Call to Order and Introductions
Chair Jayasri Ghosh called the meeting to order at 7:44 a.m. Board Chair Laurie Jinkins introduced Chad Wright, our new trustee, and there were self-introductions of the rest of the attendees.

Community Report: Tacoma School of the Arts
Jon Ketler, Co-Principal at Tacoma School of the Arts (SOTA), provided a background on SOTA which was started in 2000 and for which he received funds working with Tacoma Public Schools. Jon’s conception was to build a school that is integrated into and uses the assets of the community. Their goal is that the education they provide be very well rounded so the students are ultimately productive in colleges and in the community. Students come from all over (Puyallup, Olympia, Kitsap County, etc.). They accept students for their last three years of high school only.

- The four goals of SOTA are community, empathy, balance, and thinking.
- SOTA buildings are located downtown so they have access to museums and the performing arts. At the 21st & Pacific location they teach more calculus and physics than all five Tacoma high schools combined. SOTA has visual arts, science, and math classes and teaches in museums, UWT, the Broadway Center and Urban Grace Church. At their 11th & Broadway location they teach humanities, they have recording studios, and a facility on 19th & Tacoma Ave.
- While students are expected to take a wide variety of classes, most specialize in one department, or “discipline.” Programs offered include Visual Arts and Performing Arts.
- If a student is selected, they must build a portfolio and bring it to an audition.
- The population is 60% female. Ten percent are physically challenged and SOTA has developed transition programs for those students.
- SOTA currently has the highest WASL test scores in the South Sound and the highest graduation rate at around 96%-98%.
- SOTA will find internships and place 125 interns this year for three weeks in Tacoma and Seattle (from veterinarians to beauticians, based on student interest).
- Students work in orphanages in Asian countries and SOTA hopes to expand worldwide to expose students to what the world is like and to demonstrate that people are all more alike than they might realize.
They have a partnership with Metro Parks by managing and running Metro’s arts and parks programs where they teach classes for people of all ages in the community. They hold classes out at Pt. Defiance Zoo and hope to build permanent learning facilities there.

SOTA holds informational forums about their programs and how to apply. They currently have 450 students although nearly 700 actually apply. Grades are not a criteria.

TSA operates like a charter school without some of the advantages.

The Science and Math Institute (SAMI) is a fully accredited but separate (sister) school that began with 9th graders in Fall quarter 2009. It is located at Pt. Defiance Park.

There is an active parent participation. Once a month a potluck is held in a student’s home and they have between 12-15 parents who come and discuss issues/challenges with the students and to provide information to each other. Jon meets every other month with the parent leaders. They invite parents to come to school and attend classes. The doors are always open and SOTA wants to make the school “user friendly” for parents.

They have similar extracurricular opportunities as other schools (such as dances) with about 10% of their population participating.

Laurie Jinkins praised Jon and SOTA for what they are doing.

**TACID’s Mental Health Program**
This report was postponed to the March 2010 meeting.

**Student Achievement Initiative**
Mary Chikwinya provided a handout on the Student Achievement Initiative and shared a few highlights. It is a non-competitive statewide initiative that is focused on retention and success. It is a program that provides incentive funding for community and technical colleges to move students through the system.

Mary explained the bar chart which shows the measurements of success based on benchmarks (momentum points) established the first year. Momentum points help us focus on student accomplishments which significantly increase the potential for student success. In the last round, TCC had a combined increase of 22% across all momentum points which is a great a success. TCC focused on math and basic skills because those are areas that create barriers for students and make it more difficult for them to succeed in college.

TCC received $67,000 to add to our base budget, an amount that was among the highest of the colleges that received funding.

**President’s Council on Equity & Diversity (PCED)**
Dolores Haugen updated the Council on PCED. The first meeting of the year was held and one agenda item included discussing how we can infuse more multiculturalism into our web presence. Another discussion was held about emails that went out to the campus letting people know about the Pride and Allies Club and how to join. Unfortunately, some responses to those emails were inappropriate and harassing. The PCED considered and approved several suggestions on how we want to respond to situations like this and how we make this a teachable moment. It was also agreed that an all campus email would go out from President Transue reiterating our policy on providing a safe environment for all of our students, faculty, and staff and unequivocally stating that discrimination and harassment will not be tolerated.

Dolores reported that we are continuing our diversity film series and Jayasri suggested TCC create a blog for students to share their thoughts about the films.
**Student Activities**
Jennifer Manley gave a brief overview of student activities. This quarter they are putting an emphasis on community and team-building. Student Life held approximately 25 activities during fall quarter. Hispanic Heritage Day was successful with over 250 students in attendance. The Eagles Jump Native American group entertained students with Native American music. Student Life is working collaboratively with TACID to present performances and speakers. Next quarter they will include literary programs and films and will kick off the quarter with a financial management program. Club involvement is growing with far more clubs that we’ve had in the past. Orlando remarked that students want to get involved.

**Community Soundings**
Members shared upcoming events.

**Other**
Future Meetings:
- March 31, 2010
- June 2, 2010
- October 6, 2010
- December 8, 2010

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.