



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Newtown Campus
Tyler 142

Date: January 8, 2015
Time: 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

James Dancy, Presiding
Dr. Frederick Breitenfeld, Jr
Blake Eisenhart
Frank Fazzalore
Elizabeth Graver
Otto Grupp III

Frederick Gudknecht
William Maeglin
Garney Morris
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.
Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt

ABSENT: S. W. Calkins, Frank Farry, Carol Mignoni-Ferguson, Elizabeth Fineburg,
Carol Shelly, Thomas Skiffington

Mr. Dancy called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM and 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 Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Grupp, the minutes of the December meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report from the Chair.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shanblatt recognized STEM faculty member Caryn Babaian who was featured in the Courier last week for her innovative work using art in her biology instruction. Caryn believes that "everything is in the context of everything else" and expresses this in mandala-like drawings. Professor Babaian has been featured on the PBS web series "The Secret Life of Scientists & Engineers" and currently has an exhibit "Nature in Chalk" at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Congratulations to Caryn for her engaging use of art and the lasting impact made on our students.

The President also acknowledged the efforts of literature professor Michael Hennessey who has led a book discussion group on the Newtown Campus for the past ten years. The free, informal gatherings take place from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month during the academic year. Thanks to Michael for sharing his passion for literature with our greater community.

Dr. Shanblatt reminded the audience of the recent launch of the Bucks County Community College mobile app, now available for free at Google Play and the iTunes App Store. The app is designed to help students manage their academic life from their smart phone and allows them to: register for classes, view class schedule and grades, access campus information, news and events and receive important messages and notifications. Thanks to Brant Steen and the ITS web team for providing this convenience to our students.

In conclusion Dr. Shanblatt requested that Vice President Dennis Matthews introduce two staff members. Loren Herbert has been promoted to the position of Executive Director, Budget and Internal Audit and Tara Heinold has joined the staff as Benefits Analyst.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE - Thomas Skiffington, Chair

In Mr. Skiffington's absence, Ms. Graver chaired the meeting and introduced Vice President Barbara Yetman who presented a report on the recent cross-campus Access Mission Review. Key elements of the college access mission are responsiveness, college readiness, convenience and affordability.

For each of these Ms. Yetman reviewed actions which had been taken based on previous feedback and also discussed planned new initiatives. To improve responsiveness, steps will be taken to clearly define career pathways, offer accelerated programs and improve outreach to diverse student market segments. Actions planned to improve college readiness include integration of credit/non-credit options of remediation, continued development of accelerated options and moving to a more holistic assessment model.

Affordability will be addressed by realigning some scholarship funds and offering programs to improve student financial literacy. Convenience will be improved by some of the innovations already mentioned, along with further refinement of the college calendar and scheduling options.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – William D. Maeglin, Chair

Mr. Maeglin introduced Executive Director, BCCC Foundation, Tobi Bruhn, who provided an update on Foundation and Alumni Association activities. Mr. Bruhn reported that trends in community college fundraising include increased use of analytics and crowdfunding, along with internet and mobile applications. Alumni development is a major focus and community colleges are becoming more like their four year counterparts in organization and outreach efforts.

Recent highlights for the college Foundation include continued growth of both endowment and donor base. A major gift was secured which resulted in the naming of the auditorium and signature events raised in excess of \$100,000. Scholarships continue to be a major focus with more than \$200,000 awarded via the new online application system which made the process much more user friendly for students. Mr. Bruhn closed the presentation with a video clip, featuring a testimonial from a scholarship recipient, from the Women's Scholarship Tea.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – William D. Maeglin, Chair

There were no recommendations from the Finance Committee.

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on February 12 at 1:30 PM on the Newtown Campus.

Dr. Frederick Breitenfeld Jr., Secretary