

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of December 10, 2019

The six hundred thirty-second meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:35 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair  
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair  
Edward Powers, Secretary;  
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, George Siberón

Absent: Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson, Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee

Also in attendance: President Williams

Chair Gardyn requested a motion that, pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the following purposes: 1) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving AFA; and 2) of reviewing the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 6-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair  
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair  
Edward Powers, Secretary;  
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, George Siberón

Absent: Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson, Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee

Also in attendance: President Williams

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2019. Trustee Siberón moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 6-0.
  - b. Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2019. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Weiss. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Trustee Weiss introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the

pending college procurement agreement with Best Climate Control Corporation in the annual amount of \$550,000.00, as requested by VP Facilities Management Muscarella. (Funding Source: Operating & Capital).

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Siberón. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Chair Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Academic, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Committee the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposal by the department of Administration Business Technology/ Health Information Technology for an *AAS Medical Assistant* degree and recommends the approval of this program by the State University of New York.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Dr. Gardyn commented that the expansion of our programs in the Health Sciences field is a pathway for our students to be able to get good jobs at the completion of a two-year degree. The education that we provide at the cost savings compared to other institutions on the Island is a tremendous bargaining tool that needs to be advertised to high schools and to the public for them to realize the opportunities NCC has to offer. Motion carried 6-0.

4. First Read of Policy 2200: Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

Trustee Weiss gave a brief summary of Policy 2200, which covers all forms of Sexual Harassment, whether it involves students or employees. Behavior should be addressed early and firmly in the interest of maintaining a barrier-free working and learning environment. The amendments are a result of a change in both New York State law and SUNY policy. The unlawful dissemination of a publication of an intimate image has been added, and a section on consensual relationships was expanded to prohibit such involvement where there is a supervisory, evaluative or other institutional interaction establishing an imbalance in authority. Drs. Williams and Wright have held two informational/feedback sessions on campus. Dr. Williams added that General Counsel was involved in the conversations and the Policy was taken to the Academic Senate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, therefore certifying that Policy 2200 has been submitted for consultation to the appropriate constituencies within the College prior to submission to the Board.

President's Report

Dr. Williams reported on the following items:

**Student Highlights:**

- The NCC Speech, Debate & Theatre Team in conjunction with Hofstra University recently held a two-day Off-Broadway Swing event, the largest debate event on the East Coast. Professor Trent Webb has led the team to excellence, last year having been crowned both national and international champions.
- On the prior weekend the NCC Cheerleading team coordinated a multi-state competition with more than 100 High School cheer squads, providing immense exposure to our facilities.
- SGA President Bryce Mack was a panelist in the previous week for a conversation at the Chancellor's convening of 64 Presidents of the SUNY System campus. Bryce was one of only a few students who provided the student voice on the important topic of campus climate, giving the College representation of which we should be proud.

He congratulated all the students who will graduate after successful completion of the Fall 2019 semester, and thanked all the faculty and staff who have helped them meet and achieve their educational goals.

### **Winterim Enrollment**

- A little less than 1% behind compared to last year. He thanked those individuals in Admissions, Advisement, and Registrar who monitored the data reports, and who coordinated with the Deans and Chairs for piloting the integration of online courses for the first time during Winterim session.
- Spring enrollment is underway.

### **Future Conversations**

- Campus Climate, Activism, and Accountability were major items discussed at the SUNY Chancellor's December meeting.
- Representatives from all 64 SUNY campuses subsequently met over several days at the SUNY Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Conference for conversations on issues and incidents that have arisen at other SUNY schools, and notably at Syracuse. As a consequence, we will revisit policies in order for us to be more productively civilly engaged and to foster intellectual curiosity respectfully.

### **Guided Pathways Update**

- He has shared with members of the Board and eventually will share with Cabinet the research resource *Redesigning America's Community College: A Clearer Path to Student Success* by Thomas Bailey, Shanna Smith Jaggars & Davis Jenkins.
- In regards to the first two pillars of Guided Pathways – 1) clarifying a path / mapping pathways to student end goals and 2) helping students choose and enter a pathway – he shared the following data from Fall 2019:
  - 1,492 new degree and non-degree students were accepted to NCC, but never registered;
  - 497 registered at another institution of higher education, with Farmingdale State College, Suffolk County Community College, and Queens Community College as our top 3 competitors;
  - The challenge and opportunity for us is to identify how we can better serve the 995 students who were accepted to NCC and did not attend any institute of higher education;
  - 80% of students we serve are from Nassau County.

Dr. Williams expressed his gratitude and humble appreciation on how wonderful his first semester at the College has been by reading the following statement:

*“I remain truly humbled and grateful to serve as President of NCC. Thank you to everybody who spent time communicating and sharing how we can advance the College and for being supportive of my learning journey. While I will continue to learn each day, as someone dedicated to life-long learning, I will spend the end of this semester and beginning portion of next semester continuing to meet with people and groups, as well as poring over the months of interactions so I may reflect my experiences back to the College community, subsequently, communicating a vision and path for the future that is influenced by those experiences, the unique factors that we need to embrace, as well as successful strategies and promising practices. I am hopeful that everybody will be able to see themselves in the vision as a positively contributing member to the future of NCC, ensuring enhanced access, completion, and post-completion success.*”

President Williams wished all Season's Greetings – a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy All Holidays, and a Happy and Healthy New Year. He looks forward to being here with us for a long time.

#### Speakers

Joylette Samuels, Professor of English, shared statistical and anecdotal success of the Mentoring Program. Per the year-end report for 2018-2019, the program saw 1,067 students, with 2,043 kept appointments. As an outgrowth of success, the department will be hosting an event on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the CCB Glass Atrium. She conveyed three individual student examples of the program's effectiveness. In one, a colleague was the first and only College employee that a student taking online courses had met in person. In another, she related how students with young children who receive daycare services at the Greenhouse are able to find encouragement to continue their studies. In the last, one of three stories on a printout submitted to the Board, an artistically unconventional 101 student with ADD who was finding it difficult to focus and who had earned only C pluses on initial papers, received guidance that structure would aid her creativity, provided the structure was flexible. She is now playing in school concerts and recently earned an A minus. In all three cases the program has helped these students demonstrate progress with social, emotional, psychological, and intellectual concerns. The newly recruited students in particular are advancing within their lives at the College not only academically but holistically.

Stefan Kromprier, AFA President, thanked the Board for all they do throughout the year and invited them to the AFA Holiday party. A former public speaking trainer who has followed through email updates the continued success of Professor Trent Webb and the NCC Speech, Debate & Theatre Team, he attended a presentation and witnessed firsthand the superior quality. He subsequently volunteered this Fall to be a tournament judge and was again impressed how our students performed extremely well against competitors from many four-year schools. Last Spring the Business Department conducted an interactive class presentation, Business Day in America, for which he and Frank Frisenda were invited to speak about unions. Afterwards, a then-high school student, Joshua, taking courses for college credit, approached him to express how much he enjoyed their presentation and that he was interested in learning more about unions. Pres. Kromprier encouraged Joshua to contact him, and was so impressed by him in their follow-up meetings that he recommended Joshua to join the NCC Speech, Debate & Theatre Team. Joshua became a member of the team and placed 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in his first two competitions, another testament to the great work being done by Professor Webb and his assistant Justin Dougherty.

Frank Frisenda, NCCFT President, commented that in his 35 years with the College he has been a faculty advisor for many different clubs, including as a Board member of the FSA (Faculty Student Association) for 17 years, which has allowed him to engage many faculty leaders of various student clubs. We all should be so proud of the student success facilitated by our efforts not just in the classroom but in extracurricular activities that often have a more lasting memorable impact. Citing the example of English Department seminars, he advocated for mentoring new faculty to help them understand what is expected of them in order to ensure sustained success. He has promised Anissa Moore that he is committed to achieving these goals with the NCCFT and the Academic Senate. He wished all a Healthy Holiday Season.

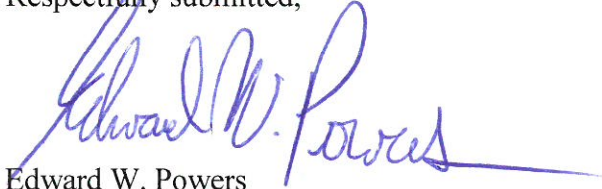
Chair Gardyn thanked Stefan Kromprier and Frank Frisenda for their many years of service. He observes the sense of community at NCC and a resurgence of the collective promise of our institution in the faculty, administration, and Board joining together in a unified vision for the success of our students. In this spirit, he wished all a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Kwanzaa and any other holiday for celebration.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. and resume the public session approximately 7:30 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Siberón. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward W. Powers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward W. Powers  
Secretary