

**MINUTES OF THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Gilman Center, Library, Middletown Campus**

Present: Chair H. Ullrich, Vice-Chair M. Murphy, Secretary F. Watson, J. Wolfe, R. Krahulik, T. Hunter, G. Mokotoff, A. Reid

Absent: D. Benson

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Ullrich requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of regular minutes from February 18, 2015
- B. Approval of Petty Cash Reimbursements and Financial Statements for February 2015

A motion was made to accept consent agenda for approval.

Murphy/Krahulik
Unanimous

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (President Richards):

- A list of charges paid to SUNY every year for services the College receives was provided to trustees for review. One charge listed, \$9,900, is an indirect charge item, and the College is not permitted by Education law to pay indirect charges. A copy of the education law was also provided and President Richards noted that some of the College's sister colleges are paying this charge with reservations and some are not paying. The College is specifically not allowed to pay the \$9,900 charge because it is indirect and the College receives no services for this charge. President Richards strongly recommended to the board that they agree not to pay this charge.

A discussion ensued regarding the College's need to raise tuition and student fees, decrease departmental budgets and all without an increase in state funding.

A motion was made to decline to pay the assessment, first because the trustees believe it is improper and second because the finances of our own institution have required us to raise tuition, raise fees, and decrease departmental budgets, and does not, therefore, permit any further expenditure such as this.

Krahulik/Hunter
Unanimous

Trustee Krahulik requested that a letter be drafted by President Richards to explain why the trustees decided not to pay this charge. President Richards will draft a letter to SUNY.

- The P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) partnership with NFA may be expanded next year to either 100 or 150 students. This past fall, 50 NFA Freshman were enrolled in the technology program and in 4-6 years they will receive both their high school diploma and a degree from the College either in Networking or Cyber Security. President Richards contacted Stan Litow, President of the IBM Foundation, and asked about expanding our current partnership to all of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs and he was pleased to go forward with this. A meeting will be held in the next few weeks to discuss this further.
- Phi Theta Kappa USA Today All American Team awards were given to students, Dylan Wiand and Cassandra Stap, at the March awards ceremony in Albany.

- Student Chancellor Award recipients this year are Mariah Brock, Matthew Romano, and Shane Laden. They will receive their awards in April.
- President's Award for teaching excellence was awarded to Meg Atwood, Dental Hygiene Department and for professional service excellence to Christine Work, Institutional Planning Assessment and Research. These will be awarded at the March College Assembly.
- A partnership is in negotiation with Bellevue University in Nebraska. The partnership would be similar to the Franklin University agreement however Bellevue will provide a person from Bellevue University to be housed at the College and the partnership would be expanded to all consortium colleges as well. The MOU is in process.
- The Middle States monitoring report has been sent to MSCHE and a summary was provided to trustees. President Richards commended VP Moegenburg, Ms. Work, department chairs and faculty (including Heather Perfetti) for their diligent work in preparing the report. The MSCHE team will visit the College on March 31 and the exit briefing will be held on April 1st. The team will report back to the larger MSCHE committee and the commission will vote at the June meeting.
- President Richards will represent SUNY Orange at the inauguration of President Carson Daly of Mount Saint Mary College on Thursday, March 12th.
- The Assembly voted to increase the College's reimbursement rate by \$50

IV. **REPORT OF THE COLLEGE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM – Michelle Tubbs**

- On Feb 23rd, the College Assembly unanimously approved the letter presented to them as SUNY Orange's shared governance response to Governor Cuomo, regarding the community college comments, in his "State of the State" address. This letter was also unanimously endorsed by both the Middletown and Newburgh Student Senates. On Feb 24th, the letter was mailed to Governor Cuomo, and was copied to local senators/assembly members, SUNY Administration leaders, and Orange County Legislators. To date, supportive replies have been received from Assemblyman James Skoufis and Senator John Bonacic.
- At their last meeting, the College Assembly approved the creation of a new academic policy. The Official Academic Email Policy states that for degree and non-degree seeking students, the email account issued to them by the College will be used as the method of communication when administrative offices, academic departments and faculty need to communicate with students. This College Assembly approved academic policy has been sent to President Richards for review and approval.
- A total of 4 governance leaders: Governance President, Michelle Tubbs; Past Governance President and current FCCC Alternate Delegate, Diane Bliss; Executive Committee representative Josh Lavorgna; and Developmental Education Committee member and Social Committee Chair Tony Cruz will be attend the SUNY Voices Shared Governance Conference on March 20-21 in Syracuse, hosted by Onondaga Community College.
- Ms. Tubbs noted that she was proud to share that SUNY Orange was selected as the recipient of this year's SUNY Shared Governance Award. Each year, one campus is selected for this award. Campuses selected serve as exemplars of the best practices in shared governance. All State University of New York campuses may self-nominate for this award, including but not limited to doctoral degree granting institutions, university colleges, technology colleges, and community colleges. SUNY Orange will be recognized and presented with the award during lunch on Friday at the SUNY Voices Shared Governance Conference.

V. **REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE – Allison Reid**

- Middletown/Newburgh
 - **Student Senate**
 - The "I Am a Leader" program's final session will be held next month and will be presented by Dr. Richards on "Personal Accountability and Responsibility in Leadership".
 - 7 student's are on track to complete the year long program, and they will be recognized at the awards convocation in May.

- The SUNY Chancellors Award for Student Excellence winners were announced. All three nominations from SUNY Orange were selected: Matthew Romano, Shane Laden, Moriah Brock.
- **Board of Activities (BOA)**
 - Students from both campuses will be attending the March 2015 NACA Festival conference, March 13th-15th. There will be 3 students from Middletown attending, and 4 students from Newburgh.
 - NACA will be held at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania where students will participate in Leadership training, and scout potential entertainers and events for next year.
- **Presidential Search Process**
 - Trustee Reid personally thanked the board for allowing her to participate in the Presidential Search process. It was a great learning experience, and gave her a very unique insight into an important time in the life of the College.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS: N/A**

VII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Chair Ullrich noted that Student Trustee Reid brought to her attention that the Student Senate had requested an increase in the Student Activity fee for full-time students of \$10.00 per semester and \$6.50 for part-time students.

A motion was made to approve Student Activity Fee Increase of \$10.00 for full-time students and \$6.50 for part-time students.

Reid/Krahulik
Unanimous

VIII. **BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS:**

- The Spring Arts calendar was distributed to trustees.
- Sojourner Truth Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, March 13th
- The SOARS (SUNY Orange Achievements In Research and Scholarship) will be held on Saturday, March 14th.
- Board Biographies were distributed for trustees to review. Changes should be sent to Carol Murray.

IX. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Academic Programs and Services Committee:

Trustee Murphy gave the following report:

- Student Senate has provided an office space for veterans so that they have a place to meet and share experiences and educational pursuits. In addition, a Veterans Club newsletter is being distributed via e-mail and on the Grapevine. A job fair event for veterans will be held on May 2nd and a representative from Castle Point will be on-site occasionally to meet with veterans and assist them with any needs.
- The TRIO grant proposal, which is a federally funded program, will provide a 5 year grant for \$1.2 Million for first generation, low-income students to support their education.
- The effort by the academic area to adhere to the SUNY Seamless Transfer initiative was done very cooperatively and it will help students and parents navigate the system.
- The MSCHE Team will be here March 31st.

- A new Media Program “Digital Media” received approval from SUNY and the State Education Department.
- The new “Public Health” degree is close to being ready for submittal to SUNY for approval.
- The SOARs program will be held on Saturday, March 14th and there are 23 students presenting.
- The Academic Master Plan is in process with 6 areas of concern to be concentrated on.

Audit and Finance Committee:

Trustee Krahulik introduced auditors, Thomas Kennedy and Leslie Tillotson, from O’Connor Davies auditing firm and they reported as follows:

- Audited financial statements were reviewed extensively with the Audit and Finance Committee and the president.
- The College is a component unit of the county of Orange and the financial statements include the Foundation and the Association, which are component units of the College.
- The audit was concluded and an “unmodified” opinion was reported, noting the auditors’ “clean opinion” of the College
- There are no controversial policies and there are no unusual transactions identified.
- There were no difficulties were encountered during the audit related to the perform of the audit
- There were no disagreements with Management during the audit.
- There were no incorrect statements.
- There were no material weaknesses or insufficiencies.
- Two best practice comments were offered to Management

A motion was made to accept the auditors’ report for the year ended 2014

Krahulik/Mokotoff
Unanimous

Committee of the Whole Presentation: N/A

X. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: N/A

XI. BOARD DISCUSSION: N/A

XII. BOARD ADJOURNMENT: At 5:45 PM a motion was made (Wolfe/Mokotoff) to end the meeting and Chair Ullrich noted that the board would meet in executive session with President Richards and then with the Presidential Search Committee.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: An Executive Session was held at the conclusion of the board meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Murray
Secretary to the Board

**NEXT BOARD MEETING
(Joint Dinner Meeting with Foundation Board)
Wednesday, April 15, 2015
Great Room, Kaplan Hall
Newburgh Campus
5 PM**