



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Virtual Meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vy0IripYuel&feature=youtu.be>

Date: December 10, 2020

Time: 11:30 AM

PRESENT:

David R. Breidinger, Presiding

Richard Balukas, Ed.D.

James Dancy

Broadus Davis, Ed.D.*

Blake Eisenhart

Frank Farry

Elizabeth Fineburg

Otto Grupp III

Shams Huda

Thomas Jennings

William Maeglin

Linda Mannherz

Carol Shelly

Philip Wursta

Jeffrey Garton, Esq

Stephanie Shanblatt

*left meeting prior to vote

Absent: Carol Mignoni-Ferguson

Trustee virtual attendance was confirmed by roll call.

Mr. Breidinger called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. He 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 Ms. Shelly, seconded by Dr. Davis, the board approved the minutes of the November 2020 meeting.

Mr. Breidinger announced that the opportunity for public comment was available through email at PublicComment@bucks.edu Comments will be shared at the end of the meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Breidinger remarked that there was a lot of activity going on, even though most are not on campus. He thanked everyone on the Workday team for their effort and dedication as we look forward to the launch early in January 2021. Upcoming is the groundbreaking ceremony for

Center for Advanced Technology in Bristol. Finally, Mr. Breidinger thanked the Foundation and their board members for the work that they do on behalf of our students and their families who are struggling with food insecurity.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shanblatt reported that the popular Student Research Conference has gone virtual. Hosted each semester by the Language & Literature Department in conjunction with the academic departments, the SRC is a college-wide event at which students present research papers and projects from their courses. The conference was held Friday, December 4th and featured presentations on a wide variety of topics during multiple sessions moderated by faculty and staff. Congratulations to Conference Coordinators Professors Charlie Groth and Sarahlyn Bruck for another successful conference.

The President shared that Bucks employees raised more than \$11,000 to support students with food assistance over the holidays. Thanks to the more than 200 colleagues who donated and to the volunteers worked on the drive. Students in need will apply for support via Student Services and/or faculty referral and will be given a gift card for groceries/essentials; students will also be connected with other college or community resources if needed.

President Shanblatt reported that to comply with Act 110 of 2018, all PA institutions of higher education were encouraged to develop and implement a plan to advise students and staff on mental health and suicide prevention resources available on and off campus. Institutions that meet the requirements are designated as certified and recognized according to the annual list published by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. College employees have completed the requirements and Bucks is now a Certified Suicide Prevention Institution of Higher Education. Thanks to Dr. Dekia Smith and the Counseling team for their work on this important project.

Good news comes from the Foundation that the college received a \$100,000 grant from the Windgate Charitable Foundation for the continued support of the Wood Program Coordinator Position for the Fine Woodworking Program. We are appreciative of the support of the Windgate Foundation.

The President thanked the family of the late Frank Fazzalore who have endowed a scholarship in the name of our former trustee and his wife. The *Frank J. Fazzalore and Mary A. Fazzalore Memorial Scholarship* will support first generation college students. Frank was first and foremost a strong student advocate and it is wonderful to see that he will be remembered in this way.

Dr. Shanblatt noted that finally, the culmination of months of hard work and long days will occur early in 2021 when the college launches the Human Resources and Finance modules of its new ERP system, Workday. Staff have been busy attending training sessions and the project team is

completing final system checks. We look forward to the launch and the new ease of doing business it will bring. Sincere thanks to the many members of the project team who made this possible.

In concluding the President thanked all college faculty and staff for their hard work and persistence during the semester. Those on campus labored successfully to keep everyone safe and faculty provided the required in-person instruction. Remote work was also challenging for faculty and staff alike, but all persisted. Please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your efforts. Our students are truly thankful for what you have done. Have a happy and safe holiday break.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Carol Shelly, Chair

Dr. Kelly Kelleway, Associate Provost reported on the methods being used to engage and support students remotely during this period of primarily off-campus instruction. All student support services are offered virtually; some examples are Advising, Counseling, Financial Aid and Tutoring. Support is also offered during communications offering kudos to students for achievements and persistence. Outreach to at-risk students has been increased through the efforts of College Success Coordinators using data supplied by RADAR.

The Bucks+ app was launched in late August to provide students a method of easily connecting to the type of activities normally available on campus. The app incentivizes students to attend virtual events which are linked to core competencies and co-curricular transcripts. Some examples include meditation, book clubs and eSports; there is something for everyone. The program has fostered collaboration across the across and between colleges in the area. To date more than 550 activities have been hosted and 1088 students have participated.

Forty student clubs and organizations remain active and are providing programming remotely. Some of their offerings include trivia night, bingo, live performances and open mike night. The combined impact of these efforts is substantial and reflected in improvement in progress grades, holding steady with course withdrawals, increased advising approvals and an overall benefit to student well-being and security during a stressful period for the college and the nation.

Student Government Association (SGA) Blake Churchill, President and Samantha Gillespie, Vice President provided an overview of SGA activities for the fall and plans for the spring. Following a September election, the officers have focused on supporting clubs and organizations as they continue to adapt to working remotely. Plans for the spring semester include:

- ❖ Enhance the Student Government Association social media footprint.
- ❖ Work with Student Life and Athletics on a student engagement plan for student organizations and the student body.
- ❖ Collaborate with Marketing/PR on a universal marketing plan for student organizations.

- ❖ Survey the student body on pain points they may be experiencing as remote learners and work with College on possible solutions.
- ❖ Assist College in marketing our support services that can help struggling students, especially for our remote learners.
- ❖ Encourage the Student Body to utilize Bucks+ for student engagement.
- ❖ Meet with Dr. Shanblatt monthly to discuss student concerns and ideas.

CONSENT AGENDA – Linda Mannherz, Finance Committee Chair

Mr. Breidinger announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda. Trustees were advised that if discussion were requested on any item, that item would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz and second by Ms. Fineburg, the Board of Trustees approved the following bid awards, contract and other items on the Consent Agenda:

- **Other contract award to Scantron Corporation for *Class Climate* course evaluation system for \$45,990.**
- **Accept the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 as prepared the independent auditors.**
- **New Culinary course fees and revised Nursing course fees as presented.**
- **Renewal of contract with YMCA of Bucks County for student/staff membership for the three-month period 1/15/2021 through 4/14/2021 for \$7,500 per month and a total of \$22,500.**
- **Naming Proposal for Center for Advanced Technologies from the Foundation Board.**

Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees approved, with Trustees Balukas, Eisenhart and Wursta abstaining, a bid award to CMG of Easton Inc. for Tyler Hall 3rd floor renovation for \$429,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Shanblatt reported that no public comment was received.

Attendees were entertained by a holiday song performed by the Madrigal Singers lead by Professor Shelly Reed.

BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Breidinger wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Joyous Kwanza and Happy Hanukah. With wishes that 2021 will be a better year for all, he looked forward to meeting in person again.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 P.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held virtually February 11, 2021 at 11:30 AM.

Carol Mignoni Ferguson, Secretary