

Clark College  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
May 26, 2021  
Via Zoom

**In Attendance**

Rekah Strong, Chair  
Jeanne Bennett, Vice Chair  
Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee  
Paul Speer, Trustee

**Absent**

None.

**Administrators**

Dr. Karin Edwards, President  
Dr. Michele Cruse, Interim Vice President of Student Services  
Dr. Genevieve Howard, Interim Vice President of Instruction  
Darcy Rourk, Interim Vice President of Human Resources  
Sabra Sand, Interim Vice President of Administrative Services  
Valerie Moreno, Chief Information Officer

**Others**

Kim Witherspoon, Assistant Attorney General  
Suzanne Southerland, AHE President  
Courtney Braddock, WPEA Steward  
Josiah Joner, ASCC President  
Lisa Gibert, CEO, Clark College Foundation  
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder

**I. Call to Order/Agenda Review**

Chair Strong called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Chair Strong opened the meeting, expressing her condolences and remembrance of Trustee Jane Jacobsen. The Trustees took time to share personal stories that highlighted Trustee Jacobsen's work in the community and her impact at Clark. Chair Strong shared that there will be an opportunity for a formal remembrance at the June 9 Board of Trustees meeting.

**II. Action Items**

- A. #1 – April 28, 2021, Board Meeting Minutes
- B. #2 – Consideration of Tenure

**MOTION:** Trustee Speer made a motion to approve Agenda Items II A. Trustee Bennett seconded the motion, and Agenda Items II A. unanimously passed (Chair Strong abstained due to not attending the April 28, 2021, Regular Board Meeting).

**MOTION:** Trustee Canseco Juarez made a motion to approve Agenda Items II B. Trustee Speer seconded the motion, and Agenda Items II B. unanimously passed (Trustee Bennett abstained due to not attending the Executive Session on May 20, 2021). Tenure was granted to Lynda D. Benak, (Nursing) and Valentina Pishchanskaya-Cayanan (Counseling).

### III. Constituent Reports

#### A. ASCC

President Joner gave an update on ASCC and highlighted collaboration for Earth Day week with WSUV and LCC. Mr. Joner shared that the 2021-2022 ASCC officer recruitment is underway, and interviews will be taking place over the next few weeks. Mr. Joner updated the Board on the Services and Activities Fee Committee and released the initial S&A fee budget. Mr. Joner shared that the Oswald Awards will be taking place on June 3, and President Edwards will be the guest speaker (limited in-person event for students who have registered). Mr. Joner shared that ASCC is currently working on the 2021-2022 priorities (student resource access, systemic challenges reformation, statewide initiative). The Board thanked Mr. Joner for his leadership and challenging work over the year.

President Joner introduced Kai Sukles, ASCC Finance Director. Ms. Sukles shared an S&A fee budget overview with the Board and the decisions and relevant recommendations to the allocation process. Ms. Sukles shared that the S&A Fee Committee received funding requests totaling \$1,979,392 with a projection of available funds for allocation for \$1,546,210. Ms. Sukles shared that the impacts of COVID-19 on college operations presented an ongoing challenge to committee funding decisions. Ms. Sukles shared that a review for each program request was evaluated and adjusted based on a hybrid fall quarter, past use (excluding last year), and student support of requested funds. Ms. Sukles shared the fee structure (credits, current fee, proposed fee and difference). Ms. Sukles shared that ASCC will utilize \$449,788 one-time funds to support activities, and the revenue shortfall created by reducing the fee. The Board thanked Ms. Sukles for her presentation.

#### B. AHE

Suzanne Southerland gave an update on AHE and highlighted a collaborative effort with the WPEA to host a vaccine clinic at the STEM building. Ms. Southerland shared that the faculty will be providing a banner and single-stemmed flowers for students at commencement this year and are looking forward to seeing students in person. Ms. Southerland shared her gratitude for the AHE, Executive Cabinet and Budget Committee for their challenging work on the budget. Ms. Southerland expressed her condolences for Trustee Jacobsen.

#### C. WPEA

Courtney Braddock expressed her condolences for Trustee Jacobsen on behalf of WPEA. Ms. Braddock shared her appreciation for the work of Sara Thorsen and her stewardship work with WPEA. Ms. Braddock shared that there are ongoing contract violations and concerns. Ms. Braddock shared that training was provided from the Office of Financial Management; however, there continue to be violations. Ms. Braddock shared that the WPEA is excited to work with the new Vice President of Human Resources. Ms. Braddock shared that she and Mr. Layfield have had monthly meetings with President Edwards and have discussed returning to face-to-face classes, vaccines, and budget cut proposals.

#### **D. Foundation**

CEO Gibert expressed her condolences for Trustee Jacobsen on behalf of the Foundation. CEO Gibert also expressed her condolences for Al Bauer. CEO Gibert shared that the Foundation has been working on their 2021-2022 budget and will be before the Foundation Board in June. CEO Gibert shared that the Foundation is looking forward to awarding \$1.2 million in scholarships for next year's students. The Board thanked CEO Gibert and the Foundation for their fundamental work in fundraising for the College.

#### **IV. Faculty Presentation, *Intercultural Competency Training Series in Communication Studies* – Professor Deena Godwin, MS. & Professor Richa Sharma, MS., MBA**

Dr. Genevieve Howard introduced Deena Godwin and Richa Sharma. Ms. Godwin and Ms. Sharma shared a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted cultural competence completion rates in CMST. The presentation focused on the purpose of the assessment, data from fall 2016 to spring 2019, how the CSMT department will help ensure more consistency among sections and increase completion rates for specific populations, specific strategy for cultural competence training, an overview of the 2020-2021 trainings, training results, culturally responsive teaching strategy examples, and next steps.

The Board thanked Ms. Godwin and Ms. Sharma for their presentation and their intentional work.

#### **V. Reports from Board Members**

Trustee Canseco shared that he has continued with his onboarding with Trustee Speer and Ms. Weldy. Trustee Canseco Juarez shared that he has had an opportunity to meet with President Edwards monthly and explore partnership opportunities with other community groups (such as LULAC). Trustee Canseco shared that he is looking forward to participating in Commencement.

Trustee Bennett shared that she has had the opportunity to meet with President Edwards on a monthly basis. Trustee Bennett shared that she serves on the Foundation Board as a representative of Clark College and is encouraged by the multiple conversations and variety of conversations regarding the upcoming memorandum and the work that needs to be done. Trustee Bennett shared that the College and Foundation are working together pertaining to anti-racism, moving beyond equity and inclusion to a position of anti-racism. Trustee Bennett thanked Eric Merrill, Foundation Board Chair, for his leadership and service to the Foundation.

Trustee Speer shared that he attended the Washington Association of College Trustees Conference and during the conference. Trustee Speer shared that during the conference, he had the opportunity to participate in the development of a new by-law, a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Trustee Speer shared that an email was recently sent regarding voting on new Board officers and committee assignments. Trustee Speer shared the Southwest Washington Equity Coalition has continued in their great work and acknowledged Rashida Willard and her team for the ongoing work and their development of the Equity Decision Making Tool that has been implemented in other parts of the community/Clark County. Trustee Speer shared his gratitude for the Communications and Marketing Team and the way in which they have helped Clark and their programs be visible in the community.

Chair Strong shared that she has continued weekly meetings with President Edwards. Chair Strong shared that she participated in the BOD/BOT meeting and looks forward to continuing cultivating a relationship with the Foundation and ways in which to create intentionality of supporting the

College's goals. Chair Strong shared that she had an opportunity to greet Governor Inslee when he visited Clark to learn more about the Career Launch Program.

**VI. President's Report – President Edwards**

**A. President's Updates**

President Edwards shared that she is having conversations with colleagues across the State regarding a return to campus plan. President Edwards shared those protocols continue to change and more information will be communicated as guidance continues to be provided regarding vaccinations and social distancing. President Edwards shared that she is looking forward to participating in some upcoming in-person events, the Oswald Awards and Commencement. President Edwards acknowledged the two newly tenured faculty and offered her congratulations. President Edwards acknowledged and shared her appreciation for the members of the Strategic Enrollment Management Team for their diligent work. President Edwards acknowledged and Sabra Sand and her team for leading the budget committee as well as the clean audit Clark received.

President Edwards introduced Sabra Sand to present the 2019-20 Financial Statement. Ms. Sand updated the Board that the College received an unmodified audit opinion, a clear opinion for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year (no issues or concerns). Ms. Sand shared that the significant areas of focus were on the ctcLink conversion (payroll systems and tuition calculations) and risk management override of controls. Ms. Sand shared about the pension plans offered by the State of Washington (GASB 68, 73, and 75) and how they significantly impact net positions and other areas of the financial statement. Ms. Sand shared a net position comparison without GASB 68, 73 and 75 (reduces the College's net position by \$55,894,430). Significant changes to the College's financial position, such as a change in current assets (\$1,657,772), increase in capital assets (\$806,438), increase in current liabilities (\$763,912), an increase in noncurrent liabilities (\$3,484,284). Ms. Sand shared that moving forward, GASB 84 (fiduciary activities) and GASB 87 (leases) will be evaluated.

**VII. Public Comment**

The following people gave public comment: Cammie Pasovic.

**VIII. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is currently scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 5:00pm via Zoom.

**IX. Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.



---

Rekah Strong, Chair

Stephanie Weldy, Recorder  
May 26, 2021