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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham

Laidlaw 143

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

2:00 p.m.

- ➔ **CALL TO ORDER** Vice Chair John Pedlow officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the vice chair were trustees Wendy Bohlke, Jeff Fairchild, and Rebecca Johnson constituting a quorum. Chair Teresa Taylor was absent. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Steven Thomas, Vice President for Instruction; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Vice Chair Pedlow began with a land acknowledgment to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- ➔ Trustee Johnson moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke and the motion was approved.
- ➔ Vice Chair Pedlow announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- ➔ Consent Agenda
Minutes of March 13, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting and March 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Special Meeting.
Vice Chair Pedlow stated: “If there are no objections, items in the consent agenda will be adopted.” As there was no objection, these items were adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ➔ Vice Chair Pedlow called for public comment.
 - Erin Graham, Faculty, Psychology Full-time faculty and WCCFT Lead Negotiator, shared comments regarding negotiations.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATION

- ➔ **ASWCC Bylaws Updates – Bella Nguyen, ASWCC Vice President of Operations and Alaina Hirsch, ASWCC President**

A PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the proposed changes ASWCC Bylaws was shared.

Change highlights included:

- Addition of 2 new ASWCC Executive Board positions
- Addition of ASWCC Student Unions
- Removal of Programming and Diversity Board

The proposed bylaws will be presented to the Board for action at the May meeting.

- ➔ **Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs) – Kaatje Kraft, Geology Faculty, Lauren Maniatis, Biology Faculty**

Kraft and Maniatis shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of CUREs, including two videos of chemistry and biology classes with students sharing their experiences.

Highlights included:

- Received grant funding from National Science Foundation in 2020 - \$150,000 start-up and supplement funds of \$23,000.
- Currently offered in at least 12 disciplines including Business, Education & Law, English, Social Science, Science & Engineering, and Technology.
- Kenyon Noelke, WCC student, and Melaine McCoy, WCC Alumni, shared that being part of the research projects helped them see themselves as researchers and thanked faculty for their encouragement and mentorship.
- Authentic Learning Experiences for Students showcase is scheduled from June 5 – June 12 (student research poster session on June 12, 3-5 pm)

ACTION ITEMS

➤ **Proposed Board Resolution No. 2024-1 Donor Recognition/Naming of Potential Pickleball Facility at WCC**

Trustee Johnson moved to approve Board Resolution No. 2024-1. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke and the motion was approved.

➤ **Selection of presidential search firm**

Vice Chair Pedlow expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work with President Kathi before and during his time on the Board and his appreciation for her leadership and service to our college and the two-year system. He noted that one of the most important roles of the board is hiring of the president. The Board decided to hire a search firm to assist with the presidential search and asked Rafeeka Kloke to solicit quotes.

Trustee Fairchild moved to hire Gold Hill Associates. It was seconded by Trustee Johnson and the motion was approved.

Vice Chair Pedlow noted that Trustee Fairchild will chair the search and Rafeeka Kloke will serve as the search liaison.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Kathi shared that the State Board recently received CUREs funding for the system. She planned to share information about CUREs funding WCC has received and the impact of the program with the State Board.
- President Kathi congratulated Alaina Hirsch and Magaly Ramos, WCC students, who received the 2024 Student Civic Leadership Award presented by Washington Campus Coalition for the Public Good. This award recognizes civically engaged and passionate students dedicated to making a difference on their campuses and in their communities.
- President Kathi shared that WCC students, Devin Chen and Yekaterina (Katie) Dastaskay, have been selected for this year's All-Washington Academic Team, which honors students from across the state who exemplify success in the classroom and service in their communities. They will be recognized at the All Washington Academic Team Award Ceremony at the end of April.
- President Kathi thanked Tresha Dutton, Communication faculty, who was instrumental in working with rotary clubs to support our Orca Food Pantry. A total of 5 rotary clubs participated. Because of donations from the WCC Foundation and rotary clubs, the pantry was able to expand its operation hours and food distribution.
- The State Board sent a survey to all community and technical colleges to solicit feedback on legislative

priorities. Results of the survey noted the following priorities: Compensation, Student Support Services (mental health, childcare, housing etc), DEI funding, IT Cybersecurity support and Workforce programs. The State board has since sent out a second survey and President Kathi asked staff to share the second survey with board members for their feedback.

- ➔ President Kathi recently attended the AACC Conference, she shared two topics of great interest: AI's impact on students and faculty and staff, and student success strategies.

REPORTS

- ➔ Tresha Dutton – Co-president, WCCFT

Dutton shared her appreciation of President Kathi years of service to the College.

- ➔ Adam Beals – Acting Dean for Enrollment

Beals provided an enrollment report on behalf of Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President for Students Services. He shared that as of April 9, 2024:

- Total FTE was up 8% vs the same day of quarter in Spring 2023
- State FTE was up 8%
- Running Start FTE was up 21%

- ➔ Steven Thomas – Vice President for Instruction

Thomas informed the Board that the implementation date of tuition waiver for students in high school completion program has been changed to spring quarter instead of fall quarter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ➔ At 3:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed session of the Board for approximately thirty minutes as provided in RCW 42.31.110, to discuss collective bargaining...

Vice Chair Pedlow announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice Presidents Nate Langstraat, and Assistant Attorney General Juliana deHaan Rice.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 3:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



Chair of the Board

5/8/2024

Date



President and Secretary of the Board

5/8/2024

Date