

MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Laidlaw Center Board Room  
Wednesday, May 13, 2009  
2:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Barbara Rofkar officially called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Present were trustees Sue Cole, Chuck Robinson, Steve Adelstein and 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; Linda Maier, Dean for Workforce Education; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Foundation and College Advancement; Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General; Bob Riesenberg, WCCFT President; John O'Neill, WSFE Representative; guests: Kelly Kester, International Programs Director, with students Ju-Ra Han (Korea), Eun Hee Lee (Korea), Dining "Ika" Adhikawati (Indonesia), Meguru Yasuda (Japan), Johnny Runge (Denmark); Corrinne Sande, CIS Instructor, with student Josh Davis; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

**STUDY  
SESSION**

➤ **Whatcom Community College - International Programs: *Welcoming the World and Managing Change***

Kelly Kester, Director for International Programs, spoke to the three components of service in this department: 1) recruiting and hosting international students on our campus and assisting them in their educational pursuits; 2) facilitating the studies abroad program for our US students; and 3) internationalizing the campus and curriculum. Two significant events of this outreach include International Education week held each fall quarter, and International Night in the winter quarter. Kelly shared a history of the fluctuations of enrollments in international education. 2008-2009 was a record enrollment of 142 students from 28 countries. Japan and Korea have been identified as the two foremost countries that send the majority of students to Washington State international programs. Whatcom excels in the benefits provided to these students including personalized support for each student, location, strong academic programs (university transfer), and activities to integrate students into the community. Eighty percent of our international student body is studying for university transfer. China is a new focus for recruitment efforts. Kelly has just returned from a trip to China and is working with local industry leader, Dr. Austin Haung, President of Merit Engineering, who is helping Whatcom establish a relationship with a high school in Dashiqiao City, in China. President Kathi has sent a letter to Dashiqiao City Mayor Zhou Dazhai in support of this project.

Five international students, Ju-Ra Han (Korea), Eun Hee Lee (Korea), Dining "Ika" Adhikawati (Indonesia), Meguru Yasuda (Japan), and Johnny Runge (Denmark), eloquently addressed the Board and spoke about their studies, future plans and experiences at Whatcom.

Whatcom, Edmonds and Spokane Community Colleges jointly applied for and were awarded a \$1.4 million grant to host students from Egypt in the fall quarter.

The Board thanked these presenters for this informative presentation.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

➤ **Consent Agenda (Calendar)**

- a. Minutes of the April 9, 2009, Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)
- b. Winter 2009 Graduates (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 introduced Corrinne Sande, faculty and chair of the Computer Information Systems Department, who talked about the recent cyber defense competition in which a team of Whatcom CIS students participated. Whatcom placed fourth in a very demanding field of competitors from seven universities and community colleges. Student team leader Josh Davis spoke about the rigors of the network security and forensics aspects of the competition, and how it was a very rewarding opportunity to be able to participate. The Board congratulated the team on its fine performance.
- President Kathi asked Vice President Ray White to provide an update on the development of the operating budget. Ray reported that the Budget Committee has focused its work on the 10.7% reduction model. When adjusted with the legislated tuition increase, the net adjustment is 7.6%, which equates to 1.5 million dollars in reductions to our budget. The timeline is to have the budget book to the Board by June 1, with a first reading at the June 10th Board meeting. Ray also took a moment to introduce Brian Phelps, the new Director of Finance, replacing retiring long-time employee Doug Buck. This position passed through the exempted recruitment process of the state legislature.
- President Hiyane-Brown also spoke of the earmarked funds of \$37 million dollars set aside by the legislature which are targeted FTE dollars.
- On April 28<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Jeff Fox, representing the College's accreditation body, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), conducted an accreditation focused interim visit at Whatcom. President Hiyane-Brown noted that during his end-of-visit discussion, Dr. Fox was very complimentary about the work that has been done in response to the recommendation from the previous interim review visit. Kathi has also had an opportunity to review the first draft of Dr. Fox's interim report which indicates that he was very pleased with what he found, especially the commitment of faculty, staff and administration in response to Commission standards.
- Kathi and members of her Cabinet and selected staff held a meeting with Dr. Ron Baker with NWCCU, to review the revised accreditation processes that need to be addressed in anticipation of the College's 2011 full accreditation review.
- President Kathi was honored to share with the Board a letter, proclamation and flag that was mailed from Iraq to Whatcom from Lt. Col Jennifer McCleve, USAF, a mother of Running Start student, Mackenzie McCleve. Lt.Col. McCleve was stationed in Iraq, and the flag was flown over Balad Air Force Theater Hospital in Iraq, and dedicated to Whatcom Community College. A display of these items is being prepared in the library atrium and will be available for viewing beginning on Friday, May 15.
- Kathi announced that a pre-engineering program is to be initiated in winter quarter 2010. Faculty member Ed Harri has been very instrumental in getting this program in place.
- Music faculty Christopher Roberts was featured in the recent "Take Five" edition of the *Bellingham Herald*. Dr. Roberts will be presenting at Thursday's TRAP Seminar "Speaking Musical Language: How Words Inform Melodies in Papua, New Guinea."
- It was shared that Congressman Rick Larsen will be in Whatcom County focusing on Veteran issues. Vice President Onion reported that Whatcom has an active veteran's program and is working with them to develop a veteran's resource center on campus to assist the students with academic as well other services and connections with our community. Whatcom is also participating in the Yellow Ribbon Campaign.

## REPORTS

- ASWCC – David Burkett, President
- Not in attendance.

**REPORTS**  
**Continued**

**WCCFT – Bob Riesenber, President**

- WCCFT President Bob Riesenber had nothing new to add to his submitted report, except that the Union hopes to wrap up negotiations soon.

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

- John O’Neill reported that it was recently confirmed the union members’ medical insurance cost share will remain at the current 12% level, but that co-pays may be increased. The union will be voting on ratification of the agreement next week.

**TACTC –Trustees**

- Trustee Sue Cole provided a mission study update.
- Trustee attendance at The TACTC Spring Conference, May 14-15, was also discussed.

**WCC Foundation and Public Communication – Anne Bowen and Sue Cole, Trustee Representative**

- Anne Bowen reported that the Foundation friend-raising event held last evening at the home of Phyllis and Charles Self was a success and was well attended. Faculty member Guy Smith spoke about baseball and refereeing. Trustee Rofkar attended, representing the trustees. It is hoped that other trustees will be available to attend the second event on May 21 at the home of Foundation Board Director Victoria Dahlgren at which Linda Lambert will be speaking on the topic of the history of chocolate.

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

- Vice President White had noting additional to add to his submitted report.

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

- Vice President Onion promoted the list of upcoming end-of-year ceremonies, inviting the board to join us. It was shared that the Business Club will be having a get-together prior to commencement on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, and will be extending an invitation to the Board.
- Director of Student Programs and Athletics, Mike Langey, will be retiring this summer. He has been instrumental in fostering a remarkable relationship between our student leaders and the administration. The position is currently under recruitment.
- The Student Council is working on their operational budget and is scheduled to bring it forward to the Board in June. The Council is also further reviewing their budget for possible ways to provide additional financial services to assist the College in the next biennium.

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

- Vice President Leatherbarrow spoke about the recent poetry contest, the *Kumquat Challenge* that is held each year. There were forty submissions from faculty, staff and students. Ron was one of the judges for the event and shared that “...it really is a testament to the creativity of the people on campus.” It was a well done event and he encouraged the directors of the event to expand the recognition program next year. Library Director Linda Lambert provided copies of the booklet to the Board.

**DISCUSSION/  
ITEMS OF  
THE BOARD**

- A date for the Board retreat was confirmed for June 29-30; location to be determined.
- Trustee Steve Adelstein spoke about the Rotary Rotation Luncheon of May 4. The Rotary Club of Bellingham assigned Rotarians to different member’s locations around Bellingham, and Kathi hosted a group on campus. Steve attended Whatcom’s event and shared that there were really informative presentations and that the visit was very well received.
- Trustee Adelstein also reported on an informational community marketing activity that he attended at BTC. The Trustees encouraged President Hiyane-Brown to communicate with the various county mayors and the County Council advising them of Whatcom’s commitment to assist and be part of the

solution for the county's recession recovery operations. The President indicated that she would also follow up with the local legislators.

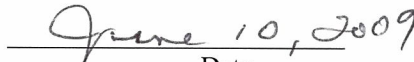
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. for a 5-minute break. The meeting reconvened into Executive Session at 3:55 p.m. to discuss Personnel Issues. Guests included Assistant Attorney General Lisa Wochos, President Hiyane-Brown, and Vice President Ron Leatherbarrow. The Executive Session adjourned at 6:05 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 6:05 p.m.

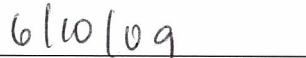
**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

  
Chairman of the Board

  
Date

  
President and Secretary of the Board

  
Date