

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham

Laidlaw 143

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

2:00 p.m.

- ➔ **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Wendy Bohlke officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Jeff Fairchild, Rebecca Johnson, John Pedlow and Teresa Taylor, constituting a quorum. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Barry Robinson, Vice President for Instruction; James Siegel, Vice President for Student Services; Drew Nishiyama, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Chair Bohlke began with a land acknowledgement to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- ➔ Trustee Johnson moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Taylor and the **motion was approved.**
- ➔ Chair Bohlke announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- ➔ **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of April 12, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting and WCC Graduates Winter 2023.

Chair Bohlke stated: "If there are no objections, items in the consent agenda will be adopted." As there was no objection, these items were adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF ALL WASHINGTON ACADEMIC TEAM STUDENTS

- ➔ President Kathi introduced this year's All Washington Academic Team from WCC: Nakanlaya Tupsamphan and Lisa Flick.
 - Tupsamphan is completing her degree in media arts and plans to transfer to California State University to study Film & Electronic Arts and pursue a career in film production.
 - Flick applied for Whatcom's Physical Therapist Assistant program to further her education and broaden her scope of practice. Flick believes in the power of community and works to inspire her colleagues to advocate for the advancement of the physical therapy profession.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ➔ Chair Bohlke called for public comment. She announced a 15-minute public comment period with 2 minutes allocated to each person.
 - Carlyn Finerty, WCC student, provided comments relating to S&A budget development process.
 - Xzavier Wither, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - Melanie McCoy, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - CeCe Lovelace, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - Babak Abedsaidi, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - Tasquif Insani, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - Zora Carter, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.
 - Kellan Moss, WCC student, shared concerns for funding for the Learning Center in the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

- ➔ **Proposed S&A Budget – Joshua Norton, ASWCC President**

Norton shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the proposed 2023-24 S&A Budget.

Highlights included:

- Changes to student governance:
 - Increase size of Executive Board
 - moving activities and programming funding from student governance into the office of student life and development
- Defunding quarterly student led weekend conference series
- Increase senator work hours
- Horizon funding reduction
- Student Union funding
- Learning Center funding reduction – provided information the Killian guidelines for the use of S&A funding can only provide special tutoring funding
- Success and Retention Funding Reduction – POD Leaders funding reduction and not funding Whatcom Wave
- Unfunded request included Nursing Pinning Ceremony and AIR office student advisory group
- Budget development process:
 - Multiple open budget committee meetings
 - Reached out to key stakeholders
 - Scheduled multiple committee meetings with the next one on May 11, 2023 follow by a student forum to provide opportunities for student feedback on the proposed budget.

➔ **Proposed WCC 2023-24 Operating Budget – Nate Langstraat, VP for Administrative Services**

Langstraat shared a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2023-24 Operating Budget development.

Highlights included:

- Overview of legislative outlook and budget context
- Local budget development update
- Enrollment picture
- Current status of 2023-24 operating budget
- Budget Reduction strategies
- Next steps

The PowerPoint presentation is available on [Compass](#).

ACTION ITEMS

➔ **Proposed Telework Policy – Nate Langstraat, VP for Administrative Services**

Langstraat shared that the work on development of a telework policy and related procedures started pre-pandemic but was put on paused during the pandemic.

He shared the importance of implementing a telework process, that is framed by a Board Policy, to standardize expectations while clarifying telework eligibility. A draft Board Policy has been created and provided to the campus community to provide input. Feedback has been received and is under review. Concurrently, Administration has received a demand to bargain from the faculty union, which will provide further opportunity for consultation on the draft policy.

➔ **Proposed Amendment to Policy 620 and Policy 621 (formerly 3045) – James Siegel, VP for Student Services**

Trustee Pedlow move to approve Policy 620. It was seconded by Trustee Taylor and was unanimously approved.

Trustee Johnson move to approve Policy 621 (formerly 3045). It was seconded by Trustee Fairchild and was unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- ➔ Nursing program received continuing accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. The next scheduled visit is in 2030. Areas of strengths noted included: student support, licensure examination pass rates of 90% plus consecutively for the last three years, and program completion rates of 83-97%. President Kathi thanked the nursing faculty and staff for their hard work.
- ➔ Strategic Planning Core Team met in-person on May 1, 2023 facilitated by Stephen Shields, consultant. Significant progress was made in identifying goals and objectives. Next step included finalizing the draft to share with campus for additional input.
- ➔ President Kathi participated in a higher education roundtable meeting with presidents from University of Washington, Washington State University, University of Puget Sound, Pacific Lutheran university, Columbia Basin College and Lake Washington Technical College to discuss legislative session and strategies to advocate for high education funding.
- ➔ President Kathi met with Sabah Randhawa, president of Western Washington University to identify additional collaboration opportunities. She also met the new president of Bellingham Technical College, James Lemerond, the new president of Bellingham Technical college

- President Kathi will be participating in the Government to Government Summit between leaders of regional federally recognized tribes and colleges in the northwest region on June 7, 2023.
- Update on Community Transition program:
 - SBCTC passed a resolution in late March endorsing the partnership and lease arrangement with Bellingham Public Schools (BPS) and their Community Transitions Program.
 - BPS has provided comment on a draft lease agreement. The next step is to meet in-person to talk through any terms of the lease that aren't yet agreed upon. Legal counsel will be present.
 - BPS will be providing an update to their Board on May 18.
- A delegation of superintendents of education in various regions in Okinawa and others visited our campus. The delegation spent time visiting ELL (English Language Learners) classes, and the Bellingham Mayor's office. In addition, the delegation and WCC entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in support of promoting international relations through academic and cultural exchange. The college is looking forward to welcoming students from Okinawa.
- President's Circle Reception on April 21, 2023 was well-attended. President Kathi thanked the foundation staff, led by Deborah DeWees, Interim Foundation Director, conference and events and facilities staff, for their work on the event.

REPORTS

➤ **WCCFT – Anna Wolff, President**

Wolff shared that union leadership had a good initial meeting with administration regarding the demand to bargain.

➤ **Student Services – James Siegel, Vice President**

Siegel shared his excitement for the upcoming commencement and encouraged everyone to participate in celebrating the achievements of our graduates.

➤ **Instruction – Barry Robinson, Vice President**

Robinson introduced the new Dean for workforce education, Matthew Green.

DISCUSSION/ITEMS OF THE BOARD

- A list of upcoming events was shared with the Board. Chair Bohlke encouraged board members to participate in as many events as possible.

Upcoming Events

May 17	Student Leadership Celebration	4:30 – 6:30 pm	Syre Auditorium
May 19-21	Orca Pickleball Tournament		
May 20	Student Leading Change Conference	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Syre Auditorium
May 24	Orca Athletic Celebration	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Syre Auditorium
June 7	Annual Honors & Awards Ceremony	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Heiner Theater
June 7	Orca Day	11:00 am – 4:00 pm	WCC campus
June 14	Student Showcase	3:00 – 5:00 pm	Learning Commons
June 15	2023 Nurse Pinning Ceremony	6:00 pm	Heiner Theater
June 16	2023 Commencement Ceremony	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Orca Field

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- At 3:45 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed session of the Board for thirty minutes as provided in RCW 42.31.110, to discuss collective bargaining and a Executive Session immediately after the closed session... and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency...

Chair Bohlke announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice Presidents Nate Langstraat, Executive Director Rafeeka Kloke and Assistant Attorney General Drew Nishiyama.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 4:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Wendy Bowen

Chair of the Board

June 14, 2023

Date

Kristi Myjanech

President and Secretary of the Board

June 14, 2023

Date