



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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

Date: May 14, 2020

Time: Noon

PRESENT:

Elizabeth Fineburg, Presiding
David R. Breidinger
James Dancy
Broadus Davis, Ed.D.
Blake Eisenhart
Frank Farry,
Elizabeth Graver
Otto Grupp III

William Maeglin
Carol Mignoni-Ferguson
Linda Mannherz
Garney Morris
Thomas Skiffington
Philip Wursta
Jeffrey Garton, Esq
Stephanie Shanblatt

ABSENT: Carol Shelly

Trustee virtual attendance was confirmed by roll call.

Ms. Fineburg called the meeting to order at noon 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. Dancy, seconded by Mr. Breidinger, the board approved the minutes of the April meeting by roll call vote.

Ms. Fineburg 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

Ms. Fineburg remarked that the college has functioned well since the onset of the pandemic and said that it was a credit to our faculty and staff. She commended everyone at the college for their efforts during these difficult times.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shanblatt announced that outstanding students and student organizations were honored virtually during the annual Student Awards celebration. There was no lunch this year, but that didn't stop the students and staff from having fun. Among those honored were Lisa Watkins –

Outstanding Club Member, along with Mark McCune and Abigayle Reinecke – Outstanding Club Officers. The selection of Evan Brooks as the Student Speaker for Commencement was also announced. Thanks to Matt Cipriano for making this event a memorable one for our students.

The President remarked that it gave her great pleasure to recognize three of our outstanding faculty members.

- Biology Professor Kathi Knight was the recipient of the Lindback Award for outstanding teaching. Dr. Knight's work with students on both the Covered Bridge Trail Forest Restoration and Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Meadow Restoration projects demonstrated her worthiness for this award.
- Professor Kate D'Auria of the Social & Behavioral Science Department received the Inspirational Faculty Award which recognizes faculty who inspire and motivate colleagues to try a new approach to teaching as Kate did through her work in small learning communities.
- The Faculty Above & Beyond Award went to Professor Brenda Seibert, Business + Innovation Department, who performed significant service beyond classroom instruction to the college and/or department.

Congratulations to these three faculty members for their accomplishments and sincere thanks to them for sharing their time and talents.

Next President Shanblatt noted that while the campus is officially closed, some members of the campus community have continued on-campus work in essential roles. We share our appreciation for the Bucks essential workers including Custodial, Grounds, Plant, Mailroom, Security & Safety, Accounting, Payroll, Bookstore and IT staff members who are providing vital service to employees and students.

Dr. Shanblatt shared news that the Centurion student newspaper continued its winning streak at the Student Keystone Press Awards with nine wins at this year's competition, including wins in seven different categories and 4 first-place wins. The student newspaper also performed well in digital journalism categories and received two wins for video news stories. The Centurion has competed in the community college division since 2010 and has brought home more than 100 awards during that time. Thanks to Language & Literature faculty member Tony Rogers for his continued work with our talented students.

The President also congratulated the members of the Middle States teams for the excellent work they have done in completing the first phase of the work plan in preparation for our 2021 Middle States Accreditation visit. Special thanks to Jackie Burger, Learning Resources faculty, and Kelly Kelleway, Associate Provost, for their outstanding leadership of this effort.

In conclusion, the Dr. Shanblatt noted that the campus is looking forward to sharing a special evening with our graduates in celebrating our 54th commencement and their many achievements. County Commissioner Diane Marseglia will be joining us as our guest speaker. Please plan to join us on Thursday, May 28 at 6 PM as we present the virtual ceremony.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Graver, Governance Committee Chair, announced that the Committee was deferring its report until the June meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – William Maeglin, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

Ms. Fineburg 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. There were no requests to remove any items.

Upon motion by Mr. Maeglin and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees approved the following contracts and other items on the Consent Agenda:

- **Apple PC Lease Financing to Hewlett Packard Financial Services, Inc. for \$2,352 monthly for 36 months and a total of \$84,696.**
- **Network Firewall Maintenance Contract PhillyCom, Inc. for \$238,854.**
- **Online Biology Lab Simulator and Chemistry Lab Kits to Science Interactive Group for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.**
- **Online Proctoring Licenses to Proctor U for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.**
- **PC Lease Financing to Hewlett Packard Financial Services, Inc. for \$21,778 monthly for 36 months and a total of \$784,106.**
- **VMware Software License Consolidation to Software House International, Inc. for \$21,432 per year for a three year total of \$64,296.**
- **Memorandum of Agreement with Faculty Federation Regarding Addition of Professional Advisors to the Bargaining Unit.**

All trustees present voted in favor of the motion and votes were recorded by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were received during the meeting. President Shanblatt read the following public comment which was received after the April 9 meeting concluded.

Dear Board of Trustees:

I and my fellow music students have serious concerns that the music department is being stripped of crucial personnel vital to its continued existence based on below article appearing in the Centurion in February.

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Cutting these faculty members from the Music Department will effectively decimate the department: these faculty members' contributions are *integral to the complete program of study* that needs to be offered in order to attract musicians pursuing a career in music. Thus, any applicant perusing the internet for information about the viability of the music department will most certainly pass on BCCC once they read Ms. Angelo's pronouncements.

Additionally, it is my understanding that Stella Elkins Tyler was a strong supporter of the Arts and that her gift of the 200 acres for use as a Community College, contained specific language requiring that the arts be supported and maintained. If a particular subset of the arts is not as lucrative or "cost effective" as another, this should be of no moment; the presence of music, by its very existence, is furthering her artistic purpose.

The department is utilized not only by matriculated music students, but by many others who hear the music, adding unquantifiable enrichment to the college experience in just the way Ms. Tyler intended. The Provost is not considering the intangible benefit of the Music Department to the artistic ambiance of the college.

One only needs to spend a few moments on-line these days to see and hear how important music is to keeping our spirits up. Ms. Angelo's strict reliance on the "enrollment numbers" runs contrary to Ms. Tyler's expressed intent and her proposed cuts will ultimately cause the demise of the department altogether as the result of losing these crucial professors' contributions.

Susan B. Smith, Esquire

Ms. Fineburg acknowledged the comment and noted that the trustees would take the comment under advisement.

No public comments were received during this meeting.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:27 P.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on June 11 at noon.

Philip Wursta, Secretary