

**Tacoma Community College
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
October 2020 4:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting**

MINUTES

Board Members

Lois Bernstein
Pat Shuman
Bob Ryan
Liz Dunbar
Dona Ponepinto

Administration/Faculty/Staff/Guests

Attendee list is attached

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Bernstein called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

II. General Matters

A. Changes/Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Upon a motion by Trustee **Dunbar** and seconded by Trustee **Shuman**, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes from Special Board Meeting on September 9, 2020

MOTION: Upon a motion by Trustee **Ryan** and seconded by Trustee **Shuman**, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the September 9, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting on September 9, 2020

MOTION: Upon a motion by Trustee **Shuman** and seconded by Trustee **Dunbar**, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the September 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

D. Board Highlights

- Chair Bernstein shared that Trustees attended the ACCT Leadership Conference virtually and it was very successful. Trustee Dunbar shared that the awards ceremony and watching Latoya Reid win her award was definitely the highlight. Trustee Ponepinto also agreed that the awards ceremony was a highlight. Additional highlights included the opening keynote speaker and the last day keynote speaker. Trustee Ryan and Chair Bernstein shared that from information presented at the sessions, TCC is already doing many things that are leading the way across the nation.
- Trustee Shuman shared information about employment readiness and the emphasis on short-term learning opportunities that move people to be qualified for employment more quickly.
- Board highlights ended by honoring Trustee Dunbar's 10 years of service with a video created by TCC's media specialist Igor Beschieru.

E. New Employees

- Marissa Schlesinger introduced two new faculty: Jennifer Vaglianti, Health Information Management and Andrea Childers, Radiology
- Judy Loveless Morris introduced new OEDI employees: Lillian Ferraz, Accreditation Liaison and Strategic Planning Officer, Megan Watson, Professional Development Coordinator, and Julie Lancour, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Specialist

III. Presidents Report

- A.** Report attached to minutes.

IV. Strategic Priorities

A. Student Success: Retention

Kelley Sadler

- a. Kelley presented that retention numbers are staying steady and the difference is not statistically significant compared to previous data. Kelley showed that most of our historically underrepresented students are less likely to be retained. The data shown is across cohorts of students during a certain period of time and is not broken up among groups like “first time students”.
- b. Part-time student’s retention rates are much lower than full time.

Questions/Discussion

Dr. Harrell added that these two presentations really show how we need to move forward with Guided Pathways and the strategic plan, and supporting nontraditional aged students.
Chair Bernstein: shared that this great information

B. Vision 2025: Strategic Planning Yearly Document (SPYD) Amunoo Tembo & Lillian Ferraz

- a. Amunoo and Lillian shared the process and purpose of the Strategic Planning Yearly Document (SPYD) and its connection to the strategic plan.
- b. They shared several ways that the campus community can be involved in the assessment process, which will aid in our ongoing accreditation work.

C. EDI: Professional Development Week Update & The Work Going Forward Judy Loveless-Morris

- a. VP Loveless-Morris shared the different work the college is focusing in the effort to become an anti-racist organization. She shared the aspects of what is needed to be an antiracist organization emphasizing that it must be planned and intentional. VP Loveless-Morris provided information about the September Professional Development week, which had an anti-racism theme and the plan for continued professional development.

Questions/Comments

Trustee Shuman: Asked that Trustees be informed of important events happening on campus that Trustees should attend so they can be present.

Trustee Ryan: Please let the trustees know how they can directly support in this work.

D. FY20 Budget Update

Patty McCray-Roberts

- a. VP McCray-Roberts shared the FY20 actuals of the traditionally budgeted funds. The college will not need to use any money from reserves to balance the FY20 budget. From increase of investment revenue and Running Start as well as higher state appropriation, we were able to end the fiscal year better than projected.
- b. VP McCray-Roberts reviewed the many budget and finance process improvements that have taken place at the college. Gave an overview of the audit statuses. She also shared an overview of the new budget development tool and timeline of implementation.

Questions/Comments

Trustee Ponepinto: What are the specific uses of the CARE funds? – Patty: It really is not a restrictive fund and students can use it for anything that they may need. Ivan: Fund awards were either \$500 or \$1,000 and given directly to students to use, as they need.

Trustee Ryan: Commend VP McCray-Roberts on her work and her ability to present and provide information.

E. Community Relationships: Degrees of Change Student Voice Research Project Nalani Linder & Kelly Bay-Meyer

- a. The Student Voice Research Project was a partnership between Degrees of Change, Foundation for Tacoma Students, Tacoma Community College, and University. The research pursued the question “Why do students leave TCC and UWT prior to completing their degrees?” in an effort to support a deeper understanding and programmatic-decision-making for systems level change to increase completion rates.
- b. Nalani shared the strong relationships that TCC has across the community and the many ways TCC is working with various initiative. This research program is focused on collaborative effort to help inform at the local level to see the work that is being done and how to move forward to support the findings.
- c. Kelly’s presentation covered the seven themes that emerged from the research, which included College Fit, Financial and Basic Needs, Family Care and Life Events, Mental Health, Physical Health, Classroom Experience, and College Navigation. Several of the conclusions from the report focused on while college’s play a major role in the issues identified, many reasons go beyond what colleges can reasonably do to help. Additionally, advocacy efforts are needed on all levels to fix broader systemic failures and that collective community efforts are needed. Kelly finished by explaining that next steps include finalizing the report and executive summary along with planning how to disseminate the information to the community.

Questions/Comments

Chair Bernstein: Did you follow up with students who left if they sought support at their college in these areas? – Kelly: Some students were very aware of the services offered and appreciated the help they received but it was not enough, while some were unaware of the services.

Trustee Ponepinto: Were there any major differences from students at TCC and UWT? – Kelly: there were some differences within the themes among students but the themes still emerged on both campuses. The theme of “Sense of Belonging” came up more at the UWT campus.

Trustee Ryan: Was affordability and other financial constraints an issue across both campuses? – Kelly: We did see this on both campuses regarding understanding of the financial aid process and financial constraints.

Trustee Shuman: Where will this research go from here? – Nalani: Joint campus presentation or dialogue between the two campuses.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Temporary Reduction of Student Fees

Patty McCray-Roberts

MOTION: Upon motion by Trustee Ryan and seconded by Trustee Ponepinto, the Board unanimously approved the Temporary Reduction of Student Fees.

VI. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. South Africa Trip Presentation

James Newman

- a. Due to time constraints, this presentation will be on the November agenda.

B. Measures Necessary to Respond to COVID-19

Ivan Harrell

- a. Due to time constraints, this presentation will be on the November agenda.

VII. REPORTS – Provided written reports are attached

- A. Associated Students Report – Melissa Littleton**, ASTCC President
- B. Faculty Report—Dave Howard**, Faculty Union Representative
- C. Classified Staff Report - Angela Wheeler**, Classified Staff Representative
- D. Foundation Report – Tony Lindgren**, TCC Foundation Board
- E. Exempt Council – Natalie Boes**, Exempt Staff Representative

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT/REMARKS

- A. NONE**

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board adjourned into Executive Session at 6:21 p.m.

X. BOARD ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board adjourned from Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Bernstein: No decisions were made in Executive Session and there were no actions as a result of Executive Session.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Bernstein asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Upon a motion by Trustee Ryan and seconded by Trustee Ponepinto, the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Lois Bernstein, Chair