

# **BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE** BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: May 8, 2025 Time: 10:00 AM

#### Present:

Thomas J. Jennings, Chair Richard Balukas, Ed.D. James Dancy

Broadus Davis, Ed.D., via Zoom

Tabitha Dell'Angelo, Ph.D. Jamie Fazzalore Shamsul Huda

Carol Mignoni Ferguson

Ronni Fuchs, Esq. Adrienne King

Vincent Magyar, Esq.

John Murray Ed Tokmajian Phil Wursta

Michael Clarke, Esq., Solicitor

Patrick M. Jones, Ph.D., President & CEO

Absent: Blake Eisenhart

Mr. Jennings called the meeting to order at 10:17 A.M. He introduced Dr. Charles Beem, Professor of Management and Marketing, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Jennings congratulated Professor Beem for receiving the BCCC 2024 Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award. He noted that Dr. Beem always has words of encouragement, a reassuring smile, and a note of gratitude. Dr. Beem thanked Chair Jennings for his kind words and the board for their hard work and unwavering support of the College. He said it is a joy to be in the classroom with students helping them realize and fulfill their dreams.

Chair Jennings then welcomed Dr. Robert Leigh, Principal Lecturer in Business at Wrexham University in the United Kingdom.

Following the Roll Call, Mr. Jennings noted that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the public meeting to discuss contract and policy issues and to receive guidance from the solicitor.

Mr. Jennings asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2025 board meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Ms. Fuchs, the Board approved the minutes of the April 10, 2025 meeting.

## CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Jennings reported that, since the last board meeting, the Executive, Finance, and Governance Committees all met. He added that there was also a Board Bylaws redraft led by Trustees Fuchs and Magyar. He then reported on several events which he attended recently, including the Salute to Mothers Tea, a magnificent culinary graduation dinner, and a signing ceremony with Dr. Leigh and Dr. Jones regarding an articulation agreement between the two Page 2

institutions. He asked trustees to keep attuned for the various commencement activities which take place during the week of May 18. He said Firefighter Graduation will be on Tuesday, May 20, Nursing Pinning on Wednesday, May 21, and full Commencement on Thursday, May 22. He said these events truly highlight student joy and achievement and put value on what the board does.

#### PRESIDENT & CEO'S REPORT

President Jones reported that, as Chair Jennings mentioned, Dr. Robert Leigh, Dean of Business from Wrexham University has spent the last few days visiting the College. The two institutions are working on an articulation agreement for Business Administration students. After attending Bucks for two years and earning their associate's degree, students will be able to attend Wrexham University for one year to earn their bachelor's degree, and an additional year to earn their MBA. Dr. Jones noted that this is the College's first international partnership, and that it could expand to include other programs, faculty exchanges, and joint student projects mediated online. Dr. Leigh noted that the collaboration is very exciting, and it distills into three core values between the two institutions, embedding quality, promoting excellence, and collaboration. President Jones thanked Vice President Timby and Dean Luce for initiating this collaboration.

Dr. Jones then noted that trustees have a copy of an archival project in their folders. This project was completed by the library staff, who interviewed students in the fall and spring about their experiences at the College. He encouraged trustees to read the entries.

President Jones reported that a Dean of STEM has been hired, but that the announcement is embargoed until the individual notifies their current employer.

Dr. Jones then reported on several awards the College currently received including the following:

- Dual Credit Innovation Grant Award of \$1,000,000 from the PA Department of Education
- Healthcare Pre-Apprenticeship Program Grant for \$400,000 from PA Labor & Industry
- "Nurses of Tomorrow" scholarship for \$21,930 from the Independence Blue Cross Foundation

He then reported on several recent events including:

- 5/1 Student Awards Dinner
  - o 125 students attended, including members/officers from 40 student organizations.
  - o 8 awards were given to organizations
  - o The top 10 most engaged students were recognized
  - o The Commencement speakers were also recognized
- 5/2 Student Research Conference
  - o 75 students presented
  - o 42 STEM posters were displayed

- 5/2 Salute to Mother's Tea
  - Attendance was greater than 260 people, which is an attendance record & near capacity
  - The event netted \$20,500 in profits, which brings the overall total scholarship funds raised by the Tea for over 18 years to \$350,000
- 5/4 Student Art Awards & Open Studios
  - o There are 369 works on view in the 60th Annual Bucks Student Art Exhibition at the Hicks Art Center.
  - o This includes 7 dance works shown on the hallway monitor and 63 digital media works shown on the gallery monitor
- 5/5 Employee Service Awards
  - o 75 employees were recognized for years of service
  - o 5 employees were recognized for educational achievement
  - o 13 employees received special recognition awards
- 5/7 Chef Graduation Dinner

President Jones gave an update on the amount of money students have been able to save due to Open Educational Resources (OER):

- Through the end of the Spring 2025 semester, students saved a total of \$4,194,970 (since 2019/2020).
- This academic year students saved \$873,600.

He then reported on several upcoming events including:

- 5/8 Student Athletics Celebration for Spring Sports
  - Spring varsity sports season has wrapped up and the Eastern States Athletic Conference has recognized several Baseball players with All-Conference honors.
  - o First Team All- Conference: Sami Nezaj Short Stop/ Pitcher, Evan Urglavitch 1st Base / DH, Lucas Kimbrough Pitcher/ Captain
  - In addition to conference honors, two Centurion baseball players have broken school records. Sami Nazaj broke the stolen base record with 44 and Evan Urglavitch broke the home run record with 11.
- 5/14 Radiography Pinning Ceremony Lower Bucks Campus
  - 18 graduates all 18 are signed up to sit for their American Registry of Radiologic Technologist certification exam after commencement to become certified Radiologic Technologists
- 5/20 Fire School Graduation 7pm in the Gymnasium
  - Bucks Basic Fire Academy, Doylestown 32 students from Bucks, Northampton, & Lehigh Counties
  - Bucks Basic Fire Academy Croydon 32 Students from Bucks & Montgomery Counties

## Page 4

- Bucks Advanced Academy, Doylestown 26 Students from Bucks, Montgomery, & Northampton Counties
- 5/21 Nursing Pinning 6pm in the Gymnasium
  - o The number of expected nursing graduates is 64.
- 5/22 Commencement 10am and 2pm in the Gymnasium
  - o Currently there are 437 candidates for the associate degree & 35 for certificates
  - o Cum Laude (GPA of 3.5 to 3.74) 94 students
  - o Magna Cum Laude (GPA of 3.75 to 3.89) 63 students
  - o Summa Cum Laude (GPA of 3.9 to 4.0) 68 students

# PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Chair Jennings

Mr. Jennings reported that the Executive Committee met on April 22 to consider approval of two contract items, one for Incline Alchemy Workday Support, and one for Mongoose – Enrollment Communications. He said these two contracts came in after the April board meeting and required approval before the May meeting. The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the two contracts.

Upon motion by Mr. Murray and second by Mr. Dancy, the Board of Trustees ratified the following two contracts approved by the Executive Committee on April 22, 2025:

- Incline Alchemy Workday Support
- *Mongoose Enrollment Communications*

## FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE – Ms. Fuchs & Mr. Christensen

Ms. Fuchs reported that, in the next fiscal year, the Finance Committee will meet the week before the regular board meetings, instead of the week after. She said this should help reduce the need for some Executive Committee meetings to approve contracts that have time constraints. Mr. Christensen reported that the accounting department is now closing the books monthly and providing regular reporting. He said they are also working on a document which will summarize projects and contracts that come to the board for review. He said this will help from a budget standpoint and will help the board anticipate necessary actions.

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – Ms. Fazzalore

Ms. Fazzalore reported that the Governance Committee met in person on April 29 to discuss the proposed slate of officers for the 2025-2026 year. The slate will be voted on at the June board

Board of Trustees May 8, 2025

Page 5

meeting. The Governance Committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2025-2026 academic year:

Chair Thomas Jennings
Vice-Chair Ronni Fuchs
Secretary Jamie Fazzalore
Asst. Secretary Broadus Davis

Executive Committee Carol Mignoni-Ferguson

Ms. Fazzalore reported that a nomination was also received for Blake Eisenhart as Chair. She noted that nominations from the floor are welcome at the June board meeting.

# ACTION ON REVISED BCCC BYLAWS - Chair Jennings

Chair Jennings reported that the revised bylaw proposal was generated to bring the current bylaws up to date and provide more efficiency and flexibility. In addition to the vote, an ad-hoc committee, chaired by Vince Magyar and with representatives from all three classes will take a deeper look and come back with a possible proposal for further changes.

A motion was made by Mr. Wursta and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the revised BCCC Bylaws. A roll call vote was then taken, and the motion was approved. The roll call vote was fourteen in favor, zero opposed, and zero abstentions.

## ACTION ON KRC/PLA FEASIBILITY STUDY PROPOSAL - Mr. Niels Christensen

Mr. Christensen reported that the Center for Advanced Technologies (CAT) has an opportunity to expand their trade curriculum to include HVAC Lab Training. This is the first project since the Project Labor Agreement was completed in 2023. He said it is typical practice to complete a feasibility study with these types of projects. Keystone Research Center provides these types of assessments. Mr. Christensen said, due to grant implications, to keep this project on time, approval is being sought for the KRC/PLA feasibility study.

Upon motion by Ms. Fuchs and second by Mr. Tokmajian, the Board of Trustees approved the KRC/PLA Feasibility Study Proposal.

## CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Niels Christensen

The Chair announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda unless a Trustee requested an item be removed for specific discussion and individual action. There were no requests.

Upon motion by Ms. Fazzalore, and second by Ms. Mignoni Ferguson, the Board of Trustees approved all items as set forth on the Consent Agenda.

- Medical, Dental, Vision, & RX Renewals
- Network Firewall Maintenance Service PhillyCom, Inc.
- Hyland Perceptive Document Imaging
- Datto Back Up & Disaster Recovery IT Partners
- Turnitin Plagiarism Checking
- Terminal Four Website Content Management
- Anaconda Sprinkler System Maintenance
- FAST Fire Alarm System Maintenance
- Effectv Workforce Advertising
- Large Scale Radon Testing Radon Testing Systems

## BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Dancy thanked President Jones and Dr. Leigh for their work on the articulation agreement between Bucks and Wrexham University. Trustee Tokmajian added that it is an exciting partnership. Mr. Tokmajian also noted that, when he attended Bucks, he took a class taught by Professor Beem. He said Dr. Beem is a wonderful person, devoted to students, and well liked. In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, Mr. Tokmajian also thanked teachers for dedicating and devoting their time to students. Chair Jennings closed by reminding trustees that, following the meeting, there would be a trustee-only discussion with President Jones and Dan Kanak, Vice President of Marketing and Communications.

## **ADJOURN**

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at the Newtown Campus on June 12, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.

Shamsul Huda, Secretary	