

# Clark College

## Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

GHL 213 and Zoom

### In Attendance

Marilee Scarbrough, Vice Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

Suzanne Donaldson, Trustee

### Absent

Denise Gideon, Chair

### 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. Darcy Rourk, Interim Vice President of Human Resources

Dr. Mark Wahler, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs

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

### Other

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Darci Feider, President's Office

Brandon Johnson, IT

### Call to Order/Agenda Review

Vice Chair Scarbrough called the regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### Public Comment

Demi Wickwire

Tyson Dykes

### Action Items/Consent Agenda

- a. December 4, 2024 - Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. December 4, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes

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

## Constituent Reports

### ASCC

Gurraj Dhami, ASCC president, highlighted Winter Welcome Week, the chartering of nine student clubs with seven more in progress, and College 101 presentations designed to help students navigate campus life. Additional efforts include social media updates and the expansion of Penguin Pantry to in-person shopping, which distributed over 3,000 pounds of food in its first week. Vacant ASCC positions will have their duties reassigned to ensure continued student support.

### WPEA

Angela Dawson, WPEA, welcomed Interim VPs Dr. Wahlers and Dr. Rouke and expressed appreciation to Nora Rofjotur, who recently left the college after contributing to IT security and policy development. She also raised concerns about systemic skimming in multiple departments and emphasized the need for clear staffing plans. Lastly, she provided an update on collective bargaining.

### CCAHE

Suzanne Southerland, AHE, thanked the college for supporting students affected by immigration policies. She noted that faculty are preparing for lobbying efforts in Olympia on January 30, focusing on enrollment challenges and workforce demands. Contract bargaining is expected to begin by late winter or early spring quarter, with faculty input being gathered through surveys and discussions. Lastly, the union reaffirmed its commitment to supporting department and division chairs, advocating for professional development and improved contract language.

### Allied Health collaboration with K-12

Dean Scot Headley presented Clark College's healthcare workforce development initiatives, emphasizing efforts to address regional demand for healthcare professionals through education and collaboration. He highlighted the college's leadership role in building pathways for students and workers by partnering with schools, employers, and workforce agencies.

A component of these efforts is the Perkins Leadership Block Grant, supporting activities such as dual credit expansion, student and educator enrichment, and sustainable partnerships. Initiatives include summer healthcare camps, employer-education events, and stronger connections with K-12 systems.

Dean Headley also outlined plans for instructional program development, including the recently launched Surgical Technology program, and work currently being explored to reinstate a radiology tech program. Additionally, Clark is working on a HEET grant

proposal to support hospital employee education, efforts to broaden collaboration across the region, and strategies to seek employer investment in workforce training initiatives.

## Reports from the Board Members

### Suzanne Donaldson

Trustee Donaldson attended a Trustee Tuesday session, emphasizing its value for training and networking. She also attended the MLK Breakfast hosted by iUrban Teen, where she witnessed Dr. Edwards receiving the Compass Award. She congratulated Dr. Edwards on the well-deserved recognition.

### Trustee Canseco Juarez

Trustee Canseco Juarez reflected on the recent executive order and its impact on the college and community, emphasizing the importance of supporting students, staff, and families. He shared his personal connection to the issue and encouraged individuals to educate themselves on their rights and ways to support others as allies and bystanders. He highlighted the board's ongoing commitment to equity, both on campus and in the community. Trustee Canseco Juarez also discussed upcoming advocacy trips to Washington, D.C., expressed gratitude to those participating, and underscored the significance of such efforts for Clark College and its students.

### Trustee Bennett

Trustee Bennett reflected on challenges facing students, faculty, and the community, emphasizing the need for collaboration to create positive change. She committed to engaging more with student life activities on campus to better connect with students. She also discussed advocacy efforts, including the trip to Olympia, where community colleges will advocate for campus and student needs. Trustee Bennett encouraged raising awareness with legislators and urged others to contact their representatives to share concerns and priorities.

### Vice Chair Scarbrough

Vice Chair Scarbrough noted that several events could impact community colleges, including a projected statewide budget deficit. She emphasized the importance of advocacy. She shared that she and Chair Gideon attended the state auditor's introductory meeting for the college's annual audit. Vice Chair Scarbrough concluded by congratulating Dr. Edwards on receiving the Compass Award, commending her for representing the college well.

## President's Report

Dr. Edwards introduced Interim VPs Dr. Wahlers (Student Affairs) and Dr. Rouke (Human Resources) and shared that searches for permanent replacements will begin soon.

She provided an enrollment update, reporting that over 4,400 students are enrolled in general programs, with 211 in Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, 68 international

students, and over 1,600 Running Start students, all reflecting an increase from last year. She also thanked Student Affairs staff for assisting veteran students in completing their academic plans to secure benefits.

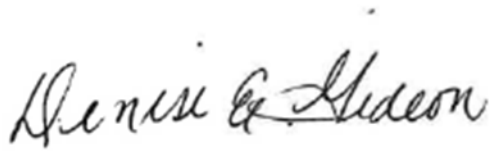
Dr. Edwards also provided an update on the state budget, stating that discussions are underway, and the college will share developments as they unfold. She addressed concerns regarding recent executive orders, reassuring that the college has established protocols should law enforcement or ICE come to campus. A policy has been approved to guide responses, and communications have been sent to faculty and staff, with a student communication forthcoming, outlining rights, protections, and available resources.

#### Next Meeting

The next Board of Trustees work session and regular meeting are scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, starting at 3:30 pm.

#### Adjournment

Vice Chair Scarbrough adjourned the regular meeting at 6:08 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Denise Gideon".

---

**Denise Gideon, Chair**

Darci Feider, Recorder