll ever get to 80% but it is an area that we could improve. And like you say if we do the right job here, we'll get the other students and wanting to get other students to come here as well. I agree with you 100%. So again, I'm starting to collect that information, that intelligence, and again as in that meeting was said, this is kinda not, it was measured, but it was on a voluntary...when you enroll you kinda fill out a little tiny questionnaire how you heard about the College. So, I don't necessarily say that was 100% pure but it was a good starting point to get a feel for what was happening within the College. And I would expect that word of mouth would be a real large percentage of how people get to Orange County Community College. I would expect that. And that's really with any business that it would be that high. So, but good observation Chris, really good.

Trustee Warren: Also, one point while we're on the topic. This is somewhat unrelated, but I think it's worth mentioning and I don't know when a better time would be to bring this up. I was doing some research recently and I found a National Student Clearing House survey completed in 2019 specifically in New York State which found that only 30% of New York State students who leave a public 2-year high school before degree completion will return to complete their degrees. That's a...that's an important consideration. We need to make sure we're retaining our students. A, for their own benefit and their own potential success but also think about the influence they have on others. Saying "oh yeah, I went to SUNY Orange but I didn't finish" or conversely "I went to SUNY Orange. I finished my degree. I had this much support. You know, X, Y, Z. So, I think, yes, we for sure need to be focusing our Enrollment Task Force on new enrollments but also on maintaining enrollment. And I don't know what those statistics are and maybe it's great, but I just thought it was worth putting out there.

Chair Watson: Well, from a National standpoint Trustee Warren, one of the things that is being discussed is that we need to step up our coaching of the students that we currently have. We need to make sure that we engage them, we're nurturing them along, that if they have particular needs that we're filling them. But we need to be interacting with them, finding out how they're doing. We need to coach them through completion. So, that's one of the things, of course, we're discussing in the Enrollment Task Force how to do that, what our staffing is for that. Everyone knows we're a Hispanic servicing institution, a minority serving

institution. Those coaches should be able to relate to the students and yes, you're correct, we need to retain our students. That helps us with our financial situation, with our enrollment situation, it just drives everything. But we do appreciate your comments and we appreciate how engaged you are in this new trustee position.

Trustee Weddell: I think he's spot on. I think he's spot on.

Trustee Warren: I'm really excited to see how the new website will help with that as well. I was in that presentation. I think that's really gonna help in the coaching aspect and really help retain students too. I think we're on the right trajectory. I think it's great.

Chair Watson: Got it. Other trustees, any questions for the Enrollment Task Force. Trustee Weddell we thank you for that report. Trustee Warren, we thank you for your comments as well.

Moving forward, next on the agenda, Old Business

2. Board of Trustees Evaluation Survey Results (Fred Watson)

Chair Watson: Next, the Board of Trustees Self Evaluation. And just so that we can frame this discussion properly. This is something that I wanted to do as a Chair. All of the trustees engaged in a survey back in 2019, in August. And recently, this March we engaged in our two-year scheduled survey. The trustees that responded were 7 and the same trustees responded in 2019 and 2021. We did have 100% participation. As we know, we did not have a student trustee that could've responded to the self-evaluation survey in 2021 and in August of 2019 we did not have a student trustee as well. That's why we have 7. We know that we have some vacancies on our board.

Before we move forward, I would just like to acknowledge and once again, thank Christine Work for putting together our self-evaluation instrument, assisting with the correlation of the responses and for her putting together a comparison of 2019 compared to 2021 which I will utilize to make a couple of points. I won't go through the self-evaluation in its entirety. I will go through it and highlight some of the things that I think are important and a few of the observations or comments that were presented outside of the structured questions that were presented.

So, everyone understands that the testing instrument, you are able to vote either 5 for excellent, above average you would score a 4, average 3, below average a 2 and poor you would score 1. So, what Christine Work did was she created a system that would create a weighted average for all of the responses. And I think, I'm just gonna preface it and say this, that this board has done a tremendous job in its self-evaluation, and this board believes that it is doing a sufficient, and I'd even go in to categorize it as an excellent job.

In most of the areas that we looked at, and I'll touch upon a few, this particular board evaluated itself between 4 and 5 on its categories. The first major category that was reviewed was policy creation, oversight and revision. There were 4 questions presented and for all of the questions, both in 2019 and in 2021, the scores were above 4, many of the scores were above 4 ½. There was only 1 category in which we scored ourselves lower in 2021 than in 2019 and that was "the board focuses on policy in meetings and discussions rather than administrative and managerial matters." This done in 2019, we scored ourselves at a 4.29. And in 2021, we went down to a 4.1 for all 4 above.

Next area, Board Management and Meeting. In 2019, we scored ourselves for the category for "Board Operates as a Unit, Considers and Respects all input and upholds the final majority decision of the board" This is a very important one which allows this board to exist and take care of the business at hand. In 2019, we scored 4.71 and in 2021, we scored 4.29. Once again, above 4 but we did score a little lower in 21.

Next, Strategic Plan. In 2019, we scored ourselves on the Strategic Planning all in the 4 range except for one area: "the board is familiar with the College's Strategic Plan as well as those master plans contained within" In 2019, we scored a 3.86 and in 2021 we improved significantly to a 4.42 showing a marked improvement. And in 2021, all of our scores were in the 4 category and all of our scores showed improvement, marked improvement.

Next, Fiscal Oversight. All of our scores are in the 4, high 4 range. There's only one that was below 4.5 and in 2019 which improved to 4.17: "the board advocates before New York State and County for adequate funding for the College" So, we improved in how we evaluate ourselves in how we interact with our County sponsor and with the State.

A few more points to bring out, under Facilities and Capital Projects. This is one of the other areas where we scored in 2019 lower than 4: "the board ensures that the College has a long-range Facilities Plan" In 2019 we scored 3.86 and in 2021 we scored 4.2 now which shows marked improvement. And in all categories, once again in Facilities and Capital Projects, we showed either the same score or marked improvement.

Next which is an important area: Board Relationships We scored in 2019 and 2021 no score lower than 4. I do want to point out one observation where we moved from 4.71 to a full 5 score and that area is "the board and the president have a positive cooperative relationship of mutual trust, respect and open communication." We all scored that as a 5.

And all of the other scores were in either the high 4 range or in the 4 range.

I think I had a couple more items that I wanted to point out. Here's another area under Board Orientation and Development, where in both years we scored under a 4. In 2019 we had a score of 2.71 and in 2021 we had a score of 3.0 under the category or question, "new board members are assigned mentors from among existing board members for the initial year of new service." This is one area that I am going to recommend to Trustee Hannes that we take a look

at in our policy committee. I do sit on another board where they do assign a mentor to a new board member. So, this is one area that we could definitely improve.

I have no comments to make on promotion of the College in the community. We improved our scores on every question in this category and all the scores are either in the mid 4 range or in the high 4 range. And we did receive a score of 5 in 2021 “board members agree that only the chairperson speaks to the media about College matters when the opinion of the board is requested.”

So, in concluding, this is a very good survey. One of the comments that came out in the area where trustees were allowed to make comments outside of the structure and one that I heard several times in is that we should fill our open seats. And second, that the board should be more diverse. This is actually something that I believe we have very little control over, but we do have advocacy that takes place at the statewide level and hopefully gets to the Governor through his associates, through some way. But the current board members believe that this particular board should be more diverse and that we should fill out the whole board.

The last observation that I’ll make, and this comment made by many of the trustees is that we proved ourselves well during COVID and I think that it’s because all of the trustees agreed that we needed to spend whatever time was necessary to understand the things that were happening to the College during COVID. Trustees committed to having workshops where we discussed and asked questions about the College, how the students were doing, and I believe that engagement is what led us to where we are currently with the College. And, as Trustee Weddell said earlier, being engaged on the enrollment...there’s nothing that is more important to this institution than enrollment. That’s why I very much appreciate his leadership on the Enrollment Task Force and the trustee’s participation on the Enrollment Task Force. So, here is your opportunity trustees to comment on anything that you observed from the self-evaluation and to make comments in whatever way you see fit.

Trustee Weddell:

I’d like to thank you for your leadership in this. I think that you’ve been really encouraging and really trying to pull people in to really help get the College really going. And I really appreciate the efforts that you’ve put forward. It’s gigantic. I mean, it’s really really gigantic to me that all the things that you’ve done, and engaged the board, and made us feel really part of it and part of the decisions, Dr. Young as well, but I think your leadership has really...I really appreciate all the things that you have done to help Dr. Young, to help the board, and help the College. I mean, you’ve done a great job and I really appreciate it.

Chair Watson:

I couldn’t have done it without all of you and you know my term is quickly coming to an end where I’ll be just a regular trustee. But I’ll still be engaged. And as I said looking forward to the task force, Audit and Finance. Hopefully, I will get appointed to those committees and be able to move along with you. And once again, just thank you for all your comments and all your support. I couldn’t have done it without all of you and as I’ve said many times, I think that

the County Executive sent us a tremendous team of trustees and every time I see him, I just thank him for that. So, compliments to you and your entire class of trustees that came in.

Trustee Hannes: And I would like to add to this and link it to the Middle State Self-Study that one of the things that Dr. Starkey made very very clear to Fred and me when we met with him, was the importance of our involvement with Standard Number 7. And this...what I'm about to say is also very important for the co-chairs and the chairs of Standard 7: Michelle Tubbs and Donna Frazier. What Dr. Starkey made very clear is that we need to be held accountable as a board. Self-Assessment of ourselves as a board. I love his quote, "if you haven't documented it, it doesn't exist." You haven't done it.

Trustee Martucci: Sounds like an Accountant to me.

Trustee Hannes: I think he was a business professor.

And so, I want everybody to know that we will, and certainly as chair of the policy committee, I with Fred, will hold the board's feet to the ground to account for what we do, how we do it. We are terrifically in line in how we assess ourselves, ala the results of our self-evaluation and that's why we will look very, very clearly and very closely. And the self-study committee needs evidence of documentation to put into their report. And so, on behalf of the board to the self-study committee, the Standard #7 Committee, we will make sure that everything you need from us is documented.

Chair Watson: Okay, thanks everyone for that. I know that I was a little longer than I had planned. I did in my email say I would be brief, but I wasn't brief, so I apologize. And once again, Christine, if you're out there, we thank you for all your work on the self-evaluation of the board, tremendous, tremendous job, much appreciated.

Trustee Warren: Chair Watson, I have a quick comment as well.

Chair Watson: Yes sir.

Trustee Warren: I speak with folks at institutions elsewhere and folks who I've served in the Marine Corp with where we developed a culture of really assessing our capabilities, debriefing, talking about what we can improve on even when it seems as though we accomplished the mission perfectly. And I don't think this culture is present elsewhere. It's not as prevalent and it's not as common for folks to sit down and reassess where they can improve. So, I encourage our board and SUNY Orange to keep doing that because that's the only way to get better. And it sounds as though that doesn't happen as commonly elsewhere so don't let us become complacent and kinda like Flo said, yeah hold our feet to the ground because it's working.

Chair Watson: Yes. Trustees, any other comments? Thank you, Trustee Warren.

Alright, time to take care of some other business. We are now to Section five, New Business. We have several resolutions that need to be presented and voted on and...

Dr. Young: Chair Watson, may I interrupt for one moment. During your presentation, you probably wouldn't have noticed, Trustee Vacca has been having some technical difficulties. And a few of us for trying to help him get back online so he may not be able to hear us right now. We can see him, but I bet, since he's not making contact...he...so we're trying to presently Geri-rig a phone, cell phone connection so he can hear...

Trustee Vacca: Are you waiting for me?

Dr. Young: There we are. Great. Okay, so we just got him back in time. So, the important thing is that, if you can hear us, make sure you keep your camera on because for your votes to be good, you need to remain in eye contact with us and us with you and you need the phone to hear what's actually going on. So, just keep doing what you're doing man.

Trustee Vacca: Okay, I'll try that.

Trustee Weddell: He's always the special student.

Chair Watson: We may have to take role call on these.

Trustee Vacca: Just to touch base a little bit with things that were said before. Trustee Warren mentioned more clarity for students and Fred, you were talking about coaching and guiding students. And, if you remember last month, we started out on a program to help the students walk through and make their first year experience a little bit better for them. So, we did have another meeting and I want to go through some of the things that we discussed.

We are creating degree maps and new communities that will help solve a problem that presently exists today with a good portion of the student population. That problem is that due to transfers or switching or changing majors within semesters, the students are often accumulating many more credits than are necessary for degree completion. 60 credits are standard, yet our school has 77 and the average is 77.8 and the extra credits cause graduation to be extended.

The State of Florida, their legislature has actually adopted a state-wide meta major for all community colleges in the State of Florida. The meta-majors are sometimes referred to as career clusters or communities of interest. They group individual majors under a larger academic umbrella. And these programs provide the student with a real clear pathway to graduation, to help them make connections between their studies and different career tracks.

Going forward, we'll be referring to these programs in our own College as academic and career communities. SUNY Orange has 40 degree and certificate programs, 19 academic departments, and now there will be 7 academic and career communities. Each of the 7 communities will have 7 different teams. Each team will consist of a sub team that will be charged with onboarding, orientation materials, calendar of community events, and community related first year content and material, germane to whatever subject matter the student is choosing, point people to organize community specific activities and

the entire team will be available to advise and help with career planning. The 7 teams are as follows: Arts and Media; Business; Culture Society and the Mind; Education and Human Services; Health Sciences and Wellness; Justice and Community Engagement; and finally STEM which is Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Accordingly, each team will have its own web page marked by its own icon. As an example, Arts and Media will have a light bulb, Business a briefcase, Justice a scale and so on. If we were to look at the present degree program page that we now have on the web, it's loaded with nothing but text really. In all honesty it's really not very exciting at all. The new sites will consist of the general program description. There will be several boxes below such as questions, three questions to consider whatever course you're looking for, community to keep in mind, your career coach, etc. These are all drop downs. You can continue to drill down and receive more information regarding requisites, gateway courses, milestones, etc. all again, geared to your actual community. There will also be a site that will list the 7 communities with their icons and an alphabetical listing of each subject. It's pre-fixed in the community icon that it's listed under. The program is great, not only for the student, but for parents that really want to know what they're taking, what the course is all about. It's almost completed. It should be available in the fall. It will also be available, which is I think great, to high school counselors when they're talking to the students that want to go further on to College. I really think that this is very exciting. There's more to come on this. The last meeting we had, it was about an hour long and we just covered this part but there's more that I'm sure I'll be telling you in the next month or so. Again, I think it just leads into what Chris and Fred were saying about giving more clarity to the student and kind of guiding them through the whole process. Fred, that's my report for this evening.

Chair Watson: Bill, we thank you for that.

Alright, I think that I'm going to have to move back up to New Business and we're going to deal with our resolutions. Alright.

V. NEW BUSINESS: N/A

1. Resolution No. 2: Resolution to Set Tuition (Academic Year 2021-2022)

Chair Watson: First Resolution: Orange County Community College Board of Trustees
Resolution to Set Tuition: AY 2021-2022.

Orange County Community College is dedicated to providing high quality and accessible education for credit students. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Orange County Community College Board of Trustees has reviewed and hereby approves an annual full-time student tuition of \$5,376. Again, \$5,376 for Academic Year. 2021-2022. And, part-time, per credit, student tuition rates of \$224. Again, \$224 for Academic Year 2021-2022.

I will note that there is no change from this Academic Year to next Academic Year in the tuition or in the per credit tuition.

What is your pleasure trustees?

Trustee Martucci: Mr. Chairman, I'll move this resolution.

Trustee Murphy: I second Mr. Chairman.

Chair Watson: It's been moved and seconded. Discussion? Hearing none, all of favor of the resolution, indicate by saying "Aye"

All: Aye.

Chair Watson: Opposed? Hearing none, the resolution passes.

2. Resolution No. 3: Resolution to Set Tuition (Academic Year 2021-2022)

Chair Watson: Resolution Number two: Orange County Community College Board of Trustees Resolution to Set Student Fees Academic Year 2021-2022.

Whereas, Orange County Community College is dedicated to providing high quality and accessible opportunities and enrichment opportunities for transfer students. Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Orange County Community College Board of Trustees has reviewed and hear by approves the student fee schedule below for academic year 2021-2022.

Mandatory Fee

Student Activity Fee:	\$6 per credit	Amount per semester, based on 12 credits: \$72
Technology:	\$17 per credit	Amount per semester, \$204
Cultural Dollars:	\$17 per semester	\$17 amount per semester
Parking and Transportation:	\$18.00 per semester	Amount per semester \$18
Academic Support:	\$48 per semester	Amount per semester \$48

Non-Mandatory Fee

New Student One time, \$175*

*Assumed one lab per semester.

Health Professions \$178 per semester Amount per semester \$178

Lab Fees \$43 per lab.

I'm sorry, I misread. I'll go back to non-mandatory fees.

New Students One-time fee amount Amount per semester \$175

One-time payment only

Health Professions \$178 per semester Amount per semester \$178

Lab Fees \$43 Amount per semester \$43**

**Assumes one lab per semester.

Chair Watson: You've heard a resolution trustees, what is your pleasure?

Trustee Weddell: I make a motion to accept the resolution.

Trustee Hannes: Second

Chair Watson: It's been moved and seconded. All in favor of the motion?

All: Aye

Chair Watson: Opposed? Hearing none, the resolution carries.

Okay, next, under New Business Item 3: Motion to Approve Board Policy 2.46: All Gender Bathroom Facilities. Trustee Hannes?

3. Motion to Approve Board Policy 2.46: All Gender Bathroom Facilities

Trustee Hannes: Yes. This...we're bringing this for action tonight. The policy committee has reviewed the policy and agreed with the text. The text was derived from SUNY language that is somewhat consistent with the proposed SUNY-wide policy as well as the new State law. A shout out and many thanks to Mike Albright for his diligence in preparing the SUNY Orange final wording for this policy. In the time since our last meeting, Shared Governance, via Paul Basinski, circulated the draft to his Executive Committee as well as the Committee on Diversity and Equity and Safety and Security Committee. Feedback suggested that the terminology "all gender" be inserted in place of "gender-neutral." We have made that change and the policy is now edited and ready for action for acceptance as a board policy.

Chair Watson: The Chair will entertain a motion for the adoption of Board Policy 2.46.

Trustee Vacca: So moved.

Trustee Hunter: Second.

Chair Watson: Is there discussion on the matter? I'd like Dr. Young to speak on this particular item before we vote. Dr. Young would you please explain that we believe we are already in compliance with this particular policy.

Dr. Young: Yeah, thanks Mr. Watson. The law went into effect, I believe it was March 26 or March 27, so we have physically been in compliance with the law since that time. Any single fixture, rest room that existed on either of our campuses was converted to an all-gender bathroom by that date and what that meant was to identify it as such with a sign and to install a lock on the door so that the occupant, a single-person, would enter the restroom and can lock it from the inside. So, all of that was done so we are in compliance physically and what you are doing right now is bringing us now fully in compliance with the law by having a board level policy to tell people we are in compliance with the law. So, that's it and I'd be happy to answer any questions that the board might have. And certainly, Paul Martland with his Facilities hat on could respond even in more detail than I could.

Chair Watson: Questions trustees? Discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion to adopt Board Policy 2.46, indicate by saying "Aye"

All: Aye

Chair Watson: All opposed? Hearing none, Board Policy carries.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Okay, next order of business, Chairman's Comments, and I will reserve a lot of my comments. But comments that I will make is that my participation with our statewide organization NYCCT is moving along and I think moving along nicely. This particular group of leadership that we have at the helm at NYCCT, I believe is doing a tremendous job. You know, conducting study modules on different topics, enrollments. Later on this year, we will be engaging with student trustees, giving them an opportunity to present to our body at large, concerns, criticisms, comments, direction. Anything that they wish. We just conducted our springboard meeting where all member community colleges are allowed. That meeting went extremely well. We...major event at that meeting was that we invited our new Chancellor to come and engage the trustees. He was scheduled to spend 15 minutes with our board. He spent, I gotta count it as 45 minutes with us, where we discussed many things. But, the major part of his interaction was a question and answer period. And basically, what came out of this 45 minutes that we spent with the Chancellor was that many of our fellow trustees rearranged their thinking on our current Chancellor. They believe that he was engaging, he was personable and that he was quite knowledgeable on Community Colleges and what we do out at our site location. I had an opportunity to ask the Chancellor a question and I'll tell you about that. But before I could get my question, he says, "SUNY Orange, I was down with your president, had a tremendous time with your president, she's very engaging and we decided that we're going to do a BSN program and SUNY Orange is in." And he just went on and on to speak about SUNY Orange. And I felt a little bad about the question I was going to ask him because it led him to an explanation that took about 10 minutes. I asked him what his thoughts or plans were in regards to consolidation of community colleges in New York State, albeit we know about the model that took place in Connecticut. And his answer in a round-about way is that he has no plans for consolidation at this point. He does acknowledge that there are some smaller community colleges out in the Western part of the State that could do some things and there's some duplication at the smaller colleges. But he did not have a succinct plan where he said we're trying to get you to 15 colleges or whatever. He doesn't have a plan. Or at least he didn't engage with the plan when asked the question. But the major takeaway was that many of your trustee brothers and sisters throughout the State kind of had a change of heart after having a face to face with him. Another product of our discussion with the Chancellor was that the Chancellor is interested in establishing an advisory committee to his office made up of community college trustees. So, this is the first time in my circuit at NYCCT that we have a Chancellor that really wanted to hear what we had to say

and that was engaged personally in our thoughts, ideas, concerns, problems. So, Dr. Young, you didn't have an opportunity to talk about your impressions when you met him, but my group was all a buzz about our new Chancellor. Now one of the things he did acknowledge is that he came to the Chancellorship not in a conventional way. He does not apologize for that. He just says that's how he got there. But he says there is much work to do, and he plans to get it done.

Last thing I want to say about NYCCT is that NYCCT now has a website. We've been working hard on this and it's taken many many years, but this particular group is very engaged. So, our new website is nycctrustees. You will be able to get to this website either through .org, .com, .net Trustees, in the upcoming weeks, each trustee, and it will probably go through Secretary Murray, will receive a special invitation to be able to access a trustee-only portal that you will reach through this website where we will post many many things. We will post the monthly kinds of presentations that we do on enrollment, engagement and things along those lines. You'll be able to get those through your trustee portal. And, any items that are sensitive items, just the nature of what we do at NYCCT, financial statements, any resolutions, things along those lines you will reach through your special membership portal. So, over the next few weeks you will receive an invitation to log on to set up your own passcode to acknowledge that special part of the website.

That said, I was prepared to report on Dr. Starkey, but we've done that already. And the discussion on self-evaluation was moved up earlier in the agenda. So, at this point I am going to conclude my comments. Next, we will go to...are there any questions, trustees? Hearing none, we will go to continue our committee reports. Once again, Trustee Weddell, Audit and Finance.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic and Student Services: Trustee Vacca (Done above in agenda)

Audit and Finance: Trustee Weddell

Trustee Weddell: All I've got to say is wow. Our committee has worked so hard to figure out what we needed to do to make it through this COVID year and all of the situations. I gotta say that I'm really proud of the committee, they worked tirelessly, and Paul and Agnes did a great and continued to figure out things, show us different things, and different thoughts. And I'm very happy to say that it looks like we will finish the College year on a positive note which is really really good news. And therefore, the reason that we don't need to really raise our tuition fees and hope that can continue in the future. But I really think a lot of the federal government support will really help us in the next couple of years to really figure out what we really need to do and where we have a little bit of shortfalls, we'll be able to cover some of that with all the federal funds that are available and that we'll hopefully be entitled to get. So, after 18 months of really trying to figure this out, this is probably the first time I can probably really breathe in an easy manner for at least one school year that we'll have that...at least not be so pressured and under the gun with our budget

and worried about everything that's happening. I really...not that we're not gonna worry about, not that we're gonna get sloppy but I think we did a great job in adapting very quickly. And Chris, I know you mentioned the circle of continuous improvement, yet another military term I like buddy, by the way, that we kept continuously looking at, continuously looking at how to get it right, how to get it right, continuously changed it and really focused on a lot of things. And it all worked out, so I really appreciate all the efforts that were put in by everybody on the finance committee, and then even the trustees, and the administration, all the work they did to really help, to really solidify the College for a year and then protect us for hopefully the next year. I gotta say it wasn't easy, all I gotta say. That's my report unless you have any questions on anything, I can certainly try to answer those, or Paul can answer them.

Chair Watson: I'd just like to add that we are tremendously grateful through this COVID 19 era to our leaders in Washington DC because they have provided community colleges with a tremendous amount of support. And Trustee Weddell said in both of his reports that we now have the where with all to drive enrollment through these support mechanisms that came out of DC. So, as we meet in Audit and Finance and as we meet in the Enrollment Task Force, we see this current period that we're in not as COVID from the downside. For the College we see this as a tremendous opportunity to expand programs, drive enrollment and to service our students better.

So, with that said, any other comments or questions for Trustee Weddell, Audit and Finance. Hearing none, Policy Committee. Trustee Hannes are you prepared with a report this evening?

Policy: Trustee Hannes

Trustee Hannes: Ah, once again, thanks to Mike Albright, I am.

So, the legal review of our board policies is on an active pathway, finally. And, our legal firm, Bond, Schoeneck and King will...are reviewing and will provide interim feedback on a portion of the policies before our main meeting. We are very pleased about that, that we have settled on a law firm and that they are already addressing the policies. Very very timely, considering that we are actively engaged in the self-study because again going back to Dr. Starkey, this is something that he has advised Fred and me that the...the team that's assigned to do the review of the self-study and do our on-site will be looking at written documentation of what we do, how we do it, and our policies. So, it is a great relief that we are on that active pathway now.

In addition to that, the edited and enhanced policy, BP 2.13 related to College branding and use of the official seal and logos will be reviewed by the Policy Committee at our May meeting and we hope to present it to the full board in May or held for the June meeting for board review and action based on Chair Watson's wishes and scheduling. And that's all folks.

Chair Watson: Thank you for that report. Trustees, any questions or comments for the Policy Committee? Hearing none, that concludes our committee report. Next on the agenda is Comments from the Public. And I believe that we have two reservations for this evening and because of the hour I am going to impose a 5-minute time limit on comments from the public. I believe our first reservation is from Mr. Michael Corriere. So, Secretary Murray would you please unmute Mr. Corriere.

Secretary Murray: Yes. Yup. He is unmuted Chair Watson.

Chair Watson: Okay great. Good evening Mr. Corriere, how are you?

Mr. Corriere: I'm very good. I'm very happy to meet you and the rest of the trustees?

Chair Watson: Thank you sir. Go right ahead with your comments.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Corriere: Well, you've only given me five minutes. There is not much I can tell you, but I asked for this meeting because Security Guards are in great need for sick, sick leave. And two occasions I had to lose thousands of dollars because I had a cancer, I was in the hospital with another condition and I had to be out a month, or two months and I had no sick time. Everybody at the College has sick time with the exception of Security. And that applies to the full-time, part-time faculty and staff. And Security is part of staff. So, I'm asking the trustees to please do the right thing and give us what everybody else at the College has, some sick time. So that somebody who suffers a catastrophic illness or injury like I did, that they won't suffer from the financial burden that comes along with that.

Also, when I was hired...I was hired back in 2004, so I've been at the College...this is my seventeenth year now. I'd like to read to you the header for this ad that I responded to and I was hired under. It says, "Security Guards at Orange County Community College, Newburgh Extension Center, Part-time Civil Service Position." And it goes down the list of what the qualifications are etc. etc. but it says nothing about no benefits. Now I just found this ad and I sent it over to Human Resources because maybe I was entitled to sick time over all this period of time. I don't know, but I would like the College to look into it. I sent this...a copy of this to Human Resources so you can get it through them or if you contact me at the Newburgh Campus, I'm a senior guard there, I'd be happy to send you a copy. But I would ask you to please do the right thing and give Security sick time. That's basically what I want to say. I know Kristine, ah, Kristine Young is here. Kristine knows me, I've spoken to her many number of times and I've also communicated with her. If any of the trustees would have to ask me a question, I'd be happy to answer it. Since, I only have five minutes. By the way, Mr. Chairman I sent you information in the mail, to the College, I don't know if you actually received it or not.

Chairman Watson: Yes sir. I did receive it and I read your package in your entirety. Trustees, would you have any questions for Mr. Corriere? Hearing none, Mr. Corriere, I'm not sure if you know actually what the trustees' responsibilities are to the institution and there is what I'll call the demarcation line where trustees handle certain things and the administration of the College handle other things. What I will do is I will speak to my fellow trustees and see if this is a matter that rises to the trustee level or whether it is an administrative issue. My gut feeling and I'm comfortable giving that to you tonight, is that this is a matter that is administrative in its nature. Trustees, we don't negotiate wages or do anything along those lines. But I will ask the question sir.

Mr. Corriere: I would appreciate that because we really do need what everybody else has. You know, I wouldn't ask....we're not asking for vacation days, we're not asking for personal leave days, but sick time is not an option anymore, it's a necessity for people. Especially if you have no benefits and you're out of work for a week, a month...imagine you're being out for two months with no income coming in.

Sister Murphy: Thank you.

Mr. Corriere: That's a heavy financial burden. And the trustees do have a responsibility because you do set policy for the College. Right? You work on the budget, these things, right so I would say that this falls in line with what you guys should be doing. But that's why I asked to speak with you this evening. And, you know, I went through all your bios, you're a very talented and gifted group of people, very successful group of people. And I'm sure you can understand my position as the position of a security guard. When the pandemic first started, we had no indication that we could stay home and get paid if we had underlying medical conditions because nobody told us. We have a situation at Kaplan where Student Services have been out for over a year, they're home with their families, they're safe, and they're collecting their paychecks every two weeks. I missed two days of work because I suffered from the side effects of the Pandemic vaccine and I couldn't get Human Resources to pay for my two days. I had to go to Unemployment, I tried to explain to them that it was all Pandemic related, but they said no. So, I went to Unemployment and they said yes it was Pandemic related and they paid for my two days. But here are people that are out for over a year, and they're getting their paychecks every two weeks. And they're home safe with their families, but not Security. We've been here since the beginning of the Pandemic. And by the way, Kristine, I don't mean it to be disrespectful to you, but we've been through this pandemic at the very beginning, at the height of the pandemic, and we've never received not a thank you or any kind of recognition from anybody in the administration about what we do in Security. I think that's a disgrace. That's my personal opinion.

Secretary Murray: Chair Watson, I would just like to let you both know that you're over your five-minute mark.

Chair Watson: Thank you Secretary Murray. Mr. Corriere, we want to thank you and we will follow-up and I will pose the question that I mentioned earlier.

Mr. Corriere: Thank you very much for your time.

Chair Watson: Thank you sir and have a good night.

Mr. Corriere: You too. Bye.

Chair Watson: Okay, Secretary Murray, I believe we have one more reservation for public comment tonight. Michelle Tubbs. Am I correct?

Secretary Murray: Yes, we do. Michelle Tubbs is here. Let's get her unmuted.

Ms. Tubbs: I am here and unmuted Carol. And I do certainly plan to keep my comments to that five-minute max. Although it might be just a little bit lengthier than normal since I do, ah, Paul and I are just fresh out of our spring plenary, so I have a little bit more information than I normally do to share. But we did hear, at the plenary, which was obviously a virtual event, April 8 and 9th from a number of different SUNY leaders and also kind of constituency groups at the state level, similar to the Faculty Council of Community Colleges. We heard from liaisons of both of those groups. One of those was Ann Marie Fleming, I'm sorry Ann Fleming-Brown, who is Chair, right of NYCCT who was equally as excited about your new website as you are Chair Watson. And then I also feel the need to congratulate you on your new role within that group that I learned about while we were there. And so, we are well-represented.

So, just a few highlights in different areas that we learned from our attendance at the Plenary. SUNY campuses are very involved with vaccination administration and distribution. And, as I think we've heard many times, the Chancellor is still fully committed to making vaccinations available to all SUNY students as soon as possible. So, we're happy to hear of that continued commitment.

If he can kind of say to us and admit his struggles in being able to provide us with timely guidance during this pandemic, which this was nice to hear that from him. I guess you know it helps us to kind of sympathize and understand a little bit more, when we don't get that guidance that we're looking for at the time we are looking for it. But with the rapidly changing federal and state guidelines and protocols it is very difficult for SUNY to be providing guidance to its campuses. But what he did generally say at this point is that their current plan is to allow campuses to make their own decisions based on their restrictions with a focus on providing a more normalized in-person experience. And, I can say as I think an involved member of the College community here at SUNY Orange, I think our administration and faculty and staff I think have made a few pivots recently I think to kind of be...heading us in that direction.

I also would like to share that I think many of us there had similar impressions of the Chancellor that you had Chair Watson in that he really is listening at this point and taking what he hears into consideration and giving it thought. Because he did recognize that there is a strong need for expansion of student support, improvement of transferability within the SUNY system and we need to have a very strong focus on improving enrollment at all of our institutions. And these...initiatives kind of getting off the ground in all of these areas, but I think we can expect more in the next academic year.

As far as our sister colleges are concerned, very similar to us, their major focus right now is on modes of instruction for the fall 2021 semester and trying to find that balance of simplicity along with accessibility and flexibility to try and meet all of our student needs. As well as all of us are gearing up, as I mentioned I believe at the last board meeting, for that transition, LMS Learning Management System transition at the end of the 2022 calendar year.

We are all aware that there are there those three rounds of stimulus money coming in, the CARES Act, the CRRSAA and the ARP and the campuses and students are really starting to kind of see those funds come into play at this point. And we had some figures shared with us and I think puts the amount of money that was infused into the community colleges within the SUNY system into perspective and we were told that \$805 Million has gone to community colleges within the SUNY system. \$400...approximately \$445 Million of that has gone directly to students, \$330 Million approximately to institutions and about \$27 Million to other areas and categories. As many of you are aware, community colleges fared fairly well for once in the budget that came through earlier this month. And there were some nice aspects of it to see that were maintained for community colleges and also kind of brought back into the picture. And one of those major components was the floor that was brought back in. It is nice to see that although I know we talked about this before at board meetings, it wasn't 100% floor, it was only 98% floor is my understanding. And it was also based on the 2021 budget which was a highly reduced budget for community colleges. So, it's just nice I guess to be in that direction of having the floor back into the picture, but it does kind of result in a reduction in aid of about 4.1% for community colleges. And the business officer that we heard from said from the Academic Year 2014 to 2015 for upcoming academic year of 2021-22 the state aid has decreased by 13.4% so it's just...and that's left to the counties and the students to continue to make up that difference. So, I was really happy us not be imposing a tuition hike onto this upcoming academic year.

And, then there are two major documents that are out there for review and feedback. One was on reward of academic credit by evaluation which is also known as previously learned credit and our academic policy committee at the College did review that and provided VPAA Hackman with some feedback that she submitted on our behalf. And, of course we're still in the process of trying to solicit as much feedback regarding the Gen Ed framework revisions that have been proposed. And that's due by next Monday, the 25th.

And lastly, there were a few resolutions that came out of the plenary. One, the first of five that have come out since then. One was on faculty inclusion in modality decisions just stressing the importance that faculty be consulted and included in those decisions on campus. Annually, we typically put a resolution together regarding the budget, asking them to include certain components within the budget. We didn't do that this year given the pandemic state of things, but we decided to kind of put a resolution together commending the budget because it was favorable to community colleges and we always find it nice to kind of say thank you when we have that opportunity and some of our requests or demands are being met.

And then we also had a resolution on the process for selecting the new LMS for the SUNY system. And it was really kind of expressing our dissatisfaction with the process that did not follow Shared Governance procedures or protocols and really, really lacked community college faculty representation on that.

Secretary Murray: Michelle, can I interrupt for just one moment? I just want to let you know you're over your five minutes so yeah, I just want to let Chair Watson and you know. I don't know if you're just finishing up now but...

Ms. Tubbs: There are two other resolutions regarding the GEN Ed work and its timeline and our dissatisfaction with respect to it and that does wrap up my report.

Chair Watson: Michelle, thank you for that report. Before I let you go, have you heard any discussions about doing away or either blending remedial courses into the introductory course that it's for? Are any of our sister colleges talking about doing this?

Dr. Young: If I may, that's a question for Dr. Hackman.

Ms. Tubbs: That was going to be my response.

Chair Watson: Alright. Moving on, thank you Michelle, I'll pass my question to Dr. Hackman. Thank you very much for your report.

Dr. Hackman: We've done a significant implementation of what's called the co-requisite level in English so a significant portion of our students who would not be testing in the College level English are now participating in College-level English. And so, this is our second full academic year of implementing that model. It's been quite successful. And our Math department is also looking at that model as well, so more to come on that, soon.

Chair Watson: Thank you very much. I heard something about it briefly and it just came to my head. I'm sorry I didn't...fit in properly.

Dr. Young: No, I appreciate your interest.

Chair Watson: Okay. Next. We've finished with comments from the public, board discussion and I know we've run over tonight but I would like to ask Sister Peggy to address this board. And I won't give her a time limit, but Sister Peggy are you still with us? Carol, can we unmute her or get her?

Secretary Murray: Hmm. I'm not sure she's here any longer Chair Watson, she may have stepped out.

Chair Watson: Okay. We're gonna get her sooner or later. Alright, next there is no Executive Session. Board members do you have anything that you'd like to bring up and discuss.

IX. BOARD DISCUSSION

Trustee Vacca: Fred, just a quick question. Seeing that we're holding the line on tuition, regardless of how we were able to do it, are we gonna taut that a little bit and just put that out there?

Chair Watson: Bill, I would defer that question to Trustee Weddell but yes, but we are talking about how to frame the value proposition on our community college education to students. That's one of the things we are working on in the Enrollment Task Force. So, Trustee Weddell, I don't know if you want to add to that but yes, we're working on it.

Trustee Weddell: Yeah, we're in the process of figuring out how we want to market anything at this point and that was one of the things we talked a lot about yesterday...is how do you make it sound right though. I mean, so that'll be something that'll definitely need to be figured out. But you're right, it needs to be touted, and actually with the federal funds that came back, there's you know, tuition actually went down this year. It didn't really go up. It went down because people got federal funds that kind of reduced their cost of being at the College, so I think that's a good thing as well.

Trustee Vacca: I'd just like to see us be the first one out on the street if in fact the other colleges are feeling the same way about this.

Trustee Weddell: Well, again, everything in perspective. Everything has to be carefully what you can put out and what you can't put out.

Trustee Vacca: I understand.

Trustee Weddell: I'm like you, business, let's get it done and forget about it. Let's keep moving.

Trustee Vacca: That's it, better to ask forgiveness.

Dr. Young: I can offer, and I know Mike Albright is in the audience and that's why the vice presidents are always available to answer questions and some other administrators who hang out all night. But, you know, Mike will probably...may

even be thinking of a press release to talk about the decision you made about tuition tonight. But what we've heard, I want to say...I don't know if it was from Gerianne or Paul but some community colleges that are making or have made tuition and fees decisions, have not raised tuition but they have raised fees. So, one advantage we might have in how we position ourselves is to say we have not raised tuition or fees and that might be a distinguishing...you know what I'm saying.

Trustee Weddell: I think you gotta put it the College...the county...I mean there's some way you gotta tie all of it together. But those are things that we gotta really bang around, but I mean there's a little work to do here. But we'll figure it out Bill. You gotta have something up there you can help with Bill, come on, all those years of marketing you've been involved in, there's gotta be something up there.

Dr. Young: Toasters?

Trustee Vacca: Just hair.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION N/A

XI. BOARD ADJOURNMENT

Chair Watson: Alright trustees, if there are no other matters to come before this board, the Chair will entertain a motion for adjournment.

Trustee Weddell: So, moved.

Trustee Vacca: Second

Chair Watson: All in favor of adjournment, indicate by saying Aye.

All: Aye.

Chair Watson: We are adjourned. Thank you, trustees and thank you for staying with us on this extended meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:23 PM

Respectfully transcribed and submitted,
Carol A. Murray
May 4, 2021