

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Garden City, New York 11530

**Academic, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Committee Meeting Minutes**

April 9, 2024

The meeting of the Academic, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower. The meeting was called to order by Trustee Tuman at 5:16 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Donna Tuman, Chair  
Lynne D'Agostino  
Leslie Vazquez  
Kathy Weiss  
Jorge Gardyn (ex-officio)

Also in Attendance: John Durso, Wanda Jackson, George Siberón  
CAO Conzatti, Asst. VP Follick, Registrar Barkan

1. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Tuman requested a motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2024. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee D'Agostino. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Enrollment Updates

Registrar Barkan reported that summer registration is underway, and, comparing early April numbers from 2023 to 2024, with 54 days until the start of the term, is up 10.62% with 10,658 credit counts and over 1,900 students registered. Our summer non-degree student applications and admits are slightly down, but we are up over 80 students registered. Our summer visiting applications and admits are also slightly down, but we are up by 64 students registered.

Our Fall 2024 applications and admits for non-degree students remain slightly down, but our visiting applications and admits are slightly up. Office staff has maintained its outreach through text messaging, emailing, and a postcard mailing to continuing and prospective students to keep our numbers growing. Fall registration begins on April 26.

Asst. VP Follick presented the Fall first-year student enrollment trends comparing early April from 2023 to 2024. Although applications and in particular admits show decreases, campaigns are ongoing to complete them and he is confident that we will match last year's numbers. Transfer applications are significantly higher, but admits are comparably lower, a disparity which, as mentioned at the prior Board meeting, reflects students applying to Nursing and Allied Health programs and yet awaiting the posting of their grades after Spring break before making decisions. Re-admits reveal a similar pattern, and, again, he expects the numbers eventually to equal those from last year. The number of students being tested are significantly down, by less than half, a primary reason for which he believes is our change to using overall high school GPA in our testing assessment. Nearly three-quarters of those tested have been for English, Reading, and Math or English and Reading. He hopes to start moving students more quickly through the application process.

Asst. VP Follick commended Izolda Maksym, Chair, Art Department, for having coordinated two successful visits to our campus in March for BOCES Barry Tech High School students to shadow our students and faculty for a day. Admissions will be hosting two in-person Admitted Student Days at the end of April for which we already have more than 250 respondents. We are also excited for a virtual Admissions information session to take place during the high school April vacation and for which 90 have replied to participate.

During the last Finance meeting in discussion of the budget, there was a question on when tuition would be determined. Asst. VP Follick praised Patti Noren and Financial Aid and IT staff for their efforts in processing FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), while conveying that, by potentially passing our tuition rate much earlier, we could send out estimated financial aid packages weeks sooner, which would make a big difference for students to make timelier enrollment decisions. Typically, we have not distributed these packages until June or July, which is historically very late.

Trustee D’Agostino inquired whether other departments hold “Shadow Student Days”? Asst. VP Follick responded that last month the Honors Program held a colloquium with junior high and high school students, the Marketing Department has an annual program in April, and others, such as the Theatre Department and Marketing & Retailing, also host similar events. He wants to ensure that the academic departments and Admissions are more closely collaborating, so Admissions and Financial Aid are able to make presentations, and Academic Student Services will be available on Admitted Student Days.

Trustee Jackson posed the question whether campus tours are offered at these events? Asst. VP Follick answered that they are given throughout the academic year, as well as during Admitted Student Days, whereas during the “shadow” days academic department representatives highlight their respective programs. Trustee Jackson further wondered whether we utilize student ambassadors? CAO Conzatti commented that it has become increasingly difficult to enlist students for these activities, since contemporary students typically have more tightly packed schedules in order to accommodate employment opportunities for which they get paid more than for campus jobs. Trustee Weiss, noting that motivating prospective students more than those already admitted is vital, remarked that student ambassadors at other institutions go through training. Asst. VP Follick concurred that our students are our best advocates, and our Student Activities Office works diligently with our student orientation leaders, but underscored how 2-year schools are at a disadvantage compared to 4-year institutions since we have a faster turnover rate that gives us less time for preparation. Trustee Siberón wondered whether we might use alumni? Asst. VP Follick stated that our Alumni Association, under its President Lori Jorge, actively engages our enrollment programs and will be offering a \$2K scholarship for a student selected from up to two nominations from each district in Nassau County.

Trustee Weiss, comparing recent newspaper ads from NCC and SCCC (Suffolk County Community College), encouraged us to consider emulating SCCC’s in-person Admissions event rather than to conduct a virtual event, as the personal experience makes a stronger impression. In a budget of \$180M, she trusts that \$10K would be a modest investment with potential great return. Asst. VP Follick cited that we hold an Open House each Fall and Spring, but the yield has been historically low, and so holding smaller events such as the Admitted Student Days to focus on the students who we know have yet to commit are more effective.

Trustee Tuman asked if there were any other items for the Committee to consider. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Anne E. Brandi*

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Anne E. Brandi  
Secretary to the President and  
the Board of Trustees