



## BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: October 13, 2022

Time: 10:15 AM

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Present:

Thomas Jennings, Chair  
Richard Balukas, Ed.D.  
Broadus Davis, Ed.D. via Zoom  
Blake Eisenhart  
Jamie Fazzalore  
Elizabeth Fineburg  
Ronni Fuchs via Zoom  
Shamsul Huda

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

Absent: James Dancy, Frank Farry

Mr. Jennings called the meeting to order at 10:18 AM. He introduced Ms. Roula Shaat, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roula is the President of the Muslim Student Association Club at Bucks, and this is her first semester as a full-time student. She is a Nursing major and aspires to further her education in the future by becoming a nurse practitioner and eventually a travel nurse.

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 matters of legal importance, litigation, investigations, and contracts. In addition, the Board received information from President Ganther.

**Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Eisenhart, the Board approved the minutes of the September 8, 2022 meeting.**

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Jennings reported that he assisted in arranging a meeting for Dr. Ganther and staff members with seven representatives of the Philadelphia Building Trades Council. The plan is to arrange subsequent meetings regarding training initiatives.

He also reported that communications were facilitated with a private company regarding CDL training and related opportunities at the college. He said we will hear more about this from AVP Timby later in the meeting. In addition, the college was invited by the White House Taskforce Movement CDL project management to attend a planning overview. He said these two opportunities will hopefully generate a lot of business for that program and this college for years to come.

Chair Jennings reported that he, along with trustees Shelly and Fuchs, began preliminary discussions with Provost Kelleway and AVP Timby regarding a legal clinic as an extension of the paralegal program.

He noted that, continuing the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, a very nice reception was held last night at the College with Latinx community leaders.

Chair Jennings closed by saying that he and a couple of other trustees are planning to attend the ACCT Leadership Congress in New York City later this month.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ganther reported on several exciting developments at the College. First, as mentioned by Chair Jennings, Associate Vice President Tracy Timby has been participating in the White House Task Force Movement for Veterans in Trucking. The College was asked to partner on providing CDL training for up to 30 relocated Afghans who assisted the US Military. All candidates are English-ready and have been vetted and given appropriate clearances.

The President said that last month she had a photo opportunity with Penn National Bank at the Center for Advanced Technologies at our Lower Bucks Campus. She said a report will be given later in the meeting from AVP Timby on the CAT building and the program offerings.

President Ganther noted that Bucks+ usage with our students continues to increase. New students have significantly engaged with the app, resulting in more engagement in college activities and events on campus. She was thrilled to announce that we have crossed the 50% threshold, which means that more than half of our students are now engaged with the app and finding out about all the great events, activities, and opportunities available to them on all campuses. The company that owns the app is doing a presentation on how BCCC utilized the program for our students.

Dr. Ganther reported that our social sciences division hosted a 9/11 Trip to New York City. Students reported this was a great experience.

On September 16 the college held another outdoor movie night. Over 100 students, friends, and family members gathered outside on a beautiful late summer evening to watch "Minions: The Rise of Gru" in the Quad at Newtown.

The President reported that nearly 30 students participated in the first session of the monthly Centurion Leadership Program. Students began to get to know each other through ice breaker activities, and discussed what it means to be a leader, characteristics of a leader, and short-term goal setting.

Professor Heather Costello took 18 students from the Business + Innovation department to a Phillies College Night. Students learned about sports-related business careers and networked with Phillies executives and front-office staff.

Dr. Ganther shared that the talents of Bucks students were recently showcased at the first Open Mic Night of the year. Last week each academic department also hosted small lunches for our new students in efforts to maintain connections, assist our new students with any mid semester questions, and foster camaraderie among faculty and students.

The President reported that our student organizations are up and running and ready for a great semester. Some clubs have already sponsored events, including a Blood Drive sponsored by the Nursing Club, a Rosh Hashanah activity and ice cream social sponsored by the Hillel Club, and a bake sale by the Psychology Club. She said we are also excited to welcome new organizations: Dance Club, Multicultural Club, DECA, Social Justice Club, Chess Club, and Freestyle Fellowship.

Dr. Ganther said Fall Fest will be held during the week of October 17<sup>th</sup> on all three campuses, as well as the Halloween Spooktacular at the Newtown Campus on October 27.

A new Assistant Director of Admissions, Amanda Kala was hired. Her efforts include working and expanding relationships with the community organizations and Bucks County High Schools.

Dr. Ganther reported that Career Services will be supported with a grant from PA CareerLink. The grant will fund one Project Liaison and four career navigators. This will expand career services to students.

In addition, the President reported that over 300 people came out to enjoy a fun afternoon at the inaugural Employee and Family Fall Harvest Festival last Saturday. Guests enjoyed some good food, live music, friendly competitions and relaxing with colleagues and their families.

Under Academic Affairs, Dr. Ganther reported the following:

- Our Practical Nurse Licensure Exam Pass rate is 100% for the 2022 graduating class (21 students). Congratulations to our faculty and students!
- For AD Nursing, our fourth quarter NCLEX results for the 2021-2022 testing year are also in. For the cohort that bravely began their nursing education in the early months of the COVID pandemic, our first-time test takers passed the test with an 89.83%! Congratulations to all faculty who contributed to this success!
- Over 100 girls are registered for STEM Girls Discovery Day on October 15. Discovery Day participants will do a variety of hands-on STEM activities with STEM faculty and other professionals.

- At Upper Bucks “The Political Power Hour: Broken Rocks, Shattered Nerves and the War Over the Point Pleasant Water Project,” was held on September 28. This was a two-sided panel retrospective regarding the controversial Point Pleasant Pumping Station project in 1980’s Bucks County.
- A Health Sciences Career Day will be held on October 21. Students from Palisades High, Pennridge High, Upper Bucks Tech and Quakertown will be at our Upper Bucks Campus to learn about the different career paths in Health Sciences from our faculty and staff.
- We held a Constitution Day Forum on September 15 on our Lower Bucks Campus. It was titled “Political Power Hour: State vs. Federal Authority with Regard to Reproductive Rights and Voting Procedures”.
- The 1st District Congressional Debate between Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick and challenger Ashley Ehasz will be held on October 25 at Lower Bucks.
- The College has a new partnership with the Credit Counseling Center at both UBC and LBC. They will provide credit score counseling and other services for our students and the community.
- The next Wordsmiths Reading Series event is scheduled for Friday, October 21, 2022 from 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM in Tyler 142 at the Newtown Campus.

Dr. Ganther shared that our Annual Institutional Update was recently submitted on time to Middle States, and that the Fall 2022 student survey has launched.

Dr. Ganther reported that, on October 1, we co-sponsored an HBCU Information Fair at the Lower Bucks Campus with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority of Bucks County. Topics included information on how Bucks graduates can transfer to an HBCU.

She also shared that the Philadelphia Business Journal announced Associate Vice President Kevin Antoine as one of its fifteen 2022 Veterans of Influence honorees. The award recognizes individuals who served in the U.S. Armed Forces before making their mark on Greater Philadelphia’s business community.

Dr. Ganther reported that the Celebrating Student Success Gala is on Saturday, November 5 at 6 p.m. in the event tent in Tyler Gardens. She encouraged all to purchase tickets, sponsorships, and tables.

There was no public comment at this time.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### STUDENT AFFAIRS & STUDENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE– Dr. Richard Balukas, Chair

Chris Seifurt, Student Engagement Coordinator, introduced this year's Student Government Association leaders: Lateefat Adewale, President; Paige Cederlund, Vice President; Mann Patel – Secretary; Myla Keller – Treasurer; Nice Berube – Director of Diversity & Inclusion; Hadia Qazi – Newtown Liaison; Juliana Winget – Director of Digital Advocacy & Historian.

Dr. Rodney Altemose, Interim AVP for Student Affairs, shared a report on Fall 2022 Enrollment & Retention. As of October 12, fall credit hours are 55,536, compared with 55,884 in fall 2021. The goal is to get back to the pre-pandemic fall 2019 number of 70,484. Dr. Altemose reported that we have a 7% increase in new students compared to fall 2021, which is due largely to an increase in dual enrollment and high school enrichment students. The preliminary fall 2022 retention rate compared to fall 2021 is +3%, which is also good news. Dr. Altemose shared data on the number of students who are using Bucks+, which has increased significantly. He said this is one of the best mechanisms to show that students are getting involved outside of the classroom. Dr. Altemose also shared the college's efforts through EdAmerica to recapture students lost during the pandemic. Dr. Ganther said the group will come back to the board in three to four months with an update.

#### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Phil Wursta, Chair

Ms. Tracy Timby, Interim AVP for Strategic Partnerships, presented an update on the Center for Advanced Technologies. She gave an overview of the facility, reporting that the building has been designed to be flexible to meet the changing needs of industry, with three large lab spaces with seminar rooms, one flex space, two computer labs/classrooms, a large conference/board room and offices for staff. She said the building houses industrial skills training programs and provides space for other workforce programming. Ms. Timby reported on existing training programs, inaugural programs, and some emerging programs, including Entrepreneurship, Construction Trades & Robotics and Automation. In addition, Ms. Timby reported on the Center for Workforce Development, including existing Associated Grant Programs, new programs such as ESL and Healthcare, Corporate College & Customized Training, and CDL programs.

#### CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Maeglin, Finance 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. There were no requests.

**Upon motion by Ms. Shelly and second by Ms. Mannherz, the Board of Trustees approved all items as set forth on the Consent Agenda:**

**Finance Committee:**

**Change Orders**

- Center for Advanced Technologies – HVAC Lab
- Center for Advanced Technologies – Grass/Turf “SOD” Building Site

BOARD COMMENT

There was no Board comment.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at the Upper Bucks Campus on November 10, 2022, at 10:15 AM.

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William Maeglin, Secretary