

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

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

Absent

Marilee Jones Scarbrough, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs
Jim Wilkins-Luton, Interim Vice President of Instruction
Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations
Vanessa Neal, Interim Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources
Sudha Frederick, Vice President of Information Technology
Calen Ouellette, Clark College Foundation CEO

Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General
Brooke Pillsbury, President's Office
Julie Taylor, President's Office
Brandon Johnson, IT
Emma Sturm, ASCC
Carol Hsu, Engineering
Tina Barsotti, Engineering
Kaylee Judd, Clark Alumnus
Candas Barnes, Interpreter
Julie Gebron, Interpreter
Becc Kidder, Captioner

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Canseco Juarez called the regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Chair Canseco Juarez welcomed everyone to the September 27 Board regular Board meeting and provided an overview of the content covered at the work session.

II. Land and Labor Acknowledgment

Clark College Mission and Vision, and Land and Labor Acknowledgment offered by Trustee Paul Speer.

III. Public Comment

No Public Comments

IV. Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. September 27, 2023 – Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. September 27, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- c. Clark College Fiscal Year-End Cash Balances

MOTION: Consent Agenda a-b. Trustee Speer moved to approve items a and b on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Speer requested additional discussion and explanation of item c - Fiscal Year-End Cash Balances from Vice President of Operations Sabra Sand prior to the Board motion.

ADDITIONAL MOTION: Trustee Speer moved to approve item c on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Constituent Reports

ASCC

ASCC President Emma Sturm shared the following update:

- ASCC is working to engage the campus community to bring awareness to student resources, including clubs, programs, workshops, events, leadership opportunities, ODEI, and the Tutoring Center.
- ASCC is working to enhance campus climate by supporting club leadership, how to market their clubs, and growing Student Life social media.
- ASCC Civics and Sustainability Director Tammy Pham hosted voter registration booths at Noche de Familia and the ASCC Pumpkin Competition.
- Sturm highlighted the strong engagement ASCC has had with events and activities.
- Introduction of the Waddle Awards, a new quarterly award initiative ASCC is starting.

Chair Canseco Juarez shared gratitude for Emma's report and the work that goes on behind the scenes. Also, share gratitude with the other student leaders for creating a sense of belonging.

Clark College Foundation (CCF)

Foundation CEO Calen Ouellette shared the following report:

- Ouellette highlighted four key areas of focus:
 - Gratitude for Trustees attending the Foundation's annual scholarship reception (500 scholarships and \$1.3 million to date this academic year). 300 attendees, connecting students, their families, the community, and Clark College. He shared that the team is deep diving into how to make scholarships more accessible to all.
 - Launch of the Student Success Fund.
 - Conversations Event in early November, featuring Director of Athletics Laura LeMasters
 - CCF completed a communication audit. The audit reviewed Clark College and CCF brand identification. More detailed information to come.

Chair Canseco Juarez shared gratitude and his positive experience working with Foundation and College leadership through the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors leaders' quarterly meeting.

VI. N.E.R.D. Girls and G.E.E.K.S. Presentation

Presented by Carol Hsu and Tina Barsotti, including Clark Alumnus Kaylee Judd

Carol Hsu and Tina Barsotti provided a comprehensive overview of the inspiring and engaging STEM mentorship and enhancement provided by the N.E.R.D. Girls and G.E.E.K.S. through community building, networking, learning, and events. They also engaged the Trustees by sending a Welcome Packet, including a platonic solids activity for the Trustees to try.

Hsu and Barsotti invited former Clark alumnus and N.E.R.D. Girls President Kaylee Judd, who is currently attending Rochester Institute of Technology, to share more about her experience, and the value of being a part of N.E.R.D. Girls, what she's doing now, and how she's engaging her current learning community and STEM club.

Trustee Questions and Feedback:

Trustee Speer shared gratitude for Kaylee and congratulated her success. He also shared appreciation for Tina and Carol for the work they do, including their work in the community with non-profits. Speer inquired about how they prepare for obstacles impacting women's persistence and retention challenges in STEM. Hsu shared the importance of students building communities together; it's both heartwarming and helps them go through the program and profession and build a network. Barsotti agreed with Hsu, and Judd shared the emphasis on networking and its path to mentorship opportunities.

Vice Chair Gideon shared gratitude for the presentation and learning about the groups and acronyms. She also emphasized how important networking is, especially for women.

Trustee Bennett shared gratitude for Tina and Carol and the support they're providing people and students. She also acknowledged their great work in the community. Finally, Bennett shared her excitement to see where Kaylee ends up and how she makes the world a better place.

Dr. Edwards acknowledged Hsu and Barsotti's work and expressed appreciation for all they do. She also shared well wishes for Kaylee and encouraged her to keep telling her story.

Chair Canseco Juarez reinforced appreciation for the presentation, the work Hsu and Barsotti do, representation, and the value of connecting current and former students to share, support, and showcase the importance of N.E.R.D. Girls and G.E.E.K.S. He shared he's excited to hear more in the future.

VII. Reports from the Board Members -

Trustee Bennett had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Edwards. Bennett also wanted to take a minute to share that she feels tender about what's going on in our world. As such, she feels a little depressed by it, but the monthly Board meetings are uplifting. The college vision is working, emphasizing we're trying our best. Bennett shared that the stories in the room tonight, and things that are going on at the college, provide hope. Inspired, she donated to the Foundation during the meeting and shared gratitude for the work everyone does.

Vice Chair Gideon had the opportunity to meet with the Foundation Board of Directors for the quarterly BOD/BOT meeting, which was very informative, and she's impressed with the Foundation. Gideon also met with Chair Canseco Juarez and Dr. Edwards, had a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Edwards, and is looking forward to the next Chair/Vice Chair affinity group meeting to continue to develop in her role as Vice Chair.

Trustee Speer echoed what Jeanne shared. He gave a shout-out to CCE, sharing he's taken a handful of classes since the early 90s, and it has a huge impact on the community. He recently took the CCE course *Cowlitz Tribe: Then and Now*. Great work, Cowlitz Spiritual Elder Tanna Engdahl and the CCE team. Speer also gave a shout-out to the Foundation and embedding with the College, which was evident at the scholarship event. He shared two heartwarming opportunities from the event. Finally, Speer recognized Dr. Cruse for her elevation to Board Chair for Fourth Plain Forward and his deepest admiration for Dr. Edwards and leadership, strategic plan alignment, and community betterment.

Chair Canseco Juarez started his report by reminding constituent groups to submit their reports timely to support the Trustees with their review of the reports before the Board meeting. Canseco Juarez shared gratitude and congratulations to Dr. Edwards, Executive Cabinet, faculty, and staff, for helping the college increase the FTE for the Fall term. He had the privilege to join Dr. Edwards for the ACCT Leadership Congress, connecting with Trustees and Presidents across the country and industry leaders. Canseco Juarez encouraged Trustees to continue to participate in event opportunities. He concluded with upcoming events:

- Thursday, November 2 – Topping Out Ceremony at Boschma Farms,
- Friday, November 3 – POWWOW,
- Tuesday, November 7 – VCOE Career and Resource Fair,

- Wednesday, October 31 – First Gen Student Presentation,
- Right now, faculty and staff are participating in the Faculty and Staff of Color Conference (FSOCC) through Friday.

VIII. President's Report

Presented by Dr. Karin Edwards

Dr. Edwards acknowledged that the Trustees shared many mutual updates, but shared the following updates since the last regular Board meeting:

- Hosted a Community-Based Organization Summit - an opportunity to share information about what organizations do and how we can connect students to the opportunities.
- Noche de Familia event – good showing of participation, and prospective students were supported to complete admissions applications during the event.
- CCF Scholarship Reception – the level of gratitude from students was heartwarming. They were truly grateful for the support. She also enjoyed connecting with donors and hearing their stories.
- ACCT Leadership Summit – extensive opportunities through workshops, networking, and relationship building.
- Met with CEO of College Spark – great appreciation for their mission-focused work centered on eradicating racism from education.
- Looking forward to the Topping Out Ceremony in Ridgefield on Thursday, November 2.
- Participated in a pre-conference session today for FSOCC and looking forward to more sessions through Friday.
- Concluded with gratitude for EC and the Trustees.

IX. Next Meeting

The next scheduled Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023, starting at 3:30 pm.

X. Executive Session

No executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Canseco Juarez adjourned the regular meeting at 6:28 pm

Cristhian A. Canseco Juarez

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Chair

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder