

# Clark College

## Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

GHL 213 and Zoom

### In Attendance

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

### Administrators

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  
Brooke Pillsbury, Senior Executive, on behalf of Dr. Karin Edwards, President

### Absent

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

### Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General  
Julie Taylor, Executive Assistant  
Brandon Johnson, IT  
Casey Figone, ASCC  
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. November 16, 2022, Board Work Session Minutes
2. November 16, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Gideon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## III. Constituent Reports

### ASCC

Casey Figone, ASCC President, was unavailable to join the meeting. However, Chair Speer shared that a report was provided and can be reviewed in the posted December 7 Board Packet. The Board looks forward to members of ASCC joining the upcoming Legislative Breakfast in January 2023.

### WPEA

No report was provided for the December Board meeting.

### CCAHE

No report was provided for the December Board meeting.

### Clark College Foundation

Calen Ouellette, CEO of the Clark College Foundation, shared a brief overview of the December Foundation report, including a clean Foundation audit, and wished the group happy holidays.

Chair Speer celebrated the work that Ouellette and the Foundation are doing, including the clean audit and the work that the foundation is doing to share Clark College in the community.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez shared gratitude for the presentation in the work session and the partnership with Dr. Edwards and the college. Canseco Juarez also acknowledged Ouellette's leadership, intentionality, and great demeanor in meetings and in the community.

#### IV. Clark College Transitional Studies

Presented by Sara Gallow, Transitional Studies Division Chair, including Kristin Sherwood, and Heidi Summers

Heidi Summers provided a comprehensive overview of Transitional Studies, including international crises and funding allocations. Summers shared gratitude for faculty, staff, new students, and growing enrollment. She also introduced Transitional Studies student Olesia Dmytriieva, a Ukrainian refugee.

Dmytriieva shared an overview of her experience as a refugee coming to America, her decision to study at Clark College, and her focus on supporting refugees with accessing resources at the State and Federal level and Clark College specifically.

Sara Gallow presented an overview of the departmental trend, numbers, and increase of students served. Gallow also shared additional grant funding to support Transitional Studies, including technology funding to purchase laptop computers and to include technical training in the curriculum.

##### Trustee Feedback:

Chair Speer shared gratitude for Olesia for sharing her story. Speer also posed questions and engaged in a discussion regarding how the strategies in Transitional Studies can reach more students, applying them to other programs. Gallow shared that the team is working to raise program visibility, including adult re-engagement campaigns and identifying people who would benefit from the program.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez shared gratitude to the team and for Olesia being part of Clark. Canseco Juarez shared that he recently attended a cello concert in Sherwood, Oregon and that the cellist was doing a tour supporting Ukraine. The *Cello for Peace* tour may allow Clark to host and invite our Ukrainian and extended community.

Trustee Bennett reiterated the appreciation for what Transitional Studies is doing and Olesia's willingness to share her story. Bennett also shared the personal connection that her husband is a volunteer ESL tutor at Clark and that he comes home to share great stories about the students and program.

#### V. Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Bennett shared the work that she is doing as the Board's Legislative Representative in partnership with Vice Chair Canseco Juarez. Bennett recently partnered with Dr. Edwards at the Fall ACT conference, meeting with two specific legislators that she felt saw the value that CTC brings to the community and was pleased by the group's

commitment to community colleges and their budgets. Faculty pay was also shared as a priority. Bennett also represents the Board of Trustees with the Foundation and recently attended the Foundation's Board of Directors meeting, highlighting the following: commending the great work Calen Ouellette (CEO, Foundation) is doing and the Foundation's close partnership with the College regarding Boschma Farms. Bennett also shared that she attended Clark's choir performance the night before. Lastly, Bennett is working with Trustee Gideon to recruit candidates to support the Governor's selection of a new Board member to replace Trustee Strong, calling for applicants to apply through the Clark website Governance page.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez shared that his appointment as Vice Chair has allowed him to meet monthly with Dr. Edwards and Chair Speer. Canseco Juarez shared gratitude for the opportunities to meet and prepare before the meeting and that their expanded partnership is a great way for him to support Dr. Edwards. Canseco Juarez reiterated how beneficial the Work Session was and the uplifting work everyone is doing. As a Board member and community member, Canseco Juarez shared that the actions being taken by Clark mean so much. He shared gratitude for the intentionality going on to really connect with students and our families, the College's openness to trying new things, and for expanding what we used to do. Canseco Juarez wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Trustee Gideon shared that she recently met with Dr. Edwards and that she and Trustee Bennett and actively working to recruit candidates to support the Governor's selection of a new Board member.

Trustee Strong shared that she joined the trustees for Tenure interviews and appreciates being a part of the Tenure process.

Chair Speer shared that he recently attended the Winter Social and Retirees' Recognition event, acknowledging that the event was a great way to recognize those that have contributed huge chunks of their lives to Clark College and students. Speer shared that a new ACT group for Board Chairs recently started, offering opportunities for Chairs to connect for development and collaboration. Lastly, Speer and trustees engaged in the recent Tenure review of first- and second-year candidates, which was a chance to connect on a more personal level.

## VI. President's Report

Presented by Brooke Pillsbury, Senior Executive, on behalf of Dr. Karin Edwards

Notable updates include the following:

- The College is currently interviewing for the VP of Operations role. We plan to finalize candidate interviews next week and hope to have a permanent appointment by the end of the year.
- The College will be in remote operations from December 19 – 23. The College will be closed to observe Christmas as a Federal holiday on Monday, December 26,

and New Year's Day as a Federal holiday on Monday, January 2. We will resume standard operations the following business day.

- The Fall Nursing Pinning Ceremony is tonight, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, held in Gaiser Hall and virtually via Zoom. Congratulations to Clark nursing students, and we look forward to the healthcare impact our nursing graduates will have in our community and beyond.
- Dr. Edwards, Sabra Sand, and Calen Ouellette will meet with Ridgefield's mayor and city manager next week to discuss Boschma Farms property development. The team looks forward to further updating the Board in the coming months.
- Our office received the current Penguin Pantry report from Sarah Grueler, Director of Student Life. We are thrilled to report that the Penguin Pantry was able to serve 350 Thanksgiving meals to our students. Aside from the meaningful work done to support students with the holiday meal, for the Fall quarter, the pantry has served 252 individual students, 845 family members and provided just shy of 10,000 pounds of food. Dr. Edwards is grateful we are for the work that Sarah, her team, and the many contributors across the college are doing to contribute to the Penguin Pantry's success.
- A Strategic Plan Update – As of midday on Monday, December 5, we received 429 survey responses. We feel positive about the breath of feedback we've received from students, staff, faculty, and community members. Our partners at Education Northwest will provide a comprehensive data analysis through next week. Executive Cabinet, in partnership with Brooke Pillsbury and Julie Robertson, will be finalizing our drafted Key Performance Indicators and working to finalize the strategic plan based on collective feedback. We look forward to engaging with the college's stakeholders as we finalize the plan and are excited to continue the work in alignment with the plan in 2023.

## VII. Public Comment

Beverly Brosius

## VIII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session held.

## IX. Next Meeting

The Board of Trustees is currently scheduled for a Work Session and Regular Meeting on January 26, 2022, starting at 3:30 pm.

## X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Paul Speer

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Paul Speer, Chair

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder