

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Chair
Denise Gideon, Vice Chair
Marilee Jones Scarbrough, Trustee
Jeanne Bennett, Trustee
Paul Speer, 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
Joey Hicklin, WPEA
Kenton Myers, Interpreter
Victoria Tejada, Interpreter
Bece 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 work session. As part of his welcome, he provided an overview of upcoming events from ODEI.

Land and Labor Acknowledgment offered by Vice Chair Gideon.

II. Public Comment

No Public Comments

III. Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. August 23, 2023 – Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. August 23, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- c. Board of Trustees Handbook – Interfund Loan Policy

MOTION: Trustee Bennett motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Speer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Ratification

2023-2025 AHE Contract Ratification Vote

MOTION: Trustee Speer motioned to approve the 2023-2025 Clark College AHE Contract Ratification. Trustee Scarbrough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Constituent Reports

ASCC

ASCC President Emma Sturm shared the following update:

- Celebrating student resources and awareness (welcome week + student involvement fair) increase from last Spring, with well over 200 people engaged.
- Prepping for College 101 presentations – resources on campus (Penguin pantry and ODEI office)
- Engaging students on campus with information about voting, including welcoming the Women's League of Voters to the Involvement Fair.
- Working on outreach and election prep.
- Campus Climate – working to initiate students on campus and get them involved in groups and clubs.
- ASCC Club Coordinator is currently working to get this year's clubs chartered.
- Focus - more representation of ASCC leadership at clubs and events (athletics, clubs, meetings, etc.).
- The first ASCC meeting of the year will be held next week.

Chair Canseco Juarez welcomed Sturm and congratulated her on her appointment. He shared that he's excited about the focus on making students feel welcome and providing resources.

Trustee Speer shared congratulations for a great job on Opening Day and celebrates what Sturm will accomplish in her new role.

WPEA

Joey Hicklin, WPEA, shared the following report:

- Addressing the understaffing in Enrollment Services.
- Concerned not to witness Dr. Cruse engage with her Enrollment Services staff.
- The Enrollment Services team has been reduced to a skeleton crew, from 18 full-time and 8 part-time team members, and now only 8 full-time team members. The demands have risen.
- Hicklin shared team has been sounding the alarm for years due to the inability to provide support at staffing levels.
- Pleading for 4 full-time staff and 8 part-time staff to meet students' needs.
- Tenets referenced, mentioning reducing student access for those that need it most.
- Work Study students working the front door – need more senior classified staff people.

Hicklin closed his report sharing that it is imperative that leadership address these concerns.

CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland, CCAHE, shared the following report:

- The energy on Opening Day was positive and uplifting, filled with Fall quarter excitement. Southerland acknowledged the lack of captions on the videos was unfortunate but shared appreciation for the quickly acknowledged and remedied error.
- Shared consideration for the Board to explore concerns raised by Robert Weston and accessibility at the College.
- CCAHE stands in solidarity with WPEA in the request for the College to look more closely at Enrollment Services. Humbled by the people who have spoken up about their concerns. At a minimum, Southerland shared that we need to discuss how to resolve this.
- Congratulations to new tenure track faculty. They are the future of the College, and it's inspiring.

VI. Clark College Foundation Overview

Presented by Clark College Foundation CEO Calen Ouellette

Dr. Edwards introduced Calen Ouellette, sharing alignment efforts between the College and Clark College Foundation (CCF).

Ouellette provided a comprehensive high-level overview of the following status updates and focus for CCF:

- CCF Organizational Chart
- Overview of Finance and Business Operations, including an operational budget overview.
- Fundraising and Engagement highlights, including Development Team fundraising goals, how the team engages donors, and the introduction of Bucket Funds
- Overview of efforts, including Friend-raising, Athletics focus, and Alumni Relations at CCF.

Trustee Questions and Feedback:

Trustee Speer shared that it's great to see fewer funds with restrictions and feedback on the opportunity to enhance the fund names or further explanation/description to help donors

understand the Buckets through a donor lens. Ouellette shared gratitude for the feedback, the team's focus on strategic marketing, and that they will action the suggestion to add a description to the Bucket Funds.

Trustee Bennet shared gratitude for the amazing work at the Foundation and how refreshing it is, emphasizing that the College and CCF are lifting each other up as they lift the students.

Vice Chair Gideon shared appreciation for the synergy between the college and the Foundation.

Trustee Scarbrough shared gratitude for her recent experience at the CCF Retreat, emphasizing that it was focused, strategic, fun, and obvious that there's a great alignment between the Foundation and the College's strategic plan.

Chair Canseco Juarez shared gratitude for CCF and their work to benefit Clark students, break down barriers, and provide resources to students, staff, and faculty. He also shared gratitude for the informative presentation.

VII. Reports from the Board Members -

Trustee Bennett shared her excitement to be at Opening Day and kudos to everyone who put on an amazing day for faculty and staff. Great to see the enthusiasm and see everyone on campus, seeing Emma Sturm (ASCC) speak, and gratitude to CCF for providing lunch. She shared it was also a privilege to join the Foundation for the Executive Committee Meeting at the beginning of the CCF retreat.

Trustee Scarbrough shared that she attended a Legislative Advocacy meeting earlier this week. Their agenda focused on the operating and capital budget legislative request and the goal for trustees to support their colleges during the legislative session. Scarbrough also attended Trustee Tuesday, where the State Board shared their strategic plan with goals similar to Clark's strategic plan focus. Scarbrough met with Executive Cabinet (EC) for 1:1 meetings and shared gratitude for EC's time.

Vice Chair Gideon shared that she attended Opening Day for the first time at Clark, emphasizing that meeting in person was a wonderful experience. Gideon also shared that she's spent the last month learning more about the responsibilities of being a chair and vice chair for the Board.

Trustee Speer shared that he attended Trustee Tuesday, referencing the book *The Great Upheaval*, which does a great job talking about the history of higher ed, pressures on the system, a summary of job sectors, and possible things to think about in higher ed. He also attended Opening Day, enjoying watching the College wake up and seeing the academic notices, athletics, arts and music, plant sales, community partnerships, etc. Speer concluded by reflecting on the impact of the multiple College Presidential losses within a couple of days of one another, reminding us of our purpose, the outcomes we work to create, and why it matters.

Chair Canseco Juarez shared that Opening Day was wonderful, with gratitude for the people who invited him to their departments and to be in community. He thanked Dr. Edwards for her conversations and collaborations and acknowledged Brooke Pillsbury and Julie Taylor for their support. Canseco Juarez shared that he attended the Grand Opening of the Fourth Plain

Community Commons down the road from Clark, and that it was great to see some of Clark's team represented at the event (Dr. Cruse, Trustee Bennett, and more). He concluded with the following upcoming events: ODEI Open House (11:00 am – 1:00 pm); Noche de Familia (4:00 – 8:00 pm); upcoming Queer Student Luncheon. Canseco Juarez also encouraged trustees sign up for Trustee Tuesday.

VIII. President's Report

Presented by Dr. Karin Edwards

Dr. Edwards shared the following updates since the last regular Board meeting:

- Met with John McDonagh, CEO of the Greater Vancouver Chamber, to discuss partnerships and that his agency is ready and willing to offer paid internships.
- Participated in the Executive Women's Session
- Voted to the American Association for Women in Community Colleges.
- Attended the Governance Board for Career Connect SW Washington, working to secure a grant through the Gates Foundation with Clark as a partner.
- Participated in the WSU-V Advisory meeting and walked through their strategic plan.
- Met with a Cowlitz representative to discuss adding tribal enterprise content to Clark's business program.
- Met with Vigor to rekindle a former partnership to provide work-based learning and philanthropic support.
- Joined a group for a roundtable with Representative Gluesenkamp Perez.
- Attended the NW Equity Summit with Calen Ouellette and Vanessa Neal.
- Looking forward to C-TRAN's Vine at Mill Plain Grand Opening on Saturday afternoon.

Dr. Edwards concluded by correcting information shared by Hicklin during WPEA's report regarding Dr. Cruse's unwillingness to meet with her staff.

IX. Next Meeting

The next scheduled Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

X. Executive Session

No executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Canseco Juarez adjourned the regular meeting at 6:30 pm

Cristhian A. Canseco Juarez

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Chair

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder