

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Laidlaw Center Board Room
Thursday, April 9, 2009
2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Barbara Rofkar officially called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. Present were trustees Sue Cole, Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein. Absent: Trustee Tim Douglas. Others present were President Hiyane-Brown; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction; Patricia Onion, Vice President for Educational Services; Ray White, Vice President for Administrative Services; Jason Tetzloff, Dean for Instructional and Academic Support; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Foundation and College Advancement; Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General; Tresha Dutton for Bob Riesenberg, WCCFT President; John O'Neill, WSFE Representative; David Burkett, ASWCC President; guests: Brian Davidson, Worker Retraining Coordinator; and student presenter Jennifer Bullard; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

STUDY SESSION ➤ **The Worker Retraining Program**

Brian Davidson, Coordinator of Whatcom Community College's Worker Retraining Program, presented an overview of the program and how it is linked with several additional state agencies and institutions to assist select members of our community with their skills training needs. Worker Retraining focuses on dislocated workers from occupations in decline to help them gain new skills for the current viable job market. Educational training is required to be in the area of professional/technical programs such as allied health, welding, accounting, etc. Whatcom's program also serves as a liaison to help students complete their entire program, if possible.

Jennifer Bullard, a student currently utilizing the Worker Retraining program, studying in Whatcom's Medical Assisting program, shared her experiences, explaining the valuable benefits of this program as a life-line to people who have lost their jobs due to weakened market and job conditions. Networking is an important element of this program and helps students navigate the system and share with others.

The Board thanked both presenters for this informative presentation.

CONSENT ➤ **Consent Agenda (Calendar)**

AGENDA

- Minutes of the March 9, 2009, Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)
- Minutes of the March 18, 2009, Board Special Work Session (Attachment B)

Chair Rofkar stated: "If there are no objections, these items will be adopted." As there were no objections, **these items were adopted.**

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

- President Hiyane-Brown conveyed to the Board that the state legislature has formerly confirmed Trustee Tim Douglas' appointment as trustee of Whatcom Community College. Glasses were raised in his honor.
- President Hiyane-Brown recognized Margaret Anderson, coordinator for the physical therapy program, and shared that this program received an award in workforce development during the AACC Convention in Phoenix from the National Council of Instructional Administrators.

Margaret spoke to this innovative, on-line program which is drawing from diverse communities, primarily from central and eastern Washington, and enabling outreach areas to participate in this type of training. Whatcom has also been tapping students in Alaska and Oregon.

- ✦ President Kathi, while at AACC Convention, serving on their Board of Directors, also facilitated at a workshop on diversity and participated in three additional presentations and panels. Next year the convention will be held in San Francisco.
- ✦ On March 26th, the two Whatcom All Washington Academic Team members, Mark Jordan and Anna Pilon were honored at a special reception with Governor Gregoire. Mark will be transferring to the University of Washington, and Anna will be transferring to Western Washington University.
- ✦ Kathi provided an enrollment update—currently Whatcom is up 11.9 percent over last spring at this time. Tenth-day figures will probably level at about a 10 percent increase. Running Start enrollments are up and International Program enrollments are continuing to be stable, about the same as last year. Kelly is on a recruiting trip in China. We have students scheduled to arrive from Mongolia, and in the fall we will be hosting a group from Egypt. Housing assignments are very challenging.
- ✦ Senator Maria Cantwell was on our campus last Saturday for a round-table discussion on health care reform and renewable resources. The Presidents from BTC and Skagit Valley College were part of this event as well. Trish Onion was the moderator.
- ✦ Senator Patty Murray is scheduled to be in Bellingham soon and Kathi hopes to be able to meet with her.
- ✦ Two large events are being held on our campus: Sustainable Connections' Spring Business Conference: *The Future of Business: Green Jobs and Sustainable Industries in the 21st Century* on Friday, April 17th in the Syre Center, and the *Green Summit for Education & Business* on Friday, Apr 24th in the Heiner Center Theater. Wonderful visibility opportunities for the campus.
- ✦ Trustees and Presidents system-side received a memo on April 6th from Charlie Earl regarding the SBCTC's messaging on the state budget. Essentially, support of senate version of budget which would maintain an even split of 9 1/4 percent over two years, provide authority of up to 7 percent tuition increase for each of the next two years, and includes additional targeted funds for worker retraining for each of the two years. The memo also reiterates that community college's recognize the need for educational opportunities for the public.
- ✦ Bellingham Rotary Club has asked several members to host meetings at their business locations. Kathi has volunteered to host a group of Rotarians on Monday, May 4th.
- ✦ Kathi thanked Linda Lambert and Trustee Chuck Robinson for all their work in bringing Sherman Alexie to Bellingham and to our campus for the two presentations. We received lots of good feedback.

ACTION

- ✦ **TAB A-1 Consideration of Student Technology Fee Increase**
TAB A-2 Consideration of Student Comprehensive Fee Increases

Vice President Ray White spoke about approaching the ASWCC student government body regarding the prospect of reviewing student self-assessed fees in light of current budget constraints to maintain current services and provide funding for additional service options. ASWCC student leaders David Burkett and Grace Jones presented to the Board the student's rationale for support of increasing student fees and reported that the increases in their proposal received affirming votes from the governance body.

**ACTION
(continued)**

Trustee Chuck Robinson moved to forego the second reading for both Tab A-1 & A-2 and moved to accept the proposals from the students to increase the current technology fee from \$1.80 per credit to \$3.50 per credit up to a maximum of 10 credits, and to increase the current comprehensive fee from \$.50 per credit to \$2.50 per credit up to a maximum of 10 credits. It was seconded by Trustee Steve Adelstein and the **motion was approved unanimously.**

REPORTS

ASWCC – David Burkett, President

- David reported that the two events sponsored by ASWCC, the March St. Patrick's Day backed potato bar and yesterday's spring welcome back barbeque were very successful and well received.
- He also reported that changes to the ASWCC bylaws were passed at the Council's meeting earlier today.

WCCFT – Bob Riesenber, President

- Will Webber spoke for Bob who was unable to attend due to his teaching schedule. Will reported that faculty negotiations are still in progress and that they are getting closer in finalizing an agreement. Current work is focusing on the reorganization structure of divisions replacing departments.
- Recent faculty professional development pursuits have been active in the area of sustainability. In addition, the math department will be attending the Washington Community College Math Conference.

WFSE – John O'Neill, Representative

- John reported that a tentative agreement had been reached on the WFSE contract. Ratification will take place and, if approved, the contract will go into effect at July 1. The health care issue has been excluded and will be negotiated later.

TACTC – Trustees

- Trustee Sue Cole reported on the Mission Task Force ITV meeting that she attended recently, and she will be attend another meeting soon in April. They may be extending the taskforce meetings through the summer.
- The TACTC Spring Conference, May 14-15, was discussed. Trustees will confirm their requests for registrations and lodging for Keri to facilitate.

WCC Foundation – Anne Bowen and Sue Cole, Trustee Representative

- The Lummi Indian Business Council has generously awarded \$5,000 to the WCC Foundation.
- Trustees were invited to attend either of the two Foundation friend-raising events scheduled: one at the home of Phyllis and Charles Self on April 16th, and one at the home of Victoria Dahlgren on May 21st.

Administrative Services – Ray White, Vice President

- Ray had nothing additional to add to his written report.

Educational Services – Trish Onion, Vice President

- Vice President Onion shared that Whatcom student, Mike Pereira, is being honored this weekend with the **Golden Tennis Shoe Award** by Senator Patty Murray in appreciation of his exceptional efforts in giving back to the community.

**REPORTS
(Continued)**

Instruction Office – Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President

- Vice President Leatherbarrow reported that Whatcom will be hosting Dr. Jeff Fox, representing the accreditation body, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, on April 28th. We are awaiting confirmation of his requests for the meeting which may include some time with one of the trustees. The focus of the visit is assessment, and the College's Assessment Report has been forwarded to the trustees as well as to the entire campus community.

**DISCUSSION/
ITEMS OF THE
BOARD**


- The Board was presented with Section III of the Policies for review. President Kathi recommended that she work with a trustee to review the detailed section as it may require extensive rewriting. Chair Rofkar appointed Trustee Steve Adelstein to meet with Kathi on this project
- Trustee Rofkar announced that the formal assessment process of President Kathi Hiyane-Brown will commence tomorrow, April 10th. Board-appointed assessment facilitator, Robert Fong will be providing an electronic survey to the campus community as well as to select individuals in the community at large. The survey portion of the assessment will conclude on April 27th, and an evaluation statement will be shared by the Board at the June Board Meeting.
- Dates for a Board retreat were identified with a consensus that the week of June 22nd or late July would be best. Keri to coordinate with the trustees.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. for a short break. The meeting reconvened into Executive Session at 3:55 p.m. to discuss Personnel Issues. Guests included President Hiyane-Brown, Vice Presidents Trish Onion and Ron Leatherbarrow, and Assistant Attorney General Lisa Wochos.

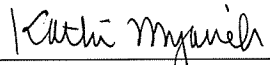
The Executive Session adjourned at 4:23 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 4:23 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.



Chairman of the Board

5/13/09
Date



President and Secretary of the Board

5/13/09
Date