

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Paul Speer, Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Vice Chair

Denise Gideon, Trustee

Rekah Strong, Trustee

Absent

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs

Paul Wickline, Vice President of Instruction

Sabra Sand, Interim Vice President of Operations

Vanessa Neal, Interim Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Calen Ouellette, CEO, Clark College Foundation

Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources

Das Gupta, Interim Chief Information Officer

Other

Brooke Pillsbury, Senior Executive to the President

Julie Taylor, Executive Assistant to the President

Brandon Johnson, IT

Shelley Williams, AAG

Casey Figone, ASCC

Suzanne Southerland, CCAHE

Joey Hicklin, WPEA

Dr. Bevyn Rowland, Professor, Counseling Services

Megan Jasurda, Director of Disability Support Services and ADA Compliance Officer

Jacki Kline, Interpreter

Shivani Saunders, Interpreter

Tiffany Elkington, CART

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Speer called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

II. Action Items/Consent Agenda

1. September 28, 2022, Board Work Session Minutes, as amended
2. September 28, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
3. October 14, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Canseco Juarez made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Gideon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Constituent Reports

ASCC

Casey Figone, ASCC President, shared that the Fall Fair went well, with 200 students in attendance. This Fall, there are four clubs chartered and nine clubs working to be oriented. ASCC leadership is working to place people on committees (10 of 20 spots filled to date). Figone also reported that they've made a change to Article XIV, noting that voting under quorum if two ASCC members are present. The decision must be unanimous for approval.

Trustee Response:

Chair Speer acknowledged the staggering accomplishment and the demonstrated learning and growth of ASCC. In response to operating with a lean team, Chair Speer asked how it is impacting Figone as ASCC President. Figone shared that it's fun, and can be difficult balancing tasks, but enjoys different experiences. He also shared that he is thankful for an adaptable and hard-working team and that he is having fun and is grateful for the experience.

WPEA

Joey Hicklin was recently appointed Co-Chief, following the resignation of Danielle Plessner. Hicklin thanked Danielle for the work she did and looks forward to serving in this role for WPEA. WPEA acknowledged the impacts of the Nikia Forest fires and the use of the inclement weather policy for classified staff. WPEA also looks forward to collaborating with leadership and having proactive conversations about working conditions following the release of the T-Building testing results.

CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland, CCAHE President, – thanked Joey Hicklin for his new role with WPEA and Casey Figone for his work on committee appointments. Southerland reported continued T-Building concerns, including employees concerned about feeling sick in the building, and the negative impact of moving ESL students to an alternate building and meeting their support needs and retention. CCAHE requested additional information about how to support students who have moved out of the T-Building and for clear communication and updates about the T-building. Southerland concluded that she would miss the work of Danielle Plessner, her contributions and improvements, and wished her well in the future

Trustee Responses:

Chair Speer acknowledged that safety is the priority for Clark College. Speer acknowledged Danielle Plessner's work in Tenure Office and on the Presidential Advisory Committee. He wished her all the success in her future role.

Clark College Foundation

Nothing to report for October 2022.

IV. Staff Presentation

Dr. Michele Cruse introduced two critical employees in student services – Dr. Bevyn Rowland and Megan Jasurda.

Dr. Bevyn Rowland and Megan Jasurda shared an overview of their background and how they support Clark students. The Counseling and Health Center provides free, in-person and virtual counseling and low-cost medical care for students, staffed by four counselors, licensed in different specialties. The Center provides support for an array of medical and counseling needs.

Low-cost healthcare, funded by ASCC, includes common services such as physical exams, immunizations, STI testing, reproductive health, prescriptions, and nutrition consulting. The Center takes pride in short wait times and that a student is never turned away due to inability to pay. Dr. Rowland and Jasurda shared a data overview, including that the Center has served 91 students for 152 appointments since July.

The Center provides the following additional resources and services:

- Skills and Support Groups (held remotely with in-person expansion on the horizon)
- Let's Talk! – 20-minute virtual drop-in counseling appointments
- Welcoming space – coffee, tea, snacks, safe space, over-the-counter medication
- Lactation Space

- Chill-Out Room
- Sensory Room

Trustee Responses:

Trustee Strong thanked the team for their presentation, the work they're doing to serve students, the intentionality of DEI, creating a safe space, and being equity centered. She shared that the Center is a homerun in how the team responds to student needs.

Trustee Gideon shared appreciation for the creativity of meeting students where they are. Many students don't seek services due to barriers and she celebrated the team for open access. Gideon asked if services are offered during Summer term and do students have to be enrolled in Summer term to receive services. Dr. Rowland confirmed that the Center is open for select services and students do not have to be enrolled in Summer term to benefit from the services.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez shared appreciation for the presentation and focus on mental health for students. Canseco Juarez asked how the counseling team supports ESL students or deaf students, those that communicate in different languages. Jasurda confirmed that once a deaf student is connected to Disability Support Services (DSS), the team coordinates ASL interpreters, prioritizing accommodations as quickly as same-day requests. Dr. Rowland shared the value of ensuring access to services in a student's primary language. The Center is working to diversify language proficiency on the team, through hiring and the clinical intern program.

Chair Speer asked how the team manages crises after hours. Dr. Rowland shared that resources are available including the Response Team at Clark County Crisis Line 24/7, with which the Center has developed a strong relationship for support. The team is also vetting other crisis line options, including Trans Crisis Line and the BIPOC Line in Portland. They are also working to extend funding for greater access. Mondays and Fridays are busy days at the clinic because of no weekend coverage.

V. Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Gideon - Participated in the Tenure Interviews.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez – Participated in the Budget Committee Meeting, Tenure Interviews, and Noche de Familia. At the Budget Committee Meeting, topics included legislative priorities and the upcoming Legislative Breakfast, focused on compensation for exempt staff, fully funding positions to reduce the burden on colleges, and the importance of funding DEI work. Canseco Juarez also attended Noche de Familia. He shared that it was incredible to see families attend and have an event fully in Spanish. He highlighted questions about college were answered, along with speeches and resources at Clark offered in Spanish, and pathways to WSU and careers. Canseco Juarez shared the benefit to the community and the college to connect in language and culture. He felt a sense of community and looks forward to future events with other communities as well.

Trustee Strong – Celebrated that this year concludes her 10 years on the Clark College Board of Trustees. Strong shared reflections including the changes at Clark College, evolution, progress around DEI, and continuing to build on the foundation built on equity to keep the college relevant. She also shared the importance of remaining student-centered and using the word equity in the way it's intended. Strong concluded to ensure processes, systems, meetings, and engagements are not centered on White Supremacy practices. Area demographics are changing, including 56% of Evergreen public schools are students of color, so make sure Clark College is staying true to equity in every facet.

Chair Speer – Opened by thanking Trustee Strong for the gifts that she has brought to the Board and for sharing her thoughts. Chair Speer represented the Board at NWCCU for the mid-cycle evaluation. He also attended the Foundation Scholarship Reception and acknowledged the leadership of the Foundation and the inspirational comments and words shared. Chair Speer shared that November is National Native American Month, the upcoming POWWOW at Clark, and equity training opportunities for ongoing development.

VI. President's Report

Dr. Edwards shared the following updates:

- NWCCU Mid-Cycle Visit – Chris Bragg and Kurt Simmons shared their findings from the mid-cycle visit in their drafted report. The final report will be submitted to the Commission and outlines there is work to be done in planning and assessment as we prepare for the self-study submission in 2024 and comprehensive visit in 2025.

- Strategic Plan – Preparing to send the Strategic Plan survey to Clark and broader communities for feedback.
- Several Clark employees will be attending the NWCCU Annual Conference. The conference is an opportunity for insight and information on how to advance our work and prepare for our self-study and visit.
- T Building – The college took immediate action following feedback and concerns about building safety. External testing has been completed and the final report is pending. We have remained responsive to concerns, engaging in classroom and office changes, when applicable. Health and Safety as a priority for all and a proactive plan for regular assessment and testing is under development
- POWWOW – Clark College will be hosting the event next Friday, November 4.
- Student Highlight – A student stopped by the office and shared how much he appreciated being at Clark College.

VII. Public Comment

The following participants provided public comment:

Beverly Brosius

VIII. Next Meeting

The Board of Trustees is currently scheduled for a Special Meeting on November 2, 2022, and a Regular Meeting on November 16, 2022, at 5:00 pm.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Speer". The signature is cursive and fluid, with "Paul" on the top line and "Speer" on the bottom line.

Paul Speer, Chair

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder