



## BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: December 8, 2022

Time: 10:15 AM

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Present:

Thomas Jennings, Chair  
Richard Balukas, Ed.D. via Zoom  
James Dancy  
Blake Eisenhart  
Frank Farry  
Jamie Fazzalore  
Elizabeth Fineburg  
Ronni Fuchs

Shamsul Huda  
William Maeglin  
Linda Mannherz  
Carol Mignoni-Ferguson via Zoom  
Carol Shelly via Zoom  
Philip Wursta  
Jeffrey Garton, Esq., Solicitor  
Felicia L. Ganther, J.D., Ph.D., President

Absent: Broadus Davis

Mr. Jennings called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM. He introduced Ms. Hadia Qazi, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Hadia is a second-year student majoring in Computer Science. She plans to transfer to a four-year school after the upcoming spring semester and hopes to eventually pursue a career in cyber law or bioinformatics. Hadia is the Newtown Liaison for the Student Government Association and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She is also a student worker in the Academic Success Center. Hadia said she is grateful for the great atmosphere at Bucks, and that her experience here has truly been a blessing.

Following the Roll Call, the Chair announced that, prior to the meeting, the Board met in Executive Session with Solicitor Garton and President Ganther to discuss various claims, potential litigation and contract issues. In addition, the Board received information from President Ganther on some prospective transactions.

**Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Dancy, the Board approved the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting.**

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Jennings reported that a nice reception was held recently for the search committee that brought us Dr. Ganther. He thanked Trustee Eisenhart for leading that effort. He also reported that there will be a meeting of the Governance Committee via Zoom on December 15 at 11:00 a.m. At this meeting, there will be discussion of the work product generated by Trustees Balukas, Eisenhart, Mannherz and Shelly on annual goals. Ultimately, the document will come back to the full board. Mr. Jennings also reported that there will not be a meeting on December 15 for the Audit, and that we are looking at December 20 for that meeting. He closed by noting

that another item which will be going to the Governance Committee at a later date is the review of the Administrative Handbook.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ganther reported that, on Tuesday, a holiday celebration was held on campus for faculty and staff. Our talented culinary students prepared and served a delicious Hawaiian-themed meal and desserts. We had an ugly holiday sweater competition, a photo booth and karaoke. A fun time was had by all!

She also reported that the Foundation will hold a Holiday Open House tomorrow evening between 5 to 8 p.m. in the Tyler Hall Music Room, followed by a sneak peek at The Craftery Holiday Market in Tyler Gardens. The Craftery Market is a modern and unique market experience with 60+ vendors, featuring carefully curated, artisan handmade items, antique and vintage finds, original art, and more (including some Bucks artisans). The Market is also open on Saturday, December 10 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dr. Ganther said she was truly excited that she, AVP Timby and Senior Director Kirn will attend a meeting at the White House as a result of their work on Operation Afghan Open Road in collaboration with the Taskforce Movement on Trucking.

She also reported that, after eight years in progressive leadership positions at Bucks, Dr. Dekia Smith recently accepted the Dean of Students position. She will provide leadership to Counseling and Career Services, The Early Learning Center, Accessibility Services, the KEYS program, Veteran Services, Basic Needs and other retention initiatives and will continue to manage many student success grants. Congratulations Dekia!

On January 9 we will welcome Brian Grudzinski, our new Coordinator of Veterans, Military and Returning Adults Support Services. This position is part of the grant we received through the County of Bucks/ARPA Funding. We are excited to begin this initiative and connect with our veteran students in a more meaningful way and explore way we can connect and extend educational opportunities to returning citizens.

Dr. Ganther reported that an Enrollment Task Force, led by Dr. Aubria Nance, is being developed and will begin regular meetings in January. The committee will monitor student enrollment, problem-solve, acknowledge accomplishments, set goals, innovate, and foster collaboration. The OneBucks Recruitment committee has also been established and will meet regularly to discuss recruitment calendars in all areas to foster collaboration and efficiency. They will also brainstorm ideas to enhance recruitment efforts. This committee will be led by Joyce Wheatley, Director of Admission.

As of the spring semester we will have five certificate programs that can be completed without any textbook costs: Entrepreneurship; Furniture and Cabinetmaking; Health Coach;

Management; and Meeting, Convention, and Event Planning. The total student savings from OER adoption in the 2021/2022 academic year was just over \$804,000, an increase of more than \$260,000 over the previous year. Many thanks to the increasing number of faculty trading in their commercial textbooks for OER.

Dr. Ganther reported that Awareness Campaign commercials were videotaped at the new CAT Building on November 7 & 21 to promote the Center for Advanced Technologies and our new Building and Construction Trades pre-apprenticeship program.

Dr. Ganther then noted that our Center for Workforce Development was one of a slate of presenters in a National Apprenticeship Week webinar on November 15. The webinar was a joint effort between Bucks and Montgomery Counties and educated employers, community partners, parents, and students on the benefits of apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships.

She then reported on a couple of graduations that recently took place. The CAT building hosted its first Metalwork graduation at the new training center on December 1, attended by Commissioners Marseglia and Harvie. Seven students graduated, and all have had multiple interviews. Six started employment in their new careers the week after graduation. Also, the Public Safety Department Graduation was held on December 7 in the Gymnasium of the Newtown Campus. There were 69 graduates, 54 Fire Fighter I and 15 Fire Fighter II.

Dr. Ganther said she attended a commissioner's meeting in Doylestown yesterday and Mr. Andy Warren presented us with \$10,000 for two scholarships each for the next five years for a male and female student each year who are enrolled in our public safety program. Also, yesterday evening, thanks to Senator Elect Frank Farry and the work he did with AT&T, we received \$20,000 for public safety scholarships. She thanked Senator Elect Farry for the work he has done to bring money to BCCC. She also thanked Christina McGinley for working with Mr. Warren on his scholarship donation.

Dr. Ganther closed by welcoming Ms. April Washington to Bucks County Community College. Ms. Washington will be working on major projects, prioritization of programs, how to develop and blend credit and non-credit, and the weekend college.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Phil Wursta,  
Chair

Mr. Jody Seutter, Interim AVP of Academic Affairs, presented an update on our high school and university partnerships. He reported that we recently signed an agreement with Centennial School District, the first of its kind in this county, for automatic admission for their high school students. We are also looking to do this with additional high schools in the county. He also reported that we have a new dual enrollment agreement with Reach Cyber Charter, and are in the process of reaching agreements with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cyber Charter School and PA Leadership Cyber Charter School.

Mr. Seutter reported that, along with Bucks County IU, we will co-host a summit tomorrow with county school districts, discussing automatic admission, cultivating better connections with school counselors and other staff, co-sponsoring parent nights and/or related programming with high schools, ensuring every school district in the county has access to dual enrollment, and developing college programming and career exploration opportunities for middle school students prior to dual enrollment.

Mr. Seutter also reported that, in fall 2021, we had 1,383 dual enrollment credits. In fall 2022, the strategic commitment target was 1,443 credits. He proudly announced that, in fall 2022 we reached 2,045 credits.

On University partnerships, Mr. Seutter reported that we have 68 articulation partnerships with colleges/universities, providing pathways for virtually every academic department/major at Bucks. We have a new agreement with Commonwealth University and are in the final stages of a dual admission agreement with West Chester University. We are also exploring opportunities to collaborate with four-year private liberal arts colleges in improving opportunities for transfer students.

#### FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – Bill Maeglin, Chair

Mr. Maeglin reported that the finance side is up and running with Workday, but we have some implementation issues on the student side. He reported that we are working with Workday on these issues and will keep everyone updated as to the outcome.

#### CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Maeglin, Finance Committee Chair & Mr. Phil Wursta, Academic Affairs & Workforce Development Committee Chair

The Chair announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda unless a Trustee requested that an item be removed for specific discussion and individual action. Metro Esports and Trash & Recycling Services Contracts were then removed from the Consent Agenda.

**Upon motion by Mr. Maeglin and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees approved the remaining Finance & Operations Committee items as set forth on the Consent Agenda:**

#### **Finance Committee:**

Other Contracts

- 2023 Copier Refresh for Various Campus Locations
- ITS – CRM Software Implementation

**Upon motion by Mr. Maeglin and second by Mr. Dancy, BCCC Trash & Recycling Services Contract with George Leck & Son, Inc. was approved. Mr. Jennings abstained from the vote.**

Discussion took place on Metro Esports. Mr. Eisenhart asked about the source of the investment. Dr. Ganther replied that it will come from offsets in the budget for the charges, and the initial set up charges will come from the capital budget.

**A motion was made by Mr. Maeglin and seconded by Mr. Dancy. A roll call vote was then taken and the motion was approved. The roll call vote was 13 in favor and 1 opposed (Trustee Mannherz).**

Mr. Seutter, AVP of Academic Affairs, presented the items on the Academic Affairs & Workforce Development Committee Consent Agenda. He said the new Theatre Arts Program is the result of an increased interest in performing arts, and that this is a reinvigorated and revised program designed for successful transfer to a four-year program. The new Occupational Therapy Program is due to an increase in job demands and is also transfer-based.

Mr. Seutter also presented on the proposed course fees increase. He said these are due to increases in inflation and other costs which are being passed on to high demand and high-cost courses. He said some of these haven't been revisited in over a decade.

**Upon motion by Ms. Fazzalore and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees approved the Academic Affairs & Workforce Development Committee items as set forth on the Consent Agenda:**

**Academic Affairs & Workforce Development Committee**

- New Program of Study – Theatre Arts
- New Program of Study – Occupational Therapy
- Proposed Course Fees Increase

**BOARD COMMENT**

Chair Jennings commented that there will be no regular board meeting in January. There will instead be a board review of goals on January 12 at 9:00 a.m. This will not be a public meeting.

Mr. Maeglin then publicly wished Dr. Ganther a happy birthday. He also commented on a conversation he was part of over the weekend. The conversation among local parents was in relation to where their kids were going to college. The value of Bucks County Community

College was discussed for general education courses and prerequisites for transfer. Mr. Maeglin said that, when the high schools visit tomorrow for the summit, be sure they understand that parents in their districts are talking about the value of sending their children to BCCC.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at the Newtown Campus on February 9, 2023, at 10:15 AM.

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William Maeglin, Secretary