



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Newtown Campus

Date: December 13, 2018

Time: 11 A.M.

PRESENT:

Elizabeth Fineburg, Presiding
David Breidinger
James Dancy
Blake Eisenhart,
Frank Farry
Frank Fazzalore

Otto Grupp III
Garney Morris
Carol Shelly
Philip Wursta
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.
Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt

ABSENT: Carol Mignoni-Ferguson, William Maeglin, Linda Mannherz, Thomas Skiffington and Elizabeth Graver.

Ms. Fineburg called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM 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 Ms. Shelly, seconded by Mr. Eisenhart, the board approved the minutes of the November meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Elizabeth Fineburg presented commendations to the following members of the Newtown Township Police Department: Detective Corporal Daniel J. Bartle and Detective Joseph R. Camp. In recognizing the officers, Ms Fineburg noted that the college has been fortunate to maintain an excellent working relationship with the Newtown Township Police Department. The strong support of the Newtown Police was never more evident than during the September event that threatened the safety and security of the campus. These commendations today express the sincere appreciation of the college to the detectives who worked diligently to resolve multiple issues and allow the safe resumption of classes. The Board of Trustees and the audience joined in congratulating the officers on a job well done.

President Shanblatt recognized the presence of Interim Police Chief Jason Harris, Interim Township Manager Micah Lewis and others members of the police department. Dr. Shanblatt extended her thanks, on behalf of the entire college community, to all in the township who

maintain a strong working relationship with college staff while providing assistance and support to the college

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Shanblatt shared good news regarding our students in several departments:

- Associate Degree Nursing program May 2018 graduates achieved a 93.3% first-time test takers pass rate on the nursing licensure exam. Our students earned higher scores than seven other local AD or BSN programs and came in above both the state and the national average. Congratulations to our students and our nursing faculty on this outstanding performance.
- Bucks piano student, Laurel Strickland, competed in the National Crescendo Piano Competition and was chosen as one of the winners. Laurel, a music scholarship recipient, will perform in a recital at Carnegie Hall in February. Kudos to Laurel on her winning performance and many thanks to our music faculty for the outstanding work they do with our student musicians and vocalists.
- Last night the college graduated 38 local firefighters who completed national certification training programs at our Public Safety Training Center. Thanks to our public safety staff instructors who continue to do a great job in preparing firefighters to serve in the county, the state and around the world. Trustee Frank Farry noted that after two years of study the state has released a comprehensive report that focused on the crisis state of volunteer firefighting and EMS staffing in the commonwealth. Volunteer firefighters have decreased from a level of 300,000 to approximately 38,000. The report contains twenty-seven recommendations to alleviate the problem, one of which is to restore community college funding for public safety training. The college currently provides the majority of fire training offered in the state.
- The 21st Student Research Conference held on November 30 featured hundreds of students presenting their topical research to faculty, staff and peers. Thanks to Professor Charlie Groth for offering to our students this wonderful opportunity for academic and professional growth.
- On December 4, our culinary students, led by faculty Chefs Earl Arrowood and John Angeline, prepared a holiday feast for faculty and staff. Hundreds of partygoers enjoyed the sumptuous buffet featuring Southern cuisine and beautiful, elegant desserts. This annual holiday tradition once again delighted the attendees. Thanks to all who worked on this event.

Dr. Shanblatt reported on the success of the student food insecurity initiative in raising a record \$15,000 on Giving Tuesday thanks to the generosity of the campus, alumni and community partners. The annual college food drive also raised \$3,745 bringing the total contributions to reduce student food insecurity to \$18,745. College employees donated the equivalent of \$4,402

in food and contributions to our community partner BCOC. We are grateful to all who participated in these efforts to assist our students and neighbors in Bucks County.

The President highlighted the success of the recent “Darkness to Light” child sexual abuse prevention training on campus. One hundred sixty-eight students, faculty, and staff participated in the offering and significantly increased the number of individuals on campus who know how to recognize, prevent, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Social & Behavioral Science faculty member Marianne Kepler was instrumental in bringing this training program, provided by NOVA (Network of Victim Assistance), to campus.

Next Vice President Jason Mayland recounted his visit to Sino Community College in Liberia while he was in Africa on a recruiting trip. Mr. Mayland visited the campus and toured the library that was established through the work of the foundation *Education Transforms Lives*, started by Clovis Dixon, a Bucks IT staff member. Clovis was a native of Liberia and began his work to improve the lives and educational opportunities of his fellow Liberians in December 2016. Since then, in addition to starting the first library in the country, he has worked to eradicate poverty through education both on the individual and institutional level. Teaming with a group of onsite volunteers, Clovis has done miraculous work in a short time. Employees of the college assisted the project by donating books and other materials. Clovis looks forward to continuing his work with the support of generous individuals.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Carol Shelly, Chair

Student Government Association (SGA) officers Brian Deley and Shanzeh Kahn presented a report on recent activities. A major change this year was the realignment of the SGA organizational structure that provided for enhanced checks and balances, fostered better representation of student constituents and added more officers to increase outreach and feedback. Promotional efforts included introducing a monthly newsletter, increasing social media presence and improving the professional image of the organization. Initiatives the group is working on are improving handicap access to specific areas on campus, advancing the use of OERs and encouraging students to vote.

Members of SGA were active in many events on campus including the 911 Memorial ceremony, the Arts and Cultural Council day on campus and several Foundation sponsored activities. Community involvement focused on attending county and township meetings along with providing service through fundraising for the Race for Resources, YWCA and United Way of

Bucks County. Goals for the spring semester focus on increasing student involvement with SGA and with student government elections, as well as attending Lobby Day in Harrisburg to represent the interests of community college students.

Next Dr. Kelly Kelleway, Associate Provost, reported on the variety of services provided to assist students. Faculty counselors meet with students when personal issues interfere with their academic work and also intervene with students identified as academically at risk. The Accessibility Office ensures that students with documented disabilities receive appropriate accommodations and in doing so serves several hundred students each semester.

The KEYS grant, funded by the state, offers services and supports necessary to assist eligible students in attaining employment and self-sufficiency. Students receive help in identifying career paths and seeking employment from the Center for Student Employment and Career Development. All forms of advising are provided by the Advising and Transfer Center, while the Academic Success Center offers tutoring and peer mentoring. Finally, the staff of the Library and Bucks Online offer services which assist students both in person and virtually.

CONSENT AGENDA – William D. Maeglin, Chair, Finance Committee

Mr. Wursta chaired the meeting in Mr. Maeglin's absence. Mr. Breidinger was not present for the vote.

Upon motion by Mr. Wursta and second by Mr. Morris, the Board of Trustees approved the following consent agenda items as presented:

- **Other Contract Award**
 - **Auditorium seating replacement to Irwin Seating Company, Inc., as sole source, for \$145,490.**
 - **Email security defense software to Integra One, Inc., using COSTARS, for \$49,900 for one year.**
- **Annual Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2018 as presented by Baker Tilly, LLC.**

BOARD COMMENTS

There were no board comments.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on January 10, 2019 at 11 AM on the Newtown Campus.

Philip Wursta, Secretary