

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Laidlaw Center Board Room**  
**Wednesday, December 10, 2008**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Barbara Rofkar officially called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Present were trustees Sue Cole, Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein, Tim Douglas. Others present were President Kathi Hiyane-Brown; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction; Patricia Onion, Vice President for Educational Services; Ray White, Vice President for Administrative Services; Linda Maier, Dean for Workforce Education; Jason Tetzloff, Dean for Instructional and Academic Support; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Foundation and College Advancement; Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General; Bob Riesenberg, WCCFT President; John O'Neill, WSFE Representative; David Burkett, ASWCC President; guests: Laura Pendleton, Director of Financial Aid and Christopher Stefaniu, student worker in Financial Aid for Veteran's Benefits; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

**STUDY SESSION**

➔ **Financial Aid and Scholarships**

Vice President Trish Onion and Laura Pendleton, Director of Financial Aid, presented the session on "Paying for College at Whatcom." Topics covered included the background on tuition, fees charged in addition to tuition; hidden costs of a college education; ways to pay for college including available waivers, scholarships, grants, Veteran's benefits, and work study opportunities; and processes to obtain assistance. Other programs such as WorkFirst and Worker Retraining were discussed. Whatcom has over 3,000 degree-seeking students with 79% of these students using some kind of financial assistance. The legislature sets tuition, and it is quite possible that tuition will be raised by 7% for each of the next biennium. Marketing about financial aid is disseminated in the local high schools as well as listed on our website. Scholarships make a difference in the lives of students, so Whatcom's Foundation is building and increasing its friend- and fund-raising efforts throughout our community.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

➔ **Consent Agenda (Calendar)**

- Minutes of November 4, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

Chair Rofkar stated: "If there is no objection, this item will be adopted." As there were no objections, **this item was adopted.**

**PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT/  
CORRESPONDENCE**

- ➔ President Hiyane-Brown was invited by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) to serve on its awards committee for the Northwest area. She was identified as a leader with significant community college experience.
- ➔ Whatcom Community College was featured in an article in the Bellingham Business Journal, specifically focusing on Community Education's new Encore Program. This program provides resources and classes directed toward retirees for information and training on new careers, personal enrichment and other areas of interest.
- ➔ *The Community College Weekly* magazine recognized Whatcom Community

College in their “Top 50 Fastest Growing Public 2-year Colleges” in the classification of enrollments of 2,500-4,999. WCC was ranked 19<sup>th</sup> with a 12.8% change from fall 2006 to fall 2007. This is headcount from certificate and degree-seeking programs. BTC was also listed in the same report, 46th in the category of enrollments less than 2500 students.

- President Hiyane-Brown was recently interviewed by local radio station KGMI regarding a report furnished by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. This report was a state-by-state report card on several key categories (Preparation, Participation, Affordability, Completion, Benefits, Learning). The interview focused on “Affordability”, for which Washington, along with several other states, received a “F”. Although California received the highest grade of B, that state is also finding itself in a financial crunch.
- The President has been hosting informational budget forums for the campus community, and she presented a short synopsis of the forum for the Board. It summarized Whatcom’s response to the Governor’s requests for reductions, and the positioning of the College. The State yet to reduce monies from the current budget, however, we anticipate the base will face a significant reduction next biennium. In addition, all state agencies have been asked to prepare budget scenarios of up to 20% reductions for the next biennium. Whatcom is investigating opportunities to increase revenues, and collaborate with other higher educational institutions. This is a significant challenge, but also a great opportunity look at creative situations and explore new ideas. The President is sincere in her belief that Whatcom can come out of this as a strong institution by working together. Trustees have been invited to a SBCTC ITV training session on December 17.

## ACTION

- **TAB A Proposed Board Meeting Schedule for 2009**  
Trustee Tim Douglas moved to approve the proposed 2009 meeting schedule as presented. It was seconded Trustee Sue Cole and the **motion was approved unanimously.**
- **TAB B Proposed Amendment of Policy 4010.**  
Trustee Sue Cole moved to approve the amendments to Policy 4010 as presented. It was seconded Trustee Steve Adelstein and the **motion was approved unanimously.**

## REPORTS

### ASWCC – David Burkett, President

- ASWCC President Burkett updated the Board on the conclusion of the fall athletics program which included division placement for women’s volleyball, men’s and women’s soccer, and cross country. Winter basketball program for men and women have begun.
- The council will be holding an election this week to fill the vacant vice president for administration position
- David, on behalf of the students, thanked Linda Lambert and the library staff for holding the end of the quarter “Late Night at the Library” sessions, including the treats.
- ASWCC also hosted a table with food to help students through finals.
- A Literature Club has been organized. There are now 20 active clubs on campus, offering opportunities for many more students to be involved on campus.
- The Legislative Committee is planning to air live coverage of the Presidential inauguration on campus in Syre auditorium and tape the event for additional showings. The committee may investigate opening and publicizing the showing

to community members.

**WCCFT – Bob Riesenber, President**

- Will Webber addressed the Board on behalf of WCCFT President Riesenber. The end of the quarter is busy as usual, and union negotiations are moving forward. The faculty has appreciated the informational division restructuring forums that have been held by the Instruction Office. The impending budget process is daunting.

**WFSE – John O’Neill, Representative**

- John O’Neill reported on the classified union meeting that was held today. He was asked by the staff to let the Board know that they recognize the seriousness of the budget, and also the consequences they face because of the classified vacancies that have not been filled due to the hiring freeze. They are very appreciative of the budget forums that the President and Ray White have held, and they have put forth many suggestions on efficiency to help the situation.

**TACTC –Trustees**

- Trustee Cole reported that the TACTC Education Committee will meet tomorrow to discuss the January TACTC meeting program with legislators.
- Trustee Douglas reported on the ITV TACTC Legislative Committee meeting.
- Discussion ensued regarding January TACTC meeting, which, at this time, Trustees Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein and Barbara Rofkar are unable to attend. Other venue options were discussed for the reception/dinner with our legislators.

**WCC Foundation – Anne Bowen, Executive Director; Sue Cole, Trustee**

- The Board of Directors met on November 18 and elected a new director, Troy Wills, Assistant Vice President at Peoples Bank.
- The next WCC Foundation Board meeting will be held in January, with committee meetings being held in December. January’s meeting will be the annual meeting, focusing on developing new fundraising plans.
- Lynne Masland, Foundation Director, was instrumental in her work with the Sunrise Rotary which granted to WCC, two on-going \$1,000 scholarships. The Bellingham Rotary Chapter presented \$1,000 to Whatcom’s Child Development Center.
- The Foundation and President Hiyane-Brown are continuing discussions with local businesses including BP and Conoco Philips regarding the feasibility of community partnerships and potential scholarships. They also met with Technology Alliance Group (TAG). TAG will hold its January meeting on the campus, featuring futurist Mark Anderson.
- The College is welcoming the Community Food Coop as they open their facility adjacent to the College in the winter.
- The Foundation’s annual funding campaign was initiated recently with letters going out to over 400 previous donors and new prospects.

**Administrative Services – Ray White, Vice President**

- No additional comments.

**Educational Services – Trish Onion, Vice President**

- Vice President Onion provided highlights on the Martin Luther King, Jr. event that Whatcom Community College is co-sponsoring on January 17.

- More students investigating educational opportunities at WCC in these tough economic times.

**Instruction Office** – Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President

- Vice President Leatherbarrow reported on the departmental restructuring program he is proposing for the faculty. Several faculty meetings have been held and he was pleased with the thoughtful comments, challenging issues that he has received. The process seems very collaborative.
- Ron and HR Director, Becky Rawlings, met with the faculty support staff to discuss support positions in the restructuring, and they will also be meeting with the classified union representatives.

**DISCUSSION/ITEMS OF THE BOARD ACTION**

President Hiyane-Brown presented a proposed reorganization structure for the College's Policies and Procedures manual. Trustee Sue Cole made a motion that the reorganization structure be approved as submitted and that Board begin a review of these sections, beginning with Section 2, at the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Chuck Robinson, **and the motion passed unanimously**. The President and the Cabinet will bring proposed recommendations on these policies forward for board review and consideration.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. for a short break. The meeting reconvened at 4:45 p.m. and immediately convened in Executive Session to discuss real estate and collective bargaining issues. Guests included AAG Lisa Wochos, President Hiyane-Brown and Vice President Ray White.

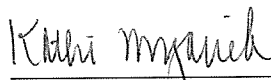
The Executive Session adjourned at 5:35 p.m. and immediately reconvened into open session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

  
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 Chairman of the Board

1/14/09  
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 Date

  
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 President and Secretary of the Board

1/14/09  
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 Date