BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:
Denise Frisbee, Jim Harper, Jaime Lim, Doreen Margolin, Karen McKinney, Harold Williams

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors convened an executive session for Real Property Transactions, Records that are Exempt from Public Inspection, and Litigation in accordance with ORS 192.660 (1) (2), (e) (f) (h) at 6:45 PM, adjourning at 7:15 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Williams called the business meeting to order at 7:30 PM and invited all present to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 19, 2006 business meeting minutes were approved as published.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published with the addition of resolution 06-052.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Rock Creek Campus Update
Dr. Katherine Persson, Rock Creek Campus President
Dr. Persson welcomed the Board and guests to Rock Creek campus. She then described recently held and upcoming campus events. On February 23, 2006 the Beaverton and Hillsboro Chambers of Commerce and Wells Fargo Bank will present a Joint Economic Development Conference. She also said the sustainability initiative is becoming a vital part of the campus culture with several events providing valuable information including a panel discussion titled, From Crops to the Classrooms, Engaging Higher Education in the Food Systems that was held last week. In April another panel discussion will be held titled What on Earth is in Your Food?. In joint
effort with Compact, the Learning Garden is a service learning and student government initiative. Noelle Studer, Coordinator for the Center for Sustainable Development, recently helped submit a National Science Foundation grant proposal to further curriculum efforts in sustainability utilizing sustainable resources. Fall term 2006 will see the first class of students admitted to the Think Big Project. Additionally there are many partnerships with Beaverton School District, some of which have been in place for many years and dovetail nicely into Senate Bill 300 efforts. Rock Creek and Beaverton Schools are advising over 100 students in Career Pathway Early College Partnership. At the beginning of Fall term Portland State University began offering evening graduate courses at Rock Creek. Sonya Stevens, was recently hired as the on-campus Child Care Expansion Program Director. President Pulliams commended Dr. Persson’s effort in so quickly connecting with the Rock Creek staff and faculty as well as the community at large.

Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Development

Randy McEwen, Vice President, Administration and Wing-Kit Chung, Associate Vice President of Finance

Mr. McEwen informed the Board the 2007 budget outlook is substantially consistent with the briefing provided in November 2005. Events that may cause slight changes in direction of budget development are: President Pulliams’ Budget Advisory Committee next week; flat student enrollment for FY 2007; an increase after the November briefing of roughly $300,000 in state support; reductions identified last year will be implemented at the start of FY 2007; utilities costs including telecommunications services will increase roughly $400,000; money for new initiatives will be in the range of $300,000 to $400,000; over this fiscal year and next the College’s contribution to healthcare will increase approximately 44% for full-family coverage; the process of taking advantage of PCC’s pension obligation bond issuance a couple of years ago will be continued, and the envisioned PERS increase will be bought down by about 1% creating a savings of about $700,000. Mr. McEwen advised the Board that the budget picture for community colleges is radically changed from five years ago. Five years ago there was some hope that growth would be rewarded in terms of a real increase in the state appropriation. Today there is little, if any, hope of substantial growth money.

As staff understands the Board’s direction regarding budget planning the following points are important: make sure the basic costs of new facilities are funded; ensure the fund balance from a budget planning perspective will not go below 5%; move tuition and fees up progressively and regularly and avoid where possible huge increases; examine the sufficiency of PCC’s management compensation system and bring forward to the Board recommended changes for consideration; and to continue exploring opportunities to improve the full-time/part-time ratio in our faculty. He also conveyed to the Board that the College’s approach is to balance the reality of very limited new funds with the reality of needed tuition and fee increases. Actions that could restore some of the budget cuts currently slated for FY 2007 are being explored. Other considerations in this process include workforce diversity, student access, student retention, and student success. At President Pulliams’ direction a proposed budget will be submitted to the Board that will be as responsive as possible to these multiple priorities.
Mr. Chung told the Board that in January PCC received a memo from the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) advising the College that when Washington County disclosed the real market value subject to taxation there was an oversight by the county. $4 billion, mostly attributed to Intel, Corp. was included. The figures indicated that Washington County’s real market value of property subject to taxation by PCC was higher than that in Multnomah County last year. This moved PCC out of the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission of Multnomah County (TSCC) jurisdiction and required PCC to create a Citizen Budget Committee, (Resolution 05-069). With corrections that have come to light PCC again will be subject to the jurisdiction of the TSCC making the Citizen Budget Committee unnecessary. Thus the request to dissolve this committee has been submitted for your approval on Resolution 06-051.

On page 146 of the February Board packet is the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget Calendar. Three events have changed since the earlier discussion with the Board. The meeting on April 20, 2006 was originally scheduled to be a Citizen Budget Committee meeting but Resolution 06-051 will dissolve the Citizen Budget Committee thus the Board will act as the Budget Committee. The President’s proposed budget will also be presented at that time. If the Board does not approve the budget at that meeting a May 4, 2006 meeting will be convened to approve the budget due to the time line in which PCC has to submit the budget to TSCC in order to be ready for adoption in June. The scheduled date for the TSCC Public Hearing is May 24, 2006 at 9:30 AM in the Portland Building in downtown Portland. Although it is a staff event any Board members are welcome to attend. The 2007 budget will be discussed at the May 18, 2006 Board meeting. At the June 15 Board meeting the budget as certified by TSCC will be presented to the Board followed by a motion for its adoption. These are the three major changes that will occur with PCC returning to the jurisdiction of TSCC.

OCCA Strategic Planning
Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President
The Board has been asked by the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) to discuss the proposed draft of the strategic plan developed as the result of the November Strategic Planning Retreat. A number of PCC Board members participated in this three day retreat in discussion about the future of Oregon community colleges for the next ten to fifteen years.

President Pulliams presented a synopsis of the report and asked the Board to answer two questions. First, what is the Board’s overall reaction to the report? Second, which of the seven initiatives listed on page 3 of the report should become the focus over the next three years? OCCA plans to have a Board meeting late in March where consideration will be given to the input from all 17 Oregon community colleges.

Dr. Pulliams said overall he feels very good about this report and believes it makes a great deal of sense to talk about the future of community college, the unifying collaborative effort, and the critical role that community college plays in the state. He
does however feel the plan is overly broad, somewhat diffused and would like more focus. He feels the three primary areas of critical concern in this document are funding, universal access, and matching workforce needs. Funding is the foundation of the relationship between this state, this community college district, and the other 16 community colleges throughout the state. The state has an obligation to provide adequate, predictable funding. The last year and a half was difficult for the College primarily because inadequate funding prevented the College from really meeting its mission. He sees as critical the need to build predictable sustainable funding streams for community college operation including student financial aid assistance.

The issue of universal access is creating opportunities for removing barriers to lifelong access to learning. Because of state policies and other state concerns, doors are being closed to students who most need post-secondary education and our ability to really fulfill the College mission of supporting community needs is being limited.

President Pulliams believes the College must be the foundation in which the state constructs, supports, and creates a comprehensive workforce that matches the workforce needs of the community. If there is hope of having a bright economic forecast, not only in this region but in the state, the need for a qualified, skilled, and diverse workforce must be addressed. President Pulliams then asked Chair Williams to open the floor to Board questions.

Director Margolin believes OCCA is looking at these issues. The idea of bringing people together and getting everyone involved in looking at the future for community college is a new approach. She believes that the future is too unpredictable to know what the College’s priorities will really be for the next fifteen years but since the OCCA is asking for input from state community colleges the look ahead should not just be what’s important for community colleges but also what community colleges want at the state level. She agrees with President Pulliams’ comments regarding funding and agrees that the issues he talked about are important. She also believes diversity falls under the universal access section, Strategic Goal #1, and that maybe is where that need should be addressed. Director Margolin said governance is another important issue at the state level that has come up at the legislature and the Department of Education. Around the country other states have different governance structures. If at the OCCA level governance is not reviewed and acted upon others will make those decisions and the College will have to do things their way.

Director McKinney said although she was not able to attend the November Strategic Planning meeting she complemented the work of those who did. She believes that one important task in this process is to identify and clarify the roles of OCCA, college presidents, local boards, state boards, and other key stakeholders.

She also said that, although it would be a very challenging task, the state should develop a new tax structure that addresses funding issues affecting not only Education but also Corrections, Human Services and all other services. She believes that for
solutions to be effective these issues need to be addressed by the Legislature or the Governor’s office.

Director McKinney said workforce training is an area in which many providers other than community colleges are vying for leadership roles. The funding structure for workforce training needs to be restructured if PCC is to become the education and training leader for the workforce at large.

She also stated that it would be a good idea to look at the role, value, and effectiveness of local and state foundations especially for smaller community colleges.

Director McKinney feels that it is time to look at the possibility of a Governor-appointed board for community colleges similar to those currently in place for K-12 and higher education. A board for community colleges would provide better visibility to effectively lobby issues. She believes community colleges would be better served by an organization like the Office of Community Development than the current key leadership entities: President’s Council, OCCA, and the Council of Presidents due to current fragmentation and lack of coordination of these groups.

President Pulliams responded that the Executive Committee at OCCA has identified governance as a priority issue and is bringing in a national expert to lead the group through an exercise to identify types of governance that would be effective in Oregon. He also agreed with Director McKinney’s evaluation of the need for creating a community college board. To make this work all 17 Oregon community colleges will need to work together as they did last year on capital requests. The result was the state, for the first time, funded some of those projects illustrating the power of working together as a collective group.

Chair Williams believes some of the other community colleges in Oregon lack vision for the future because they are so locked into the way they currently do business that they fail to see there other more effective ways of operating. He sees PCC’s role as orchestrating the vision for the rest of the state. He said it is the responsibility of Board members to show strength and provide strong support to the District President and Council of Presidents. Chair Williams feels that support is lacking in boards of some of the other community colleges and would like to see community college boards work together toward a Community College Governance Board. Being affiliated with K-12 or Higher Education Boards reduces the ability of community college needs to be effectively recognized and remedied.

President Pulliams feels that Oregon Community Colleges are changing history in terms of working together. He has observed that PCC has become a leader because of willingness to come to the table and to work hard. Others are seeking the College’s opinions and are more willing to work together because we are all part of a team and believe in the same mission. President Pulliams told the Board that it’s time to solicit more support from the Governor and the State and to recognize the headway that has already been made in obtaining capital funding for some Oregon community colleges.
Another indicator of progress is that there has been some agreement on the funding formula and how to deal with the equalization of funding. Although it was a tough struggle success was achieved. There is still a lot of work to do but by continuing to work together the College’s leadership role will be assured throughout the process. The President’s Council, as a clear show of respect for PCC’s size and magnitude, has changed PCC’s voting power by four to five.

President Pulliams asked the Board if there were further comments. Being none he told them he would prepare a letter for Chair Williams’ signature to OCCA representing the Board’s comments. If Chair Williams approves the letter a copy will be sent to each Board member. He then thanked the Board for their comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS
None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
None

BUSINESS MEETING

Director Margolin proposed approval of Resolutions 06-047 through 06-052. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Reports:
Frank Goulard, Faculty Federation, brought information regarding two initiatives that will likely be on the November ballot, the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR), and the Federal Substitution Act. If passed the Federal Substitution Act would take about $1 billion from the Oregon biennial budget in FY 07 – 09. He told the Board it is time to mobilize and provide voters with information so they understand how harmful these measures would be if passed. All Oregon community colleges and higher education campuses have been asked to set up teams of unions, student organizations and Board members. Chuck Clemens a Board Member from Clackamas Community College and OCCA President is coordinating this effort in support and in behalf of Board Members. Any Board members willing to serve in this effort should let Michael Dembrow or Dr. Pulliams know. All assistance will be appreciated.

Yesterday in the early evening a part-time faculty fair, coordinated by Paul Hill, Maureen Judge-Morris and Sylvia Welch, was held at Sylvania with about 250 hopeful part-time faculty candidates attending. Staff from Human Resources and President Pulliams greeted guests. Mr. Goulard observed a great sense of eagerness and desire displayed by those attending.
Mr. Goulard reflected that Board members, staff, faculty, and classified are all important and valuable to the College and should always act in a student centered and learning centered manner. He said that each of us can make a difference to our students. “The College” is us and we need to take pride in that and provide more service to students, faculty, and staff.

*Board Reports:*
Director Margolin reported that a number of Board members, President Pulliams, Lorna O’Guinn and David Goldberg attended the American Association for Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. At the summit it was learned that a new Congressional Community College Caucus has been created and Congressman David Wu is one of the Chairs. Having an Oregon representative so involved is exciting news for community college. She also asked to Board to share with her any comments, good or bad, about ACCT. Since she is an ACCT Board Member she will forward them on to the national organization.

*District President Report:*
President Pulliams told the Board that last night he observed the philosophy of “Our College” being enacted in the part-time faculty recruitment fair. He thanked Dr. Paul Hill, Sylvia Welch, Maureen Judge-Morris, faculty, department heads, and others who took part in the part-time faculty recruitment and then stayed after the designated close of the event to make sure all candidates were provided information. He said the College is striving to support more diverse candidates being considered for faculty positions, not just diverse candidates but good candidates. One way to accomplish this is by broadening the pool of applicants for part-time faculty. In this recruitment effort it was hoped that 50 would attend. Packets were prepared for 150. People were lined up before the event began and within the first 18 minutes all prepared materials were distributed. He reported there were about 255 who attended and it was estimated that probably 20% of the attendees were people of color who took the time to come to the College and demonstrate their interest in teaching at PCC.

President Pulliams found the ACCT Legislative Summit to be very informative. He thanked Board members and commended the effort spent advocating on behalf of PCC, community colleges across the country, and Oregon community colleges. He commented on the PCC delegation being warmly and supportively received in Washington, D.C. He also shared that it is his sense that due to the war the budget presented by the President cut some real critical programs for community colleges. Board members play key roles in advocating for reinstating those programs by bringing community colleges’ case before each of their legislators and their staff. He again thanked the Board for their willingness to devote time from their personal lives to serve in this uncompensated role.

President Pulliams said this month’s packets sent to Board members in preparation for this meeting included the annual Workforce Analysis Report. The impact of candidates of color for various classifications throughout the organization is being evaluated and numbers reflected in this report are based upon data from November of last year. There
has been much intervention since then and current numbers indicate more diverse candidate pools across the College. The block hire process is just beginning and we hope to see increases in some of the numbers reflected in the report. He thanked Sylvia Welch for her very assertive effort as well as her review committee and Jerry Donnelly for dedicated effort to diversify the PCC workforce. Dr. Pulliams believes their work will pay off in a richer, more diversified workforce for the College.

President Pulliams noted that Chair Williams was interviewed in Washington, DC for an article coming out soon in the National Journal for ACCT. Although he has already acknowledged Chair Williams’ important work and his willingness to work and support the College’s work on a national scale his appreciation bears repeating.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Portland Community College Board of Directors will be held on March 16 at 7:30 PM in Board’s Conference Room at the Sylvania Campus.

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Chair Williams                  President Pulliams

Prepared by:

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Lorna J. O’Guinn
Assistant to Board of Directors

Minutes approved on March 16, 2006