

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES
Meeting of January 22, 2025

The six hundred eighty-second meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, 22, 2025 in the College Center Building Rooms 252-253 and via videoconference. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:29 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;
Lynne D'Agostino, John A. DeGrace,
John R. Durso, George Siberón, Jordon Groom, Student Trustee.

Absent: Elliot S. Conway, Kathy Weiss

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

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) the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof; and 2) to review 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 D'Agostino moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;
Lynne D'Agostino, John A. DeGrace,
John R. Durso, George Siberón, Jordon Groom, Student Trustee.

Absent: Elliot S. Conway, Kathy Weiss

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of December 10, 2024. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

2. Trustee Tuman 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 Technical Temperature Services, Inc. in the annual amount of \$300,000, as requested by Phillip Cappello, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Siberón moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

3. Trustee D'Agostino 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 Huron Consulting Group in the annual amount of \$199,000, as requested by Genette Alvarez Ortiz, Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Groom. Motion carried 8-0.

4. Trustee Durso introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance & Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreement with ZE Creative in the additional annual amount of \$150,000 for a total annual amount of \$198,000, as requested by Joseph Jankowski, Acting VP Institutional Advancement.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee D'Agostino moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn made a motion under Article VIII section C(6) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of an (3)three items that did not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Tuman seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

5. Trustee Tuman stated this is the reading of Policy 4300 which is to define the College's practice with respect to assignment of student credit/contact hours. She asked the Board if there were any comments, being none, Dr. Conzatti stated that she reviewed the policy and it has been submitted for consultation to the appropriate constituents within the College prior to submission to the Board. Trustee Tuman announced, due to the cancellation of the February meeting and the Middle States Visit in March, Policy 4300 will move forward for adoption.

Trustee Tuman introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Policy & Planning Committee at its meeting of January 22, 2025, followed by discussion and reading of the policy by the Board of Trustees and public discussion, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College adopts **Policy 4300: Student Credit/Contact Hours** 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 consider this item. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Trustee Groom asked which constituents were consulted prior to submission to the Board? Dr. Conzatti replied that the policy was submitted through Academic Affairs by posting the policy online, charging it to the Senate and asking for feedback from ASEC and department chairs. Motion carried 7-1(Groom)-0.

6. Trustee Durso introduced the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer of the College and the Chair of the Board of Trustees to execute the settlement agreements and general releases to cause the implementation of the terms set forth therein, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the irrevocable letters of resignation of the employees who is the subject of said agreements, subject to receipt by counsel to the College of the letters of resignation.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Jackson moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

9. Trustee Jackson introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2024, the State University of New York (“SUNY”) Board of Trustees adopted a resolution regarding “Strengthening the Community College Presidential Search Process and Ensuring Transparency and Accountability” (the “Resolution”) which amends the SUNY Guidelines for Presidential Searches for Community Colleges (the “SUNY Guidelines”); and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor of SUNY and other SUNY officials have taken action(s) in furtherance of the aforesaid Resolution, including implementing new requirements regarding the employment contract of community college presidents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College has been advised that the adoption and implementation of said Resolution exceeds the statutory authority granted to the SUNY Board, in contravention to statute and existing policy and/or guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College has further been advised that the SUNY Board failed to promulgate the new rules/requirements contained in the Resolution pursuant to the State Administrative Procedure Act’s statutorily required rulemaking procedure; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College has determined that it is in its best interest to institute legal action, and/or take any other appropriate legal action to protect its rights, authority and autonomy as it relates to the Community College Presidential Search Process.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College hereby authorizes Ingerman Smith, LLP, to commence legal action against the SUNY Board of Trustees, the Chancellor of SUNY, Dr. John King, and/or any other proper parties on a cooperative basis with other community colleges and/or parties in the State Supreme Court, County of Albany, and/or other appropriate administrative agency(ies), jurisdiction(s) and/or tribunal(s), challenging the legality of the action(s) taken by SUNY related to the Resolution, the legality of the Resolution and the action(s) that the Chancellor of SUNY and others have taken in furtherance of the aforesaid Resolution and/or take any other appropriate legal action to address issues relating to the Resolution and its impact on the interests, rights, autonomy and authority of the Nassau Community College; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College is herewith authorized to execute any necessary documentation relative to this action, on behalf of the Board.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 8-0.

Dr. Conzatti reported on the following items:

- The Middle States final report has been submitted. Thanked all who contributed and special thanks to the members of the Middle States Steering Committee, the Tri-Chairs Drs. Alvarez-Ortiz and Smith and Prof. Pat Lupino. Also, many thanks to Dr. Hylton and AVP Floratos for all documentation cataloging and organization, and Acting VP Jankowski and his team for editing under pressure.
- Men’s Soccer finished 4th in the country and won the 2024 Region Championship. Sophomore Marc Augustin earned Region XV Player of the Year, and Coach Dan Fisher was named Coach of the Year.
- Women’s Volleyball finished 9th in the country and won the 2024 Region Championship. Sophomore Sarah Kollarik earned Region XV Player of the Year honors and Coach Chris Harkins was named Coach of the Year in his first year at NCC.

- 8 NCC student-athletes earned NJCAA All-American honors for Fall 2024 (4 football, 2 women's volleyball, and 2 men's volleyball).
- Thirty-four (34) EOP students earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Four (4) students achieved a perfect 4.0, including one first-year student. These accomplishments highlight their perseverance and the valuable support provided by the EOP team throughout the semester.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Board of Trustees' Committee meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. It is anticipated the Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wanda H. Jackson
Secretary