

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS
12000 S.W. 49th Avenue - Portland, OR 97219

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS BUSINESS SESSION
Sylvania Campus, Board Rooms A/B
May 19, 2011

BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

Denise Frisbee, Jim Harper, Bob Palmer, David Squire, Harold Williams

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors convened an executive session for Labor Negotiation, Real Property Transactions, Records or Communications Otherwise Exempt from Public Disclosure (Attorney-Client Privilege), and Litigation in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d), (e), (f) and (h) at 6:30 PM, adjourning at 7:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Squire called the business meeting to order at 7:34 PM and invited all present to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The April 21, 2011 minutes were approved as published.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Enterprise Email Provider Update

Leslie Riester, Associate Vice President, Technology and Tammy Billick, Manager, Solution Services

Ms. Riester said a search along with vetting through the college community has been done to identify a new email and calendar system that would increase productivity and efficiency and might include a collaboration tool. She asked Ms. Billick to report on the process and the findings.

Ms. Billick reported that the current email infrastructure is outdated, difficult to maintain, and unable to meet the anticipated increased demand for online

services at PCC. She said over the past few years careful evaluation of benefits and concerns has been done of several alternatives and that some considerations in the process were function, stability, security, capacity and cost. Ms. Billick said over the past year an in-depth study of Microsoft and Google products has been conducted and findings indicated either product could provide the needed services. She said over 500 contacts within the PCC community along with a thorough technical evaluation indicate the Google application for education would be the best choice for PCC. She reported that several Oregon K-12 and higher education partners currently use Google and between 30 – 40% of the PCC community already use the Google system and find it to be an easy to use, intuitive system that can be used on any platform. Ms. Billick said the recommendation is being made to adopt Google as PCC's provider but could be withdrawn if accessibility issues for blind users cannot be addressed by Google. Ms. Billick reported that contract negotiations with the vendor continue and an implementation team is being assembled to pilot the email program this summer with full migration to the system starting in the fall 2011.

Financial Aid/SallieMae Update

Dr. Christine Chairsell, Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs and Cherie Chevalier, Associate Vice President, Financial Services

Dr. Chairsell reported there have been significant changes in student financial aid regulations and disbursement over the past two academic years and that the College has been awarded a \$2 million, 5-year, Title III grant named Financial Literacy and Access to Improved Resources (FLAIR) to develop a financial aid program that is workable, sustainable, and can be replicated by other schools. She said the program would be a combination of financial aid, business services and the foundation that will best serve students by efficiently disbursing available funds to them through the use of no-fee debit cards issued by Sallie Mae.

Dr. Chairsell said seven positions are being hired under the grant that will continue to be funded by General Fund when the grant ends. She reviewed the ambitious tasks scheduled to be completed the first year and reviewed outcomes planned for FLAIR. She said implementation of the new program affords students quicker financial aid disbursement and better criteria coordination between programs regarding financial aid qualification and disbursement.

Dr. Chairsell said new on-line payment options are being developed because next Spring Purge for Non-payment will be implemented that will purge any student registered in classes but has neither paid nor selected a payment plan for their classes. She said that some of FLAIR's outcomes are to develop a process that increases student retention by reducing processing time for financial aid, increasing foundation scholarships by at least 300%, and implementation of a student financial literacy component. She added that beginning Summer Term payment deadlines will be moved up by a week to allow earlier financial aid disbursement. Dr. Chairsell asked Ms. Chevalier to explain the process and the reasons for selecting Sallie Mae as the electronic financial aid disbursement provider.

Ms. Chevalier said that financial aid is disbursed by the business office and one of their goals is to get the financial aid refunds to students as soon as possible. She reported from April 11th to 15th 10,786 student refunds were issued; 35% by direct deposit, 3% by mail and 63% walk-ins at college business offices.

Ms. Chevalier said using electronic disbursement would offer students the quickest most cost effective method of receiving their funds and the Sallie Mae organization was selected because they could provide students either direct deposit or SallieMae stored value card. Ms. Chevalier said the stored value card is like a debit card that allows access to the funds as soon as they become available and direct deposit gives them access to funds within two business days. For students who do not choose one of those payment methods refunds would be mailed to them and could take seven to ten business days. She said some of the reasons for selecting the SallieMae organization were account access through MyPCC, accounts are free, there are lots of ATMs with no access fee, the cost to students is low, no cost for card replacement, no PIN fees, no overdraft, no balance inquiry fees, email notification of funds, and mobile banking with texting to be added in the fall.

Dr. Chairsell reported some ideas still under consideration include: how to best communicate the changes in time for Summer Term; elimination of the printed class schedule or perhaps selling it in the Bookstore; recalculation of repeat classes in GPA; automatic registration rejection for students not academically prepared with testing results that indicate the need developmental education classes first.

Director Williams asked if this new student benefit was being marketed so the public could be aware of it in light of some of the negative media around the value of higher education. He was assured that through the PCC website and community events the public is being kept informed.

Dr. Pulliams added that economists as well as survey results indicate that to enter middle class and earn a livable workable wage, people need to attain some type of post-secondary education to gain the skill level required for 21st Century jobs.

Budget Development Update on TSCC Hearing

Cherie Chevalier, Associate Vice President Financial Services

Ms. Chevalier reported on May 17 she, Dr. Pulliams, Mr. Chung and budget staff appeared before the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) for public hearing on the PCC 2011-2013 biennial budget. She said Dr. Pulliams and Mr. Chung proficiently responded to all questions posed by TSCC. She said TSCC approved the budget and commented on how well prepared it was. Their only comment was a desire to include more updated information from the supplemental budget of the current biennium in the budget document in light of the change to biennial budget. She concluded the report reminding the Board the budget would be presented to them for adoption at the June board meeting.

Dr. Pulliams reiterated the TSCC commissioners' compliments of budget staff and Ms. Chevalier for excellent work in these times of budget cuts and greatly reduced funding.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Les French reported that comments shared in an email to the Rock Creek list serve about an Oregon OSHA complaint at Rock Creek Campus were an attempt to mitigate liability for the College, that he believed the College likely had additional information and that the email had been written to discredit the employee who made the complaint to Oregon OSHA. He said handling of the situation has become contentious and is dividing the campus. He asked that employees be listened to respectfully when complaints are brought to light so bad feelings don't fester and create disharmony. He also suggested that written records be kept regarding any of those types of interactions, especially those relating to safety.

Thomas Worth, Director of Legislative Affairs ASPCC Cascade Campus and Member of the District Student Council (DSC) expressed appreciation to Dr. Pulliams for attending a recent meeting with students. He also thanked budget office staff for their efforts to communicate more effectively with students. He reported that this year DSC focus had been on process issues; choosing officers, communicating with students and campus representation. He described the DSC decision making process and reported that the recent decision to increase parking fees was done too quickly to allow students adequate time to form a deliberative and informed response. On behalf of the DSC he asked that the Board of Directors create a committee that includes board members, non-instructional staff, faculty and students to research, analyze and make necessary recommendations for a consistent process that includes student feedback in an effort to improve communication.

Billy Ray, ASPCC Director of Legislative Affairs at Rock Creek Campus and DSC and Tsionah, ASPCC Director of Programming at Rock Creek and DSC said DSC review of parking fee proposed increases found revenue increase of \$712,000.00 with \$500,000.00 of that as unallocated funds. He added that he believes students could have provided less costly solutions to some of the parking issues and question that raising parking fees would decrease the demand for parking. He added that geographical locations of PCC campuses do not lend to students biking or walking from campus to campus for classes making driving a necessity. He added that TriMet busses operate at capacity and recent reductions of bus pick up and drop off schedules reduces public transportation as

an option.

Tsionah said she does not drive or own a car and regularly rides TriMet to Rock Creek Campus. She said increasing the numbers of TriMet riders from PCC on busses that are already operating at capacity by increasing parking fees is not a workable option for students.

Billy Ray questioned how the \$500,000.00 unallocated funds would be used to provide transportation solutions for students traveling from campus to campus. He said the DSC believes solutions should include options such as class scheduling that spreads out parking needs over the day. He concluded by saying he represents the students in a very strong request that the parking fee increase be repealed.

Apala Barclay said he appeared along with Classified Federation members to ask the Board to investigate his termination from Cascade Campus because he believes it to be unfair and the result of his outspokenness in regard to unfair treatment of himself and other employees.

BUSINESS MEETING

Director Frisbee proposed approval of Resolutions 11-101 through 11-117. Chair Squire requested Resolutions 11-113 and 11-115 be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. The motion to approve Resolutions 11-101 through 11-112, 11-114 and 11-116 through 11-117 passed unanimously. Following brief discussion Resolutions 11-113 and 11-115 were also passed unanimously.

Other Reports:

Michael Morrow, Faculty Federation President, congratulated Directors Williams, Palm and Palmer on winning their elections to continue serving on the PCC Board. He also said the Federations and students look forward to working more closely with Directors Williams and Palm.

Mr. Morrow said the Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) full-time faculty contract settlement averted a strike that could have created a challenging situation for Oregon community colleges work to convince the legislature to provide reasonable funding for Oregon colleges. He added the inability of MHCC to find part-time instructors to replace full-time faculty if they struck along with student support of their instructors were important factors in the settlement. He added that the sense of trust between PCC's Faculty Federation and management was lacking at MHCC and was a factor in the breakdown that nearly resulted in a strike.

Mr. Morrow reported that PCC Faculty Federation bargaining is moving forward steadily and that innovative work is being done that will benefit full-time faculty,

part-time faculty and academic professionals (AP). He also noted the conservative approach to PCC's biennial budget preparation and Oregon's brighter fiscal outlook may provide bargaining opportunity on fiscal issues such as COLAS, health insurance and professional development.

Mr. Morrow noted that this year's retirees included nine APs. He also noted the passing of Deborah Evind, a retired AP who created the Women's Resource Center and cared deeply about students.

Phil Gilmore, Classified Federation President, congratulated Board Members Williams, Palmer and Deanna Palm on their re-election on behalf of classified employees. He said the Classified Federation continues meeting with Salem lawmakers. Mr. Gilmore reported that progress in bargaining is ongoing but is moving at a slow pace. He also reported the Classified Federation selected two local organizations; Rose City Gymnastics and Autism Walk to make donations to and participate in. Mr. Gilmore said some Federation members are participating in mediation training and plans are being made to start a mediation program so Federation members can learn better methods of addressing bullying issues and reduce the current high level of instances of bullying.

Paula Barreto, ASPCC Student Representative, congratulated the re-elected Board members. She reported the messages presented in the non-agenda testimony represent many District Student Council (DSC) members who were unable to attend the meeting as well as those in attendance but not speaking to the Board. She thanked Dr. Pulliams for meeting with students. Ms. Barreto reported student leaders take pride in providing advocacy on behalf of students. She also noted the over the past year the DSC provided financial support on several occasions to the Foundation as well as other student support organizations within the PCC district, food nooks were established at each campus to provide emergency food, childcare grants, and financial support to a diverse list of student organizations. Ms. Barreto said students provide considerable support to the College but support and respect for their opinions is not always reciprocated as evidenced with the recent increases in parking fees. She asked that better channels of communication between students and non-instructional staff at PCC be established.

Board Reports:

Director Williams thanked the Classified Federation and students for their support in his election campaign. He noted his 21-year commitment to PCC, all of the students, staff and faculty. He told the Faculty Federation they ask for honesty and loyalty in dealings with them but they need to act with that same honesty and loyalty and to say the same thing in private as they say in public. He pledged to continue to act in a manner he feels will benefit the entire PCC community and will not compromise that. He said he doesn't expect everyone to always agree with what he says but he will always perform his duties in a manner he feels will best serve the entire PCC community. He said in these tight economic times it

becomes more important than ever to work in a clear and effective manner so situations that could erode PCC and all it stands for can be avoided. He asked as bargaining continues that it be remembered this is not “us and they” it is “we” who will be affected with the outcome. Director Williams announced this will be his last term on the Board and he intends to serve the last four years with the same level of honesty and integrity he has in the past. He said he doesn’t expect everyone to always agree with what he says but he will always approach what he does in truth and honesty and will always perform his duties in a manner he feels will best serve the entire PCC community.

Director Frisbee congratulated Directors Palm, Palmer and Williams on their re-elections to the Board. She also complimented Dr. Chairsell and Dr. Riester’s reports. Director Frisbee told the students that she appreciated their open and honest communication and thanked them for sharing their remarks.

Chair Squire too expressed appreciation to the students who came to the meeting.

District President Report:

Dr. Pulliams asked Dana Haynes to provide an update on the College’s lobbying efforts regarding board governance and the College budget. Mr. Haynes reported that the Ways and Means Committee continue negotiating in an effort to produce the Community College Support Fund amount and that all 17 Oregon community colleges continue their unified lobbying efforts to increase that total to a minimum of \$425 million. Mr. Haynes said although not likely to be funded capital construction requests continue. He praised the Student Rally Day effort in Salem and reported that Governor Kitzhaber said was one the best organized he had seen.

Dr. Pulliams expressed appreciation to the students for their attendance at the Board meeting and thanked them for their discussion. He added his appreciation their honesty and proactive approach when presenting their position on issues. Dr. Pulliams said the 32% enrollment increase over the past two years has resulted in a parking crisis that must be dealt with. He asked that their questions be submitted to him in writing, he will share them with the Board and respond in writing. He said he would also look into the matter brought by Apala. Dr. Pulliams congratulated Directors Palmer, Palm and Williams on their re-election to the Board. He thanked Chair Squire, Vice Chair Harper and Director Palm for attending the annual Foundation Scholarship Award Dinner, he also thanked Vice Chair Harper for attending the OAME luncheon and for his attendance at the PCC Retirement Dinner. He reminded the Board that graduation will be June 10 at the Coliseum. He then asked Kristin Watkins to report on Foundation fund raising efforts and Future Connect.

Ms. Watkins reported that Dr. Pulliams and Foundation staff have had very positive meetings with a number of corporate leaders to raise funds for the

Foundation, in particular the Future Connect program. She said a corporation has renewed their effort to raise necessary funds for a perpetual endowment for a nursing scholarship dedicated for students of color. She said that positive conversations have been held with the Bank of America about a grant proposal to further PCC's Career Pathways efforts. Ms. Watkins said Productive meetings with Kaiser Permanente and Pacific Power focused on contributions to build the Future Connect program have also been held. She expressed appreciation to Dr. Pulliams for his attendance at many of these meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Portland Community College Board of Directors will be held on June 16, 2011 at 7:30 PM in Mt. Tabor Hall, Room 143/144 at the Southeast Center.

David Squire, Board Chair

Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President

Prepared by:

Lorna J. O'Guinn
Assistant to Board of Directors

Minutes approved on June 16, 2011