

**ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
WEDNESDAY, April 15, 2020, 5:00 p.m.
via Zoom Technology**

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

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: Until we see Sister Peggy, we have six so I am going to call the meeting to order. This meeting of the Orange County Community College Board of Trustees will come to Order. Secretary Murray, will you please do a roll call of the Trustees?

Carol Murray: Fred Watson?

Chair Watson: Present.

Carol Murray: Sister Peggy? (Arrived at the meeting start)

Carol Murray: Thomas Hunter?

Trustee Hunter: Present.

Carol Murray: Trustee Hannes?

President Young: Raised her hand.

Trustee Hannes: Here.

Carol Murray: Trustee Martucci?

President Young: Raised his hand.

Carol Murray: Trustee Weddell?

Trustee Weddell: Present.

Carol Murray: Trustee Vacca?

President Young: Raised his hand.

Carol Murray: We have a full quorum. Chair Watson, you have everyone but our Student Trustee.

Chair Watson: Before we start, since this is our first meeting conducted on a Zoom platform, I have asked Dr. Young just to give a brief explanation of how this call will work, how it will proceed, and a couple of things to keep in mind so we can get through the call effectively.

President Young: Thank you, Chair Watson. So, clearly, we are all coming up to speed on being a public body and using a platform like Zoom. So, first of all, the only reason why this is possible is based on an Executive Order issued by Governor Cuomo. I believe Executive Order 202.1 is the correct Executive Order to cite and it was extended until mid-May. What the Executive Order does is let public bodies such as the Board of Trustees meet telephonically to conduct business as long as the public can listen, as long as the meeting is recorded, and is later transcribed. So, in using this platform the way we are using it tonight, we are meeting all three of those qualifications set forth in the Executive Order.

So, we thank everyone involved for coming together, the Trustees for being willing and able to meet in this manner, and I will give a special thank you to Dana Salkowsky and Bill Polakowski who are not normally attached to the Board, but who have special Zoom platform skills, and we are using tonight in order to make this as efficient as possible. Dana and Bill are running the controls for us and our idea was to have the Board members, Carol Murray, who is Secretary to both the Board of Trustees and me, visible almost the entire time. This is a Board of Trustees meeting so we want them to be able to see and hear each other throughout the entire meeting and let everyone else be able to witness and hear what's going on but we want them to be able to see each other throughout the meeting. There are presenters who have been invited by the Board, these are many of the standard presenters we would have had at any April 15th meeting, and when it is their time to present, Dana and Bill will activate their microphone and video and in certain cases activate screen sharing so that their presentations can be seen by the Trustees and I believe by all gathered so that they can do their normal presentations, as well. And, finally, it being a public Board meeting, there is a "Comments from the Public" section later on in the agenda. So, again, to help manage this and the technology we have available to us, we did ask for individuals from the public, who wanted to make comments to the Board, to register. So, this went out with our Agenda. We asked individuals to register with Carol Murray by 12:00 noon today so that we would be prepared to unmute microphones for that portion and we had one person from the public, who did register, and we will have Dana and Bill enable that person to share their thought at the appropriate time in the Agenda. And, just to qualify, all of this video and microphone opening and closing in our 4 or 5 weeks of working in a remote environment, both in higher ed and in the public sector, there has been information shared among us in higher ed and in the public sector that people have learned how to take control of platforms like Zoom and share inappropriate materials and wreck public meetings. This goes beyond freedom of expression and appropriate use of public comments but just absolutely going beyond the pale of just destroying the teaching and learning process or destroying the public meeting, so this is why we organize it in this fashion so that the College can conduct the important business that it must conduct this evening, but yet still honor all of the public availability aspects of being a public body. So, thank you Chair Watson, for the opportunity to explain what we are doing this evening. It seems very likely that we will be in this format again in May and certainly as the Board experiences this and members of the public experience this – I am sure we would welcome feedback on how it worked – and if there were any shortcomings or improvements that can be made. So, with that, Chair Watson, I will return to you for the actual meeting.

Fred Watson: Thank you, Dr. Young, I, too, would like to welcome members of the public and all of the Trustees to our first Zoom meeting. Unfortunate reasons for it – hopefully all of you are faring well with our COVID-19 situation. We wish the best for you, your families and with no further ado we will move into our Consent Agenda.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Fred Watson: Approval of the March 11, 2020 meeting; Approval of Financial Statements from March 2020; Approval of Appointments Memo; and Approval of Retirements Memo.

All of the Trustees should have received this in your email Board Package. Chair will entertain a motion for Consent Agenda.

Trustee Vacca: I'll move it.
Trustee Hannes I'll second it.
Unanimous

Fred Watson: Submitted and moved and properly seconded. Are there any questions or comments? If not, we will call for the vote, and since we are once again voting and are electronic, we are going to ask Secretary Murray to call for the vote.

Carol Murray: Chair Watson?

Chair Watson: Approved. Yes.

Carol Murray: Trustee Murphy?

Trustee Murphy: Yes, thank you.

Carol Murray: Thomas Hunter?

Trustee Hunter: Yes.

Carol Murray: Trustee Hannes?

Trustee Hannes: Yes.

Carol Murray: Trustee Martucci?

President Young: He may have lost his connection.

Carol Murray: Trustee Weddell?

Trustee Weddell: Yes.

Carol Murray: Trustee Vacca?

Trustee Vacca: Yes.

Carol Murray: Go back to Trustee Martucci? We may have lost him but you still have 6 who are all affirmative.

Chair Watson: Excellent. Motion carries. Next, we will move to our reports.

President Young: Ralph has just returned.

Carol Murray: Trustee Martucci? We were just taking a roll call vote on the Consent Agenda – do you approve?

Trustee Martucci: Yes, I approve.

Carol Murray: Thank you.

Fred Watson: Thank you, Trustees. As I said earlier, motion carries and we'll move to the reports section of the Agenda, and we will move right into the first special report which is Strategic Plan Final Draft and I would like to introduce both Damon Ely and Likkia Moody.

III. REPORTS

A. SPECIAL REPORT: STRATEGIC PLAN FINAL DRAFT (Damon Ely & Likkia Moody)

Damon Ely: Hello.

Chair Watson: Damon, is that you?

Damon Ely: Yes, that's me, I'm here, how are you?

Chair Watson: Great – good to have you. Likkia are you there?

Likkia Moody: I'm here.

Chair Watson: Excellent – take it away.

Likkia Moody: Sorry, I don't know how to re-engage my video on my computer.
[Slide: Empower. Strengthen. Sustain. 2020-2025 Strategic Plan]
Damon and I are excited to be here this evening to share with you the final version of the Strategic Plan from the Strategic Planning Committee. We are proud of the work of the team and we sincerely believe the implementation of this plan will continue the mission and vision of Orange County Community College.

[Slide]

Here are the names of who was involved in our strategic planning process and in addition to the volume, also noting their names, almost 40 people helped create the document before you – they are faculty, staff and management confidential employees. These are employees who have been with the College for decades and those who joined us less than two years ago. With their diversity in roles and experiences, and of course, personality, they began the work of the Strategic Plan.

[Slide – Committee Charge]

But first, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee (“SPSC”) wanted to be clear about what we were assembled to do. We adopted this charge as a touch point to return to as needed throughout this process – our purpose was to identify strategic goals and objectives. These would be used to generate an Implementation Plan that will specifically outline the activities and the matrix the College will engage in to accomplish the strategic goals over the next five years.

[Slide – Strategic Initiative #1 Empower Student Success]

In August, Cabinet identified Strategic Initiatives that served as the foundation on which the Strategic Plan would stand. Damon used the notes from those conversations to generate word clouds to see if there were any themes already inherent in the work of the Cabinet. You can see:

Pathways, Student Goals, Guided and Success are prominent for Strategic Initiative #1.

[Slide – Strategic Initiative #2 Strengthen our Region’s Economic Future]
For Strategic Plan #2:
Workforce, CAPE, Community, Partnerships and Opportunities.

[Slide – Strategic Initiative #3 – Sustain and Invigorate our Planned Future]

And for Strategic Initiative #3:

Professional Development, Green, Faculty and Opportunities were very prominent in these conversations.

That is a bit of a hint to the future. These initiatives were approved in September and the SPSC held their first meeting in mid-October. SPSC grounded work in foundational readings about our region, high education in general, and community colleges, specifically.

We conducted a SWAT analysis on departmental and individual levels for an internal environmental scan using existing data that was mailed by the individual Strategic Initiative Committees (SICs) to help inform what would become the strategic themes.

These were shared with the College community in January. We also conducted an open-ended survey with students about their experiences as SUNY Orange students. The feedback informed the first draft of the strategic goals that was presented to the Board and the College community in February.

In addition to an online feedback form, open forums were conducted with faculty, staff and students and Student Senate to gather responses to the initial draft.

Using this feedback, the second draft of the Goals and the first draft of the Objectives were written. This draft was again shared with the College community and with Orange County on our website with a feedback form. Since then, life has changed greatly for us as a world and as a college in response to COVID-19.

Our SICs and SPSC, however, were steadfast in completing the strategic planning process. There were conversations and debates, Zoom meetings, more conversations and debates. We are happy to share with you the results of six months of effort on behalf of those, almost 40 people, in addition to all of those who took the time to share their thoughts and suggestions along the way.

And now I will transition to Damon.

Damon Ely: Am I able to share my screen?

Dana Salkowsky: Yes, Damon, you should be able to once Likkia has removed herself, there you go.

Damon Ely: Ok, let’s see here – while my computer catches up to me, I just want to say that the Plan has garnered a lot of positive feedback thus far. All of the

feedback mechanisms that Likkia just mentioned – we have gotten lots of positive feedback. A lot of the suggestions and the critiques we have received about the Plan, thus far, have actually concerned more of the implementation of the Plan and we have constantly adjusted to make sure our focus at the higher level of the strategies, was always intact and forefront in our mind. Those comments and critiques that were more about implementation, were less about the intent of the goals and our objectives.

Since our last presentation to this Board, there have been some minor changes, mostly to clarify some of the Objectives, but no substantial changes to the aims or the intent of the Plan itself. So, tonight, we wanted to present the Plan in a way that directs your attention to the fundamental essence of each of the goals and the objectives. Instead of reading the Plan verbatim to you, we chose to highlight some of the key phrases in each of the goals.

As you can see on the screen, in this first one, to quickly convey their strategic aspects and then I am going to continue to paraphrase the objective to more effectively show they speak to and support the goals, directly.

A copy of the full Plan is available for your review and was made available for your review as we look over the essential elements that we present here.

So, our first Strategic Initiative is to Empower Student Success. Each of the goals under this initiative recognize the most effective means to ensure our students realize their aspirations in an equitable way and we do this by focusing on the most prominent barriers to student success. As you can see there in the first item, these each speak to the four goals under this area, so by focusing on the most prominent barriers to student success insuring the readiness of our students for their college experience – increasing the flexibility of our offerings and creating more accessible pipelines between non-degree and degree programs. To reduce the barriers to success our objectives seek to: (1) build a network of support services available to our students; (2) to enhance the connections between students and their advisors; and (3) expand accelerated learning opportunities for under-prepared students, to more quickly set them on their degree pathways.

The second goal is to ensure student readiness and to do this, the Plan offers up providing a first-year experience program which is meant to equip students with the skills that they need to do well in their courses.

The second objective provides mentorship opportunities as providing individual guidance through the college experience.

The third objective recognizes more technical career and transfer opportunities throughout their time here.

To increase our program flexibility, Goal #3, under this first initiative, we identified: (1) the creation of program maps for part-time students, finding them a pathway toward timely degree success; (2) the strengthening of our online technologies and resources for online learning, certainly a timely objective right now; and (3) the creation of long-term sequencing of the various modes of learning that we provide as an institution.

Finally, with Goal #4 under this first initiative, we seek to create more accessible pipelines toward degree completion by recognizing specific student populations that would be best served. We identify: (1) targeted placement measures for historically under-served students to better set them on their academic paths as they begin; (2) we focus on bringing the ESL and HSE students into the college to persist in our academic programs; and then third (3) seek to find ways to transition dual-enrolled students and those that are in non-degree programs, bringing them toward successful degree completion.

Our second initiative – Strengthen Our Region’s Economic Future – identifies the following goals:

To expand workforce development in innovative fields and to address the needs of our changing population of the region; to increase non-credit pathways toward degree completion; and introduction to the workforce and to re-align the image of the College as an opportunity for all of our residents.

Speaking to the first goal to expand workforce development – we must: (1) respond to the evolving trends that we see in business and industry; (2) we need to recognize the local skill sets that will lead to successful entrepreneurship and to growing business of the region; and (3) meet the growing need for upward career mobility or professional development.

The second goal to address the needs of the workforce specifically: (1) we must plan our initiatives with changing demographics in mind; (2) expanding our alternative course offerings, such as weekend, evening, online courses will be crucial; (3) we must recognize the needs of local employers and provide innovative educational programming suited to just those needs; and (4) providing short term credentials such as stackable certificates and micro-credentialing will be essential, as well. Further, goal 3 seeks to better utilize CAPS for our region’s economic future.

You might have seen that a few times in the word cloud (1) by integrating CAPE into all areas of the College’s offerings; (2) making use of pathway designers and certificate coordinators to organize this effort; and (3)

strengthen our school-to-work programs, quick turnaround programs to get students quickly into the workforce after an academic experience.

Goal 4 specifies that we realign the image of the College by promoting SUNY Orange as the educational hub of the region. We need to make sure that our academic and faculty excellence are well communicated in these efforts and we can realign the image of the College by collaborating with government entities, make the College a more prominent feature of our region's economic future.

The third initiative – Sustain and Invigorate Our Planned Future – aims to do this by focusing on our human, financial and physical resources. The goals of this initiative are organized around those three resources, as you can see here, they focus on: (1) improving the effectiveness of human resources; (2) expanding funding and educational opportunities; and (3) make more efficient use of our technologies and our physical resources, well.

The first goal to improve the effectiveness of our human resources, our objectives aim to: (1) foster a culture of collaboration among our departments and our campuses; (2) to train our faculty and staff to more efficiently meet the needs of our students; (3) redistribute our human resources so that we can spread that workload more efficiently to our students, enabling better distribution of those services that we provide; and finally (4) provide timely faculty and staff development to make sure that they are up with the latest advances in their fields.

Goal 2 – expanding funding and educational opportunities is a goal toward improving our financial resources: (1) developing unique and innovative degrees and credentials will be essential toward this task and also lends itself to the other areas of the Strategic Plan that we have identified already; (2) ensuring that we have alignment among our college foundation and community goals and to ensure that is going to require an ongoing assessment; and (3) growing educational partnerships in this area is going to be essential.

Finally, the last goal of our third initiative is to use our technologies and physical resources more efficiently. Here we are focusing on our first objective: (1) upgrading and maintaining resources in an environmentally responsible manner. Se we dual enroll our use of the word “sustainable” here. Of course, we want to have a Green Eye on our future developments. (2) We need to consistently assess how we use our resources, as well, if we wish to be efficient and stay efficient for the foreseeable future, and (3) to be proactive in adopting those new technologies to make sure that we recognize and identify and take advantage of those opportunities as they come along.

[Slide – Next Steps]

And ... Likkia? Did you want to talk about Next Steps?

Likkia Moody: One of the things, before we get into our transition into implementation – we did want to just call out something about our Strategic Planning team. Obviously, we began this process prior to the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic into our world, but I hope that you, as Damon and I have looked at this plan, have seen that the answers to how the College needs to respond to such a shift in our world, are already there in this Plan. There are strategies and goals that speak directly to some of the challenges that we will have to make as an institution, over the next couple of months. So, in some ways, we've saved some people a little bit of work in the process.

Finally, in terms of that following process of implementation, obviously some things in the timeline may be accelerated, and not so for others, but the SPSC, in particular, was very concerned about how they had amassed a ton of data, a ton of reports and conversations with ideas toward specific tasks and activities the College could engage in to accomplish the goals that you have seen.

So, we are in the middle of preparing a package. We are calling it many things, but in this moment “The Implementation Transition Package” will be handed off to the people responsible for implementation so that all of the knowledge that has been gained by our SICs and Steering Committee is not lost and also the people with the responsibility for implementation do not feel like they have to start at ground zero. So, we wanted to highlight that.

Do you have any questions for us?

Trustee Murphy: I just have a comment, if I may, thank you again for the prodigious work and I am just grateful in terms of the timing that this huge process was able to take place prior to the crisis we are having now. I think that enormous cooperation laid the groundwork for the other excellent work that we've seen happen from faculty and staff. I thank you again for all of the Trustees, for the extraordinary work. I know the process itself is the experience that changes people and will change the institution for the future and I just thank you. Thank you deeply.

Trustee Hannes: Amen.

Damon Ely: Thank you.

Chair Watson: Trustee Martucci was the trustee representative to the Strategic Plan process and I want to make sure he has an opportunity to comment at this point.

Trustee Martucci: Yes, thanks, Fred. This is a culmination of a lot of people participating and working for many, many months even over the semester break. It was exciting to see everybody's enthusiasm and collaboration working

together. I do applaud the outstanding work of the entire committee, a lot of people and they stuck to what their role was and what their direction was to be and then they went out and received a ton of feedback from the entire community – many, many times over. I can't tell you how many times that they spoke to the Assembly, they got feedback, they put out additional questionnaires to solicit more feedback, so again, this is a lot of work on everyone's part and I appreciate the outstanding job and especially the leadership of Damon and Likkia. It was phenomenal – they did an outstanding job keeping everybody on task and focused.

Damon Ely: Thanks, Ralph. We really appreciated your input through this process.

Trustee Martucci: It was a pleasure working with everybody.

Damon Ely: Thank you.

Chair Watson: Dr. Young? Would you like to add anything at this point?

President Young: Thank you, Chair Watson. If there is a disappointment in this process it is that we cannot properly celebrate at this time, the leadership that Damon and Likkia gave to this process to bring it to this point, the Steering Committee, that was so engaged and the Strategic Initiative Committees that were so engaged in delivering despite the last six weeks or so – the Strategic Plan to the intended deadline. The April 15th meeting has always been the deadline to deliver to the Board of Trustees, a final draft of the Strategic Plan and Ralph, thank you for the remarks, they were spot on in terms of what you said and Sr. Peggy what you said about the process which Damon and Likkia organized on behalf of all of us was a collaborative energizing process where the whole College community felt engaged and heard and was able to express themselves and I think now it is all in our court.

So, the intended process was to now give the Board a month to reflect on the strategies. We are not talking about necessarily at this time how do you measure this or how do you quantify the success or how do you actually implement this – but are these the right strategies and these brilliant strategic minds, I think, have delivered to you the very best strategies for this College for the next five years, including a very decisive next few months navigating the pandemic situation that we are in and emerging from that I think they're both right – that there are strategies that we can prioritize immediately as we enter this plan to emphasize that they are the right strategies to help guide us, and as we discussed, Ralph working with you on the Steering Committee, our next steps are how do we measure our success and then as people, as we return in the Fall, how do we start articulating the actual tactical activities to implement this plan. So our work is not yet done, collectively as a College, but our work in terms of identifying the strategy, is done and I publically say for the recording and the transcript, there shall be a party to celebrate the work of Damon, Likkia, the Steering Committee, and the multiple committees, because I think it is a terrific plan.

I saw Damon do this (pats her chest) and I want to do this right back and say Thank You to the two of you on behalf of administration, the VPs, Cabinet and on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Vacca: Just a question to Ralph. Ralph, do you see this, like any five-year plan, that should be looked at on an annualized basis, like tweaking it maybe – like it's a living document going forward?

Trustee Martucci: Oh, absolutely. When we put this together the measurements they are going to be over a period of five years, we are not going to get to where we are going to be at the end of 2025 but we need to be measuring it as we go along to see how successfully we are moving forward. It is gonna be a review probably, at least once a semester, or once a quarter.

But we have to continue to talk about it and continue to talk about the successes and again it is a working document because guess what? Something could change in two years from now and it's not relevant and something else might be.

Chair Watson: Bill, I would just like to add that yes, the implementation plan will definitely include key performance indicators that we will be tracking throughout the entire process, just like we were excited to receive this Plan, we will be excited to see The Implementation Plan, as well. So we will look to Dr. Young and her team for that. I, too, would like to thank Damon and Likkia and the entire committee that invested their time and energy for our fine institution. It is definitely appreciated as Dr. Young says, we look forward to a celebration at some point when we are allowed to do so.

Trustees? Any other comments?

Okay, Dr. Young? You are back up.

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

President Young: Thank you, Chair Watson. For today's President's Report, I choose positive news. Almost from start to end, this was the season of awards and I was very pleased that before we had to take our remote stance, I was able to personally present our President's Award recipients for Excellence in Teaching with their medals before we left campus. So the first week of March, thank you to Dr. Hackman, I was asked to join an Academic Affairs all divisions meeting and was able to recognize two faculty members with the 2020 President's Awards. The first is Professor Michelle Farrell in Arts & Communication who was recognized for her excellence in teaching for the work that she does in that division, and also the second award for excellence in teaching went to Professor Tom

Giorgianni in Computer Science. Professor Giorgianni not only has been with us for many years but he is a product of OCCC, a graduate himself. This is a collaborative process with Shared Governance. There is a standing committee of Shared Governance that reviews on my Office's behalf, portfolios and recommendations for a variety of awards, this award for excellence in teaching being one of them and they recognize both of these individuals and they additionally recommended Prof. Giorgianni to be recognized for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, His name has been sent up to Albany, and under normal circumstances I would have expected to hear about this week about his status about the Chancellor's Award winner. So next time we get to campus to check the U.S. Mail, or maybe it will come electronically, we find out if Prof. Giorgianni was selected. But, in any case, this is the highest award we award the institution for recognizing Excellence in Teaching so congratulations to both Tom and Michelle for that.

Transitioning from the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, there are the Student Chancellor Awards. This is the highest award in the SUNY system for students, and, as is usually said in a beautiful ceremony every year, this is the rarest of rare area in the SUNY system. Each of the 64 colleges can nominate students and as a percentage of SUNY students it is something like 0.02% or 2%, some very low number of students are selected, so I am pleased to share with you this evening, that three of our students were selected for the SUNY Chancellor Award. They are Jennifer Zimmerman from Walden, Giovanna Calla from Port Jervis, and Chantal Fairclough from Newburgh. Under normal circumstances they would have been honored at a beautiful ceremony in Albany. The Chancellor would have met with each of them individually, and put a medal around their neck. The ceremony, of course, has not been able to be held but a few weeks ago the Chancellor sent a communication saying that they hoped to do something virtually to recognize those students in a different way, so we will watch for that communication and certainly my Office will get the medals to the students and will find another way to recognize them at least locally. But those are significant awards for Jennifer, Giovanna and Chantal.

Also, in this season. we would have gone to Albany, again. and had a banquet with our Phi Theta Kappa NY Academic Scholars. Phi Theta Kappa ("PTK"), as you may recall, is a two-year honor society. This is an event every year with SUNY and CUNY students both sponsored by NYCAP, the President's group in SUNY, and I think FCCC involved and NYSET is involved, as well. The Trustees' organization sponsor a very nice banquet to honor the PTK award students. We honor five of our students, who are not only academically capable, but have also exhibited excellence in items like service to others, fellowship, leadership and those five students are:

Akua Andoh from Middletown
Lilibeth Mendoza from Newburgh
Nina Zylberberg from New Windsor
Giovanna Calla from Port Jervis
Jessica Vargetto from Newburgh

So, the banquet, of course, was cancelled, unfortunately, and those students are recognized by Phi Theta Kappa and we will find another way to recognize them.

Part of our own work locally is, I know we talked with you a little bit about Commencement, but we also have a Convocation that we usually hold in May, as well, so we are looking for a way to virtualize our own Convocation Ceremony, as well. Maybe in conjunction with the virtualized Commencement on or about May 21st and that would certainly be a time to make sure that we honor these PTK students, as well as the Chancellor Award students to hold them up for special recognition in that season. Mike Albright certainly can send out Press Releases but these are among the disappointing parts of being at a distance and not being able to be with these students physically and celebrate with them the reasons for their celebration of excellence.

One more bit of good news, Phi Theta Kappa recognized an additional student named Nicholas Lukan, he has received a special scholarship to pay for the cost of his taking the pharmacy technician certification exam based on his excellence and participation in PTK. So that was some more good news.

But also in this President's Report, on a less happy note for me, I will briefly, in order to respect this person's wishes, I feel it is appropriate though to note what you already know that it is Linda Dauer's last full time day of service to this college after four years of being with us as our VP for Administration & Finance. I wrote down the first four words I thought of when I thought of Linda and they were: ethical, dedicated, intelligent and a role model. Linda, in working with the VP group, I cannot tell you how much I have learned from her, not only as a professional about financial matters and accountancy, but just learned. So, I am a better professional and a better human being from Linda being in my company. I think you now that she has taken a job opportunity with the National Association of College and University Business Officers, she is good enough that they snapped her up so that all other colleges and universities can learn from her. That will be her job with them, helping others learn from her – so, Linda, I am glad I cannot see you on the screen right now, I salute you, I am grateful and I know my closest colleagues are, too. We will miss you and I know you will remain connected with us here to help us see our budget through, but thank you for being with us, Linda, and that concludes my President's Report.

Trustee Hannes: It's Flo. I would like to add one thing, in a symbolic timely manner, tonight would be the last night of Passover and it is celebrated by saying prayers over, believe it or not, four glasses of wine, so I toast on behalf of the Board, four glasses of wine to Linda until we can do it in person.

Chorus: Hear, hear!

Chair Watson: Thank you for that, Flo. Moving forward, the next up, is the Governance President, Paul Basinski. Hello, Paul.

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

Paul Basinski: Thank you, Fred. As I have learned with many, many Zoom meetings, the last few weeks, the most important thing I can say to being my remarks this evening, is I am hopeful all of you can hear me – I am confident that Bill and Dana have done a great job with this connection. I want to say it's a pleasure to be with Fred and the other Trustees this evening from my home in PA, albeit virtually, I must extend wishes to all of the Trustees on behalf of Shared Governance, to your friends, to your families, for health and peace of mind in the midst of this global pandemic. Most fundamentally, be well, folks.

My report, needless to say with all of the college operations occurring virtually, my main priority, as Governance President, the last month or so, has been maintaining continuity of operations with Shared Governance and SUNY Orange. So what can I tell the Trustees about that process? I can report that in spite of the COVID situation, governance operations continue to function as normally and smoothly as they can under these rather extraordinary conditions. For example, in the midst of our extended Spring Break, we held, on March 26th, our first virtual Assembly in the history of SUNY Orange via Zoom, of course, and I must thank Mike Tharp and the IT Team, Bill and others for their assistance pulling off that exceptional meeting.

I can tell the Trustees that at its peak, we had 225 of our members Zoom in, I can tell you that many of them quickly discovered the Chat function on Zoom and started zooming in questions to Dr. Young, myself, administration and those present, and that we were able to conduct a robust conversation in the midst of not being able to do it physically for the first time ever. So, of course, folks are already emailing me and saying "hey, can't we Zoom all of our Town Hall meetings to our members?" And I am saying that that might be a little bit premature ladies and gentlemen, but we will do so again. College Assembly will be this coming Monday 4/20 and once more it will be via the ubiquitous Zoom connection.

I can tell you that the other main action in Governance Town involves our standing committees and they continue to meet including my Executive Committee who has now met twice, since we suspended most of physical operations on campus. We have submitted no less than 5 recommendations, important recommendations, to some large extent, to Dr. Young on various matters, for action through Administration. Clearly, we have given Administration as much additional time as they need to respond, to these recommendations, given the nature of the situation with COVID-19.

I can tell you very importantly, Trustees, that the Academic Policy Committee and its Chairs, who are respectively, Drs. Paradies and Quinn, have worked carefully with the VPAA and other members from Administration to approve modifications to College Academic Policies. There were imperative modifications that needed to be made with respect to withdrawal, incomplete and Pass/Fail grades to get us through this Spring term, under the conditions we are currently laboring with respect to remote learning. So that was a tremendous partnership and it worked very well in spite of the distance circumstances. I also want to report that Student Success Committee has just today sent along a set of recommendations re: a virtual commencement towards the end of May that we will work, if asked, with Student Services and other members of the College to honor our graduates and Shared Governance will do anything in its power to make sure that the students who have earned these degrees will receive, within the bounds of virtual reality, the proper commendations that all of them deserve for hard work well done. I must say quickly, that Curriculum Committee continues to receive and process requests for additions, revisions or changes to College Curricula that they process has not been abated nor slowed in spite of COVID and we have even asked our Social Committee to look into how we can do some virtual talent show before the end of this unusual Spring semester to boost morale in the midst of the COVID crisis. I, for one, would sit and listen to Chris Parker and some of these other extraordinary musicians perform a virtual concert for us. So, the bottom line is this, Trustees, Shared Governance is doing business and we will continue to conduct College business in the virtual mode as long as the College deems is necessary for the safety of students and employees of SUNY Orange for us to do so and I will say, lastly, that we have been careful to be there for each other, as well as in light of the emotional and psychological toll that this situation has taken on many faculty, staff and students, we remain a virtual community and I am tremendously proud for the work that our folks have done through Shared Governance on the part of the College, on behalf of SUNY Orange and that concludes my report, Fred Watson.

Trustee Martucci: Thank you, Paul.

Chair Watson: We thank you, Paul, for those comments – I just have one quick question for you to comment on – what are you hearing from the students? What are they saying about distance learning?

Paul Basinski: Well, I'll be perfectly frank, the way Erika Hackman and her team put that transition up and got together virtual modes from Zoom, synchronized courses, all the way through utilizing our Blackboard distance learning platform, Fred, was exceptional. We have had everything from technical issues and hardware issues and I know administration, maybe Kris would like to talk about the ways that has all been addressed, I can say that we have done everything in our power to stay as connected as we can with the students. That some of them are, to be perfectly frank, having more difficulties learning in a virtual mode than others, but I think we are making the best of a difficult situation and certainly, staying as connected as we can with the students, not only in that classroom sense but I know that Student Services and others are doing everything in their power to provide whatever additional support the students need at this difficult time to get through the remainder of this extended and extraordinary Spring term. We are doing our best, Fred.

Chair Watson: Okay, Thank you. Has Aaliya joined us?

Dana Salkowsky: Yes, Sir, she has.

Chair Watson: I would like to introduce our Student Trustee, Aaliya Patterson. Welcome Aaliya.

Dana Salkowsky: I have unmuted her. I was told this was her. One moment, please.

Chair Watson: I am going to move on to College Association. We will come back to our Student Trustee.

Dana Salkowsky: I will unmute Mr. Cazzetta.

E. REPORT OF COLLEGE ASSOCIATION (Vinnie Cazzetta)

Chair Watson: Welcome, Vinnie, are you there?

Vinnie Cazzetta: Yes, hello Trustees. I have a short College Association Report for you. We decided to postpone our April 1st Board Meeting and I am working with the Chair of our Board, Roger Pike, and we will reschedule that for some time in early May.

The Bookstore has continued to operate via an online format. They are taking online orders and they are also working with students on rental returns in an online distance platform, providing them shipping labels and anything else they need, boxes, in order to get their rental returns back.

With respect to the Lab School, the Lab School is also up and running. This decision was made to comply with the Governor's mandate, to keep daycare centers open, especially for the daycare centers who operate with families whose parents work in the emergency healthcare, EMTs, those essential personnel. So, the Morrison Lab School did have a couple of

those parents who opted to send their children to the Morrison Lab School. We did not have any in Newburgh who fit those categories, who chose to access the Newburgh Lab School. And that concludes my report, unless there are any questions of me.

Chair Watson: Trustees?

Trustee Murphy: Thank you.

Trustee Martucci: Thank you, Vinnie.

Vinnie Cazzetta: You're welcome.

Chair Watson: Thanks for that report. Moving forward, I didn't see her but hopefully Dawn Ansbro is with us with her report.

F. REPORT OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD (Dawn Ansbro)

Dawn Ansbro: Hi, how is everybody this evening?

Here I am, it is wonderful that we can still do business in this way amidst all of these other strange circumstances. Thank you for having me – just some quick updates from the Foundation.

We did cancel our March Board Meeting. It was kind of happening right at the time that all of the decisions regarding social distancing and off-site meetings were taking place so the Foundation Board felt, the full Board, did not meet in March. The Executive Committee has been meeting both in March and just this past Monday in April – so we continue to move forward with that.

I did just want to update you guys a little bit on the events that the Foundation had been planning. As you know, we were planning a golf event for June 18th and our Leadership Event for October 23rd. We have actually decided to cancel golf entirely, at this point, and focus on Leadership. We think that it is our best chance for raising money. We are hearing from a lot of our corporate sponsors that they are either, those that have philanthropic dollars, that they are either moving them toward pandemic-related organizations or causes and then, of course, we have other corporate sponsors who are having to make some difficult decisions internally themselves about the possibility of laying off employees, so they are not in a position to give at this time. So we have just decided to lay low a little bit in terms of corporate sponsorship.

We are actually calling all of our donors and alumni just to check in with people and make sure everybody is well, and if anybody is local, to see if they need anything. Just trying to keep those lines of communication open for everybody for future giving opportunities.

I do want to mention that Rich Rowley generously offered to sponsor 50 Chromebooks for the College, so if any of you have the chance to talk to Rich, I hope you will thank him, as well. Just as part of the technology

loaning program and we are also thankful to Rich for stepping up in that way.

Alumni are working to look at virtual alumni events. Again, just in keeping with trying to make sure that we are staying connected with everyone, not losing touch with anybody and so, Jen is actually preparing an alumni survey, as we speak, to find out how people want to stay connected and what kinds of things they might be interested in participating in virtually.

We did move our Scholarship deadline to May 1st. Thank you to Shared Governance and the College Scholarship Committee for working with us to make that happen. We have, right now, 480 drafted scholarship applications, 243 submitted, it is lower than I'd like to see, but I suspect that a lot of that is due to the fact that our high school students are not in school, and not connected with their guidance counselors, and then of course, with everything else that is happening here. So we will do one last push for scholarships. I know Sharon has been emailing anybody that has a scholarship in draft mode to encourage them to get it completed before the deadline. And that is my report. Does anybody have any questions? Well, thank you so much.

Trustee Martucci: Thank you, Dawn.

Chair Watson: Thank you, Dawn. Okay next we are going to have a Special Report by Linda Dauer. Linda, I too, as Kris said earlier, am grateful for your past four years with us and I wish you a great deal of success in the CUBO and I am sure they will be elated to have you there. So, we will miss you, but before that, give us a report and tell us about our finances. Tell us what we need to know.

G. SPECIAL REPORT – 2020-21 BUDGET DRAFT (Linda Dauer)

Linda Dauer: If you would first grant me a little privilege, allow me to just speak for a moment here because Kris cheated there at the beginning, and then you also, Fred, because I was hoping to just slide out quietly. Thank you Kris and Fred for your kind words, I cannot tell you what an honor and a privilege it has been serving with Kris, Vinnie, Gerianne and Erika, what a great team to work with. We had plenty of challenges but a great team to work with and the Board of Trustees, thank you for your support for the time that I have been here. I have always felt well supported and appreciated by all of you. And I can't go without thanking the team behind me, I had such great people that worked in Administration and Finance in our division and I am just so thankful for each one of them. So thank you. Just let me have a minute, sigh, I think I am ready now Dana, oh I think I am going to share my screen.

Dana Salkowsky: Linda, you are all set.

Linda Dauer: Okay good. It's good to share the screen,
[Slide – AY 2020-21 Budget Prep Update]

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with just a sneak peek into the current status of our academic year 2021 budget preparation. As a reminder, that the College's budget year goes from September 1st through August 31, 2021. I have to start to say that the budget preparation is always challenging but this particular year is proving to be even more so. At the moment, we really have no idea what the true impact of COVID-19 is going to be on our enrollment, our State Aid or our County Support. So, I just needed to put in a disclaimer before we even get started. The College will obviously do its best to create a balanced, realistic budget but COVID-19 has certainly thrown us some curve balls at the moment. Just to give you an idea of some of the Key Budget assumptions that we are using right now, we are assuming, first of all, that our enrollment will be flat to our current year projected and that number right now projected FTE which stands for "Full Time Equivalent" students is 4270. What you need to realize is this is 5% lower than our current year budget though while it is flat to the current year projected, but is 5% less than our current year budget. We did learn on April 1st that our State Support – we were not going to get any increase per FTE because there is a three year weighted average calculation that is done with FTE that actually means that we would lose \$373,000 just because of that no dollar increase per FTE. The County Support we are assuming a 2% increase which would give up about \$380,000 obviously we still need to meet with our County partners and get approval for that 2% but for the budget assumption, that is what we have right now.

Tuition Rate – tonight the Board of Trustees is going to be voting on a tuition rate increase and the Administration has recommended a \$192 increase to our Tuition Rate, and on the next slide I will give you a few more details about that. There are fee increases that are also being voted on tonight. So those are the big revenue Key assumptions as far as the expense side. We do include in the budget preparation, the salaries, the increases per the Collective Bargaining Agreements. We do have a 6% increase in health insurance premiums that will be effective January 1, 2021. That is an assumption, hopefully it will be less, but at the moment we don't know what that will be. And then we look at the contracts. You know we know some known increases, some decreases, but the net effect is a \$50,000 increase in Contracts that is also included in this budget prep right now.

[Slide – Tuition Rates 5 Yr. Historical Data & Proposed]

This is just to give you some information on the tuition rates, just a point of information so that you can see where our tuition rates have been so you have 5 years of historical data and then on the far right the AY 2021. This is what is being proposed right now and what the Board of Trustees

will be voting on. The \$192 increase would bring our annual tuition rate to \$5,376 and that is a 3.7% increase over last year.

[Slide – Mandatory Fee Per Student – Annual]

I also mentioned that the Board of Trustees would be voting on fee increases. We haven't had any fee increases since I have been here which is almost 4 years – so I am not exactly sure when the last time we had an increase was. But currently, we are proposing the increases that would mean the students' mandatory fees for the year would increase from \$604 to \$718 so that is an annual increase of \$114.00. So looking at it by semester that would be \$57 increase for the Fall semester that is what they would be looking at.

[Slide – AY 2021 Budget Prep Outlook – Draft]

So, when you put these numbers, when you put tuition and fee increases into what we always call our Baseline Budget ...

Well, let's go back to the Baseline Budget – if we didn't have any tuition increases or any fee increases and we kept our enrollment flat – with 4270 and we had the 2% increase which right now is an assumption from the County, we are looking at a shortfall of almost \$2.7 million (\$2,696,722). If we have the increase on tuition of \$192 and the increases for the fees that they will be voting on, with the flat enrollment, and all other things being the same, it would bring our shortfall to about \$1.5 million. And, I just want to point out again, that this is not the final. This is the current status of budget prep, obviously, when the College puts forward its budget next month to the Board of Trustees for approval and then to the County and then to the State, it has to be a balanced budget, meaning the revenues equal the expenses. So that means there is a big challenge right now to find \$1.5 million in an already tight budget, but that is the work that needs to be done.

[Slide – Next Steps]

So, the next steps – tonight the Board will vote on tuition and fee rates, the College will continue to work on budget balancing strategies as an ongoing process because we have to balance the budget; in the meantime, the PBIE, which stands for Planning and Budgeting for Institutional Effectiveness, which is a Shared Governance Committee, has been working on a report that they will give to the Administration. This report that they will give us is a result of an extensive campus-wide planning, budgeting and prioritization process that serves as a critical data point in both budget decision making and also helps us to find the best ways to use any kind of grant money that we get or also when we receive Foundation gifts, it gives us an idea on the best, greatest needs of the College and where they can be best used. So, we look forward to that report, that should be coming soon from the PBIE, the Board next month will approve the budget, in the meantime there will also be County Committee meetings going on where we can share where we are with the budget and hopefully get their support for the 2% that we are looking for and in the meantime the Budget Booklet will be created. It will go to the County and the

County auditors so that they can have their full legislative vote either at the end of July or beginning of August. And then in September, we always do a Campus Communication that lets folks know what the budget looks like and the PBIE Report, their prioritization, their recommendations – were they able to be funded? – and if so, how?

So, that is a brief and quick update on where we are with Budget prep and if you have any questions, I would be happy to entertain them.

Chair Watson: We thank you for that report.

Trustee Hannes: Good Luck.

Linda Dauer: Thank you very much.

Chair Watson: One more Report, Student Trustee Aaliya Patterson. Aaliya? Are you out there?

Dana Salkowsky: Sir, I have asked her to unmute and start her rReport but we are not getting a response.

Chair Watson: Thank you, Dana. We will move forward. If you see her unmuting, you will let us know.

Dana Salkowsky: I will let you know.

Chair Watson: Moving forward. I am going to deviate from the agenda, just a bit, and I would like for Gerianne Brusati to be unmuted and allow her to have comments to the trustees of anything she wishes.

Gerianne Brusati: Hi folks, this seems a little bit odd but I'm getting to be a real Zoom pro, so Fred, I guess what I would like to talk about for a quick minute and thank you for the opportunity, is to let you know how students are doing and how Student Services is doing. So, all of our Admissions folks are online working virtually. The same is true in Financial Aid and Student Services in terms of our Enrollment Specialists, etc. We have some folks who are considered "essential" who are going in to the office just to keep mail moving, but our Advisors are working with students, our staff is working with students and I'm not going to lie to you, our students are not all having a great time as you might expect. We sent out an announcement for our Student Emergency Fund and within probably 3 days we have almost 80 applications. Students who have lost jobs, students who are waiting for unemployment, students who are having challenges just facing the situation we are in right now. And I should also say, because I think this is pretty impressive, our personal counselor, Maureen Flaherty, has been, from the day we went off campus and started working remotely, has produced a video on stress management and dealing with a crisis situation that we have been sending to students. She also has been having counseling sessions with students either by Zoom, by telephone, etc. So our faculty have been referring students who might be in trouble as we hear about students who are experiencing some difficulties, we are putting them in touch with her. And what I will say, all of the students I have spoken to are so grateful for their faculty, for the College, for just having somebody to talk to and knowing they are a part of our community. So that has been pretty uplifting in a situation and a time that feels a little down on some days. They are a pretty resilient group and starting next

week, we will be doing Care Calls just checking in with students. We started Fall registration on Monday so by next week we should have some comparative data and we do have students who are registering so they are looking past the situation we are in today and that's a good thing.

Trustee Vacca: Are we seeing a lot of activity in the Food Pantry?

Gerianne Brusati: What we have been doing is, up until now, we have been doing referrals to the Hudson Valley Food Bank and we have a staff person going in tomorrow and Friday to pack up Grab & Go bags because our sense is – let's just get rid of the food, I don't mean it that way, let's just distribute the food that we have so that it is not sitting waiting for students to come back to campus. We have done it with laptops, so we know that we can arrange this 'first come, first served' and we will just move as much of it as we can.

Chair Watson: Thank you very much, Gerianne.

Gerianne Brusati: You're welcome.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Watson: Okay, next Order of Business is New Business. The Trustees have received two Resolutions – Resolution #3 and Resolution #4 in their packets – I am going to read the Resolution, then we are going to have a roll call vote of the Trustees on each Resolution.

Orange County Community College
Board of Trustees

Resolution to Set Tuition. Academic Year 2020-21

WHEREAS, 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 for the academic year 20-21, and a part time per-credit student tuition rate of \$224 for academic year 2020-21.

You have heard Resolution #3, what is your pleasure? The Chair will entertain a motion.

Trustee Martucci: So moved, this is Ralph.

Trustee Weddell: Second.

Chair Watson: It has been moved and properly seconded, that we approved the Resolution. We'd like to take a roll call vote. Secretary Murray? Are you there?

Carol Murray: Yes, I am. Okay so, Chair Watson?

Chair Watson: Yes.

Carol Murray: Trustee Murphy?

Trustee Murphy: Yes.

Carol Murray: Thomas Hunter?
Trustee Hunter: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Hannes?
Trustee Hannes: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Martucci?
Trustee Martucci: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Weddell?
Trustee Weddell: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Vacca?
Trustee Vacca: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Patterson? Are you here? Doesn't seem so, so that would be it, all in favor?
Chorus: Aye.
Chair Watson: Alright. There are 7 Yes votes, motion to approve Resolution #3 2020-21 is approved.

Next Resolution, Orange County Community College Board of Trustees,
Resolution to Set Student Fees. Academic Year 2020-21

WHEREAS, Orange County Community College is dedicated to providing high-quality and accessible education and enrichment opportunities for credit students; now

THEREFORE, be it Resolved, that the Orange County Community College Board of Trustees has reviewed and hereby approves the student fee schedule below for academic year 2020-21.

Alright, I will read the mandatory fee. The fee amount and the amount per semester.

Student Activity fee amount \$6 per credit, \$72 per semester based on a 12 credit semester.

Technology fee amount \$17 per credit, \$204 per semester based on 12 credits.

Cultural Affairs \$17 per semester

Parking and Transportation \$18 per semester

Academic Support \$48 per semester

Non-mandatory fees – New Student Fee amount \$175 – this is a one-time payment only.

Health Professions \$178 per semester

Lab Fees \$43 per lab and this assumed one lab per semester

You have heard Resolution #4, what is your pleasure? The Chair will entertain a motion.

So it was moved by Trustee Martucci and seconded by Trustee Murphy.

So, it has been moved and properly seconded...

- Trustee Martucci: Fred, I believe that was Tom Weddell who moved the motion.
Chair Watson: Is that correct?
Trustee Vacca: I moved the motion, it's Bill.
Chair Watson: Sorry, Bill. Trustee Vacca moved and the second was from Trustee Murphy. Secretary Murray do the roll call.
Carol Murray: Sure, Chair Watson?
Chair Watson: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Murphy?
Trustee Murphy: Yes.
Carol Murray: Thomas Hunter?
Trustee Hunter: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Hannes?
Trustee Hannes: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Martucci?
Trustee Martucci: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Weddell?
Trustee Weddell: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Vacca?
Trustee Vacca: Yes.
Carol Murray: Trustee Patterson? Not sure if you're there, so we had seven votes Yes.
Chair Watson: Alright. Motion carries. Resolution #4 is approved. Thank you, Trustees. OK, there is nothing else under New Business, any trustee have any new business they would like to introduce at this point?
Trustee Hannes: I would like, it's Flo, and I would like to publically once again, we've done it in private sessions, extend the most incredible gratitude to President Young and her VPs and entire staff for weathering our College through this incredibly turbulent storm and Paul confirmed what we have been hearing, how smoothly it went. It may seem like it went smoothly to the world at large but we all know what it took to pull this smoothness off. So, thank you, all of you.
Chair Watson: Thank you, Trustee Hannes for those commendations. Moving forward

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Chair Watson: We will have a report from the Enrollment Task Force, Trustee Weddell.
Trustee Weddell: Unfortunately, because of COVID, we have not had a chance to meet and it's been a little bit tricky. We are going to try and set something up with Gerianne Brusati and the Guidance Counselors but the schools have not been in so it is a little tough to figure out what we are going to do next. That will probably happen next week or the week after that. Gerianne and I have to get together on that. That's kinda where we're at right now.

Chair Watson: OK, we thank you for that report. In the future, I think we should invite all of the trustees. If we are going to have Zoom calls for the Enrollment Task Force, to sit in on – I know we had discussed some sub-committees, but we might be able to have some added energy for our Enrollment Task Force from all of the trustees. Just be good to have them notified when our calls or meetings are going to take place.

Trustee Weddell: Sure, that's fine.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chair Watson: Alright, under the Chairman's Comments, my first comment is there was a scheduled meeting of NYCCT this weekend, April 18th that has been cancelled. Their annual Board Meeting will be moved to August 1, 2020. There was one other thing, we had a joint dinner planned with the Foundation – until further notice that joint dinner is postponed, as well.

Before we move into our Committee Report, I just wanted to ask Dr. Young, Dr. Young? I believe we lost a member of our college community, and I just wanted you to take a moment and mention that during this meeting, to the trustees.

President Young: Yeah, I'll carefully do this because I don't believe the family gave us permission to share the name publically. Usually, our protocol is to wait on family permissions to share with our active employees and the larger community that someone has passed, but we did lose, that we know, how do we? Say, through 'social media' that there is a member, an adjunct faculty member, an active faculty member that passed away in the past several days who was a long-time faculty member with a long connection to the College, so just in this public forum I want to be sensitive to not say the name. This would be someone who is known probably to many in the audience tonight. So maybe, in a more private setting, I can share the name but those who know, would be saddened to learn of this, so when we say that current events are impacting us all, we feel it in our community. That was one of the first real stings to us as part of our family.

Chair Watson: We thank you for that. You'll see that the trustees are advised when the time is correct.

Alright, we will move on to our Committee Reports.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Watson: Trustee Murphy? Are you out there and do you have a report?

Trustee Murphy: Yes, thank you. I hope I can be heard. Thank you. This a meeting and a report from the Academic and Student Services Committee. It was, obviously, the meeting was held and the report was given prior to the pandemic and so I do want to share just a couple of thoughts before I give

you the information that was received at the meeting. I studied for my doctoral degree at the Theological School at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey and I was reminded, the Dean stood up for a presentation one time, and there was a moment of silence, and then said, I just want to report that the world has come to an end. Everyone woke up – that time – but I think it’s truly what we have experienced. A world, I was thinking when preparing this, the world that existed when I was meeting and we were reporting on this was so extraordinarily different. I just want to repeat it and affirm again having 6,000 students successfully involved in online learning – mammoth, mammoth enterprise and I think it just says everything about the quality of the dedication of this College. I have created one online curriculum and I know the extraordinary amount of work this involved and we’re saying that it was done in a matter of days believe me I know, that there were weekend days and Spring Break days and an extraordinary commitment of time. I heard from a neighbor this week that a faculty member of SUNY Orange spent 14 hours online one day this week and I realize and I hope that everyone understands that it is the delivery of information, without question, but as has been described, but it’s also the few minutes when the lab is finished or the class is over it is the extraordinary outreach and compassion for students that makes me very, very proud to be a part of this enterprise. So tonight, I just want to report briefly on the Center for Student Involvement – that particular entity develops and coordinates co-curricular experiences on both campuses designed to complement the academic curriculum and enhance the educational experience of our students through involvement in social, cultural, governance programs. So co-curricular, in addition to align with the learning experience, our previous Chair, Chair Helen Ullrich was anxious for the Trustees, especially, to understand this Center in light of our fiduciary responsibility how are the funds allocated and how these activities truly complement the academic curriculum. And so, I will share how the funds are allocated.

We heard tonight about the Student Fee and all the work that was done especially in the very real experience of the Emergency Fund as was described by Gerianne. But in the light of this new world, I just wanted to say a couple of things. Higher Education has remained unchanged for centuries. I feel like I was in on those earlier centuries, but now of course we have this extraordinary experience of learning without direct contact and I want to say that I am grateful for the flexibility of online learning, especially for our students who are juggling family responsibilities and all these employment commitments. And we understand that nationally even before the pandemic statistics tell us that 35% of students, anyway, in the U.S. happen to have taken at least one course online. But, I want to say when we speak about the funding and this experience of this Center for me, in looking over the information every Club has a faculty advisor, a faculty mentor so for me again – it is that person to person mentoring,

tutoring, individualized feedback most essential for life, life skills, but for life – I think we all agree the people skills, the role models, and I want to say publically that the role models for me at this stage of my life have been so enhanced by working with VP Hackman and VP Brusati – these two individuals just exemplars of what we have said about everyone in this College – that’s been expressed by many people tonight. They are, I am proud to be a part of the profession because of these two women. They have shown me, and I believe they have shown students, especially in these last three weeks, the reality that the faculty, staff and administration of this College has invested their lives and their knowledge in these students and I believe that young people are seeing that in an entirely different way and I believe it is going to have a profound effect on their lives.

So, the counseling service, we heard mentioned by Gerianne and then the mention, just in passing, of the Care Calls, those 6,000 Care Calls, I mean, I don’t know what else we need to say, there is virtually connecting, we’ve seen and we’ve understood the absolute necessity of the caring that’s going on in our society – just as a silly aside – but in my own Mount Saint Mary College, I had a chat line and a video was presented giving students individual remarks from professors and faculty and staff but most recently we did a music video, pretty pathetic, I was singing in my living room, no music but we sang “We Are the World” together – I mean someone put it all together and hopefully it is not too awful but the need to laugh again, to connect again, I’m grateful for the extraordinary efforts, is all I can say.

So, anyway, the Center for Student Involvement, Steve Harpst is the Director, this is the payroll piece. Adrienne Victor is the Coordinator for the Newburgh Campus, Karen Reid is the Staff Assistant and there are two part-time people that work as the Welcome Desk staff. Chairman Weddell has spoken so well and others of our concern, our deep concern for enrollment. It’s everything and so is this office that coordinates much of that Orientation, that welcoming, we know well, it is not only bringing the students in, but keeping them in, having them fit in and so this Center is part of that. So they have the oversight of Student Government, the student clubs and organizations, the management of those student activities and fees, budget expenditures and that College-wide is the expression now, use on-boarding activities. And again, Orientation the welcoming that key first experience of people coming for the first time into a classroom of higher education is so key.

So Student Government, we are aware of the Student Senate in the past there had been a President in Newburgh and a President in Middletown but no longer, reaffirming our idea that we are one campus. The Student Senate, the members are elected, obviously, there is a president, vice president, the regular roles. They address all of the student concerns and

they are among their peers and bringing that important information to us. They also represent the College at SUNY-wide Student Assembly. They represent the student voice on Shared Governance committees. By the training that, when people, and this is difficult in the community college setting, I think because employment and because of other commitments but these are our future colleagues experiences that give and take, that listening skill, that bringing other people's concerns to the fore and informed citizenry, we are understanding it more and more and student government is an extraordinary experience of that. So they have standing committees, a budget committee, an election committee, a rules committee. The Student Trustee, I have been serving on this Board for many years and it has so impressed me, the experience of the Student Trustee. The actual consumers, our customer, are most important part of what we do. Hearing their voice at the Trustee Meetings, for young people again, it is to observe that give and take, the mentoring, the observing the exchange that happens and the deliberations that occur, at a formal meeting like this – just invaluable in terms of life skills – not always young people, we had a variety and I was very moved a few sessions ago, we had an actual middle-aged gentleman who spoke eloquently about how he profited by the experience and also brought to us from a Veteran's standpoint – his own experience and the concerns that we needed – my experience being a member of this Board actually encouraged me in Mount Saint Mary College to advocate for student representatives on our faculty senate, which has not been happening prior to my experience here.

So, there is a Board of Activities and they plan these cultural and recreational events on each campus – and the goal is so engage students across disciplines, in that casual experience there is something wonderful about the accounting student meeting and learning about the early childhood student and just the belonging to this community – for morale – we know it now in entirely different ways since COVID-19 and again, I honor the Board of Activities because again that idea that higher education didn't change for centuries, well it does here and it does now because there are more late afternoon offerings, there are Friday night offerings, there's family offerings – because we do not have the only stereotypical 18-19 year old student so these activities have changed thanks to that Board of Activities.

There are 34 active clubs on the Middletown campus, 7 active clubs on the Newburgh campus, there are 4 new Newburgh clubs: anime, psychology club, multicultural club and SAGA. SAGA a mnemonic that stands for Sexuality and Gender Alliance – a very, very serious and so important message – All are Welcome. All are honored. All are deeply respected. We have such a group at Mount Saint Mary – a 4-year college, as well, called Allies. I find it one of the strongest student groups. Deeply committed to the meetings and to each other and actually SAGA on the

SUNY Orange campus will be really charged with helping the students to understand and the community to understand the importance of the 2020 Census and we certainly understand now that we see healthcare impacted and our governmental needs impacted, how important this Census will be.

Again, each Club selects a faculty or staff advisor and works to increase membership. So, the club budgets – every club submits a budget identifying their intended activities for the year which include trips, events, purchases, supplies. The budget committee of the Student Senate reviews each request and allocates the funds. The total approximates at about \$110,000 annually from those student fees which had been mentioned earlier. The way that this is distributed is: Student Clubs / Organizations receive 60% and Student Athletics receive 40%

And, of course, I don't need to explain the rewards in terms of health, life lesson and etc. from athletics.

The Board of Activities sponsors campus events and trips, salaries, this wasn't just mentioned in passing, salaries for the game room attendants and the clerical support. Let me just say, at some point last year I had the opportunity to visit the improvements that had been made in the Student Lounge – thanks again, of course, to the extraordinary support of the SUNY Orange Foundation and I heard wonderful things from students about, as you know, we had a change in our food service and there was not that person to person experience of food personnel that they had had in the past. But one of those ladies had now been part of the Game Room and the Lounge and many, many students spoke eloquently about how happy they were to continue to see this person. So generationally and on a human level it is everything, it is the human connection, it is the validation of a young person modeling service, modeling all work has dignity.

So, finally, the Student Activities fee also supports the SOARS conference that was held recently. Thankfully, prior to this New York pause, young people receiving poise and confidence in presenting their research, reading papers, feeling that exchange with other professionals from their fields. It supports scholarships for international travel programs, snacks for the Start Session in the EOP Summer Program, Peer Advisor Program, the Student Emergency Fund which was just mentioned – extraordinary. I see in my own school, something as small as a flat tire, a bill that is hanging over a student's life, an unpaid bill – what it does to them academically, socially, emotionally, the Emergency Fund extraordinary. The Week of Welcome and Connections Week and a class gift at graduation and finally the Leadership Programs. So they have a club or organization for 100 Student Club Leaders. Again, priceless. The training and leadership we are involved in ECCEL, the Eleanor Roosevelt College Emerging Leaders Program at Hyde Park – students are exposed to some of the finest

speakers in the country. I Am A Leader is a College-based program focused on developing leadership skills.

So, in closing, I have been reading. I was a social worker for many years and mental health professionals are telling us we will be facing enormous depression and anxiety in increased numbers following our experience of this COVID-19 and of course the social isolation which has been a part of it. Grief that people experience and the inability to be close with those who have passed and their families – extraordinary human experiences that we have never known before and I am just so grateful, again, to all of these efforts. Something like the Center for Student Involvement – one more great thing to be very proud of at SUNY Orange. The human dimension is so alive and well in this school and I am honored to be a part of it. So, thank you. Any questions?

Chair Watson: We thank you, Trustee Murphy for that report. Does anyone have any questions? If not, we will move on to our next committee report. Trustee Weddell – Audit and Finance.

Trustee Weddell: Well, there is not much more I can report that we haven't already heard on the budget. We are working on the budget, which will be a full time project for everybody, I'm sure, in the next month as we get that ironed out as we figure out what the State and County are going to do and the effects of the COVID on our enrollment. So, we have got our work ahead of us – but we are working on it – so there is nothing more I can say. We've been working on it in the past and we are going to continue to work on it and we will get it in line so when we come to the main meeting we will have a budget to approve.

Chair Watson: Thank for you the report. Trustee Vacca? Anything from the Policy Committee?

Trustee Vacca: No, Mr. Chairman. In light of everything that was going on at the College – in and around the College in the past month or so, we opted not to have a meeting this month.

Chair Watson: Alright. That concludes our Committee Reports. Next area on the agenda is Comments from the Public. As Dr. Young said earlier we requested that a reservation be made so I believe we have one reservation from Michelle Tubbs – is she still with us?

Michelle Tubbs: I am.

Chair Watson: Hi Michelle.

Michelle Tubbs: Hi Trustee Watson, how are you?

Chair Watson: Doing well. Welcome.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michelle Tubbs: Thank you, so my request was to share my judicial FCCC report which I am going to do momentarily, but I would just like to make – from listening in on the meeting, so far – a few comments. So first, I just want to echo Kris’ sentiments and I want to wish Linda the best of luck as you start this new chapter in your life. Your contribution to SUNY Orange has been grand in your short time here. And you are going to be sorely missed. It was an honor personally, to work with you on the many occasions that I did and I thank you very much for all you have given to this college. You are certainly leaving us in a better place than when you came. So thank you for your service and all you have given us.

Secondly, I just want to comment on Sr. Peggy’s remarks regarding some advocacy she made at Mount Saint. Mary College. I’m sure Paul will echo my sentiments and be very happy to hear that SUNY Orange had a positive influence on increasing student participation in Shared Governance at Mount Saint Mary College. We are very proud of our Shared Governance and structure here at SUNY Orange and to hear that it had a positive influence, effect on another institution, especially locally, is very nice to hear.

OK, so with that just three major areas that I just want to speak to regarding feedback and information that I have been receiving as our Faculty Council of Community College delegate. Before I get to those three major areas, just one quick comment, we have been told regarding the Excelsior Scholarship that any student that has been directly affected by COVID-19 – the requirements of them regarding the Excelsior Scholarship which are mainly that they complete 30 credits within an academic year and that they are continuously enrolled. Our understanding is that those are going to be released for any students who have been affected by COVID-19 and that they were losing their Excelsior Scholarship will not be in jeopardy. So, that’s good news.

But the three areas that I have that have come up in different points already tonight. The first is the Budget. As you all know pretty much NYS passed a bare bones budget and as Linda mentioned, there is no increase in FTE and we were also unsuccessful in getting the floor back that we were able to have last year, and, I don’t know Kris, if you feel the same way, but I know Chancellor Johnson shared with us in a Zoom session last week that she felt that both the floor would have been kept and probably perhaps also we would have gotten an increase in FTE if COVID-19 had not hit. She felt advocacy was going well and that was really the major reason and I know Kris was really active in most of our local advocacy, so I am not sure if she shared the same sentiments but it was a big disappointment.

The estimated hit to SUNY is extensive but the projected loss for community colleges is \$18 million overall for our 30 community colleges based on current enrollment projections according to the Chancellor. I guess one bit of good news is that the community colleges' capital projects that were in the proposed budget – those are maintained. But community colleges took a big hit. The four-year institutions kinda made out a little bit better with respect to the budget, but community colleges did take a big hit.

My understanding from our session with Chancellor Johnson, is that at the SUNY level they are forming what's called a Budget Sprint Working Group which is going to have three areas of focus: scenario planning, acquisition of resources, and synergies and reducing expenditures. That working group at the SUNY system level is supposed to be reaching out and working with the budget leaders at the local campuses. So, we will see if that is something we receive outreach from. There has been no discussion or consideration at the system level for consolidation, mergers or closures at this time for any of our SUNY institutions.

Chancellor Johnson did share that she advised all of the system schools that there are to be no layoffs of faculty and staff and that there should be a hiring freeze for non-essential employees for at least 30 days and that they are practicing the same methods at the SUNY level.

There are system level efforts that are being made to try and help institutions maintain enrollment both with recruitment and retention and that we are hoping to some degree that perhaps the financial situations of families as a result of this may make SUNY institutions and in particular, community colleges, perhaps more attractive or an educational consideration for families that perhaps were not giving them consideration before. So we are hoping perhaps that there may be some sort of positive effect for us.

I do want to commend Dr. Hackman for the leadership and the efforts she has put forth on the academic side of the house and also for her efforts to include Shared Governance in some very expeditious processed and decisions that needed to be make regarding academic policy, by virtue of our academic policy manual. She really has the authority to make the decisions on her own but had requested and engaged the academic policy committee in assisting and guiding her in making these decisions.

So there has been some guidance presented and provided to the institutions from SUNY re: Pass/Fail grades and assessments, so just a quick – comments on both of these – there was a guidance memo that came out last week from the Provost that really indicated to institutions

that SUNY is making no recommendation to any institution about what they do regarding providing students with the option of Pass/Fail grades or perhaps going to Pass/Fail grades and they are leaving it up to each institution to make their own decisions and they are discouraging a kind of a blanket acceptance of Pass/Fail grades, meaning – changing all of their courses to Pass/Fail and/or any Pass/Fail considerations and especially if you are going to do it institutionally – they have to make sure they are consulting with Middle States, consulting with accreditors, they are consulting with any licensure examinations that the students would need to be sitting for and that kind of stuff. So, they are just encouraging institutions to make sure they do their homework and they give it a thorough consideration before making decisions. Also, to keep in mind that many students do need GPA impacting course grades for different reasons whether it is institutional graduation requirements or they are transferring or trying to be admitted into another program and they need a minimum GPA so Pass/Fail may take that away from students, so we have to be considerate of that, as well. I know our institution has made a decision regarding Pass/Fail and again that position I believe, was given thorough thought and consideration and involved Shared Governance participation.

The other thing that was an important aspect of that memo was that there was concern among, especially 2-year schools, that if a student was to change to a Pass/Fail grade or just change to a Pass grade, if that was for a general education course, if that course would then be accepted as satisfying the gen-ed category if it was transferred to a 4-year institution within the system. SUNY has gone back and said ‘Yes’ if a student earns a P grade in a gen-ed course that a 4-year or a state institution within the SUNY system must accept that course as satisfying a gen-ed category.

So, that was good news and regarding Assessment, the general guidance from SUNY is that we need to maintain a culture of assessment at our local institutions. We should not suspend all or as many as we feel, perhaps, or would want to, given the situation we are in – our assessment efforts. They recommend that you step back and take an assessment and do an inventory to determine what assessment efforts are practical and most essential at your institution that you would still perhaps practice during this Spring 2020 semester. There is an understanding that assessment efforts certainly may not be what you either planned for or what they have been and they won’t compare to perhaps what they were in the past, but they are advising you to assess to your best degree possible given the situation and they are strongly encouraging us to document, thoroughly document, what our efforts are, what our decisions are and our rationale for any decisions and actions that we decide.

And, then, lastly, this was again, mentioned by Gerianne, the SUNY system is recognizing the very huge increase in demand for mental health counseling and while most local institutions have increased their efforts, SUNY has also ramped up their tele-mental efforts, as well. So, that is what I have to share from the Faculty Council of Community Colleges. If there are any questions, I would be happy to entertain them.

Chair Watson: Trustees? There are no questions? We thank you for that report. We will move forward.

Michelle Tubbs: Thank you.

IX. BOARD DISCUSSION

Chair Watson: I would like to open up the Board Discussion Section. Any trustee like to make comments? If not, before we close, I would just like to say, COVID-19 hit us all as a major surprise but as we talk and as I listen to so many professionals talk about our institution, I have had discussions with Tom Weddell about enrollment, as part of our Enrollment Task Force, and I just get the feeling and I have the belief, that there is opportunity in this for our institution.

If we do what we need to do, in terms of positioning ourselves, that even in times like these, I believe we may turn out to get an increase in enrollment. As Michelle was saying, so many parents may look at SUNY Orange differently now – in light of the COVID situation – even myself thinking about my daughter being in Virginia as opposed to being at home and the ability to touch her – in the event that something would take place – I gotta believe that there’s an opportunity here and from a financial standpoint being at a 4-year institution right now, there was very little done in terms of reimbursement for a half semester and when you’re spending anywhere between \$30-\$50 thousand a year to have a student be on campus, the refund did not seem appropriate for half of a semester. So, I kind of think parents are going to be looking at having students at home differently.

We have to figure out how to position ourselves properly so that we can turn this negative situation into a positive one.

As I said earlier, we encourage all of the trustees to involve themselves in the Enrollment Task Force and Trustee Weddell, I don’t want to speak for you but I think you are thinking along the same lines that enrollment is going to be the key for us as we move forward.

Trustee Weddell: I agree.

Trustee Hannes: Well said, Fred, well said.

Chair Watson: Thank you. So if there is nothing else to come before this Board ... Dr. Young? Do you have anything else you would like to discuss before we close?

President Young: I thank all of the trustees. A lot of praise has been offered to my team this evening, and I thank you for that. Thank you for recognizing them – I know the hours they are keeping. I know the stress they are taking on and with the humor you have seen in them through the years with good grace. But thank you for recognizing the leadership they are giving and that extends to their teams and you hear it in Paul Basinski and Michelle Tubbs, you hear it in the faculty who spoke, it goes throughout the College so thank you.

For what is happening throughout the institution, let me reflect back at you, that your interest, your concern about what's going on at the College these weeks has been constant and you have found ways of letting me know that you are thinking about the College not from just a financial point of view but that you have been saying take care of yourself and make sure your team is getting sleep.

I have felt that as well so thank you. You all have your own families and your own businesses and your own lives, as well, that you have found time to think of the College, as well. We can do what we can do at the College if there is a supportive fiduciary behind us and so that is one less worry for us to have right now. So thank you to the Board for being there.

There is a long road ahead as you foreshadowed, but what's the saying? "We're at the end of the beginning maybe?" of this thing. There are going to be many different sorts of challenges ahead of us but we are off to a good start – the cohesiveness that we have as a team as a Board and administration, just this entire College – if anyone's gonna make it through – on behalf of our students and do it with integrity – it is this group.

So thank you for being there, Board, and we will keep working together. And that is all I gotta say about that, tonight.

Trustee Murphy: Thank you, Kris.

Trustee Hannes: So, you know that Flo has to add an affirmative to Sr. Peggy and to this. And so I will tell you, Dr. Young, in response to what you just said, Yes – I agree with all of it. We have our lives, we have our pain. I have lost 4 friends in the last 2 weeks and I have to tell you that what incredibly sustains me is what your VPs and this Board is doing to maintain a future for our community through SUNY and for that role, the minimal role I can play sitting in my kitchen on a Zoom, I thank you, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for adding meaning and purpose to these otherwise incredibly hard times.

President Young: Thank you.

Chair Watson: If there is nothing else to come before this body, the Chair will entertain a motion for adjournment (7:10 PM)

Trustee Martucci: So moved.

Trustee Vacca: Seconded.

Chair Watson: It has been moved and seconded. We won't take a roll call vote. All in favor?

Chorus: Aye.

Chair Watson: This meeting is adjourned. Everyone please stay safe.

Motion to Adjourn (Martucci/Vacca) at 7:10 PM

Recorded minutes were transcribed by Beverly Byrne
Reviewed by Carol Murray, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.
May 5, 2020