

Clark College

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

GHL 213 and Zoom

In Attendance

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Chair
Denise Gideon, Vice Chair
Marilee Scarbrough, Trustee
Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

Absent

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs
Tina Redd, Interim Vice President of Instruction
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
Darci Feider, President's Office
Julie Taylor, President's Office
Brandon Johnson, IT
Suzanne Southerland, AHE
Jenny Shadley, WPEA
Emma Sturm, ASCC
Elizabeth Jochim, Faculty Presenter
Caleigh Collins, Interpreter
Vania Mollinedo, Interpreter
Bece Kidder, Captioner

Call to Order/Agenda Review

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

Land and Labor Acknowledgment

Clark College Land and Labor Acknowledgment offered by Chair Canseco Juarez.
In celebration of Black History Month, the Clark College Bookstore, in collaboration with NAACP, currently features an art collection. A Black Employees United meeting is scheduled this month. NWREC (Northwest Regional Educational Conference is currently taking place, providing an opportunity for networking, support, and community engagement.

Public Comment

Cath Busha

Sydney Brahmavar

Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. January 24, 2024 – Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. January 24, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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

Tenure Vote – Chair Canseco Juarez

- A. Heidi Fay
- B. Mackenzie Loyet
- C. Heather Reynolds

MOTION: Trustee Scarbrough moved that the Board of Trustees, after giving reasonable consideration to the recommendation from the Tenure Review Committee, grant tenure to Heidi Fay. Vice Chair Gideon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Vice Chair Gideon moved that the Board of Trustees, after giving reasonable consideration to the recommendation from the Tenure Review Committee, grant tenure to Mackenzie Loyet. Trustee Donaldson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Vice Chair Gideon moved that the Board of Trustees, after giving reasonable consideration to the recommendation from the Tenure Review Committee, grant tenure to Heather Reynolds. Trustee Donaldson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Constituent Reports

ASCC

ASCC President Emma Sturm shared the following update:

- Created a club schedule board, hosted a quarterly club competition, and created informational videos for social media.
- Distributed 178 Penguin Pantry boxes in January.
- Created informational videos to post on social media.
- One-time budget approvals:
 - \$60,054 request for the reupholstering of the furniture in the PUB building
 - \$235 for the Japanese Club to visit the Japanese Gardens in Portland
 - \$20,834 for the Korean Club to visit Korea Town in New York City
- Let Your Voice be Heard event had 80 students provide feedback. They are interested in having outdoor covered seating and improved parking facilities.
- Participated in Legislative Day at Olympia, WA, and participated at the WSU-V Primary Event.
- Upcoming events include the Oswald Awards at the end of the year and Trivia night on Monday, February 26.

WPEA

Jenny Shadley shared the following updates:

- Noted that the Salary Survey Bill did not pass at the state level, a setback to future contract negotiations, particularly as we currently are at a 19.1% deficit in Classified Staff salaries.

CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland shared the following updates:

- Acknowledges the preemptive attempt to promote civility, emphasizing that this platform serves as a venue for expressing thoughts to a broad audience, including the Board of Trustees and the Executive Cabinet.
- Faculty members noted a perceived retaliatory attitude in the comments made during public comments. Expressing concern about the harm caused when data indicated that all reports had been resolved, even when that wasn't the case. A grievance has been filed to address the need for clear communication between Student Conduct and Faculty.
- Attended Lobby Day, including the reception for Washington State Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee Chair, Twina Nobles.
- Expressed gratitude to HR for committing to resolving the unemployment challenges for adjunct faculty.

Clark College Foundation

Calen Ouellette shared the following:

- Congratulations to President Edwards on the State of the College Address and to the Cowlitz Tribe partnership and investment in Clark College through their \$1M donation.

Surgical Tech Program

Presented by Beth Jochim, Program Developer of the Surgical Tech Program

Beth provided insights into the development of the Surgical Tech Program, highlighting its significance in addressing the local shortage of surgical technicians. She emphasized the program's role as a viable alternative for students not accepted into the Nursing or Dental Hygiene programs. The overview also covered collaborations with Spokane Community College, Legacy, and PeaceHealth. The presentation delved into curriculum development and outcomes, underscoring a distinctive 5-quarter duration and a once-a-week in-person model designed to accommodate students with full-time work commitments. The unfulfilled Search Tech position was acknowledged as a hindrance impacting program development. The program is slated to commence in the fall of 2024.

Reports from the Board Members

Trustee Donaldson

Continues to meet with Executive Cabinet members for departmental insights. Attended the State of the College address, expressing appreciation for the presented statistics and student contributions. Values training focused on people with different abilities at the January Work Session. Actively following the legislative session.

Trustee Scarbrough

Congratulations extended to Dr Edwards for the successful State of the College address. Appreciation was conveyed to Dr. Cruse and Dr. Martin for their presentation at the work session, particularly noting interest in the information about the increase in Running Start numbers. Actively following the legislative session, they observed a notable bill allowing 10th-grade students to commence community college classes the summer before their 11th-grade year.

Vice Chair Gideon

Congratulations to the recently tenured faculty. Participated in various significant events, including the Social Equity Advisory Committee meeting, the Foundation Board of Directors and College Board of Trustees meeting, the State of the College address, and the National Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. This conference provided a valuable opportunity to gain insights into advocacy and legislative knowledge. Additionally, attended the opening conference for the college audit, with kudos offered to Sabra and team. The update concluded with mention of ongoing participation in NWREC.

Chair Canseco Juarez

Participated in the National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C., expressing gratitude for the opportunity to engage with legislators and underscoring the positive impact on student trustees attending. Emphasized involvement in the Latino caucus group and acceptance of the treasurer position for the Under 45 caucus group. Attended the State of the College address and recognized the contributions of Emma Sturm, ASCC President, and Ray Jackson, student speaker, who highlighted the positive impact of student support services. Congratulations extended to Dr. Edwards for her speech and for leading the college with intentionality over the last four years.

Shared these opportunities with Trustees:

- Trustee Tuesday on March 5
- AACTC Leadership Congress on October 23, 2024 - Oct 26, 2024

President's Report

Presented by Dr. Karin Edwards

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

- Extended congratulations to the three recently tenured faculty members and expressed gratitude for their efforts, both past and ongoing, in supporting students and promoting equity within their respective programs.
- Express gratitude to attendees of the State of the College address, especially Emma for her leadership
- Reported on the following Legislative Updates:
 - Collective endorsement from the Governor, Senate, and House to fund utility submeters for the Clean Building Act and support for decarbonization planning.
 - Funding support from the Governor and Senate for the energy-efficient program.
 - The request to fund the four-year computer science program was exclusively present in the House proposal.

- Climate Solutions found support in the budgets presented by the Governor and Senate.
- Allocation of funds for College in the High School was included; further details will follow.
- House Bill 2172, aimed at enabling local government to identify and use vacant or underutilized state property during a State of Emergency related to homelessness, is not moving forward. Despite this, the City of Vancouver continues to seek permission to utilize Clark College property. The Executive Cabinet engaged in a comprehensive discussion regarding the equity implications of this request and distributed a survey among college employees to gather perspectives.
- Identifying priorities for the 2025 legislative session is underway, with the reporting deadline to SBCTC set for Friday, March 8.
- Shout out to the Veterans Center for Excellence for receiving a clean audit.
- Participation in the Opening Session for NWREC was noted.
- Highlighted upcoming conferences in Seattle by several groups next year.
- Dr. Cruse and Dr. Redd are finalizing protocols for the conduct process.

Executive Session – Chair Canseco Juarez

The Board will convene in Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) at 6:27 p.m. for the purpose(s) of discussing with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency or the Board is likely to become a party.

Executive Session is expected to last until 7:00 p.m. No final action will be taken during this executive session.

At 7:00 p.m., an announcement was made that the executive session would be extended to 7:15 p.m.

The work session is reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

No action was taken by the Board during the Executive Session.

Discussion on Foundation Request - Chair Canseco Jarez

Vice Chair Gideon

A meeting is needed with the Clark College Foundation to get a better understanding of the request.

Trustee Scarbrough

Concurred with Vice Chair Gideon. Trustees Scarbrough and Bennett serve as liaisons to the Foundation and represent the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Donaldson

Seeking clarification of the Trustee position as liaison to the Foundation. Prefers an opt-in solution.

Chair Canseco Juarez

Favors a combination of the first two options for their effectiveness. The third option, perceived as a longer solution, was deemed less aligned with the Foundation's goals. From a liability perspective, the first two opinions offer no FERPA concerns. Supports the recommendation for Trustees Scarbrough, Trustee Bennett, and President Edwards to meet with Clark College Foundation.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Trustees work session and regular meeting are scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2024, starting at 3:30 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Canseco Juarez adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cristhian A. Canseco Juarez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Cristhian" and "A." on the first line, and "Canseco Juarez" on the second line.

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Chair

Darci Feider, Recorder