

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Denise Gideon, Chair

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations

Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs

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

Dr. Terry Brown, Vice President of Instruction

Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources

Sudha Fredericks, Vice President of Information Technology

Calen Ouellette, Clark College Foundation Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Cecelia Martin, Associate Vice President of Planning and Effectiveness

Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Darci Feider, President's Office

Julie Taylor, President's Office

Brandon Johnson, IT

Call to Order/Agenda Review

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

Public Comment

Larry J. Smith

David Casteel

Tyson Dykes

Amelia Vandorph

James Ron Power

Debbie Wickwire

Natalie Perdun

Mike Arnold

Makayla Biava

Stephanie Wagner

Jesse Hope

Michael Strive

Jessie York

Danielle Pleaser

Lisa Bullard

Deb Montez

Stephanie Hall

Laura Nagel

John Curry

Chase Sungkamee

Janice Morales

Brock Gilder

Kayla Hawkins

Paul Burger

Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. September 25, 2024 - Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. September 25, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Bennett moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Chair Scarbrough seconded the motion. Motion passed as presented.

- c. Board of Trustees Policy Review Calendar

MOTION: Vice Chair Scarbrough moved to approve the Board of Trustees Policy Review Calendar. Trustee Canseco Juarez seconded the motion. Motion passed as presented.

Constituent Reports

The board highly values the constituent reports and again asked that written reports be submitted in advance of each board meeting.

ASCC

Gurrag Singh Dhani, ASCC President, shared that the ASCC Student Government is enhancing student involvement and campus climate through initiatives like the Involvement Fair, which resulted in 286 participation passports and the chartering of four new clubs. They are actively promoting student resources via social media and have increased their Instagram following significantly. They are also partnering with state-wide organizations to advocate for student interests and promote civic engagement, including voter registration efforts. Overall, they aim to increase visibility at college events and foster greater student participation.

WPEA

Courtney Braddock, WPEA Stewart, expressed gratitude for the Safety and Security team's effective communication regarding campus safety. She raised ongoing concerns about living wages for staff. Braddock also provided feedback on the Respectful Workplace policy. She voiced the importance of funding the Veterans Center of Excellence (VCOE) after a key grant ends.

CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland, President of CCAHE, expressed support for maintaining a robust Veterans Center and solidarity with WPEA in their fight for fair wages for staff. She honored Professor Julian Nelson for his contributions to Clark College over nearly 20 years, highlighting his impact on students and faculty alike. Southerland addresses current challenges faculty face, including student engagement and academic integrity, while advocating for faculty involvement in leadership hiring processes and the need for transparency within the college. Southerland acknowledged the valuable work of the faculty Union Senate in representing faculty interests.

Foundation

Calen Ouellette, CEO of the Clark College Foundation, reported on key fundraising efforts, including \$100,000 in grants from the new Student Success Fund and an Innovation Fund

launched with support from the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. The Foundation is set to distribute \$2 million in scholarships this year, aiming for a total of \$9 million. He also emphasized the Foundation's role in the Advanced Manufacturing Building and the successful National Manufacturing Day event, engaging corporate partners interested in hiring students. Lastly, Ouellette announced the relaunch of the Clark Partners magazine, now called "Penguin Partners," with over 25,000 copies to be distributed and electronic outreach to nearly 50,000 community members.

Student Speaker: Jude Georgeades-Tambara

Jude Georgeades-Tambara, a student at Clark College, shared her journey as a 50-something adult learner pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Applied Science and Human Services. She spoke candidly about overcoming personal challenges, including familial expectations and the lack of support for higher education, while emphasizing her commitment to empowering others, particularly women, through education. Jude's experience reflects her belief in the transformative power of education, both for herself and her family, and she is passionate about helping prospective students navigate their own paths.

Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Bennett

Trustee Bennett reported that October included two meetings with Dr. Edwards: a regular 1:1 meeting and a separate session to strategize for the upcoming 2025 budget session, emphasizing the importance of preparing effectively for discussions with legislators about funding priorities. Additionally, Trustee Bennett reminded everyone to participate in the upcoming elections.

Trustee Donaldson

Trustee Donaldson reported that she met with Dr. Edwards and she expressed gratitude to those who shared their stories during the meeting.

Trustee Canseco Juarez

Trustee Canseco Juarez reported that he attended several Clark events, including Noche de Familia and a men's soccer game. He expressed appreciation for Dr. Edwards' leadership and acknowledged the contributions of Dr. Cruse and Bard Avakian.

Vice Chair Scarbrough

Vice Chair Scarbrough reported that she attended the Columbia Writers Series event featuring Kaveh Akbar and participated in the Foundation Board meeting. Additionally, she volunteered for the ACT Education Committee to help plan future Trustee Tuesdays and encouraged fellow trustees to share topics of interest for these events.

Chair Gideon

Chair Gideon stated that she appreciated the patience of attendees as the board navigates in-person meetings while accommodating virtual participants. She acknowledged the upcoming Veterans Day, expressing gratitude for the veterans in attendance and sharing her experience as a Desert Storm veteran. Chair Gideon visited the Community Needs Hub, participated in the Trustees of Color meeting, and met with Dr. Edwards.

President's Report

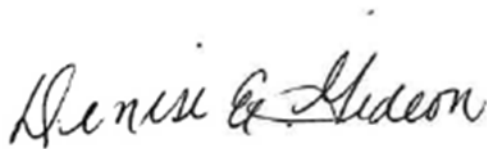
Dr. Edwards acknowledged Hispanic Heritage Month, noting that approximately 12% of Clark College's students come from Latino backgrounds, and she recognized Indigenous Peoples Day. She thanked Brad Avakian for his four years of service as VP of HR. Regarding the Veterans Resource Center, she clarified that while a grant is expiring, the center's operations will continue. She also addressed legislative requests for employee compensation and increased base funding. Dr. Edwards highlighted the upcoming ACCT national conference in Seattle, where the Clark College Jazz Band will perform. Finally, she thanked Jude for her presentation and emphasized the importance of adult learners, noting that nearly 40% of students are 25 and older.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Trustees work session and regular meeting are scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, starting at 2:30 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Gideon adjourned the regular meeting at 7:13 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Denise Gideon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Denise Gideon, Chair

Darci Feider, Recorder