



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: September 10, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Present:

Ronni Fuchs, Esq., Chair
Richard Balukas, Ed.D.
Eleanor Breslin
Broadus Davis, Ed.D.
Blake Eisenhart
Jamie Fazzalore
Carol Mignoni Ferguson
Shamsul Huda
Thomas J. Jennings

Adrienne King, via Zoom
Vincent Magyar, Jr., Esq.
John Murray
Walter C. Stoertz, Jr.
Edward J. Tokmajian
Phil Wursta
Peter Amuso, Esq., Solicitor
Patrick M. Jones, Ph.D., President & CEO

Ms. Fuchs called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

Students Angelo Coccia-Yates and Kailynn Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, Mr. Chris Seifert, Director of Student Engagement & Leadership Development, introduced the students to the board. He noted that Angelo Coccia-Yates is this year's President of the Student Government Association. A graduate of Central Bucks South High School, Angelo is an Engineering major who started at the college a year ago as a Summer Bridge student. Since then, he has been active on campus in the Bucks 360 program as well as the Centurion Leadership Program. He is excited and honored to be the SGA President and help build an even stronger community. Mr. Seifert then reported that Kailynn Hall is this year's newly elected Vice President of the Student Government Association. Originally from Gary, Indiana, Kailynn is an Environmental Science major with a 4.0 GPA, who began as a dual enrollment student from Neshaminy High School. She is an officer in the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honors Society and is now a member of the Honors Program. She is excited to serve as the SGA Vice President and advocate for her peers. Angelo and Kailynn thanked the board for inviting them and said they look forward to a great year ahead.

Ms. Fuchs asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2026 board meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Tokmajian, the Board approved the minutes of the June 4, 2026 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Fuchs noted that it has been an excellent start to the new academic year. She reported that she attended the Fire School graduation at the Epstein Campus @ Lower Bucks in August, where approximately 18 students graduated. She encouraged trustees to attend future ceremonies and see the county wide effect of the Fire School.

PRESIDENT & CEO'S REPORT

Dr. Jones reported on the following:

Enrollment Update

Fall 2026 Enrollment Numbers

Fall Enrollment Metric	Fall 2026	Fall 2025	Change
Enrolled Credits	57,953	55,753	+4%
Headcount	6,168	5,831	+6%
FTE	3,863	3,716	+6

Admissions Open Houses

- 10/07: 6-8pm Open House @ UBC
- 10/14: 6-8pm Open House @ Epstein Campus at Lower Bucks
- 10/24: 11am to 2pm Open House @ Newtown

New Workforce Training Program

- 4-day Fiber Optics Training Workshops
 - PA Smart Career and Technical Education Grant
 - A consortium of four community colleges in the Northeast called the Trades Consortium
 - Recruit up to 120 students to complete a four-day fiber optics training workshop
 - Career opportunities include fiber optic installers and field techs.
 - Have not yet received the funding: Dates and Details to Follow

Civic Engagement

- College as convener or host for important community conversations:
- Two Examples on 09/15:

- MORNING: 23rd Annual William J. Neff, Sr. Symposium on the Prevention of Crimes Against Older Adults
 - Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW, Bucks County Commissioner
 - Joe Kahn, Bucks County District Attorney
 - Keynote Speaker: 15-time Emmy Award winning journalist Tracy Davidson – former NBC10 News Anchor
- EVENING: Bucks County USA – Exclusive Pre-Release Docuseries Screening
 - Screening the first two of five episodes – including Trustee Adrienne King
 - Followed by panel/ Q&A with Judy Woodruff of PBS Newshour

Arts & Culture Events

Art Exhibitions

- *Souls Shot* Portrait Project @ LBC (through SEP 17)
- *Seeing Stella: An Installation by Jen Blazina* @ Hicks Art Center Gallery – Newtown Campus (through OCT 17)
- 09/25 Opening: *Creations of the Night: Art Inspired by Dreams* @ LBC (through DEC 10)
- 10/09 Opening: *Show of Shows*, Fickes Gallery @ UBC (through NOV 20)

Wordsmiths Reading Series

The Wordsmiths Reading Series was founded in the 1960s at the College. It consists of live readings and has featured some of the most distinguished and admired poets of our times. There will be three gatherings during the Fall 2026 season.

- 10/02: 7:30 pm Tyler 142 – will feature two poets.
- 10/22: 12:30-1:30 pm Tyler 142 – single author
- 11/14: 1:00-3:00 pm Tyler 142 – single author

Zlock Performing Arts Series

- A great lineup of live and streaming offerings – please consult the College website
- 09/25: 7:30 pm *The Great American Songbook* – 4 pianists
 - Each artist – backed by a rhythm section – will bring their own distinctive style and interpretation to a 30-minute set of specially curated songs drawn from the rich legacy of the Great American Songbook, creating the cozy ambiance of a private, late-night performance shared among friends.

- Partnership with the *Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society* continues with 6 performances this year – 3 each semester. For the Fall semester:
 - 10/03: 3:00 pm English guitarist Alexandra Whittingham
 - 11/07: 3:00 pm French guitarist Gabriel Bianco
 - 12/05: 3:00 pm French Guitarist Virgil Barthe

Upcoming College Events

- 9/11 25th Anniversary –Remembrance & Moment of Silence
 - We will gather at the "Tears for Freedom" fountain, which was dedicated on September 11, 2002, located between Tyler Hall and the Gateway Center on the Newtown Campus. We will read the names of the eighteen Bucks County victims and have a moment of silence.
- 9/24 Founders Day
 - *Day of Giving*
 - Student Festival 11:00-2:00 on the Quad
 - Alumni Awards @ 5:30 pm in Tyler 142

In the age of Artificial Intelligence...

- We are figuring out how we prepare students to use AI ethically and wisely
 - Working Groups on Compliance, an AI Literacy Framework, Guidance for Faculty
 - Workshops for Faculty
- And we are doubling down on the development of Human Intelligence
 - Strategic Investments
 - Developmental Education – for those who need more help developing literacy and numeracy skills
 - A new FT Director of Developmental Education
 - Appropriate staff with expertise in various learning styles and the best way to help them
 - Center for Teaching and Learning
 - Honors – for those who want a greater academic challenge
 - A new FT Director of the Honors Program
 - Honors-to-Honors agreements
 - Temple, LaSalle, Ursinus
 - More to come....

Introductions

Dr. Scott DeLoach - Director of Developmental Education

- New position was established this year as we invest in our students.
- He comes to us from Albright College where he was an Associate Professor of English
- A community college graduate
- Over 15 years of experience teaching and mentoring students at colleges and universities in PA and his home state of CA.
- - AA in English - Citrus College
 - BA in English CSU – Channel Islands
 - MS in English – Humboldt University
 - Ph.D. in Composition & Applied Linguistics - Indiana University of PA

Currently 1,104 students taking at least one DevEd course (18% student body)

Dr. Katie Quanz - Director of the Honors Program

- New position we established this year as we invest in our students.
- She comes to us from Ursinus College where she was a Collegiate Assistant Professor and coordinator of the Film Studies Program.
- Publications in journals and anthologies; Currently writing on a book titled *Satellite Sounds* (under contract with McGill-Queens UP), which charts the development of London's and Toronto's postproduction sound industries.
- In addition to her academic work, held positions at Laurier Archives, the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, the Harry Ransom Center, and George Blood, L.P.
 - BFA in Film & Video Production - York University (Canada)
 - MA and PhD in English & Film Studies - Wilfrid Laurier University (Canada)

Currently 270 students in the Honors Program (4% student body)

Tracey Thomas - Director of the Accessibility Office

- She comes to us from Pierce College where she was Assistant Dean for Student Support Services for almost a decade.
- A career in student counseling, advising and student services at both 2-year and 4-year institutions, including Atlantic Cape CC, Cumberland County CC, and Rowan College at Burlington County – all in NJ; and SUNY Oswego, Temple University, and Pierce.
- Tracey is also deeply committed to community service and addressing food insecurity - working to provide food assistance to individuals and families in need, with a particular focus on supporting local college students experiencing food insecurity.
 - B.A. in Psychology & Spanish - Ohio Wesleyan University.
 - M.Ed. in Counseling Psychology - Temple University

Currently 688 students (11% student body)

Christie “Chris” Willard - Director of our new Municipal Police Academy

- She comes to use from Temple University where she served for...
- 15 years - Director of the Temple University Police Academy
- 15 years - *Director of Tactical and Professional Development* of Temple University’s Department of Public Safety
- 30 years of law enforcement including as a municipal police officer, university police officer at Millersville and West Chester, and as a Corporal & Training Officer for the Chester County sheriff’s office
- Act 120 certification
- MPOETC-certified Academy Director, General Instructor, and Physical Fitness Instructor.
 - Graduate of the DCCC Police Academy
 - BS & MS in Criminal Justice - West Chester University

Academy Launch – Targeted for Fall 2027

Greg Luce – interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

- @ Bucks for 17 years
- Dean of the School of Business & Legal Studies
- Assoc Prof & Coordinator of Management & Marketing
- Prior – worked in sales & marketing in private sector
 - WM Tennent HS
 - BSBA in Marketing – Shippensburg U
 - MBA in Marketing – Temple U

NEW FACULTY INTRODUCTIONS – Mr. Luce

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Greg Luce, introduced the new full time faculty members as follows: for the School of Health Professions & Sports Studies, Pam Clark; for the School of Business & Legal Studies, Linda Angeline; for the School of Language & Literature, Kevin Ellis; for the School of STEM, Elizabeth Brush, and Michael Stapf; for the School of Visual & Performing Arts, Tia Kern, and for Learning Resources, Heather Dalal, and Dr. April Williams.

Mr. Luce then introduced Heather Costello, Interim Dean for the School of Business & Legal Studies, and Karen Gatewood, Interim Dean for Health Professions & Sports Studies.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE – Mr. Harris

Mike Harris, COO, provided an environmental health and safety initiatives update. He said the following actions have taken place since the last report at the June 4th BOT meeting:

- He and Dr. Jill Blanco continue to hold a monthly meeting of the College’s Health and Safety Working Group to review safety incidents, concerns, and initiatives;
- They have completed or are in the implementation stages of the following projects:
 - Replacement of existing worn-out flooring in Tyler Hall and the Gateway Building;
 - Renovation of the Shipping and Receiving facilities;
 - Installation of safety improvements in the Welding Lab at the CAT Building; and,
 - Multiple roof repairs or replacements to prevent water intrusion and damage.
- Work continues with Jerry Roseman and Occupational Health Consulting Services to continuously improve protocols, procedures, and communications.
- The College community is encouraged to report concerns through the online “Environmental Health and Safety Investigator” link on My Bucks to initiate an investigation, analysis, and remediation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Tokmajian & Mr. Christensen

Mr. Tokmajian reported that the Finance Committee spoke with Lisa Ritter from Maher Duessel at their meeting to review the objectives and timeline for the FY26 Audit. He reported that the finance team has begun gathering the necessary audit support and expects to remain on track with the upcoming deadlines. He also noted that the team continues to work on filling key positions within the finance department including a budgeting position, a Financial Planning & Analysis Director, and the Controller position. He reported that negotiations continue with the Safety & Security group, and that the finance committee thoroughly reviewed and vetted the consent agenda items. Mr. Christensen added that the \$25 million bond financing which will be used for capital projects should be settled that day.

RATIFICATION OF SUMMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVALS– Chair Fuchs

The Chair announced that the Executive Committee met over the Summer to approve items of urgency. She asked for a motion and second to ratify the following summer approvals by the Executive Committee:

- *The Registry*
- *Security Officer Contingency Staffing Plan*

- *Maher Duessel Letters of Engagement*

Upon motion by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Murray, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to ratify the Summer Approvals by the Executive Committee.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. 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 Mr. Jennings, and second by Mr. Eisenhart, the Board of Trustees approved all items as set forth on the Consent Agenda.

- *Public Safety Vehicle Purchase*
- *Gateway Building Furniture Purchase*
- *Security & Safety Camera Upgrades*
- *Transact Campus, Inc.*
- *Parchment Receive Premium*
- *Network Switch Equipment Upgrade for Upper Bucks Campus*
- *BCCC College Bookstore*
- *BCCC Food Services Agreement*

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Jennings congratulated Trustee Fuchs on chairing her first board meeting.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 A.M.

Edward J. Tokmajian, Secretary