

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of March 9, 2021

The six hundred forty-fourth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Weiss at 5:59 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Edward Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson,
George Siberón, Donna M. Tuman, Sophia Costanzo, Student Trustee.

Absent: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair

Also in attendance: President Williams, VPs Kerrigan, Izquierdo, Muscarella, AVP Wright

Vice Chair Weiss 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 purpose 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 Costanzo moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 9-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Edward Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, Linda H. Green, Wanda H. Jackson,
George Siberón, Donna M. Tuman, Sophia Costanzo, Student Trustee.

Also in attendance: President Williams, VPs Izquierdo, Kerrigan, Muscarella, AVP Wright

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of February 9, 2021. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Costanzo. Motion carried 10-0.

2. Trustee Weiss introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Personnel, Affirmative Action & Labor Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves that in recognition of distinguished and meritorious service to Nassau Community College, and upon the recommendation of the president of Nassau Community College, the following named retired faculty members of Nassau Community College, who retired after attaining the academic rank of professor or associate professor, are hereby granted the permanent academic title of professor emeritus with all the privileges and rights accruing thereto.

Michael Boyle

Professor

Theatre & Dance

Retired 2/25/21

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Powers. Motion carried 10-0.

2. Trustee Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Personnel, Affirmative Action & Labor Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees, hereby approves that pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers, and upon the recommendation of the college-wide promotion and tenure committee and the college administration, the faculty members named herein are hereby granted promotion and/or tenure at Nassau Community College effective September 1, 2021.

Tenure & Promotion to Assistant Professor

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Rakhi Agarwal	Chemistry
Valerie Fasanello	Critical Reading & Academic Advancement
Joanne Gabrus	Nursing
Deirdre Gibson	Hospitality Business
James Mantegna	Library
Adrienne Nocella	Physical Sciences
Ryan Patane	Music
Michael Zito	Physical Sciences

Promotion to Administrative Assistant III

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Andrea Warmbrand	Financial Aid

Tenure and Promotion to Administrative Assistant II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Kalvin Chin	Academic Advisement

Tenure and Promotion to Technical Assistant II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Christine Lawrence	Art

Promotion to Technologist III

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Savelios Aslanidis	Nursing
Deneen Cook	Information Technology Services

Tenure and Promotion to Technologist II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Sherly Chacko	Information Technology Services
Nikoleta Nparstek	Allied Health Science

Tenure – P3

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Shawn Novatt	Media

Tenure – P1

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
John Melo	Informational Technology Services

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Siberón moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 10-0.

President Williams reported on the following items:

Student Highlights

It is always fantastic to see how resilient and involved our students are. Even through the pandemic, our students continue to be civically engaged and to contribute to the community. One of the high points of his weeks is when he participates in his weekly COVID Screening talking with the students who are working at the site and playing a key role in helping to maintain healthy and safe environment at NCC.

Preparing for Fall - Health and Safety Update

We are engaging the entire College community in conversations about how we enhance face-to-face academic and student support services for Fall 2021. There will be a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2021 to hear from faculty and staff. There have been continuous conversations at the College’s Reinvention Task Force meetings, and surveys designed to hear from faculty and students have also been administered. As we have always endeavored, we want to continue to move forward in a manner that keeps health and safety paramount.

Since the start of the pandemic, throughout these challenging times, we have been working very closely with SUNY administration on the College’s operational plans. Recent discussions with SUNY have indicated, that for the Fall 2021 semester, we can and should begin developing our plans for a safe and healthy return to face-to-face instruction as much as possible. COVID-19 is still an ever-evolving situation, and, as we move closer to the start of the Fall 2021 semester, conditions could change that would warrant either a hybrid approach with remote, online, and face-to-face instruction, or strictly remote, and we will make data-informed decisions that support health and safety.

Student Access and Completion

As we look towards student access, completion, and post-completion success, the College is engaging in conversations with several high schools about opportunities to bolster Dual Enrollment and Concurrent Enrollment for Fall 2021. He expressed appreciation for faculty who have reviewed courses in their departments to identify which would be a good fit for Dual Enrollment and for the staff who have been engaging in this effort and are helping move it forward. He also acknowledges and thanked the Academic Senate Executive Committee, the entire Academic Senate, and NCCFT leadership for their support.

As of March 12th, Dave Follick, currently Dean of Admissions, will assume the role of Assistant Vice President for Academic and Student Services. Among other responsibilities, he will oversee the College’s partnerships that involve high school students taking NCC credit-bearing courses while still enrolled in high school.

Budget

Based on the projected budgets that have been presented to the Board for the past several months, next month we plan to present for a vote a tuition and fees resolution that maintains tuition at the current level. While we must extensively examine how the College operates in order to move towards a place of fiscal solvency for the future, we will continue to share updates with the College community and to engage in conversation.

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month, which, according to the National Women's History Museum, is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history. Recognition of women's history began as a local celebration in California, and then became week-long in 1978 before blossoming into a month, appreciative that women should be acknowledged year-round. The National Women's History Alliance is extending the annual theme for 2021 to *Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced*. Let us not forget that just last year we celebrated the centennial of women's suffrage. While the College remains primarily remote, there is a host of events to designed to engage the College community.

Updates on Major Initiatives

- Strategic Planning Update
 - The Institutional Planning Committee, in moving forward with conversations and actions regarding the strategic planning process, has completed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis that currently is planned to be administered to all internal and external constituents. The Board of Trustees will be engaged, as well.
 - The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning has researched and analyzed data to produce and to share several reports that create an Environmental Scan.
 - One of the next steps, realizing that the process is multi-layered and intersecting points, is to start exploring a vision statement for the College.

• Guided Pathways

The College has continued its progress on implementing Guided Pathways, which represents a major philosophical approach and paradigm shift.

- A group from the College will participate in the Spring Guided Pathways Institute 3, entitled *Onboarding Students to Pathway* and scheduled for mid-April.
 - The Institute team will review the report *The 2018 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)*, appreciative that the data does not merely reflect statistics, but tells a story necessary to understand our students. For instance:
 - ❖ 71% of respondents never used "Peer or Other Tutoring"; however,
 - ❖ 67% of respondents indicated "Peer or Other Tutoring" is "somewhat or very important"
 - ✓ How do we reconcile students not using the resource yet recognizing its importance?
 - ❖ How likely is it that the following issues would cause you to withdraw from class or from this college?
 - ✓ Approximately 41% of respondents said it is "likely" or "very likely" that working full-time would cause them to withdraw from class or from the College.

He acknowledged the Executive Lead, Dr. Lausch, and co-facilitators Dr. Ethel Weeks and Dean Genette Alvarez-Ortiz for providing leadership on the College's Guided Pathways work.

He thanked the Trustees for their continued support of the College and all the individuals at the College who work hard to support our students and to advance the College. He remains happy and humbled to serve as President of NCC.

Speaker

Darren Petronella, NCCFT Vice President for Non-classroom and Professional faculty, and full Professor and career and transfer counselor in Student Personnel Services, spoke on behalf of the NCCFT and our students. In March 2020, NCCFT members moved quickly to undertake the Herculean task of ensuring that our students

were able to continue their education under demanding circumstances. While we have successfully transitioned our teaching, service, and student engagement towards remote modalities, significant challenges remain, with new ones to arise as we move to bring the entire NCC community back to campus. Everyone is working hard to prepare for the Summer and Fall semesters, and we recognize the difficulties in planning caused by the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and by the lack of explicit guidance from SUNY. The NCCFT appreciates the diligence, creativity, and mindfulness that contribute to these efforts, however, that no matter what shape our reopening plan finally takes, it will be the members of the NCCFT who lead the way in providing a quality education to our students through our commitment to shared governance, our pursuit of excellence, and our dedication to them. Providing this leadership, a core component of the value we bring to this campus, is what it means to be a full-time faculty member. We stand ready to do our part.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session between 6:15 p.m. 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 Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 10-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward W. Powers
Secretary

DRAFT