MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS BUSINESS SESSION
Cascade Campus, Moriarty Arts and Humanities Building, Auditorium
April 16, 2009

BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:
Jim Harper, Jaime Lim, Bob Palmer, David Squire, Harold Williams

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors convened an executive session for Real Property Transactions and Labor Negotiations in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2), (d) and (e) at 6:44 PM, adjourning at 7:24 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Williams called the business meeting to order at 7:35 PM and invited all present to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 19, 2009 business meeting minutes were approved as published.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Cascade Campus Update
Dr. Algie Gatewood, Cascade Campus President
Dr. Gatewood reported that two students, Amber Parke and Marissa Johnson represent the high academic standard of Cascade Campus. Both competed for and have been selected to receive $1,000 scholarships from Coca Cola. Additionally, both were chosen as Oregon Outstanding Community College Scholars.

Dr. Gatewood noted faculty, staff and students are working together to provide math tutoring for students in Cascade’s Student Learning Center. He added that Cascade enrollment is up significantly with a 26.3% increase in FTE for Spring term alone with 20% growth to date for the 2009 academic year.
Dr. Gatewood reported Cascade Campus continues to work in partnership with area agencies, businesses, and residents to increase the safety and well being of the Campus and surrounding neighborhood. He provided partnership examples including the Middle College program at Jefferson High School. He added that the success rate for students in this program is 90%.

He listed recent Cascade Campus events including the African Film Festival that had record attendance of 5,400 and the March 14, standing room only, town hall meeting featuring Senator Margaret Carter, and Representatives Kotek and Shields that was attended by community members, faculty, staff and students. Cascade Campus takes an active role in promoting increased safety within the neighborhood by participating in the Albina-Killingsworth Safe Neighborhood Commission and continues discussion with the Humboldt Neighborhood Association regarding upcoming bond construction at Cascade Campus.

Dr. Gatewood concluded by saying on April 21 the Campus will host a Joint Ways and Means Committee meeting that will allow the college community and the public to talk to Oregon legislators about the effects of the economic crisis.

Legislative Update
Dana Haynes, Manager, Public Affairs
Mr. Haynes said the Ways and Means Committee would visit several locations around the State to share and receive information about various budgeting aspects that will affect the 2009-2011 budget including 30% anticipated budget cuts, Federal Stimulus funds, and the State Rainy Day fund. Resulting information will be used to prepare a budget in conjunction with the Governor’s office. He also said Oregon’s 12.1% unemployment rate, currently the highest in the nation, dealt a blow to lawmakers and bureaucrats and the next unemployment report is expected to be about May 13 to be followed by the May 15 Revenue Forecast. He noted that during the week of April 6-10 PCC staff, students, Classified and Faculty Federations along with business partners provided testimony to the Ways and Means Committee in support of community college budgets. He said the next issue will be the essential budget level which is an estimation of the 2009-2011 cost for services that assumes service needs will be identical to the 2007-2009 budget. Mr. Haynes said the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) failed to create an essential budget level for community colleges and work is being done to correct the oversight.

President Pulliams thanked Mr. Haynes for his report, adding he has received complimentary reports of Mr. Haynes’ lobbying efforts from Andrea Henderson, OCCA and Commissioner Preus, CCWD.

Willamette Block Building Update
Randy McEwen, District Vice President, Grant Bennett, Architect; Natasha Koiv, Principal, SERA Architects; and Eric Philips, Lead Designer, SERA Architects
Mr. McEwen reminded the Board that the Willamette Block Building at Second and Yamhill is a bond-funded project and that like the Willow Creek project is providing employment opportunities in this time of high unemployment.

Mr. Bennett reported that about 140 people from Financial Services, Human Resources, Affirmative Action, Institutional Effectiveness and Community Education will occupy the Willamette Block Building upon completion of the renovation. The overall project budget is $13 million including all costs of purchasing and renovating the building. He said SERA Architects and Fortis Construction are on schedule and the building is expected to be ready to occupy in December of 2009.

Ms. Koiv and Mr. Philips reviewed renovation plans floor by floor noting that they are slightly ahead of schedule on this project. Mr. Philips said all interior finishes of the building will be removed and reconfigured to maximize use and meet the needs of the departments and programs that will occupy the building. All new plumbing and electrical infrastructure throughout the building will be installed as well as a very efficient, high rated HVAC radiant panel system that will integrate well with the low floor heights of the second and third floors. All serviceable mechanical equipment currently in the building will be reused. Seismic upgrade will be done to meet ASCE 41 requirements and the target is LEED Gold certification for the project.

Mr. Philips reported design goals for this 1882 building are: to announce PCC’s presence in downtown Portland, improve access to daylight, respect the building’s historic fabric, clarify the building entry, and create an active ground floor. He said design, color, and signage will be used to invite people into the building while maintaining the historic context of the building’s exterior. President Pulliams asked that “Portland Community College” replace the proposed “PCC” on signage. Ms. Koiv and Mr. Phillips agreed to modify the signage.

Director Squire said he thought there would be more classroom space and asked for additional information regarding that. Mr. McEwen explained that options including adding retail space and classrooms had been evaluated but, with Board approval, it was decided the best use would be to provide a capability to either conduct instruction or offer meeting space to the public and business audiences on the ground floor that would be visible from both Second and Yamhill streets and that leadership from Community Education would be brought into the building to encourage opportunities to have brown bag classes or evening Community Education classes.

ADJOURNED BUSINESS SESSION AND CONVENED AS COLLEGE BUDGET COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORS 294.406
PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET

Review of Proposed Budget
Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President, Wing-Kit Chung, Vice President, Administrative Services, and Cherie Chevalier, Associate Vice President, Financial Services

President Pulliams listed key points regarding creation of the 2009-2011 biennial budget: the budget is based on the State’s currently-projected revenue shortfall of $3 billion for the biennium; it represents a reduction of 14% from current levels that equates to community colleges being funded at $428 million; the State’s acceptance of Federal Stimulus funds; State support will be 38% and tuition-generated revenue 40%. Dr. Pulliams noted that input for this budget came from sources including the President’s Cabinet, Campus Budget Forums, the President’s Budget and Planning Advisory Committee, Federation leadership, and the President’s Advisory Committee on Management and Confidential Compensation. It has been determined that the prudent course of action is to wait for the May Revenue Forecast which will determine the final appropriation.

This budget proposes an increase in tuition of $4 in fiscal year 2010; an additional $2 increase in fiscal year 2011; provides for continuation of new initiatives from prior years with no new initiatives for the upcoming biennium; a small increase in the student activity fee in response to a recommendation from the District Student Council; proposed implementation of a College Service Fee to replace a number of current fees; a new fee for expansion of the College’s transportation shuttle systems by a roughly 30% that also provides a 150% increase in subsidies for student TriMet bus passes. He noted two areas of major uncertainty in this budget are the May Revenue Forecast and Legislature’s response to it and also the status of labor negotiations with the Federations. He added that the budget’s objective is to avoid both layoffs and extreme cost increase to our students.

Mr. Chung reported that he provided a corrected Resolution 09-079 to Board members because Resolution 09-079 included in the Board meeting packet incorrectly stated the proposed College Service fee would be “per credit” as opposed to the corrected “per term” in the revised resolution.

Ms. Chevalier explained the need for Resolutions 09-076 to approve the College proposed budget and the property tax levies for the 2009-2011 biennium; 09-077 to authorize the increase in tuition for credit courses; 09-078 to authorize an increase in the Student Activity Fee; 09-079 to authorize a College Service fee; and 09-080 to authorize increases for parking permit fees beginning the Fall of 2009.

Mr. Chung said that savings of $3 million have been identified in the current budget and that $1.5 million has been identified of the additional $5 million college wide savings Dr. Pulliams has directed executive staff and cabinet members to identify. He added that other factors including contract negotiation
with the Federations and the May 15 Revenue Forecast will be factors in determining if there is the need to exercise a reduction in force. Director Squire asked what the fee increases would be for a student enrolled in 15 credits. Mr. Chung replied that tuition and fee increases would be about $70 per term.

Public Comment on Proposed Portland Community College F2010 and F2011 Budget

Kevin Cronin, Southeast Center student is in support of the fee increase to support The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF). He said that in a survey of 144 students at Southeast Center only ten were did not favor support of TGIF with a ten-cent student fee increase.

Alejandra Trujillo, Rock Creek Campus student is in support for TGIF. She added that when students are passionate about an issue that issue should be supported by PCC administration as TGIF has been.

Chelsea Peil, Student Sustainability Coordinator at Cascade Campus and student member on the CELT committee, is in support of TGIF because these funds can be used to create needed curriculum in areas of sustainability.

Jason Barbour, full-time PCC student who also serves as the Transportation Intern at Sylvania Campus’ Environmental Center, said he is in support of increasing student fees for TGIF. Additionally, he supports implementation of the College Service fee and increases in the parking permit fees to improve campus access for students as well as sustainability impact of having increased shuttle and mass transit available to students.

Amber Parke is in support of implementing TGIF because it promotes sustainability and she believes using a small portion of the student activity fee is wise because this method of funding creates a continued sustainability benefit.

David King the Communications Officer for ASPCC at Cascade Campus is in support of TGIF and added though he was unaware of sustainability issues before coming to Oregon he now supports the movement.

ADJOURNED COLLEGE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING AND RECONVENED BUSINESS SESSION

Director Squire requested additional information on Resolution 09-075 before consideration for approval. Director Harper proposed approval of Resolutions 09-068 through 09-074 and 09-076 through 09-080. The motion passed unanimously. Director Squire asked for additional information regarding the reasons for leasing the Capitol Park Building. Mr. McEwen explained that leasing this building was chosen over other options such as using portables that would displace valuable parking spaces or using the third floor of the Willow Creek building that would disallow the possible creation of a university center in that space for up to eight years. He added additional reasons for choosing the Capitol
Park Building include: close proximity to a PCC campus, accessibility to mass transit, and that few tenant improvements would be needed. Following the response to Director Squire’s questions Director Lim proposed approval of Resolution 09-075. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Gretchen Brask, member of the Humboldt Neighborhood Association, said she believed PCC did not adequately respond to the neighborhood’s requests in the Phase I expansion and asked that in Phase II of the Cascade Campus expansion consideration be given to her concerns regarding its impact on the neighborhood. Her concerns included: preservation of existing homes and business properties, impact of traffic and parking, impact on neighborhood economics, and a creation of partnership between PCC and the Humboldt Neighborhood that would be a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.

Michael Leighton, member of the Humboldt Neighborhood Association, said he joins his neighbors and members of the Humboldt Voice Committee in expressing their desire for a cutting-edge campus that exists alongside the neighborhood’s housing, community space and historic buildings. He asked that rather than demolishing abandoned, dilapidated, and deteriorating structures PCC renovate those included in the Phase II renovation process to retain the character and safety of the neighborhood. He also asked that neighborhood input be sought regarding improving the current negative impact of campus-generated parking, traffic flow, and commuter traffic on neighborhood streets especially regarding pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Brian Murtagh was a participant on the Phase I expansion Neighborhood Design Advisory Group (DAG) and currently serves as the Land Use Chair for the Humboldt Neighborhood Association. Mr. Murtagh expressed concern that the Phase II campus expansion could threaten the Albina/Killingsworth neighborhood center’s growth. He stated that PCC’s goal in Phase I to create a premier urban campus for Oregon was not met because campus buildings do not encourage neighborhood use nor do they serve a role in neighborhood revitalization. He suggested that PCC include the neighborhood association in more of the decision-making process in Phase II renovation.

Breanne Antonius, member of the Humboldt Neighborhood Association Voice Committee, presented a summary of the requests of the committee regarding Phase II of the Cascade Campus that included: architectural design that matches the neighborhood, building orientation to increase “eyes on the street”, buildings that include retail space, notification of the College’s plans regarding neighborhood homes that might be included in campus expansion, more visible and welcoming access for campus buildings, free amenities for residents, and College commitment to revitalization of the area,
Other Reports:
Eddie Lincoln, Faculty Federation President, reported that Federation members have testified before legislators on behalf of community colleges regarding the impact community colleges have in meeting the Governor’s mission for a trained workforce. In March members attended the National Education Association Conference and will attend the American Federation of Teachers conference.

He noted the Federation is interested in the May 15th revenue forecast and are concerned about sustaining jobs for the 121 Federation members that have received layoff notices. He added that contract negotiations are ongoing but until a community college budget allocation is announced are in limbo.

Deborah Hall, Classified Federation President, reported that Classified Federation members would also attend the AFT Oregon state convention. She noted, like the Faculty Federation, contract negotiations are ongoing but decisions are awaiting the May 15th revenue forecast. She added that bargaining and budget updates are being provided at all PCC campuses and centers. She thanked the College for its efforts to keep employees informed throughout budget preparations.

She said a recent Federation activity was refurbishing and installing 20 surplus computers from PCC at the Columbia Learning Center in St. Helens. Federation members also recently met with Congressman Wu regarding community college issues and will meet with Senator Wyden in May.

ASPCC Student Representative, Marissa Johnson, thanked students for their diligent work in creating TGIF and thanked the Board of Directors and staff for their support.

Ms. Johnson said the District Student Council (DSC) participated in Spring term activities including used textbook sales at each campus and provided campus directions to students. She also noted that on April 13th students participated in a statewide student lobby day that included giving legislators 10,000 postcards from Oregon students that outlined the need for full funding for Oregon community colleges as well as the need to fully fund the Shared Responsibility Model. She added that a daylong PCC District lobby day would be held April 30th. She listed other activities including Earth Week events at each campus, a District Student Bowling Night on April 24th, and participation in Semana de la Reza at Rock Creek Campus from April 26th through May 2nd.

She reported that seven PCC students were honored by Governor Kulongoski as Oregon Outstanding Student Scholars: John Smith and Mariko Newton of Rock Creek Campus, Chris Geessler of Southeast Center, Jason Smith and Nicolas Hinsinger of Sylvania, Amber Parke and Marissa Johnson of Cascade Campus. She noted that she, Mariko Newton, and Amber Parke serve on PCC’s DSC.
Board Reports:
None

District President Report:
President Pulliams congratulated students for their outstanding academic work. The President reported that he will take part in a movement that will develop a strategic plan to build support for public higher education in Oregon to create more visibility, access, teaching and learning, and resources.

Dr. Pulliams acknowledged the Humboldt Neighborhood Association’s comments and said he looks forward to working with them in the future.

Dr. Pulliams noted that PCC hosted the Governor’s Oregon Way Advisory Committee in April where PCC presented the Sylvania Campus “Net Zero” proposal for sustainability to Governor Kulongoski.

President Pulliams reminded the Board of upcoming events including the Ways and Means Committee Meeting at Cascade Campus on April 21st, the Foundation Annual Scholarship Dinner on April 30th, and commencement on June 12th.

He concluded his report by thanking the College community for unwavering excellence in serving students during these difficult economic times.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Portland Community College Board of Directors will be held on May 21, 2009 at 7:30 PM in Board’s Conference Room at the Sylvania Campus.

Denise Frisbee, Board Chair
President

Dr. Preston Pulliams, District

Prepared by:

Lorna J. O’Guinn
Assistant to Board of Directors
Minutes approved on May 21, 2009