

# Clark College

## Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

GHL 213 and Zoom

### In Attendance

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

### Absent

### 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  
Calen Ouellette, CEO, Clark College Foundation  
Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources  
Das Gupta, Interim Chief Information Officer

### Other

Benjamin Haslam, Assistant Attorney General  
Brooke Pillsbury, Senior Executive  
Julie Taylor, Executive Assistant  
Brandon Johnson, IT  
Casey Figone, ASCC  
Courtney Braddock, WPEA Co-Chair  
Suzanne Southerland, CCAHE  
Karen R., 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.

Public Comment updated from the end of the meeting up in the meeting agenda.

## II. Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. January 25, 2023 – Board Work Session Minutes
- b. January 25, 2023 – Board Regular Meeting Minutes
- c. February 22, 2023 – Board Work Session Minutes
- d. February 27, 2023 – Executive Session Tenure Special Meeting Minutes
- e. HERDI Advisory Board Acknowledgement

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

## III. Tenure Vote

- a. Marisol Moreno Ortiz  
MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve granting tenure to Marisol Moreno Ortiz. Seconded motion from Trustee Gideon – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- b. Katy Anastasi  
MOTION: Vice Chair Canseco Juarez motioned to approve granting tenure to Katy Anastasi. Seconded motion from Trustee Bennett – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- c. Tanya Diaz-Kozlowski  
MOTION: Trustee Gideon motioned to approve granting tenure to Tanya Diaz-Kozlowski. Seconded motion from Vice Chair Canseco Juarez – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- d. Alejandra Herring  
MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve granting tenure to Alejandra Herring. Seconded motion from Vice Chair Canseco Juarez – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- e. Tom Olsen  
MOTION: Vice Chair Canseco Juarez motioned to approve granting tenure to Tom Olsen. Seconded motion from Trustee Bennett – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- f. Mark Keats  
MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve granting tenure to Mark Keats. Seconded motion from Trustee Gideon – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- g. Wade Hausinger  
MOTION: Vice Chair Canseco Juarez motioned to approve granting tenure to Wade Hausinger. Seconded motion from Trustee Bennett – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.
- h. Jesse Kysar  
MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve granting tenure to Jesse Kysar. Seconded motion from Trustee Gideon – passed 4 affirmatives and 1 abstain.

Chair Speer congratulated all the tenured faculty on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Additionally, Chair Speer acknowledged the committees and the administrative teams for supporting the tenure process.

#### IV. 2023 – 2028 Strategic Plan Vote – Chair Speer

Chair Speer and Dr. Edwards provided a brief overview of the Strategic Plan and presentation during the prior Work Session.

MOTION: Trustee Strong motioned to approve the strategic plan as presented to the Board of Trustees. Vice Chair Canseco Juarez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### V. Constituent Reports

##### ASCC

Casey Figone, ASCC President, shared the following updates:

- 12 clubs chartered and working to charter three additional clubs.
- Activities Chair budget request submitted.
- David Goebel, ASCC Vice President, placed eight representatives in 2023.
- ASCC hired three new individuals, and ASCC is now fully staffed with 7/7 members.
- Successfully hosted *Snack and Study* to support students preparing for Winter term finals.
- David Goebel will represent ASCC at the College's upcoming Legislative Visit.

Chair Speer shared that the work of ASCC continues to be impressive. He also acknowledged Sarah Gruhler for her work with ASCC.

##### WPEA

Courtney Braddock, WPEA Co-Chair, shared the following updates:

- Congratulations to today's tenured faculty.
- Highlighted WPEA Classified Staff Appreciation Week.
- WPEA's devastation of the 6% budget cut – Braddock shared that members continue to feel the impacts of budget cuts, including morale, workload, high turnover, and student impacts of services. They shared that WPEA does understand that the cuts are seen as creating financial stability but are concerned about the hardship. WPEA encouraged the College not to cut staff by increasing the backfill from the College's reserves. They acknowledged that there are no easy answers but emphasized that the College can't continue to do more with less.

## CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland, CCAHE President, shared the following updates:

- Congratulations to newly tenured faculty.
- Congratulations to Courtney Braddock as the Union Member of the Year.
- Shared a shout-out to classified staff on behalf of faculty and gratitude for their work with classified all year around.
- CCAHE requested not to cut employees in the upcoming budget reductions. The potential of losing jobs is weighing heavy on people's minds, based on the history of employees losing their jobs through the reduction process. Southerland shared that cutting more employees isn't feasible, leading to less quality in our services and ability to serve students. Southerland shared that CCAHE is happy to contribute to budget solutions, along with WPEA, that don't impact cuts to people.

## Clark College Foundation

Calen Ouellette, Clark College Foundation (CCF) CEO, shared congratulations to the newly tenured faculty, updates on the scholarships award cycle, and CCF's alignment with the strategic plan. Ouellette also acknowledged the success of he and the President's Conversations event last Tuesday, emphasizing that he was proud of the outcome and the individuals in the room.

Chair Speer shared that he recently sat in on a board meeting in Dr. Edwards's absence and that he continued to celebrate the alignment between the Foundation and the College. Having a great partner in the Foundation is a pleasure, and Speer acknowledged Ouellette's leadership.

## VI. [Bachelor of Science in Computer Science \(BSCS\)](#)

**Presented by Izad Khormaei, Professor of Engineering**

Jim provided an introduction, including Izad Khormaei's education and professional background, as well as a personal introduction to Professor Khormaei's excitement for recently becoming a grandparent and his love for kayaking.

Professor Khormaei provided an overview of the development of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, as well as the value to students and employers.

### Board of Trustees Questions and Discussion:

Trustee Strong shared gratitude for the college doing this work, aligning with the Strategic Plan, and creating alignment with the needs of students and the community.

Trustee Gideon shared her excitement to see the direct correlation between the program to employment opportunities in the community.

Chair Speer shared enthusiasm for the outside-in approach of what does community and employers need and designing the system/program to align. Additionally, Speer and Professor Khormaei discussed the program's Advisory Committee and their ability to impact the success of the program, as well as the value proposition of the BSCS at Clark vs another institution and how we spread the word. Professor Khormaei emphasized that the program is especially well-positioned to care for students who are non-traditional or first-generation. He used math as an example and how Clark College can support students to get to the level needed to be successful. Another benefit is that the program focuses on what is needed to be a successful practitioner. Finally, through the College, program, and Advisory Committee, Professor Khormaei emphasized strong industry and community relationships.

Trustee Bennett acknowledged the benefit of the program leading to a high-paying career and longevity for workforce development, as well as upskilling current employees. As the college thinks about the students who could benefit, there could be more opportunities to engage those working in the field that are ready to advance their skills.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez offered a suggestion to connect with business leaders on the advisory committee and engage local non-profits connected with diverse communities to share the opportunities with potential students and their families. Examples include IUrbán Teen, Latino Leadership NW, Community Resource Officers in the high schools, and Evergreen LNEC.

## II. Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Bennett shared that she attended the Foundation Exec Meeting and Conversations with Calen and Dr. Edwards, both engaging. Bennett also traveled with Dr. Edwards and Vice Chair Canseco Juarez to Washington, D.C., for the National Legislative Summit. At the summit, she met with trustees and Federal representatives. Bennett also participated in NWREC and offered praise to Vanessa Neal and the ODEI team, emphasizing the incredible value for the participants and the College. Finally, Bennett offered congratulations to the newly tenured faculty.

Trustee Gideon acknowledged the newly tenured faculty and shared that she attended the Trustee of Color workshop, participated in Trustee Tuesday for the first time, and met with Dr. Edwards.

Chair Speer shared how impressed he was by NWREC, including how NWREC is a great example of Clark College's community impact. Another example is the Bee Campus. He also gave a shout-out to the Dental Program, featured in the Columbian today. Chair Speer provided schedule updates, including the next Trustee Tuesday on March 14 from

8:00 – 9:00 am, Legislative work with another visit to Olympia on March 27, and Town Halls upcoming this month.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez shared congratulations to the tenured faculty. He engaged in the WA ACT in Olympia and the National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. Both great opportunities to connect with trustees. He shared that Dr. Edwards is a steadfast supporter of staff, faculty, and students and speaks with heart and grace and says what our leaders need to hear and the true needs of Clark College and the county. Canseco Juarez thanked Dr. Edwards for her leadership. He shared that the Board gets the opportunity to interact in a Board meeting, but it was his first opportunity to see her in the community at the state and national levels. Seeing her have a voice and not be afraid to say difficult things and speak truthfully was extremely exciting. Canseco Juarez concluded with gratitude for the new Strategic Plan and for keeping equity at the center of all we do.

Trustee Strong shared that she attended the Boys and Girls Club Student Leader of the Year awards. She also shared that she was tremendously proud to have the representation of Dr. Edwards as an Iris Award nominee. Next Month, Strong looks forward to presenting at the Black Students and Family Fair.

### III. President's Report

Presented by Dr. Karin Edwards

- Executive Cabinet has been focused on the FY24 Budget and sees what's coming to fruition from last year's forecast. The process is collaborative, and we recognize we can't cut our way to success. The budget will include reductions, fund balance, and investment to grow our enrollment. Federal legislators have asked for funding requests, and we are engaging in submissions and working together with Calen Ouellette (CCF) to bring business and resources to Clark. Dr. Edwards welcomed the opportunity for staff and faculty to chime in through the Budget Committee and Vice Presidents.
- Legislation – State-level with many bills that are being finalized and funded.
  - COLA – funding at 83% and request that the state fully fund COLA;
  - Bills regarding workforce funding (development, upgrades, and hiring);
  - Equity Bill; and
  - Technology Bill.
- Applying for Community-funded projects.
- Sudha Frederick will start on Monday, March 13, as the new VP of Information Technology.
- Maureen Hefflin joined the College as the new Director of Communications

- CEO at PeaceHealth shared that they held a recruitment match day for nurses. Of the 63 candidates in attendance, 56 were hired on the spot, and 99% were from Clark.
- Congratulations to the faculty who received tenure this evening. Looking forward to your continued contributions, growth and support of Clark College.

#### IV. Public Comment

One Anonymous Submission

#### V. Executive Session

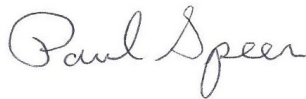
There was no Executive Session held.

#### VI. Next Meeting

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

#### VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.



Chair Paul Speer

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder