

Clark College
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
January 26, 2022
Via Zoom

In Attendance

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

Absent

None.

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Rashida Willard, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and, Inclusion
Paul Wickline, Vice President of Instruction
Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources
Valerie Moreno, Chief Information Officer
Sabra Sand, Interim Vice President of Operations

Others

Tsering Cornell, Assistant Attorney General
Xander Hawkins, ASCC President
Suzanne Southerland, AHE President
Courtney Bradford, WPEA Steward
Ben Moll, Director of Assessment and Institutional Research
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

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

II. Action Items/Consent Agenda

A. December 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Canseco Juarez motioned to approve Agenda Item II A after correcting a format error from the minutes. Trustee Gideon seconded the motion, and Agenda Item II A unanimously passed.

III. Constituent Reports

A. ASCC

Xander Hawkins gave an update of ASCC. In November and December of 2021, the Penguin Pantry served 1,693 students and family members, including 533 boxes totaling 16,133 pounds of food. ASCC has provided information regarding resource opportunities; such as access to labs, leadership opportunities, the tutoring center, workshops, events, and scholarships. On January 12, 2022, ASCC hosted a remote open forum with Dr. Karin Edwards and Dr. Michele Cruse as an opportunity to provide students with updates and answers to questions. ASCC supported Clark College Statewide Initiatives and gave a general work update.

B. AHE

Suzanne Southerland gave an AHE update. A few faculty members have helped with House Bill 1840 (create a committee to improve diversity, equity, inclusion, and mental health) and House Bill 2007 (create a loan forgiveness program for nursing educators to enhance recruitment and retention of nursing educators). The AHE is grateful for the vaccine and mask mandates and shared that the faculty appreciate college leadership for ensuring the campus is safe.

C. WPEA

Courtney Braddock shared a ten-question survey that the WPEA conducted. The survey highlighted responses from Classified Staff regarding the policies and procedures about COVID-19 and concerns and suggestions to help improve the working conditions for Classified Staff.

D. Foundation

CEO Gibert expressed her appreciation for the Board of Trustees who attended the Foundation's Board Diversity Training. CEO Gibert shared that the recruitment process for the Foundation's new CEO is currently underway and will provide updates throughout the process.

IV. Staff Presentation

Ben Moll shared a PowerPoint Presentation highlighting the tools utilized for assessment and institutional research. Mr. Moll introduced the Board to the Clark Insight Dashboards (PowerBI) and how it captures that information. The Board shared their appreciation for the presentation and expressed their gratitude for providing the Board with their requested content.

V. President's Report

President Edwards shared her appreciation for those involved in coordinating the State of the College Address (2nd in-person event since March 2020).

The College celebrated *International Day* on January 25, 2022, with various events held that week. President Edwards thanked the Culinary department and their efforts to provide international food options.

She participated in the Aspen Institutes Presidential Fellowship and highlighted the topic of equity and student success and ways in which restoration can be achieved.

She will be meeting with local legislators in the next few weeks to share more about Clark's legislative priorities. She thanked the faculty who helped with House Bill 1840 and 2007.

President Edwards participated in a Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges (WACTC) meeting and highlighted system enrollment. Enrollment is 6% down throughout the State, FTE's is down by 8%, and Running Start is down by 14%. New student applications have increased; however, re-enrollment and students returning to Clark have decreased by 15%. The Career Technical Program is down by 7%, and transfer students are down by 5%. Overall, the State has experienced a decline in higher education enrollment and K-12 partners.

She recently met with Chancellor Mel Netzhammer, and discussions are underway to increase transfer rates and identify transfer barriers for Students of Color. Next month, there will be a Clark/WSU-Vancouver summit to address these concerns in more detail.

She shared her gratitude for Val Moreno and her work at Clark and wished her well in her future endeavors.

VI. Reports from Board Members

Trustee Gideon shared that she is in the process of onboarding and updated the Board that she has been having 1:1's with other Trustees and the Executive Cabinet. Trustee Gideon attended the ACT (Association of College Trustees) New Trustee Orientation and expressed her appreciation for being well supported in this role.

Trustee Canseco Juarez shared that he continues to have monthly 1:1's with President Edwards and expressed his appreciation for President Edwards and how she is connecting with local partners. Trustee Canseco Juarez had the opportunity to have a 1:1 meeting with Trustee Gideon and suggested a chance to review a Board Packet in more detail during the onboarding process before their first Board of Trustees meeting. He participated in an ACT meeting and enjoyed connecting with other Trustees across the State. He had an opportunity to attend an Affinity Group – Trustees of Color, which addressed ways to help address barriers for Students of Color (financial need to complete their program).

Trustee Speer shared his appreciation for Clark's faculty, staff, and students and acknowledged the challenges Clark has experienced. Trustee Speer shared his appreciation for the Diversity Workshop the Foundation hosted. He appreciates the opportunity to review the Foundation's memorandum of understanding with the Board in a Special Meeting. Trustee Speer shared his gratitude for President Edwards and her State of the College address and how she highlighted the book "*Becoming*" by Michelle Obama. Equity workshops have been helpful and encouraged other Board members to attend them.

Trustee Strong shared that her agency, Educational Opportunities for Children and Families (EOCF), has hired a few Clark Graduates and reflected the ways in which EOCF has been able to support them.

Chair Bennett shared that she attended the Legislative Meet and Greet and the State of the College address. She is helping onboard Trustee Gideon and had an opportunity to join her for the ACT New Trustee Orientation.

VII. Public Comment

The following people gave a public comment: Rosalba Pitkin, Courtney Braddock, and Dr. Willard (introduced Nicole Harris and Mike Law).

VIII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 5:00 pm via Zoom.

IX. Executive Session

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.



Jeanne Bennett, Chair

Stephanie Weldy, Recorder
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