

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of May 11, 2021

The six hundred and forty-sixth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Weiss at 6:07 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Edward Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson,
George Siberón, Sophia Costanzo, Student Trustee.

Absent: Jorge L. Gardyn, Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: President Williams, VPs Conzatti, Izquierdo, Kerrigan, Lausch, Muscarella, AVP Wright

Vice Chair Weiss 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 purpose 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 Costanzo moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 6:46 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,
George Siberón, Sophia Costanzo, Student Trustee.

Absent: Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: President Williams, VPs Izquierdo, Kerrigan, Lausch, Muscarella, AVP Wright

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 9-0.

2. Trustee Durso 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 Science Interactive in the amount of \$130,000 as requested by VP Academic Affairs Lausch. (Funding Source: GRANT)

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

3. Trustee Jackson 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 an operating budget for the fiscal year commencing September 1, 2021 in the amount of \$192,154,289 and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees recommends the adoption of the College operating budget by the Nassau County Legislature and the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York.

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

4. Trustee Weiss 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 pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers, and upon the recommendation of the college-wide promotion and tenure committee and the college administration, the faculty members named herein are hereby promoted to the title and position as indicated herein, effective September 1, 2021.

Promotion to Full Professor

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Susan Beganskas	Marketing & Retailing
Thomas Bruckner	Physical Science
Elizabeth Gaudino-Goering	Psychology
Rosann Gonzalez	Biology
Sara Hosey	English
Lisa Korman	Psychology
Mary Lannon	English
Cheryl McBride	Art
Christina Rau	English
Paul Schmidt	Criminal Justice
Nicole Simon	Engineering
Mary Ann Snow	Nursing
Scott Walden	Philosophy
Birgit Woelker	Biology
John Woods	English

Promotion to Associate Professor

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Emanuel Boussios	Sociology
Kevin Costa	Allied Health Sciences
Anna Feuerbach	Sociology
Joseph Pilaro	English
Vondora Wilson-Corzen	Sociology

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

5. First Reading: Policy 7120 Gender Neutral Restrooms

Vice Chair Weiss stated the purpose of Policy 7120 Gender Neutral Restrooms is to conform with recently enacted New York State legislation requiring SUNY state-operated campuses to designate all single occupancy bathrooms as gender neutral bathrooms which the College had been doing. She asked if there were any comments. Dr. Williams certified that Policy 7120 has been reviewed and submitted for consultation to the appropriate constituencies within the College prior to submission to the Board.

Dr. Williams reported on the following items:

Student Highlights

- On May 23, a virtual Commencement is scheduled for approximately 2,800 graduating students. The following day, the College will offer an in-person Drive Into Summer event to celebrate their accomplishment. Along with him, faculty, in regalia, will be on-site providing well wishes to all graduates who participate. He thanked everyone who contributed to the planning and forthcoming execution of both experiences.
- This year's Valedictorian and Salutatorian embody the student excellence cultivated by the College's high-quality, committed faculty and staff who support the achievement of student academic goals.
 - Valedictorian Karol Rubiano, a Social Work major who graduated December 2020 with a 3.97 GPA, has devoted countless hours to NCC clubs and volunteering in the community.
 - Salutatorian Ida Ciarlo, a Nursing major who will graduate with a 3.97 GPA, has dedicated many hours mentoring classmates in the Nursing Department and volunteering in the community.

He thanked Associate Professor Deborah Kilmnick for Chairing the Student Activities committee which identifies the Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

- The Men's Lacrosse team is ranked number one in the nation and will compete in the National Championship games hosted by NCC at Mitchel Field on May 15 and 16.
- The College started an E-Sports program this past Fall for which there has been great interest and accomplishment:
 - Fall 2020 – 36 student athletes (1 national champion);
 - Spring 2021 – 68 student athletes (2 national titles and several placements in the top 5 in the Nation).

He thanked Athletic Director McTiernan and Assistant Athletic Director Bevino for their leadership, and all the coaches and staff in the Athletics Department who help create engagement and learning opportunities outside the classroom and simultaneously reinforce the importance of the academic journey.

Preparing for Fall

- The number and speed of changes around COVID-19 health and safety guidelines have been staggering. The College has been monitoring closely and updating guidance as appropriate, keeping health and safety paramount, as we have throughout the pandemic. Accordingly, there was another recent Health and Safety Town Hall with close to 200 faculty and staff in attendance in the ongoing effort to maintain open communication and transparency. He thanked the Reinventing Task Force, comprising students, faculty, and staff – including representatives from all unions who have been meeting bi-weekly since Fall 2020 to devise and update the College's plans that are ever-evolving.

- Yesterday, the Governor announced that the State will require COVID-19 vaccinations this Fall for all in-person students for public colleges and universities. The State requirement is contingent on the vaccines receiving full FDA approval, rather than on the current emergency use authorization. As we await further details, currently faculty and staff are not a part of this mandate. We expect to receive more guidance from SUNY soon.
- We are closely monitoring registration for Fall 2021, which started a few weeks ago. We must, and we will, carefully examine how students respond to our current course offerings. Whether they are requesting more remote or face-to-face opportunities, we will pivot to endeavor to accommodate those opportunities in a safe environment.
- He thanked the Board for passing the FY22 budget earlier in the evening.

Updates on Initiatives

- The College and Baldwin School District will pilot the Baldwin Nassau Partnership (BNP) beginning in Fall 2021. BNP students will spend their high school day at NCC taking college-level courses. This is a wonderful step in the direction of equitably enhancing student access and completion.
- He expressed appreciation to more than 70 faculty and staff who on the previous day joined Dr. Melinda Karp for a conversation on Guided Pathways. Dr. Karp encouraged the College to focus on identifying appropriate data and information that will ensure we investigate our internal policies, procedures, and frameworks which are leading to our current outcomes and addressing equity gaps. We must be bold and vigilant as we identify institutional structures in order to equitably enhance student access, completion, and post-completion success. She reminded us that we must move forward in a manner which supports and challenges each other and our current structures; that all changes will not lead to the desired outcome the first time around; and that we should find comfort and energy in knowing we will continue assessing and redeveloping, in partnership, in an effort to keep students at the center of all our efforts.

He presented a certificate to Student Trustee Sophia Costanzo, at her last meeting as a member of the Board, with gratitude for her high level of investment and involvement during this academic year and for sharing the student voice.

He thanked the Trustees for their continued support of the College, and all the individuals at the College who work hard to support students and to advance the College. He remains thankful to serve as President of NCC.

Speakers

Donna Hope, NCCFT President, recognized all members of the committee who together support faculty rights, and thanked everyone who continues to work hard to create and to implement plans to bring us safely back to campus in the Fall and to protect every member of our community. She also conveyed gratitude to those who fought to distribute their pay raises which will be received as of May 20th. Dual enrollment is one of the many new initiatives on the table that hopefully will improve recruitment and retention at NCC. She hopes that by next month's meeting we can report an agreed upon shared process with the College and the NCCFT that treats the NCCFT members with the professional respect they deserve so that we can help move this important program forward. NCC will need the support of every Board member to assist in our efforts to ensure that NCC survives, and thrives. This will be another year filled with challenges needing everyone's cooperation to serve the best interests of our students and to advance our College. She congratulated Trustee Durso for being named one of New York State's Labor Power 100, which recognizes union labor leaders and workers' rights advocates fighting for a stronger New York, and also congratulated all the NCCFT members who received promotions.

Stefan Krompiew, AFA President, reminisced about his recently deceased friend of 54 years, Louis Roethel, Prof. Emeritus, an original member of our Math Department, adjunct faculty member, and NCC's first basketball co-coach with our first Dean of Students, Robert Gersten. Their conversations focused on the caring culture at NCC, including how members of the basketball team would carry students with disabilities up two flights of stairs in the College's original building. One of these students became a Valedictorian and a researcher at a law firm; another freshman President became an advocate who was present at the White House for passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990. He shared how he will miss the sage advice of Prof. Roethel, who took great pride in mentoring students personally and professionally.

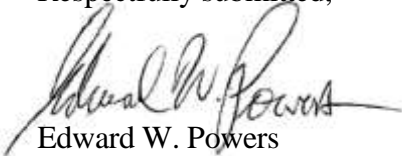
Trustee DeGrace announced that NCC alumnus John Joseph Budnick, who spoke at many Board meetings to champion historical preservation, passed away.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session at approximately 6:30 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward W. Powers". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Edward W. Powers
Secretary