

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Denise Gideon, Chair

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations

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

Dr. Terry Brown, Vice President of Instruction

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 p.m.

Public Comment

Jesse York

Deb Montez

James Ron Powers

Eric Morton

Marisol Moreno Ortiz

Brock Gilder

Demi Wickwire

Don Patton

Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. November 20, 2024 - Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. November 20, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Constituent Reports

ASCC

Gurraj Dhami reported that the ASCC Student Government has been actively fostering student involvement, enhancing resource accessibility, and strengthening state-wide advocacy efforts. Key achievements include supporting 359 students and 1,192 household members through food distribution, providing \$25 Safeway gift cards, and recruiting six students for ASCC committees. Additionally, they are promoting student engagement through nine chartered clubs (with seven more in progress) and maintaining a strong social media presence with over 1,300 Instagram followers. Preparations are underway for winter quarter events, continuing ASCC's commitment to supporting student success and community connections.

WPEA

Deb Montez, speaking on behalf of Clark College WPEA, addressed changes to the public comment process that were characterized as barriers to open community participation, with a call for reversal. Staffing issues in the Veterans' Center of Excellence (VCOE) were flagged, including potential Unfair Labor Practices and the lack of continuity planning, particularly regarding grant-funded roles. The WPEA also emphasized the need for Clark College leadership to advocate for fair wages and good faith bargaining with the Office of Financial Management, stressing the vital role classified staff play in the college's operations and success.

CCAHE

No report.

Foundation

Calen Ouellette reported on behalf of the Clark College Foundation, highlighted a record-breaking year, distributing over \$2 million in scholarships and surpassing \$1 million in fundraising. Notable initiatives include launching the Innovation Fund pilot program, the debut of the revamped Penguin Partners magazine, and advancing plans for the Advanced Manufacturing Building at Boschma Farms through industry partnerships. These efforts demonstrate the Foundation's commitment to enhancing student success, fostering community connections, and supporting workforce development.

Title III

Byron Ford provided an overview of Clark College's five-year, \$2.2 million Title III grant, which aims to enhance student success by improving retention, enrollment, and completion rates. The grant supports three key activities: implementing the Penguin Path to streamline and coordinate student support services using Watermark technology, expanding career-connected learning opportunities through faculty engagement and a Career Hub, and fostering a culture of assessment and improvement for both instructional and non-instructional programs using Helio Campus. Current efforts include conducting focus groups, integrating institutional data, and building tools and processes to meet long-term objectives, such as ensuring that 80% of student support departments align with the Penguin Path by 2028. Ford emphasized the importance of sustainability beyond the grant period.

Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Canseco Juarez

Trustee Canseco Juarez announced he had been selected to serve on the ACCT Finance and Budget Committee for 2025 and as Vice Chair for the Under 45 Caucus of Trustees, highlighting the opportunity to elevate Clark College's voice on a national platform. He emphasized the vital role of the ACCT organization in addressing challenges facing community colleges and promoting student success through advocacy and education. Trustee Canseco Juarez wished students success on their finals and a restful holiday season.

Trustee Bennett

Trustee Bennett provided an update on legislative work, including upcoming meetings with legislators in December to highlight the critical role of community colleges in workforce development and their impact on providing living wage opportunities. She acknowledged the importance of regional partnerships, noting awards received by local leaders John Gerard and Sharon Pesut for their contributions to workforce development. Trustee Bennett emphasized the college's broader influence in the community, expressed pride in its impact, and encouraged continued collaboration to address challenges.

Vice Chair Scarbrough

Vice Chair Scarbrough provided an update on her participation in the ACT Education Committee, which focuses on professional development for community college trustees. The committee is organizing upcoming "Trustee Tuesday" sessions on budget-related topics, including a December session on federal and state budget uncertainties and a January session to provide updated forecasts. She highlighted the financial challenges facing community colleges. The committee aims to prepare trustees to anticipate and navigate potential financial scenarios affecting community colleges.

Chair Gideon

Chair Gideon provided updates on her involvement with the ACCT African American Caucus, where she is part of a team finalizing bylaws to establish a formal structure for the group, with plans to present them for approval in February. She expressed concerns about the broader financial uncertainties impacting education, including federal and state funding, and emphasized preparation for the upcoming legislative summit. Chair Gideon also addressed the Board's role, reiterating its commitment to following due process, supporting the college community, and respecting the boundaries of its governance responsibilities. She noted her plans to participate remotely in the January board working session for tenure review, while Vice Chair Scarbrough will lead the next regular session in her absence.

President's Report

Dr. Edwards acknowledged Trustee Canseco Juarez for his national appointment to the ACCT board and celebrated the Culinary and Bakery programs' opportunity to showcase their work at the Governor's Inaugural Ball. She highlighted the key exchange event at Boschma Farms, noting the facility's anticipated spring activities and the start of the manufacturing program in the fall. Dr. Edwards recognized retiring faculty and staff whose collective service to the college spans 369 years. She shared insights from the Presidents' Council meeting, including discussions with the Attorney General's office regarding potential federal policy changes and their impact on colleges.

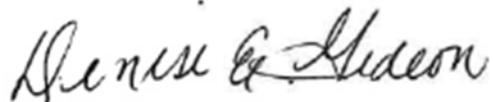
and students. She provided updates on the VCOE, the prioritization of critical position recruitments, and the need for a long-term sustainability plan. Dr. Edwards emphasized avoiding duplication of services and shared her upcoming meeting with a student to discuss their concerns. She noted that WPEA bargaining is progressing, having spoken with the Office of Financial Management to confirm bargaining dates are on the table. Finally, she announced that Heather McGhee's visit has been rescheduled for May 22.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Trustees work session and regular meeting are scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, starting at 3:30 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Gideon adjourned the regular meeting at 6:14 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Gideon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Denise" on the top line and "Gideon" on the bottom line.

Denise Gideon, Chair

Darci Feider, Recorder