

**MINUTES OF THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
Wednesday, February 16, 2022
Great Room, Kaplan Hall, Newburgh Campus**

Present: R. Martucci, T. Weddell, F. Watson, M. Bruni, K. Pedicini

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Martucci called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM

Chair Martucci noted that there was not a quorum of trustees to conduct business so no votes would be held this evening. Consent Agenda and New Business items will move to March agenda.

II. REPORTS:

A. Special Student Presentation: (Harold Osmer and Nicole Conklin)

Dr. Young welcomed Mr. Osmer, Ms. Conklin and their advisor, Professor Nancy Boylan.

- Mr. Osmer introduced himself and gave an overview of his background as a Nursing Student, Marine Corp Veteran, Bat Cavern Tutor, Student Ambassador and president of the Student Veterans Club.
- Ms. Conklin introduced herself noting that she is a Nursing 4 student, a first-responder with a local ambulance corps and member of the Student Veteran's Club.
- Mr. Osmer noted:
 - There are 21 active members in the Veteran's Club and that they have invited first responders and dependents of deceased veterans to join their club.
 - Morale among students is low and general vibe is not what it was before COVID probably due to social distancing and not being able to interact like in the past.
 - Short term, he suggested that an event be led by the Veteran's Club to bring the College out of the pandemic and he titled it "Vet Day Pride Hike." This would be focused on increasing morale and he'd like flags to be carried and student clubs to join in a walk around campus and possibly the City of Middletown. He would like local news, press pics, videos and interviews with students.
 - Long term, Mr. Osmer feels that a cafeteria for students is important to have again and suggested the Sarah Wells Café be re-opened.

Trustee Weddell noted that he attended the ACCT, National Legislative summit recently and the statistics are alarming for mental health issues among students. He inquired as to whether students use the College's mental health services. Mr. Osmer felt that students are aware of the services offered.

VP Brusati noted that students do use the College's mental health services. The College's mental health counselor has been providing telehealth visits throughout the pandemic and is now also meeting in person with students. She expects the College will receive funding to partnership with Catholic Charities so that more counselors can be hired. The Student Senate has provided \$25,000 this year to support mental health and expand services.

Trustee Weddell noted that the College would support the event Mr. Osmer would like to plan. He suggested perhaps a BBQ on the Alumni Green, safety vehicle and support from Administration. He suggested that Mr. Osmer reach out to other clubs to gain support for the event. He agreed that communication about the event should be publicized in the community.

Student Trustee Pedicini noted that the Student Senate would be glad to help and as president she would discuss this with the group. In addition, she will discuss with the Business Club.

Trustee Bruni offered to be a liaison with the City of Middletown.

VP Brusati noted that the Student Shepard Center lower level was opened to students today and about 70 students were using the area.

B. President's Report (Dr. Kristine Young)

- The next formal Middle States update will be done in April.
 - Dr. Dena Whipple has accepted a position at Mercy College as Associate Provost. Christine Work and Dr. Michele Iannuzzi-Sucich will continue as co-chairs of the MSCHE Self-Study with support and guidance from Dr. Erika Hackman.
 - Evidence continues to be gathered and a good first draft should be ready by the end of March.
- Mask guidance is expected from SUNY by the end of next week. Dr. Young will review guidance with 5 different campus groups and seek recommendations as to when SUNY Orange should plan to un-mask.
- The College's Diversity Strategic Plan is near completion and should be rolled out by the end of this month.
- The College will observe Juneteenth on June 20, 2022.
- Commencement will take place on May 19 however 3 different ceremonies will be held: 9:30 AM for Health Professions, 2:00 PM for Business Math Science, and 5:30 for Liberal Arts. The ceremonies will be held outside on the Alumni Green. Details will be forthcoming.

Trustee Watson gave a report regarding the recent ACCT (Association of Community College Trustees) National Legislative Summit held in conjunction with AACC (American Association of Community Colleges) in Washington DC. He noted that he, Trustee Weddell and President Young attended the summit and the take-away was that leadership in Washington sees community colleges as an integral part of education.

- Workforce Development was a major thread throughout the summit and they heard from the Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Education, and first lady, Dr. Jill Biden.
- Breakout sessions were held with Senator Schumer, Senator Gillibrand and other politicians to allow community colleges to advocate.
- Trustee Watson, Trustee Weddell and President Young were impressed with the amount of attention given to community colleges and he will provide the "green sheet" given to attendees.
- The College plans to now advocate with our local representatives.
- The ACCT conference in September will be held in New York City and Trustee Watson suggests trustees consider attending.

C. Governance Report (Paul Basinski)

- The first hybrid College Assembly was held with approximately 25-30 people in-person and 165-170 on zoom.
- Mr. Basinski looks forward to fall and having a larger contingency of students and faculty on campus. Governance can help to lead that charge. He will assess this at the May meeting with members.
- The Assessment Advisory committee's recommendation on Institutional Learning Outcomes was endorsed by Assembly and will return to Executive Committee for dispensation and then to Dr. Young and Administration.
- The Enrollment Management task force had a good meeting recently and discussed the Lumina grant.
- Executive Committee members are participating this week in Advocacy meetings.

Trustee Weddell asked Mr. Basinski to let faculty know that he is disappointed with the lack of faculty and staff at board meetings to share their advice and information they'd like the board to know.

D. Student Trustee Report (Kira Pedicini)

- The Business Club had another successful speaker event with Bill Dauster, President of the Garnet Health Foundation. There were 25 participants, both zoom and in the classroom.
- Another seminar for “I am a Leader” was held with Professor Bob Mullin and he is an amazing teacher.
- Two new senators were elected to the Student Senate, making the total 6.
- Three new student clubs are being added; Volleyball Club, Sewing Club and a Vegan/Vegetarian Club. There is now a nice mix of clubs.
- Trustee Pedicini and two other student senators will be attending the Advocacy meetings.
- The election for senators for next year start on April 25, including for student trustee. Student Trustee Pedicini will be running again.

E. College Association Report (Paul Martland)

- There is a final signed sales agreement for the Hoffman Street property and the closing will be held in mid-May.
- The Auditors noted at the closing meeting that something they are asking all their clients to focus on this coming year is the issue of Cyber Security and Disaster Recovery Policies and Procedures. Glen Connolly will be first assessing where the Association is and addressing anything that needs to be done with regard to this.
- The Bookstore is more active than last year and working back to pre-COVID levels. Sales were \$1.3 Million, contributing \$188,000 to College Association. At the peak of COVID there was \$700,000 in revenue and \$96,000 in commission. We are projected to be somewhere in the \$850,000/\$900,000 range this year. Start up this spring went very well with book orders, due to good coordination between the bookstore and faculty so books were in on time for students.
- The College is looking to extend the contract with Follett for one or two years. Volume is down in Food Services with the micro-markets. Pepsi is looking for contractual relief but no proposal has been received yet. The Association may bring back the food trucks for spring.
- The Lab School continues to be highly affected by COVID and a tight labor market. The Lab School has therefore been forced to reduce hours. The Lab School is providing as much service as possible and hope the COVID situation will soon be better. The Labor market issues will be a continuing issue for a while.
- On a positive note, the Newburgh Lab School received a grant from SUNY to hire two student interns. The grant pays for almost all of the associated wages and costs.
- The sub groups, which will be looking at long term plans for the Association and how to remain viable as we move forward, has been delayed by Omicron in January but first meetings are upcoming.

G. College Foundation Report

- Report is provided as an addendum to these minutes as Dawn Ansbro was unable to attend.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Enrollment Task Force (Tom Weddell)

- VP Brusati and Mike Albright gave a comprehensive presentation on the work of the Enrollment Committee and Trustee Weddell noted that the task force work is very impressive.
 - VP Brusati reviewed the Lumina grant that SUNY has received for SEM (Strategic Enrollment Management) project. SUNY Orange will receive \$10,000 to support enrollment and retention.
 - The grant specifically targets the post-traditional 25-64 year old students and addresses the equity gaps in access and attainment of high-quality credentials.

- A meeting will be held with AACRAO Coaching and Consulting Service to offer internal support in creating/revising our SEM plan.
- The College's Strategic plan will be the guiding document driving the SEM and other initiatives such as SOE, CRM, Marketing, Title V, Workforce and Retention.
- The plan should be activated in September and effective for the fall semester.
- Mr. Albright reviewed the work being done in Communications with 23 Marketing group, a local firm that has been doing great work for the College.
- Mr. Albright noted that new digital radio and TV ads will be rolling out soon and he played a short clip for the board to review. The traditional campaigns will continue with engaging students through email, text, and CRM (Customer Relations Model.)
- Maynard Schmidt, Admissions Director, will funnel an outline of CRM package to Communications to determine how best to engage people.
- The College has seen an increase of 270 applications over last year, with a total of approximately 1570.
- There have been 19 instant admit dates with good traffic and high school counselors are helping a great deal to bring students to SUNY Orange.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: N/A due to lack of quorum

V. BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS:

- The new date for the June Board of Trustees Retreat is Tuesday, June 7.
- Advocacy visits started last week and will continue
- Congratulations to Dr. Young, who has been appointed as Co-Chair of the MHREDC (Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council.)

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic and Student Services Committee:

- Trustee Bruni noted that a meeting will be held next week.

Audit and Finance Committee:

- The committee met today and reviewed budget numbers. The College is right on target for projections. At the next board meeting the Auditors will report.

Policy Committee:

- Mr. Mike Albright reported that the board held a hybrid meeting today and Section 3 has been provided to trustees for review in preparation for a vote in March.
- Section 4 is now being reviewed and discussed and should be completed next month.
- All changes are being reviewed by legal counsel and the Policy Committee.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: N/A

VIII. BOARD DISCUSSION: N/A

IX. BOARD ADJOURNMENT: At 6:30 PM, a motion was made (Weddell/Watson) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Murray
Secretary to the Board