

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Laidlaw Center Board Room**  
**Wednesday, June 10, 2009**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Barbara Rofkar officially called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Present were trustees Sue Cole, Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein and Tim Douglas. Others present were President Kathi Hiyane-Brown; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction; Patricia Onion, Vice President for Educational Services; Ray White, Vice President for Administrative Services; Linda Maier, Dean for Workforce Education; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Foundation and College Advancement; Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General; Bob Riesenber, WCCFT President; John O'Neill, WSFE Representative; David Burkett, ASWCC President, Danielle Way, ASWCC president elect; guests: student government officers Grace Jones, Lea Thompson, Nate Vandermay; faculty members Ed Harri, Bob Winters, Meg Delzell, and Barry Maxwell; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

Vice President Ron Leatherbarrow asked permission of the Board requesting an adjustment to the agenda to allow him to introduce the new division chairs to the Board at the beginning of the meeting, as faculty calendars were dependent upon teaching schedules. Permission was granted and the following faculty were introduced: Ed Harri (math/science); Bob Winters (Arts and Humanities); Barry Maxwell (Social Sciences and Business); and Meg Delzell (Health and Human Development). Vice President Leatherbarrow explained the faculty nominating and voting process to the Board and shared that he felt the faculty had chosen well and that this was "history in the making at Whatcom." The Board congratulated the new Division Chairs and extended their thanks to them for taking on this new challenge in addition to their teaching loads.

**STUDY  
SESSION**

➤ **Whatcom Community College – Operating Budget Overview**

Vice President White distributed a revised draft budget document and opened his presentation by sharing notable events for this budget cycle. He emphasized that enrollments continue to increase and that the College is able and willing to serve more students. Discussions ensued regarding the legislated Running Start fees which were adopted, and their possible effect on the program. Also discussed was the self-imposed continuation of the hiring freeze, with the caveat that if things improve, vacant positions can be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Some exceptions may be authorized by the President for student-related positions.

Vice President White clarified the revisions to the draft budget book, and answered questions from the Board.

**ACTION  
ITEMS**

- **TAB A – 2009-2010 WCC Operating Budget (1<sup>st</sup> Reading and possible Action)**  
Trustee Chuck moved to approve the 2009-2010 Operating Budget as presented and Trustee Steve Adelstein seconded the motion, and **the motion was passed unanimously.**

ASWCC President David Burkett was asked to introduce the ASWCC Proposed Operating Budget for 2009-2010. David Burkett asked permission of the Board to first introduce some of the newly elected Student Government leaders for 2009-2010. With permission granted, David introduced Danielle Way, incoming President, Lea Thompson, incoming Chair for Budget & Financing, and Nate Vandermay, incoming Chair of Programming and Diversity. The Board graciously welcomed these students to the meeting and thanked them for their commitment to the College and to student government.

Grace Jones, Executive Vice President and Chair of Budget Committee, together with Lea Thompson, presented the proposed ASWCC operating budget and answered the questions of the Board. Grace and Lea's

presentation also included an overview the students' reserve fund and proposed guidelines for its use as well as conservation measures. In this unprecedented operating budget, students stepped up to help support the institution by assuming several of the College's state-supported operating expenses in addition to their regular operating budget items. Typically, student fees are self-assessed fees used to support student activities and programs. The Board expressed their appreciation of the time and energy that the students put in to the budget process and extended their sincere thanks to the students for stepping up to assist the College. The Board also commended the student government for its sense of vision and its intention to preserve and protect the reserve funds by identifying guidelines for expenditures and savings.

**ACTION  
ITEMS  
(Continued)**

➤ **TAB B – 2009-2010 ASWCC Operating Budget (1<sup>st</sup> Reading and possible Action)**

Trustee Sue Cole moved to approve the 2009-2010 ASWCC Operating Budget as presented and Trustee Chuck Robinson seconded the motion, and **the motion was passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

➤ **Consent Agenda (Calendar)**

- a. Minutes of the June 10, 2009, Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)

Chair Rofkar stated: "If there are no objections, these items will be adopted." As there were no objections, **these items were adopted.**

**PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT**

- President Hiyane-Brown thanked outgoing student government leaders David Burkett and Grace Jones. The President shared that it was great to work with them on student leadership and that it had been a fantastic year. She is looking forward to the new leadership and working with the new council.
- The President reported that the College has received the final formal accreditation review report from Dr. Jeff Fox and NWCCU. She shared excerpts from the focused interim evaluation report and read the entire commendation that the College received. There were no recommendations. President Hiyane-Brown expressed her thanks again to the College community for their work in making this happen. A celebratory pizza party was held yesterday for the College community to mark this momentous event. Kathi said, "We are now putting the 2001 accreditation to bed and getting ready for the 2011 accreditation visit."
- President Hiyane-Brown was delighted to announce the names of the two faculty members who will be presented with the 2009 Puget Sound Faculty Excellence Awards during commencement. The full-time faculty award will be presented to math instructor Ed Harri, and Denise Ranney, adult basic education instructor, will receive the adjunct faculty award
- President Kathi shared that she has been conducting a College assessment of her own by attending various department and faculty meetings and soliciting points of pride and disappointments for the 2009-2010 academic year from the participants.
- The President spoke about the two-hour meeting she hosted yesterday with Jim Garrison, a Board Director for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). They discussed the SBCTC Mission Task Force, regional collaboration, ABE programs, and several other topics.
- President Hiyane-Brown has been appointed chair of the President's Commission HR committee and will be on the Executive Committee of WACTC. The Governor has also appointed the President to serve on the ABE Advisory Council. In addition, Vice President Ray White has been appointed chair of the Business Administrators Commission (BAC) for next year.
- President Hiyane-Brown expressed her appreciation of the time the trustees have invested by their attendance at various College events and activities--it means so much to the College community.

Several other events are coming up including the Honors and Awards Event, the Nurses Pinning Ceremony, and Commencement.

**REPORTS**

**ASWCC – David Burkett, President**

- President David shared that most of the ASWCC committee chairs have been selected.
- Yesterday's Orca Day was a great success with a large turnout, probably due to the wonderful weather. It was reported that over 1,000 burgers were served. Classes were not cancelled this year.
- At last week's council meeting, the proposal to establish an alumni association on campus was approved. Student government will be working with WCC Foundation to initiate the association.
- On behalf of the students, David expressed thanks to Mike Langey, who is retiring. "He has been the biggest part of making student leadership so great and we thank him for all the hard work he has put into the program" David said.

**REPORTS  
Continued**

**WCCFT – Bob Riesenber, President**

- WCCFT President Riesenber shared that the negotiated contract is just about ready to be voted upon by the faculty.
- President Riesenber also reported the names of the incoming elected officers to the Union: Charles Tompkins, President; Kim Reeves, Vice President; Darcie Donegan and Carol Wilkinson, Adjunct Co-Vice Presidents; Meg Delzell, Secretary; and Will Webber, Treasurer. The Chief Negotiator position will be appointed by the new Executive Committee when they convene in the fall.

**WFSE – John O'Neill, Representative**

- John O'Neill had nothing to add to his written report.

Corrected at 6/29-30  
BOT Retreat meeting

**TACTC – Trustees**

- ~~Steve Adelstein~~ **Tim Douglas** has accepted the TACTC appointment as chair of the Creating Opportunities Committee and will also be on the TACTC Executive Board.

**WCC Foundation and Public Communication – Anne Bowen and Sue Cole, Trustee Representative**

- Anne Bowen thanked the Board members who were able to attend one or both of the Foundation "Campus Conversations" events.
- Anne reiterated that the student government has given its support for the development of a Whatcom Community College alumni association and they will be moving forward together on this project.
- Board members were asked to save the date of August 20, which will be the Foundation's first on campus "annual event." The intention is to increase the visibility of the College in our community. Additional information will be forthcoming. Tim Douglas shared that the College received rave reviews from those attending the Cordata neighborhood picnic held on campus recently.

**Administrative Services – Ray White, Vice President**

- Vice President White reported that a second student was injured in the Kellogg Road crosswalk last week (the previous accident happened a year and a half ago). The student is recovering well.

**Educational Services – Trish Onion, Vice President**

- Vice President Onion reiterated that this is an intense time for staff as the year closes, with new students registering for summer and fall.

**Instruction Office – Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President**

- Vice President Leatherbarrow shared that this was his 45<sup>th</sup> year in higher education—and he has never had such a wonderful time as he has this past year. Notably, the reorganization which faculty made



happen; the outstanding accreditation review; the exceptional faculty exemplified by the award winners Ed and Denise whose nomination packets were incredible, as well as by the nominated division chairs and their outstanding interviews. Ron was also so impressed with the work of this year's student leaders. He is very happy at Whatcom!

**DISCUSSION/  
ITEMS OF  
THE BOARD**

- Board Chair Barbara Rofkar reported that the Board had completed their annual Presidential Evaluation, and she read a written statement that will be distributed to the campus community as well as those community members who were asked to participate in the survey (copy of the statement is attached to these minutes). Chair Rofkar said "We are really pleased with the results of the evaluation and congratulate Kathi."
- President Hiyane-Brown distributed a draft of "Board Policies-- Section III" for the Board to review. Discussions will be held at the next meeting in July, or at the Board Retreat.
- Elections for Board chair and vice chair were held. Nominated and selected by unanimous vote for Board Chair position for 2009-2010 Term was Trustee **Sue Cole**. Nominated and selected by unanimous vote for Board Vice Chair position for 2009-2010 Term was Trustee **Chuck Robinson**. Their terms are July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.
- Three venues for the June 29-30<sup>th</sup> Board Retreat were discussed. Final selection will be made by Board Chair Barbara Rofkar. It was noted that no state operating funds will be expended for this retreat.

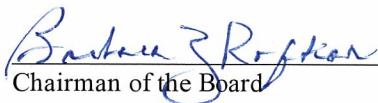
**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

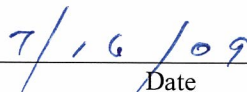
The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. for a five-minute break. The meeting reconvened into Executive Session at 4:06 p.m. to discuss personnel and potential litigation issues. Guests included Assistant Attorney General Lisa Wochos, President Hiyane-Brown, Vice President Ron Leatherbarrow, and Becky Rawlings, Human Resource Director.

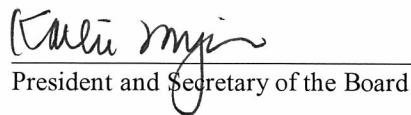
The Executive Session adjourned at 5:08 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 5:08 p.m.

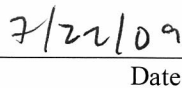
**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

  
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Chairman of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President and Secretary of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date