



## BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Newtown Campus

Date: January 12, 2017

Time: 11 A.M.

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#### PRESENT:

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

Carol Mignoni-Ferguson  
William Maeglin  
Garney Morris  
Carol Shelly.  
Philip Wursta  
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.  
Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt

ABSENT: Frank Farry and Frederick Gudknecht

Mr. Skiffington called the meeting to order at 11:00 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. Grupp, the minutes of the December meeting were approved.

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Skiffington greeted everyone and expressed his hope for a productive and successful new year.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shanblatt welcomed everyone back to campus as we prepare for the start of spring semester 2017. Registration is currently open for classes beginning on Wednesday, January 18 with learning opportunities available on all of our campuses and online. Whether the goal is to transfer to a four year school, upgrade job skills, or train for a new career, the college has the outstanding faculty and diverse program offerings to help students succeed.

The President remarked that we are especially excited for the start of the new semester as today at 12:30 PM marks the ribbon-cutting and Grand Opening celebration for our new state of the art Science Center. We are thrilled to be able to offer this outstanding STEM learning environment to the residents of the county and are deeply thankful to all who made it possible.

President Shanblatt acknowledged the efforts of the Foundation and our generous donors for making it possible to award nine new scholarships this spring totaling nearly \$18,000 to support our students' pursuit of their educational goals.

Dr. Shanblatt reminded everyone that spring 2017 ushers in a new semester of exciting entertainment and cultural programming coordinated through the efforts of our Cultural Programming Committee. The complete *Bucks Live!* Spring 2017 schedule is available on the college website with full information regarding events scheduled in the coming months.

In conclusion, the President shared that the basketball season is in full swing and the Alumni Association is providing a great opportunity to see both the men's and women's teams in action at their Indoor Basketball Tailgate scheduled for Saturday, January 21 in the Linksz Pavilion from 12-3 PM.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Dr. Frederick Breitenfeld, Chair

Interim Provost Lisa Angelo reported on the nature of sabbaticals and the process in place for their consideration and approval. Ms. Angelo described the work completed during 2015-2016 sabbaticals that included the following: creation of an online teaching resource, work on Psychology honors syllabus and OER textbook alternatives, development of a new self-exploration tool and work on numerous scholarly projects and presentations. Ms. Angelo concluded her presentation by reviewing the sabbaticals requested for approval, as described below.

**Upon motion by Dr. Breitenfeld and second by Ms. Fineburg, the Board of Trustees approved the following faculty sabbaticals for the 2017-2018 academic year.**

##### **Half-Year Leaves:**

**Professor Kate D'Auria (Fall 2017)**

**Professor Linda Lynch-McKenna (Fall 2017)**

**Professor Julie Piotrowicz (Fall 2017)**

**Professor Arlene Toro (Spring 2018)**

**Full-Year Leaves:**

**Professor Claire Keane (2017 – 2018)**

**Professor Linda Rehfuss (2017 – 2018)**

**Professor Wendy Tumminello (2017 – 2018)**

Next, Vice President Barbara Yetman presented a report on the Student Success Mission Review which reinforced that a major focus of the college mission is to enable students to achieve their goals and to support their progress toward their next educational or career steps. The college metrics in retention, persistence and transfer are strong when compared to benchmarks indicating that the efforts of staff and faculty have resulted in meaningful steps toward supporting students.

In the area of college readiness we have adopted a holistic approach to evaluating placement test scores, provided avenues to accelerate through developmental education courses and adopted alternative assessments such as GPA, SAT and measures of grit. Additionally, we have bolstered our efforts to provide more intrusive advising for entering and returning students to ensure that course selection is timely and appropriate. The introduction of a mandatory college orientation course and revision of the General Education curriculum has assisted in establishing clearer academic pathways. Outreach to students was increased to encourage both completion of the associate degree before transfer and consideration of enhanced internship opportunities. These examples and the accompanying statistical analysis indicate that efforts to promote student success are beginning to bear fruit and advance the goals identified in the strategic plan.

Future action plans include introducing a general studies major, sharing syllabus and textbook information immediately upon registration and offering summer fast-track courses to enable students to complete developmental courses before the fall semester. Deeper dives into retention and engagement data will also provide needed direction to reduce fall to spring attrition and create meaningful student outreach to reverse the negative trend.

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

Mr. Skiffington announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda. Trustees were advised that if discussion was requested on any item, that item would be removed from the Consent Agenda. There were no requests to remove items from the agenda.

**Upon motion by Mr. Maeglin and second by Mr. Morris, the Board of Trustees approved the following Consent Agenda items as presented:**

- **Other Contract Award**
  - **Mail processing and package tracking equipment lease to Main Finance, Inc. for \$1,996.15 per month for 60 months for a total of \$119,769.**

Board of Trustees

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BOARD COMMENTS

There were no board comments.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on February 9, 2017 at 11 AM on the Newtown Campus.

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Elizabeth W. Fineburg, Secretary