

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of January 14, 2020

The six hundred thirty-third meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:30 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

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

Absent: George Siberón

Also in attendance: President Williams

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 NCCFT; 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 Druso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Jackson. Motion carried 9-0.

Executive Session

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

During the Executive Session, the Board drafted and voted on the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees approves the procedure for the appointment of cabinet members.

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

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 6:45 p.m.

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

Absent: George Siberón

Also in attendance: President Williams

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of December 10, 2019. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Powers. Motion carried 9-0.

2. 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>
George Powers	Associate Professor	HPER	12/31/2019
Cheryl Sears	Professor	HPER	12/31/2019

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

3. Trustee Tuman introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Academic, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposal by the department of Sociology/Anthropology/Social Work for a new Certificate program in Case Management and recommends the approval of this program by the State University of New York.

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

4. Second Read and Public Discussion: Policy 2200: Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

Trustee Weiss announced that this is the second reading of Policy 2200 Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence. The policy covers all forms of Sexual Harassment, whether it involves students or employees, which should be corrected early and firmly in the interest of maintaining a barrier-free working and learning environment. Many of the revisions that are in the amendments are a result of the changes in New York State

law and SUNY policy. Specifically, unlawful dissemination of a publication of an intimate image was added to the definition of sexual harassment, and the section on consensual relationships was expanded to prohibit such interactions where there is a supervisory, evaluative or other institutional association that creates an authority imbalance. The committee had an opportunity to discuss the policy before it was brought to the Board last month, and now it has been brought to the Board for a second reading.

Dr. Williams reinforced that this policy was developed in collaboration with several entities at the College, all of whom had an opportunity to comment. It adheres to several mandates and properly addresses changes that must be made.

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

Trustee Weiss introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Policy & Planning Committee at its meeting of November 12, 2019, followed by two readings of the policy by the Board of Trustees and public discussion, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College adopts Policy 2200: Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence as amended, and that the same be subsequently incorporated into the policy manual of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve Policy 2200 as amended. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 9-0.

Dr. Williams reported on the following items:

He thanked all members of the College community who have been working hard to get the Spring semester off to a good start, mitigating enrollment decline and ensuring that students stay on their educational path.

#### Student Highlights:

NCC Nursing students achieved the highest NCLEX-RN pass rate in Nassau County for 2019. The National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) is needed to become a Registered Nurse. The pass rate for NCC was 94% – better than Molloy, Adelphi, NYIT, and CW Post. He commended the faculty and staff who teach and support the Nursing students, and administrators such as VP Collins and Dean Follick, for leading them towards their accomplishments. It is clear to see why the program is so well known and lauded. As a reminder, our Fall 2019 Nursing admits are able to participate in a seamless transfer multi-degree partnership with SUNY Empire State College that leads to a BSN.

#### Winter and Spring Enrollment:

- Winterim was up approximately 7% in credits, accomplished with a lot of work from Student Services and Academic Affairs.
- Spring enrollment, thanks to hard work of so many, went from about 14% down a month ago to about 8% down as of this date. There are still multiple days to register for Spring 2020 and late starting classes.

#### SUNY Family Empowerment Grant:

Governor Cuomo has provided three years of funding to launch the Family Empowerment Community College Pilot Program, which provides customized support for single parents attending SUNY and CUNY community colleges. This program would increase to 35 the number of single parents at NCC using the

services of the Children's Greenhouse for each year of the grant. Through the diligence and dedication of several individuals at the College, NCC has received this three-year grant totaling more than \$400,000.

Community and Political Engagement:

- The Governor gave his State of the State address last week, and we are waiting for the budget to be finalized in regards to funding from the State.
- SUNY is lobbying for 100% of funding floor or \$100 per FTE, whichever is greater.
- Individually, and in concert with other groups such as NYCCAP (NY Community College Association of Presidents) and NYCCT (NY Community College Trustees), he will spend time advocating and lobbying both locally and in Albany over the next several weeks.
- We will be watching out for the Governor to submit his Executive Budget to the Legislature by mid-January – early February.
- We have scheduled a Legislative breakfast for State elected officials on Friday, February 28, 2020.
- When we are engaging the public, let's be mindful that we are advocates for the College. Emsi, a labor market firm, ran a report for us that puts into perspective the benefit we provide to the community. NCC generates a total annual added income of \$1.4 billion to the area: or, in other words, more than 17,000 jobs are supported by this College. Take pride in our contributions. When we talk about NCC, let's share the positive impact, because our audience may be voting on funding for the College.

Closing:

He shared one aspect of the welcome back message he will send shortly to the College community. Diversity is one of our points of pride at the College, and our ability to embrace and foster equity and inclusion consistently makes us stronger. We have seen enhanced military activity in Iran, recent and increased hate crimes throughout the State and nation, as well as more earthquakes in Puerto Rico, and other disasters. Given the rich diversity of our College community, it seems axiomatic that there will be members our College community, and/or their loved ones, who are impacted by one and/or several of these local, state, national, and/or global events. He encouraged and urged us all to continue to please be mindful and empathetic, to hear with intention and listen with purpose. Whether the interaction is with a colleague, student, or whomever, let's ensure we continue to seek the opportunity to embrace, if only for a moment, what that individual is thinking and feeling, and allow that perspective to guide our actions. We can, and will continue to, inspire action and positive social change here at NCC. He wished all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Speakers

Bryce Mack, former SGA President, thanked everyone at NCC and for laying down a solid foundation for his educational journey realized through perseverance over some very difficult situations. Acute challenges have confronted him, yet have not discouraged him from losing his primary focus. Undeterred by his loss in his freshman run for SGA Senator, he ran again as a sophomore, and won. Shortly thereafter, he was hospitalized with a rare infection, which doctors were doubtful he would survive. Although he recovered, he had been compelled to take an incomplete for the semester, but no less was able to fulfill all his missing assignments in time to get credit for his classes. With renewed commitment, he was appointed SGA Vice President, a role in which he was able to advocate for students on a higher platform. This past Fall 2019 semester, after he subsequently ran for and was elected SGA President, he endured a two-month period of homelessness during which he attended class despite being unable to afford any textbooks or school supplies, and yet achieved straight "A"s. He believes that being a student at NCC kept him focused on his goals amidst the worst moments of his life, and that transcending these hardships has strengthened his character and continues to direct him towards his goals, including his aspiration to run for political office in order to give

voice to those who may share similar struggles. He asserted that he will never forget that he got his start at NCC, and reiterated his gratitude to family and the College from whom he has learned that anything is possible with support and determination.

Frank Frisenda, President NCCFT, welcomed everyone back with a Happy New Year. He shared that he met Bryce Mack as a freshman student in one of his Learning Community classes. He characterized Bryce as an individual who comes around once in a very long time and who has an appreciation for learning, and shows presence and leadership. Bryce told him very early that he wanted to run for elected office, and he encouraged Bryce. As much as Bryce has credited NCC, his own agency in overcoming so much and coming so far must be acknowledged. Bryce is a remarkable young man, and no doubt we are going to hear from him in the near future. He wished Bryce the best of luck.

Dawn Nolan, Assistant Dean, Workforce Development, spoke as a member and representative of the NCCAA. She reminded the Board that the NCCAA has been without a collective bargaining agreement for nearly three years. The unit organized after seven years without raises and after repeated broken promises that “[their] turn would come.” The NCCAA has negotiated in good faith, and its members deserve the respect, recognition, and remuneration shown their colleagues in the NCCFT, AFA, CSEA, and the Management Confidential administrators’ group. She reminded the Board that the NCCAA members continually play a critical role in the function of this College, overseeing the daily management of the majority of core operations and offices of this College from Admissions, Advisement, Registrar, Bursar and Financial Aid to Procurement, Finance, Information Technology and Student Services, and from Veterans Services, Facilities Management and Sponsored Programs to Distance Education, Community Services, Workforce Development and Continuing Education, annually serving over 16,000 enrolled credit students, as well as the nearly 10,000 lifelong learners. They handle virtually every application, registration, tuition, fee, and grant-generated dollar, and ensure that the College adheres to numerous federal and State laws and policies and that services are seamlessly delivered. They also contribute to the shared governance as Academic Senators, committee members, and representatives to numerous local, regional, and State-wide entities. On behalf of the NCCAA, she respectfully asked the Trustees, as stewards of this College, to expedite these negotiations and to demonstrate leadership by recognizing the contributions of NCCAA members and committing to what is fair and equitable.


Stefan Krompier, President AFA, stated he had nothing to report.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2020 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 7:30 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Edward W. Powers  
Secretary