



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: May 9, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM

Present:

Thomas Jennings, Chair
Richard Balukas, Ed.D., via Zoom
James Dancy
Broadus Davis, Ed.D. via Zoom
Blake Eisenhart
Jamie Fazzalore
Carol Mignoni Ferguson

Elizabeth Fineburg
Ronni Fuchs
Shamsul Huda
Linda Mannherz

Absent: Frank Farry, Carol Shelly, Phil Wursta

Mr. Jennings called the meeting to order at 10:17 A.M. He introduced Mr. Christian Huber who led the pledge of allegiance. He said Christian will be graduating from BCCC next week, where he will receive an Associates of Music (A.M.) degree. He is a singer-songwriter and an aspiring virtual music educator for people with disabilities, and he is a disability and mental health advocate.

Following the pledge of allegiance, Christian shared that he is thankful for the positive impact the College has had on his life. He shared some meaningful experiences he has had while attending Bucks and noted that everyone's journey in life is important. He encouraged attendees to remember to allow time to interact with people and that, while meetings may fade, the interactions you have with people will not. He said the Board and College's work is meaningful and transformational, and that he will miss everyone.

Dr. Kelleway then reported that Mr. Huber is the recipient of this year's President's Cup for his outstanding contributions to the College.

Following the Roll Call, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2024 board meeting.

Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz, seconded by Mr. Dancy, the Board approved the minutes of the April 11, 2024 meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Jennings reported that the Board met in Executive Session on April 18 for guidance on confidentiality and to receive a report from the Provost on the proposed state system. He said they also met in Executive Session before today's meeting to discuss a variety of legal and personnel issues.

He then reported on several events he recently attended with incoming President Dr. Jones. He said they met with the County Commissioners and their senior staff on April 10, attended the April Board meeting and Innovation Celebration on April 11, the Newtown Open House on April 13, the Student Art Exhibition on April 14, the Salute to Mothers Scholarship Tea on April 19, various meet and greets with employee group leadership, strategic planning co-chairs, cabinet, and students and employees from all three campuses on April 22, 26, and 29. They also attended the Girls Ignite event at the CAT on April 26. He said Dr. Jones met with over 1,000 people combined. Chair Jennings also noted that Dr. Jones intends to spend part of his time each week at all three campuses.

Chair Jennings also reported that he attended the recent Life in a Jar event, and the first Cultural Fest at the Newtown Campus. He said both were great events and well attended. He noted that upcoming events include the Employee Recognition awards, Firefighter Graduation, Nursing Pinning, and Commencement.

PROVOST'S REPORT

Dr. Kelleway reported the following:

The annual Student Awards Dinner and Celebration was held on Friday, April 26 in the Links Pavilion. One hundred twenty students and guests gathered to reflect on another year of growth and engagement. Awards were given to student organizations, leaders, and advisors, and the most engaged students of the year in Bucks+ were celebrated. Congratulations to the Psychology Club, which won Student Organization of the Year.

It was announced at the awards dinner that last year, we celebrated when we crossed the 10,000 mark for activity completions in Bucks+. This year, we had over 17,500 completions for the year. Our student engagement in Bucks Plus rose from 47% to 56% over the last 12 months. We are grateful for the hard work of our staff and faculty in creating these opportunities, and to our students for participating as we continue to build a culture of involvement here at Bucks.

Congratulations to the members of the Drama Club, who performed "A Night of One Acts" last week for three nights in Zlock. Audiences were entertained and impressed by the talents of our students. Our very own Julianne Theodoropulos wrote one of the one-acts that the students performed. Bravo to all involved.

The Centurion Leadership Program finished the semester with a three-day trip to Washington, D.C. Twenty-six students spent last weekend in our nation's capital to learn about how to lead, and the impact leaders can have on the college, our community, and the world around us. Students did a group service project at D.C. Central Kitchen, preparing hundreds of meals that will be distributed to people in need around the D.C. area. They also took a guided tour around

the Capitol – including a trip onto the Speaker of the House’s balcony – and then had time to visit museums and historical sites.

Thirty students attended a trip to the Phillies game on Monday night and watched the red-hot Phillies defeat the San Francisco Giants. The trip marked the last event of the year for the Student Life Office, and we are excited to begin plans for another great year ahead.

The Center for Workforce Development was awarded a \$400,000 Manufacturing Training to Careers grant through the PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development. This grant will fund 50 students in our Metalwork and Industrial Maintenance programs.

On April 26 the CAT partnered with the Philadelphia Building Trades to host its first Girls Ignite Trades event for over 50 Bristol Township middle school girls. These students got the chance to explore careers in firefighting, construction, welding and electrical. Some even got the chance to literally soar high in a fire truck bucket thanks to our Bristol Township Fire Department. It was an exciting and informative day for all.

Next week is filled with end of the year ceremonies. Fire School Graduation is on May 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM, the Associate Degree Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony is on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m., and Commencement is on Thursday, May 16 at 2:00 and 6:00 p.m. All three events will be held in the Newtown Campus Gymnasium.

On May 4th Art in the Park was held at the Upper Bucks Campus. This was our second time hosting the event, which brought an enormous number of local artists and performers to the campus.

On May 28th, Workforce Development will be holding their In School Youth Graduation for 47 students. This program assists students with the transition from high school to the workforce or college, and is designed to help participants overcome barriers, build confidence, and enhance the skills needed to enter and complete post-secondary education or to be successful in the workplace.

On April 23, the Marketing & PR office collaborated with Lang/Lit Professor Tony Rogers to host NBC Universal in producing a segment that will air on MSNBC’s Morning Joe program and News Now platforms in May. On-air personality Morgan Radford interviewed six of Professor Rogers’ journalism students to determine the strategies that Gen Z voters use to evaluate fake news and AI-generated misinformation. The students represented the College well in the process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE DEPARTMENT UPDATE – Ms. Nicole Tracey

Dean Tracey reported that Language and Literature department offers transfer degrees in English Literature, Journalism, General Studies, Global Studies/World Languages, Guided Studies. She said the department also offers a General Education Certificate, as well as American English as a Second Language, Reading, and Academic Success programs. Dean Tracy reported that her department comprises 16.2% of the total institutional enrolled credits, and that net income from the department this year is \$293,015. She also reported on the Summer Bridge Program, which is designed to ease and support students' transition to college by allowing them to get a head start on their academic coursework during a seven-week program. This program provides students with the academic skills and social resources needed to succeed in a college environment and is offered in collaboration with the STEM Department and the Academic Success Center. Dean Tracey shared the department's contests and events, including the Bucks County Poet Laureate Contest, the Bucks County Short Fiction Contest, High School Poet of the Year, Wordsmiths Reading Series, Student Research Conference and Tyler Literary Society. She also reported on the many department scholarships awarded to students.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – Ms. Fuchs & Mr. Christensen

Ms. Fuchs reported that the college audit is not yet complete. She said there is one outstanding issue which they hope to bring to a close soon.

FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – Mr. Eisenhart & Mr. Christensen

Mr. Eisenhart reported that the Committee did not meet in April but will meet on May 15. The main focus of that meeting will be the FY2025 budget and some programs that may enable the College to finance some energy improvements. The FY2025 budget is expected to be voted on at the June board meeting.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – Ms. Fineburg

Ms. Fineburg reported that the Committee met in person on May 1 on three major items; an amendment to the bylaws, which is on today's Consent Agenda, the Academic Integrity Policy revision, which is also on the Consent Agenda, and the proposed slate of officers for the 2024-2025 year. The slate will be voted on at the June board meeting. The Governance Committee presented to following slate of officers for the 2024-2025 academic year:

Chair	Thomas Jennings
Vice-Chair	Dr. Broadus Davis
Secretary	Elizabeth Fineburg
Asst. Secretary	Shams Huda
Executive Committee	Carol Mignoni-Ferguson

Ms. Fineburg reported that nominations from the floor are welcome at the June board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Jennings, Chair

The Chair announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda unless a Trustee requested an item be removed for specific discussion and individual action.

Upon motion by Ms. Fuchs, and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees approved all items as set forth on the Consent Agenda.

- CAT Virtual Reality Training Headsets – TRANSFRVR, Inc.
- Phone Systems Maintenance Agreement – Comstar
- Elevator Maintenance Contract – Thyssen Krupp Elevator Corporation
- Fire Alarm Maintenance and Service Contract – FAST
- Amendment to By-Laws, Article II, Section 7
- Academic Integrity Policy Revision – Policy 3.11

BOARD COMMENT

There was no board comment at this time.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at the Newtown Campus on June 13, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.

Elizabeth Fineburg, Secretary