

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Laidlaw Center Board Room
Wednesday, July 15, 2009
2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Sue Cole officially called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. Present were Trustees Barbara Rofkar, Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein, and Tim Douglas. Others present were President Hiyane-Brown; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Educational Services; Ray White, Vice President for Administrative Services; Linda Maier, Dean for Workforce Education; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Foundation and College Advancement; and Danielle Way, ASWCC President. Guests included Will Webber, and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

The Board recognized Trustee Barbara Rofkar for her exceptional service as board chair for the preceding year, and tokens of appreciation were presented on behalf of both the Board and the College.

CONSENT AGENDA ➤ **Consent Agenda (Calendar)**

- a. Minutes of June 29-30, 2009 Board of Trustees Retreat (Attachment A)

Chair Cole stated: "If there are no objections, this item will be adopted." As there were no objections, **this item was adopted.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The President shared correspondence received from the Mayor of Dashingqiao, China, advising that he and his delegation are currently unable to travel to the US to continue future collaboration with the College. The H1N1 virus is the central concern for travel to the US.
- President Hiyane-Brown provided the following synopsis of recent activities:
 - Kathi met with WWU President Bruce Shepard and discussed possible collaborative projects in international education, the Bellingham Waterfront Development project and a regional concept of collaboration. Kathi will be meeting with Western's new Provost, Catherine Riordan, in August. A joint cabinet meeting with administrators from Western and Whatcom is in the process of being scheduled for late August or early September.
 - A joint cabinet meeting with BTC and Whatcom administrators has been scheduled for August 17.
 - Meetings have been scheduled with local legislators. President Hiyane-Brown and Trustee Sue Cole will meet on July 29th with Representative Kelli Linville and on August 26 with Senator Dale Brandland to discuss legislative issues pertinent to WCC. Trustee Steve Adelstein will also be attending the meeting with Rep. Linville, and Trustee Chuck Robinson will be attending the meeting with Sen. Brandland.
 - President Kathi spoke with Nancy Steiger, CEO of PeaceHealth Whatcom Region, and plans to meet with Nancy soon regarding collaborative possibilities.

- President Hiyane-Brown spoke about the recent state budget forecasts and the Governor's appeal for further cuts. Vice President White provided information on how this affects WCC. The President's Cabinet continues to monitor College budgets and seek ways to meet our directives with reduced funding. Ray White reported on one-time revenue sources not previously included in our projections, which includes funds from recently awarded grants. Additionally, the computer replacement program has further been reduced, and supply budgets are being individually scrutinized. The administrative program review process is still being employed, as is the hiring freeze, which is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The Cabinet is looking at internal options to absorb tasks related to the recent PIO vacancy.
- President Obama's recently announced community college stimulus initiative was discussed. The proposed initiative requires federal funding that will probably be addressed in the fall legislative session. Focuses of the initiative include facility revitalization and new construction, development of new and improved workforce training programs, on-line open-free software, and access and completion improvement and assessment.
- Preliminary summer enrollment figures indicate that FTE is up 9% from this same period in time last year. Whatcom created additional educational opportunities this summer with a 10-week session and two 5-week sessions. Early fall early-enrollment figures indicate an increase of 36% from this same point in time last year. This exceptional enrollment trend is unprecedented and requires close tracking and evaluation. The upcoming WACTC retreat should provide an opportunity to gauge if this is a system-wide trend or a local phenomenon.
- The annual regional trustee/legislative luncheon is being coordinated by the Presidents' Assistants from BTC, Skagit and Whatcom, and suggested dates have been presented to the legislators for late August, early September.

ACTION

- **TAB A-- WCCFT Collective Bargaining Agreement**
Trustee Barbara Rofkar moved to adopt the revised faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective July 15, 2009, through June 30, 2012, as ratified by the WCCFT on July 10, 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Chuck Robinson and the **motion was approved unanimously.**

Faculty negotiator, Will Webber, spoke about the interest-based bargaining process used for the first time in these negotiations. The MOU, which is an addendum to the agreement, allows the teams to continue negotiations on issues of compensation and workload. Will shared that the faculty were strongly behind this agreement. Vice President White also spoke positively about the process. Both teams felt good about what they have done so far and are encouraged to continue negotiations in the fall.

REPORTS

- **ASWCC – Danielle Way, President**

Danielle Way spoke about the leadership training that the student leaders have been undertaking during the summer and how valuable the experience has been to date. The student leaders also provided input on the revision of the College's Mission Statement during their meeting with President Hiyane-Brown.
- **WCCFT – Bob Riesenberg, President**

Will Webber, speaking on behalf of Bob Riesenberg, had nothing additional to report.

- **WFSE** – John O’Neill, Representative
John O’Neill was unable to attend the meeting.
- **TACTC** –Trustees
Trustee Sue Cole reported that she will be attending a Mission Study Task Force meeting tomorrow in Renton. Tom Henderson will be speaking on Capital Project funding.
- **WCC Foundation** – Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Advancement
Anne Bowen reported that there would be a WCC Foundation meeting next week.
- **Administrative Services** – Ray White, Vice President for Adm Svcs
Vice President Ray White reported that the Bellingham Police Department would be moving in to their north-county substation housed on the WCC campus within the next two weeks.
- **Educational Services** – Trish Onion, Vice President for Ed Svcs
Vice President Onion was not in attendance.
- **Instruction Office** – Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction
Dean Linda Maier reported that the Northwest Higher Education Sustainability Consortium met today on our campus and continues to work on collaborative projects and sharing of best practices.

**DISCUSSION/
ITEMS OF
THE
BOARD**

- **Board Policies Review**—President Hiyane-Brown and Trustee Adelstein have made additional revisions to a select set of board policies that were distributed for review. Discussions ensued and they will be continued at the next board meeting.
- **Study Sessions for Future Board Meetings**—It was the consensus of the Board that study sessions are valuable tools in familiarizing them with the programs and various functions of the College. Several suggested topics for future study sessions included: the faculty reorganization; student stories, especially from alumni; the State Board system; demographics of our student population; Whatcom’s connection with WWU and student transfers; articulation agreements with other institutions; faculty Trap seminars; and Allied Health programs.
- **Possible August Board Meeting Date** —It was the consensus of the Board that an August board meeting would not be added to the schedule of meetings.
- **Assignments for committee vacancies**—Trustee Chuck Robinson accepted the appointment as trustee representative on the WCC Foundation Board.
- **Retreat Follow-up**—The Board will develop a Board annual work plan. Trustee Cole and President Hiyane-Brown will prepare a proposal for review at the September board meeting.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. for a short break. The meeting reconvened at 3:55 p.m. and the Board immediately convened into an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. President Kathi Hiyane-Brown was the guest in the session.

The Executive Session adjourned at 4:37 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 4:37 p.m.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Susan Cole
Chairman of the Board

9/23/09
Date

Kathryn Myrland
President and Secretary of the Board

9-23-09
Date