



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Newtown Campus

Date: February 14, 2019

Time: 11 A.M.

PRESENT:

Elizabeth Fineburg, Presiding
David Breidinger
James Dancy
Blake Eisenhart
Frank Farry
Frank Fazzalore

Otto Grupp III
William Maeglin
Linda Mannherz
Garney Morris
Philip Wursta
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.
Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt

ABSENT: Carol Mignoni-Ferguson, Elizabeth Graver, Carol Shelly and Thomas Skiffington.

Ms. Fineburg called the meeting to order at 11 AM and announced that earlier in the day the Board of Trustees met in executive session to discuss real estate, labor relations and personnel matters.

Upon motion by Mr. Eisenhart, seconded by Mr. Wursta, the board approved the minutes of the January meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Fineburg remarked that she receives much positive feedback about the college, ranging from the appearance of the campus to the variety and quality of courses offered. Ms. Fineburg expressed her appreciation to the faculty and staff for the pride that they take in their work.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shanblatt announced that the campus-wide Student Research Conference, hosted by the Language & Literature Department, was recognized as a Bellwether Finalist at the Community College Futures Assembly in San Antonio, TX on February 4th. The conference was a finalist in the instructional category. The selection recognizes the college as offering a best practice program worthy of replication by others. The conference started ten years ago through the work of Professors Lois Gilmore and Jenn Diamond as a forum for Language & Literature students to present their research. Current conference coordinators, Professors Sarahlyn Bruck and Charlie

Groth, have expanded it to a semi-annual college-wide event. Sincere thanks and congratulations to all faculty members involved with the conference.

Other faculty in the news include Professor Kimberly Witham who was named the 2018 Clarence John Laughlin award recipient. The award was created by the New Orleans Photo Alliance to support the work of photographers using the medium as a means of creative expression. The 2018 juried award provides the honoree with a \$5,000 cash prize. Congratulations to Professor Witham on this outstanding achievement.

The President shared news regarding the many cultural events happening on campus.

- The first Bucks Brewfest 101, hosted by Isaac Newton Bar & Restaurant, was held on February 9 at the Links Pavilion and Gymnasium. Approximately 850 people enjoyed a sunny day on campus while raising \$10,000 for student scholarships.
- The Bucks Live! 2019 spring season kicked off with a sold out Keith Spencer performance. Tomorrow 25-year old vocalist Sierra Hull is coming to the Zlock Performing Arts Center featuring Americana, Bluegrass, and Roots music. She made her Grand Ole Opry debut at the age of 11.
- Bucks Live! is also introducing a free Cultural Streaming Series at the Newtown Campus. The series features recorded performances of leading classical artists, ensembles and orchestras shown on the large screen in the Zlock Performing Arts Center. Although admission is free and open to the public, online reservations are requested using the college website. Upcoming performances include *La Bohème* by Puccini, *Leonard Bernstein: Larger Than Life* and *Swan Lake* featuring Rudolf Nureyev.
- The Hicks exhibition “And this is how you are a citizen” received on-air video coverage by PBS channel 39. The exhibit looks at citizenship through the eyes of three female artists who focused on the stories of individuals including environmental activists, immigrants and artists. Congratulations to Associate Professor, Maria Dumlao, who curated the exhibit, and Director, Exhibitions, Fran Orlando for bringing this powerful message to the campus and the community.

President Shanblatt thanked Donna Wilkoski, Director Financial Aid, and members of her staff for hosting the annual Financial Aid Information Night on February 6 to help parents and students navigate the financial aid application process. The college provides the free forum where parents and students can learn how to complete federal forms such as the FAFSA. Jenny Salisbury, Director of the Bucks County Community College Foundation, also spoke about scholarship opportunities available, should a student choose Bucks.

In conclusion, the President congratulated Samantha Gross, Executive Assistant to the Provost, who was appointed to the Newtown Township Human Relations Commission as a non-voting member.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Carol Shelly, Chair

Trustee Frank Fazzalore chaired the meeting in Ms. Shelly's absence.

Prior to giving his report Vice President Tobi Bruhn presented a recognition award to trustee David Breidinger in honor of his service on the Foundation Board of Directors from 2011-2018.

Vice President Tobias Bruhn presented the annual report on Advancement initiatives. The Foundation Board and Alumni Council continue to attract new members with several additions to both groups. The Foundation received two industry awards in recognition of outstanding performance. With Tyler Gardens now established as a wedding venue, revenue and community recognition are expected to grow as a result.

Notable results within the division include 38% in grant funding, increase in cultural event attendance and revenue, 5.8% increase in endowment, \$300,000 distributed in scholarships and \$110,000 raised through special events.

Marketing and Public Relations staff continue their work in promoting and refreshing the brand and transitioning to a new marketing mix. Storytelling and targeted advertising have been coupled with use of digital marketing and social media to broaden the outreach and audience.

Next Susan Herring, Interim Executive Director, Workforce Development, updated the audience on training opportunities offered by the college. The department offers a variety of programs including customized training, industrial skills training, and in-school youth opportunities. This year the college received additional grant funding to expand the in-school youth program to several additional high schools and to kick-off a new offering for out-of-school youth. Also new for 2019 is the scheduling of metalwork training programs in Upper Bucks and industrial maintenance pre-apprenticeship training for 18-24 year old youths.

Federal, state and grant funding supports most workforce programming with federal funds flowing through the state to the Bucks County Workforce Development Board in many cases. Other funded programs include EARN (assist welfare recipients in overcoming barriers to employment), ABLE (GED/high school equivalency prep) and PA Career Link (employment location assistance). Ms. Herring introduced two key staff members, Eunice Rush-Day and Stephanie Wenger, and thanked them for their efforts.

Collaborating with the County of Bucks, the Bucks County Workforce Development Board and the business community the college is able to offer a wide variety of programming across the county. By integrating services to provide value to businesses and job seekers, addressing barriers to employment and expanding career pathways for youth, the college makes a major contribution to the economic development and well-being of the region.

CONSENT AGENDA – William D. Maeglin, Chair, Finance Committee

Upon motion by Mr. Maeglin and seconded by Mr. Fazzalore, the Board of Trustees approved the following consent agenda items as presented:

- **Bid Awards**
 - **Microsoft software agreement renewal to Scholarbuys, Inc. for \$80,268 per year for 3 years and a total of \$240,803.**
 - **Zlock Auditorium seating and flooring replacement to John G. Moser & Son, Inc. for \$119,000.**
- **Capital projects for fiscal year 2019-2020 in order to seek matching funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Education:**
 - **Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP) \$7,900,000**
 - **Fire alarms and security upgrades \$900,000**
 - **New roofs \$1,200,000**
- **New MRI certificate program in the Health Sciences department.**

BOARD COMMENTS

Representative Farry noted that Governor Wolf has proposed two new programs in the state budget. The first would provide address skills gaps through tuition grants to community college students who work in Pennsylvania after completing their study. Additionally, a tuition assistance program to provide funding to Pennsylvania National Guard members and families is being considered. While flat funding was proposed for community colleges, Mr. Farry and other members of the legislature will continue to lobby for additional resources.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on March 14, 2019 at 11 AM on the Epstein Campus at Lower Bucks.

Philip Wursta, Secretary