

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of May 10, 2022

The six hundred fifty-fourth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Weiss at 5:40 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair  
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;  
John R. Durso, Ronald J. Rosenberg, George Siberón,  
William P. Stris, Donna M. Tuman, Carl Denaud, Student Trustee.

Absent: Jorge L. Gardyn

Also in attendance: Interim President Conzatti, VPs Kerrigan, Lausch, Interim VP Hahn, 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 Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair  
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair  
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;  
John R. Durso, Ronald J. Rosenberg, George Siberón,  
William P. Stris, Donna M. Tuman, Carl Denaud, Student Trustee.

Also in attendance: Interim President Conzatti, VPs Kerrigan, Lausch, Interim VP Hahn, AVP Wright

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of April 12, 2022. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 7-0-2 (Rosenberg, Stris).

2. Trustee Weiss 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 RH Perry & Associates in the amount of \$100,000 as requested by Officer-in-Charge Haugen.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Weiss. Motion carried 8-0-1 (Rosenberg).

3. 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 an operating budget for the fiscal year commencing September 1, 2022 in the amount of \$183,958,391, 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 Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Denaud. Motion carried 8-0-1 (Rosenberg).

4. Trustee Siberón 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 that the rental fee be waived for use of Nassau Community College Physical Education Complex for the Nassau Kings wheelchair basketball team scheduled on Wednesdays from October 2022 through May 2023 from 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all associated personnel and maintenance costs will be borne by the user.

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

5. 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 Health & Physical Education for a new Certificate program titled **Certified Personal Trainer** and recommends the approval of this certificate program by the State University of New York.

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

6. Trustee Jackson introduced the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the representative composition of the Nassau Community College Presidential Search Committee is hereby established, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that four members of the Board, one of whom must be the Student Trustee, shall serve as members of the search committee and will lead the process, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following entities shall have the right to recommend one representative of their choosing for appointment as a member of the committee: Academic Department Chairs; Academic Senate; Adjunct Faculty Association of Nassau Community College; Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA College Employee); Management/Confidential Staff; Nassau Community College Administrators Association; Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that one alumnus/a of the College and one member of the NCC College Foundation Board, neither of which shall be an employee of the college, shall be appointed to the search committee as representatives of the community, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that two members shall be appointed to the search committee by the Board from nominations relayed to the Board by campus constituencies or individuals who advocate that representation of their nominees would enhance the effectiveness of the search, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the entities enumerated herein, and those constituencies submitting nominations, shall have until 5:00 p.m. on May 24, 2022 to recommend their selection or nomination of a representative to the search committee and forward them to the secretary of the board, and if no recommended candidate nor nomination is forwarded by the stated time, then the opportunity to be represented on the search committee is thereafter foreclosed, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the individuals comprising the search committee shall be established by board resolution at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2022.

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

Interim President Conzatti reported on the following items:

She thanked the Board for having the confidence and faith in giving her the privileged opportunity of being the Interim President of NCC.

Productive preliminary discussions have taken place for NCC to become a partnering institution in Amazon's Career Partner Program. As an Amazon Career Choice School Partner, NCC students who are also employees of Amazon can receive tuition and fee payments for enrollment regardless of major.

The Majority and Minority Caucuses of the Nassau County Legislature were very supportive during recent meetings regarding the College's budget. She thanked former VP Izquierdo for attending prior to his departure.

On Friday, May 13, 2022, NCC is hosting the kick-off dinner for the tournament weekend of the NJCAA Lacrosse National Championship.

On Friday, May 6, 2022, the Marketing & Retailing Department hosted another successful Fashion Show, which this year added an exciting collaborative element with the Theatre Department. Students from the community and local high schools who were invited to the fashion show were subsequently directed to a Theatre exhibit where they were further exposed to other Arts & Humanities programs at NCC. She commended Chairs Lupino and Ginsburg for their cooperative approach in putting the program together and extended best wishes in retirement to Professor Rona Casciola, who ran the program for many years.

On Monday, May 9, 2022, the Presidential Awards Ceremony honored 323 recipients of scholarships totaling approximately \$400,000 for the 2021-2022 academic year. She thanked Trustee Durso as the liaison between the NCC Board and the NCC Foundation Board and Chair McGinty of the NCC Foundation Board for all they do to support our students. She congratulated Trustee Denaud who received several scholarship awards.

Our Center for Excellence and Innovation is the recipient of the \$1.9 million Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Grant for K-12 after-school camps. NCC is Long Island's first higher education institution in the history of this grant to be awarded in conjunction with a K-12 system. The program, which will start in July, aims to create a pipeline for these K-12 students to be introduced to Nassau as a place at which they would like to continue their higher education. She congratulated Director Judith Lewis and Asst. VP Ed Koepfel for their efforts in securing the grant.

She expressed gratitude to Lisa Hahn for accepting to serve as the College's Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration following the departure of her predecessor, VP Izquierdo, who she wished well in his new job. A search will be launched to fill the permanent position.

She wished Chief Martin Roddini, Director of Public Safety, the best of luck in his retirement effective on May 19, 2022. A search is underway for this position.

She thanked Trustee Carl Denaud for his service in representing all students in his role on the Board and wished him congratulations on graduating from NCC and the very best in his future endeavors.

Speakers

Suzanne Kaebnick, Professor of English Department and NCCFT Secretary invited the community and the Board of Trustees to join the NCCFT “23 for 2023” campaign in advocating NC Legislature to increase our operational funding by 15 million, which is only \$23 dollars per household a year. The funding would help retain programs and expand educational programs in emerging career fields for Nassau County residents.

Christine Knight, Clerk-Typist I, Human Resources, reiterated her request for the Trustees to support the approval of long-awaited promotions for herself and five other Clerk-Typists, which their already increased workload would justify.

Elizabeth Hynes-Musnisky, Chair of Academic Senate, repeated her offer from a year ago to work together in building a coalition that will benefit all by committing to learn from our missteps and by engaging in difficult conversations to advance the College and to help NCC regain its standing in the County.

Cristian Castillo, member of the Board of Directors and a Student Volunteer at The NEST, conveyed his enjoyment in serving the guests at The NEST and in being a part of The NEST family. His service there is the most meaningful part of his week, as so little time can help in such a big way. He shared a story regarding a first-time guest who was embarrassed for being judged in needing help. Cristian and the other volunteers welcomed him so he felt comfortable to receive needed support. The NEST is open to all, no questions asked, and its function is clear – not merely to resolve guests’ hunger, but to assure them that they are valued.

Carl Denaud, Student Trustee and a Student Volunteer at The NEST, shared his story of when he started at NCC in 2019 as an international student. His parents were unemployed and could only cover his tuition. He recalled coming to class without having eaten, which impaired his focus, underscoring how hunger can be an obstacle to learning. After one of his teachers mentioned that The NEST was looking for volunteers, he joined to fulfill his own need and has stayed to help others receive the same welcome. Support services such as those provided by The NEST are vital to ensuring the educational mission of the community.

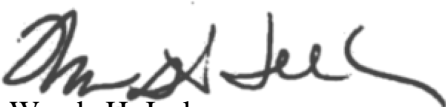
Faren Siminoff, NCCFT President, wished Trustee Denaud all the best in his future endeavors and is certain that he will continue to make wonderful contributions into the future. His is a story typical of many students at NCC and she hopes NCC will continue to be an open, full-opportunity environment for the community. She welcomed new Trustees Rosenberg and Stris and invited them to tour the campus and to meet with faculty and students. She looks forward to their fresh perspective, getting to know each other, and working together.

Dr. Gardyn thanked Trustee Denaud for his year of service and insight he brought to his role as Student Trustee which has been exemplified by what he’s accomplished. He welcomed Trustee Rosenberg and Stris to the Board of Trustees.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wanda H. Jackson  
Secretary