



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tyler Hall 142

Date: February 10, 2005

Time: 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Frederick R. Gudknecht, Presiding
Dr. Frederick Breitenfeld, Jr.
Frank J. Fazzalore
Carol Mignoni Ferguson
Elizabeth Fineburg
Dr. Ruth E. Frank
Elizabeth A. Graver

Otto Grupp III
Madeline Kemper
John E. Long, Jr.
Garney Morris
Dr. James J. Links
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.

ABSENT: S. W. Calkins, James F. Cawley, Esq., Blake H. Eisenhart, Dr. Larry Newman

The meeting was called to order at 1:50 p.m. by Mr. Gudknecht followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gudknecht announced that earlier in the day the Board of Trustees met in executive session to discuss personnel, labor relations, and real estate matters.

Upon motion by Mr. Fazzalore, seconded by Mr. Grupp, the minutes of the January meeting were approved.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

Brooke Leibowitz, President of the Student Government Association, gave the report.

- Student Government and Union Program Board have just completed the first big event of the semester. An Eagles pep rally was held and included decorations, an Eagles trivia contest, give-aways, free food, music and a "best dressed" Eagles fan contest.
- SGA is still collecting money for the Tsunami victims and will wrap that project up this week.

- SIFE is collecting clothing and supplies for injured soldiers who are taken from Iraq to the hospital, with only the clothes on their backs. Prof. Joan Weiss, advisor of SIFE, can be contacted about items most needed.
- A number of activities are being offered in honor of Black History Month. The Student Life Office is holding free showings “Ray,” the movie about the life of Ray Charles. Next Tuesday, from 12:30-1:30 in the Gallagher Room, Newtown native Jim McGowan will be speaking to students, faculty, and staff about the history of rhythm and blues.
- SGA is currently preparing a letter to be sent to the Governor and State legislators asking them to fix the public transportation crisis that will affect many of our students through higher token prices and cuts in services.
- The Open Door Club will be hold several events in the upcoming weeks for an event they are calling “Battle for Equality,” including a mock wedding ceremony for all to be held in the Rollins Center on Valentine’s Day. A “Forum for Equality—Voices of Change” will be held on Tuesday, February 15.
- The Centurion, the student newspaper, will be publishing the first edition of the semester and distributing it on Monday.
- The Ski Club will take a day trip to Hunter Mountain.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Links presented his report.

- Dr. Links was pleased to report that indications are that community colleges have been recognized in the Governor’s budget, including changes in the funding formula. We await details so that we might ascertain whether or not the way in which the Governor proposed those increases is mutually beneficial to all of the colleges and what impact they will have in the coming year. We also await information on capital issues. Although details are not yet known, there is reason to be cautiously optimistic.
- Early next week Dr. Links will be in Washington D.C., along with community college presidents from around the country, at the National Legislative Seminar sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). President Bush has recently proposed a number of federal budget changes and the college presidents hope to find out details of those changes and how they will affect community colleges.
- Dr. Links commented on a very nice article in the newspaper written by Dean Maureen McCreadie on the subject of distance learning and on-line options.

- Newtown Township has approved our expansion to the music and multi-media building that will provide classroom facilities for our LPN and radiography programs. We look forward to moving ahead with that project.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was no report.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. Dominick presented his report.

- The next major event sponsored by the Foundation will be on March 16 – the Business Author's Seminar with author Michael Gelb. To date 126 tickets have been committed to that event.
- The Foundation office is completing a totally new redesign of the Foundation web page. Tobi Bruhn has been working diligently on that project. All were encouraged to check out the new site that will allow the Foundation to promote its events and activities.
- Working with Deb Noble and the staff of INS the Foundation will soon have the opportunity to accept on-line donations. It is anticipated that this process will be in place in time for Tyler Tasting in June.
- The *Gazebo*, the Alumni Newsletter, has been dormant for a number of years but has been resurrected and is now published on-line on the Foundation home page. The first publication is out and will be done on-line on a quarterly basis.
- The next Foundation Board meeting is on February 16. At that time the Board will vote to accept approximately \$157,000 of new contributions that have come in over the prior 90 days.
- For the first time since 2000, the Foundation has surpassed \$3 million in total assets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BOARD COMMITTEES

STUDENT-COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE—M. Kemper, Chair

Ms. Kemper asked Dean Dawkins to present the information item on Adaptive Technology through Disability Services. Dean Dawkins called on Dr. Steady Moono, Asst. Dean for Student Development, to introduce Marie Cooper, Coordinator of Disability Services, and members of the staff, Marge Zipin and Penny Gray.

Ms. Cooper explained that Adaptive Technology, as a learning tool to allow improved access to learning for students with disabilities at Bucks, is essential. AT is made available to any student who, as a result of a disability, needs alternative hardware or software in order to use a computer effectively. Federal law requires that institutions assure equal access to courses, information and college programs to students with disabilities. For many students AT makes that access possible. The largest population of users tends to be students who are blind or visually impaired, however students with learning disabilities are becoming more frequent visitors to the adaptive computer lab. AT is available in many locations throughout the college. Members of the Disability Services staff provide support to students and faculty in learning how to use the various technologies.

Work being done on the access path to T142 prevented the planned student demonstration of this technology, but Ms. Cooper said she looks forward to a demonstration at a future Board meeting.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE— L. Newman, Chair

Dr. Breitenfeld presented the committee report in Dr. Newman's absence. He called on Dean Annette Conn to present an informational report on the Teaching & Learning With Technology Roundtable (TLTR) Technology Days.

Dean Conn reported that approximately 85 members of the staff representing 35 departments on campus participated in the sessions which were held on January 5 and 6, during the winter intersession. The report included in the Board packet provided a background on the TLTR group and the work that they do to improve teaching and learning with information technology. A brief explanation of the various sessions was also included, along with the outcomes and assessment of the two-day activity.

Dean Conn introduced Prof. Arta Szathmary and Rebecca Stevenson who were co-authors of the report. Prof. Szathmary spoke about a number of upcoming events which are planned for spring and introduced the other members of the Training Action Team – Liz Sette and Marian Colello.

STRATEGIC PLANNING, ASSESSMENT AND MARKETING COMMITTEE—

O. Grupp III, Chair

No report this month.

FINANCE COMMITTEE— E. Fineburg, Chair

Ms. Fineburg noted that the committee had several recommendations for Board approval.

Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Dr. Breitenfeld, the Board of Trustees approved the award of contract for Gymnasium Bleachers Modification Project to John G. Moser & Son which submitted a bid of \$37,999.

Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Grupp, the Board of Trustees approved the following other contract:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Novell Academic License Agreement	Novell, Inc.	\$47,651.50

Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Long, the Board of Trustees approved the award of contract for Fiber Optic Project Consultant to DataStore Enterprise Solutions which submitted a proposal of \$12,000.

Before presenting a motion to the Board regarding the 2005-06 tuition, Ms. Fineburg made a statement to the Board.

The Finance Committee of the Board met to consider the many fiscal issues facing the college over the coming year. We were pleased to see the Governor's proposal for added funds, but understand that there are many details yet to be revealed in terms of its effect on BCCC - and of course it is just a proposal at this point.

The Finance Committee is equally aware of and committed to the college mission to remain as affordable as possible. We have also affirmed that our students and their families are better served by predictable smaller tuition

increases in any year than by wide swings in tuition and fees. When we started considering this proposal we were all the way up to a \$12 increase.

Accordingly, the Finance Committee recommends a balanced budget, with an increase in tuition of \$4 dollars per credit and an increase to our technology fee of \$3 per credit. This is the same increase as recommended last year, hence is actually a smaller percentage increase than last year.

We recommend raising tuition reluctantly but with the knowledge that Bucks remains the most cost effective educational opportunity for our citizens, and that the college can remain true to its mission of excellence, access and affordability.

Upon motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Dr. Frank, the Board of Trustees approved an increase in tuition of \$4 per semester credit hour and an increase in the Technology Support Fee of \$3 per semester credit hour effective Summer I Session May 2005.

Financial statements for December and January were presented. Deb Noble highlighted some of the activities in the January financial statement.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE— E. Graver, Chair

Ms. Graver called on Dean Fedorko to present an information item on a Benefit Options Study Group. Sue Clarke, Director of Human Resources, was also available to answer questions.

This group, composed of members of all employee groups, has been formed to study benefit options for the future. The study group will review benefit options currently available to Bucks employees, act as liaisons to their respective groups by sharing information, and suggest future strategies to control benefit costs.

A college staffing graphic was included as information in the packet.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

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There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon the motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on March 10, 2005, at 1:30 p.m.

Elizabeth A. Graver, Secretary