

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of September 10, 2019

The six hundred twenty-ninth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:50 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Edward Powers, Secretary;
John R. Durso, Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson,
George Siberón, Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: Kathy Weiss, John A. DeGrace

Also in attendance: President Williams, VP Collins

Chair Gardyn requested a motion that pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the following purposes: 1) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Nassau Community College Administrators Association; 2) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Adjunct Faculty Association; and 3) of reviewing the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Green. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Edward Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, Secretary;
John R. Durso, Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson,
George Siberón, Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: Kathy Weiss

Also in attendance: President Williams, VP Collins

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of June 11, 2019. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 9-0.

2. Trustee Green introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreement with Brightview Landscape Service in the annual amount of \$900,000.00 as requested by VP Facilities Management Muscarella.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 9-0.

3. Trustee Russell introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreement with Best Climate Control Corporation in the annual amount of \$550,000.00, and a one-time increase of \$300,000.00, as requested by VP Facilities Management Muscarella.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Green moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 9-0.

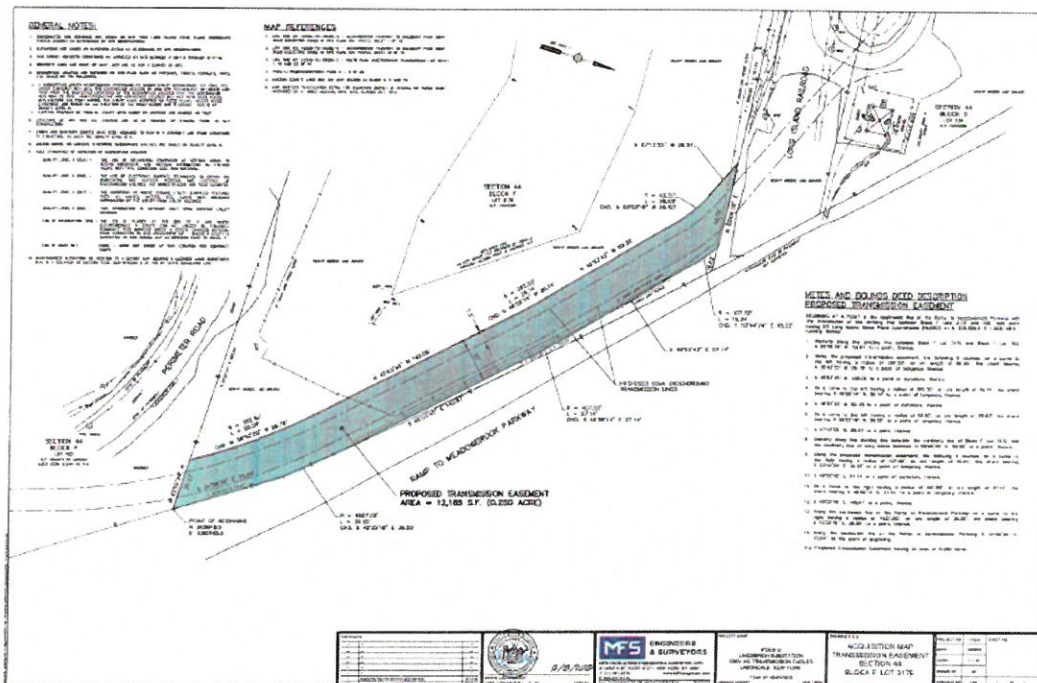
4. Trustee Siberón introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Nassau Community College Board of Trustees authorizes NCC administration to amend residency requirements for tuition purposes to make students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands who have been displaced by hurricanes Maria and Irma eligible for Nassau County resident tuition rates for the 2019-2020 academic year at Nassau Community College.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 9-0.

5. Trustee Tuman introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees does hereby approve granting an easement to LIPA for construction of a new transmission line as shown below:



Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Siberón. Motion carried 9-0.

6. Trustee Jackson introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Personnel, Affirmative Action & Labor Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves that in recognition of distinguished and meritorious service to Nassau Community College, and upon the recommendation of the president of Nassau Community College, the following named retired faculty members of Nassau Community College who retired after attaining the academic rank of professor or associate professor, are hereby granted the permanent academic title of professor emeritus with all the privileges and rights accruing thereto.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Retirement Date</u>
Patricia A. Halcrow	Professor	Sociology	9/1/19
Barbara Barnard	Professor	English	9/1/19
Gail Chapman	Associate Professor	English	9/1/19

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Green. Motion carried 9-0.

Chair Gardyn made a motion under Article VIII section C(6) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of two items that do not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Powers seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

7. Trustee DeGrace introduced the following resolution:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the College herewith ratifies and approves the Memorandum of Agreement hereinabove referenced and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board’s ratification of the aforesaid Memorandum of Agreement is subject to and contingent upon approval and execution of said Memorandum of Agreement by the Nassau County Executive on behalf of the County of Nassau, and approval thereafter by the Nassau County Legislature.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 9-0.

8. Trustee Powers introduced the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby ratifies and approves the settlement agreement and mutual general release regarding the employment of a certain employee entered into by Nassau Community College, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the irrevocable letter of retirement of the employee who is subject of said agreement.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Green moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 9-0.

Elections of Officers

Trustee Durso made a motion for one ballot to keep the present 2018-2019 slate of officers in place for the 2019-2020 academic year. Seconded by Trustee Powers. Chair Gardyn asked if there were any objections, there being none, motion carried 9-0. The slate of officers for the 2019-2020 AY are: Dr. Gardyn, Chair; Dr. Weiss, Vice Chair; and Edward Powers, Secretary.

President's Report

- President Williams thanked the Board of Trustees and all members of the College community who actively participated in the hiring process for entrusting him with this highly, critical leadership role. He has been impressed by the dedication of those with whom he has met, and looks forward to building partnerships to help achieve progress together.
- President Williams referred to his first few months at NCC as a Learning Journey and will continue with focus groups with students, faculty, and staff throughout the Fall semester. In addition to standard meetings and communication with a variety of internal and external constituents, he will continue to walk around campus and to talk with individuals, as well as to meet with business leaders and elected officials, in an effort to better understand the culture of the College, the local communities, the County, and the State. Familiarizing himself with the opportunities and challenges that NCC faces through the perspective of others will help identify, create, and communicate a unified strategic vision focused on advancing the College, which he aims to share towards the end of this semester or early in the Spring. He mentioned a few recommendations others have shared with him: 1) ensuring we are always student-centered with all decisions and how we engage students; 2) Marketing tactically to distinct populations; 3) engaging Superintendents and high schools; 4) pursuing Dual Enrollment opportunities; 5) responding to the diversity of the region and taking an equity-minded approach to access, completion, and post-completion success; 6) focusing on post-secondary education and all this means as a comprehensive community college that must prepare students to transfer and must create educated workers who meet the current and future labor demands of the area; and 7) creating different and better initiatives to decrease the community college stigma (both a national and local concern).
- The College has been accepted into SUNY's second cohort of community colleges working to implement Guided Pathways. SUNY provides funding for planning, access to working meetings, a coach, and general support. The crux of Guided Pathways is building structured academic and career pathways for all students – not just for those in discrete programs with a clear course, but for the thousands who need a structured pathway to get a degree for a credential of economic value, livable wage, social mobility or seamless transfer opportunity. Guided Pathways work is more than an initiative, it is a transformational means to look at how we engage students and how we do our business at the College. He thanked Dean Genette Alvarez-Ortiz for serving as our Guided Pathways Facilitator.
- The College applied for and has been selected to take part in the SUNY Open Educational Resources (OER) program, a fully-funded, two-year collaborative cohort focused on designing and implementing sustainable frameworks for the use of open educational resources (OER) aligned with student success initiatives. The OER Advisory Board coordinated by Christine Faraday has saved students tens of thousands of dollars. He thanked the OER Advisory Board for their works.
- The College's approved budget was built on the premise of a 7.5% drop in credits. Enrollment for the Fall semester shows paid credits are down 6.25%, however, by implementing established mechanisms to make sure our paid credits are at the standard benchmark of 98%, and is confident that the number will improve. New Student Registration is up by almost 4.5%. He thanked Dave Follick, Dean of Admissions and Chester Barkan, Registrar for monitoring the daily enrollment numbers. Newly implemented and/or

enhanced previous efforts to help mitigate the enrollment decline have included 1) integrating late start classes; 2) three Saturday events for students to take care of registration needs; 3) enhanced social media presence; 4) hidden sections initiative; and 5) several July and August meetings on strategies to improve enrollment. He thanked all members of the College community who participated, particularly those from Academic Student Services, overseen by VP Maria Conzatti.

- Federal Student Aid, a unit of the U.S. Department of Education, sent a Minority Serving and Under Resourced Schools Division (MSURSD) team to conduct an institutional Title IV assessment at Nassau Community College in May. The official report has been received and a response is being finalized which will be shared in greater detail at the October Finance and Capital Board committee meeting.
- The search for a College Comptroller is in its final stages and the first round of interviews are occurring for the search for the VP of Finance.
- About 10 years ago, SUNY and a Sichuan delegation partnered to accept 150 Chinese students who had been displaced by a tragedy that killed 70,000 people. Selected as a SUNY community college exemplar, we graciously accepted the invitation to host the delegation. We discussed having more international students from China. Another delegation will visit later this month.
- We are administering a survey through Hope Lab, a national organization based in Temple University with which SUNY has partnered, to receive by mid- to end-of-semester quantifiable data illustrating how our students are affected by food and housing insecurity. Nationally-based studies of tens of thousands of community college students have found that 42% - 56% of community college students are food insecure, 46% - 51% of community college students experience housing insecurity, and 12% - 14% of community college students are homeless. The data will enable us to determine how pernicious food and housing insecurity are to our students, what kind of initiatives and strategies we should be implementing in order to mitigate these challenges, and how to help more students not only gain greater access to higher education but be successful. He thanked Charmian Smith, Dean of Students, for coordinating this effort.
- President Williams concluded that he is grateful to be involved with so many people dedicated to student success and to helping advance Nassau Community College.

Speakers

Frank Frisenda, NCCFT President, welcomed everyone back for the Fall 2019 semester. In this first week, his meetings with fellow faculty members, President Williams and various Vice Presidents have been very encouraging, filled with discussion of exciting ideas and opportunities. He looks forward to a good semester.

Stefan Krompiew, AFA President, thanked the work of the two teams that negotiated the AFA contract and the Trustees for approving it. He reinforced Prof. Frisenda's sentiments that he has been encouraged by the early meetings. The work by the Leadership Council has been productive by various committees, from the Full-Time faculty to mid- and upper-level administration and will continue with the new leadership who shares the same goal. He also mentioned the condition of disrepair of the old campus and wants to thank the CSEA staff who deserves recognition for taking pride in keeping the old campus together.

Cathy Fagan, English Chairperson, commented on the Seminar Hours initiative that the English Department has been developing since May 2014. For five years the Department has been meeting head-on the Board's challenge for the faculty to address the issue of retention, even as registration numbers have faltered. Written into the NCCFT contract for the last several decades is the provision that the English full load is 12 teaching credits plus 3 hours weekly dedicated to working with students outside office hours, in what has been deemed Seminar Hours which was codified into the NCCFT contract, effective September 1, 2015.

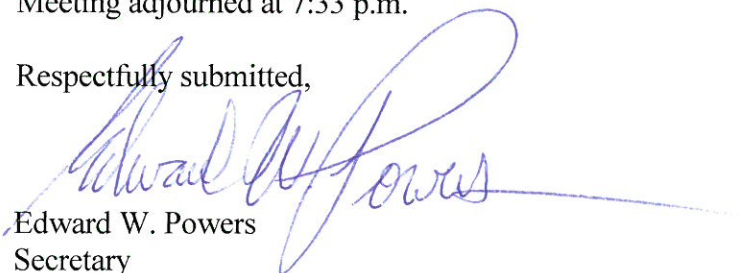
She noted that the initiative began as a halting attempt to attract students from the entering freshman classes has grown into a robust initiative that drew over 1,000 students from every area of the campus over the course of the AY 2018-19. The cohorts include: Individual Mentoring (one-on-one students with faculty members); Group Mentoring (two or more-on-one); LINCC Conversational Partners; Distance Education Mentoring; Creative Writing Mentoring; Greenhouse Mentoring, during which faculty go to the childcare center, made possible by a generous donation from an English adjunct to cover costs; and NCC 101 Mentoring and Writing Center Tutoring, both in Bradley Hall and the Library. For the AY 2019-20, the Department has initiated a cohort for its Accelerated Learning Program in English (ALP), geared to developmental students who are taking both their support work in non-credit ENG 001 and their Freshman Composition in 3-credit ENG 101. A Veterans Cohort is currently on hiatus during reorganization. Seminar Hours Coordinator Professor Scott Ash has collected data from OIESP on the success of students who participate in the Seminar Hours program. For AY 2018-19, students who participated in Seminar Hours activity were retained at NCC at a rate of 79%, as compared to the college-wide retention rate of 69% for the same time period. The additional 10% translates into over 100 students (mostly full time) who remained through Spring 2019. She concluded that over the course of this year, she and her colleagues will share other important work in the English Department, including the remarkable embedding of developmental composition work into credit-bearing courses.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. and resume the public session approximately 7:33 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward W. Powers
Secretary