

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
January 19, 2012

BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors convened an executive session for Real Property Transactions and Litigation in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2), (e), and (h) at 6:45 PM, adjourning at 7:35 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harper called the business meeting to order at 7:40 PM and invited all present to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The December 8, 2011 minutes were approved as published.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Charter School Legislation

Kristin Watkins, Associate Vice President, College Advancement reported the provisions of Senate Bill 994, regarding higher education sponsorship of charter schools, allows applicants to submit public charter school proposals to higher education institutions if that proposal was first submitted to and denied by a K-12 district. She reported that changes to the Bill prior to passage were significant for many reasons but an important change was that the original Bill essentially required that community colleges would be mandated to sponsor charter schools if that charter school's application was first denied by a K-12 District. She added that work of community colleges across Oregon along with OCCA were able to bring about changes in that legislation so community colleges are provided a lot more flexibility in deciding whether to even consider charter school applications

that are presented to them. Additionally, she reported some of the strongest language in SB 994 that is final and not subject to appeal includes: 1.) Whether to evaluate a proposal for a public charter school; 2.) The approval or disapproval of a proposal for a public charter school; and 3.) The process by which an institution of higher education makes a decision is not subject to appeal. Ms. Watkins reviewed two policy options for Board consideration that OCCA drafted: 1.) The Board of the college does not include sponsorship of public charter schools. The mission of community colleges does not include sponsorship of public charter schools and so as a result the community college will not accept or consider proposals for the sponsorship of charter schools; and 2.) The community college would evaluate proposals related to the sponsorship of public charter schools on a case-by-case basis and the Board reserves the right to deny a sponsorship proposal when the Board or the president determines that the mission of the college does not align with the charter school. She added that a third option would be for the PCC Board to adopt policy different from either OCCA proposed language.

Dr. Pulliams said although evaluation of charter school proposals that are presented, organized and financed correctly could provide additional education opportunities for PCC students the benefits might not be sufficient to consider sponsorship because many charter schools do not have adequate funding and charter school programs negatively affect funding for local public schools. He added that how charter school proposals are handled would be the Board's decision.

The Board discussed possible approaches to policy for dealing with charter school applications including using one of the OCCA suggested board policies or drafting an individual policy for PCC. They felt that although unlikely that they would decide to support charter school applications they preferred a policy that allows case-by-case consideration and asked staff to prepare a policy proposal for their review and consideration reflecting that.

Honors College Program Update

Christine Chairsell, Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs; Melody Wilson, Faculty Department Chair, Cascade Campus, Composition and Literature; and Rosa Bettencourt, History Faculty

Dr. Chairsell said the Honors pilot program that has been at PCC for nearly two years was developed to serve students who begin their college career well prepared and if not motivated by challenging education opportunity, are as likely to drop out as students who come unprepared.

Ms. Wilson reported that about 30% of community colleges throughout the United States have Honors Programs similar to the 24 credit PCC Program consisting of five four-credit designated General Education courses along with Honors 101 and 201 that are two credits each. She said 428 students have registered into the program since it began with 108 of them in Winter Term 2012 alone. Ms. Wilson

also reported that while any student can register into Honors Program classes, to be admitted into the program requires an application process that includes letters of recommendation, essays and interviews. She said some of the challenges in being able to offer Honors Program classes include coordination with departments to provide a variety of class offerings in a broad range of subjects by faculty who are excited about what the program offers its students and transparency to students about what the program is and how it works. Ms. Wilson added that some of the goals include increasing the numbers of students in the program, increasing program visibility and awareness, increasing course offerings with structured rotation district-wide, implementing course and program assessment, continuing to encourage students to work to capstone completion, increasing participation in the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), increasing Honors Program visibility with Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), and maintaining consistent cohorts to help maintain connection with their academic objectives.

Director Squire asked what differentiates Honors classes from regular classes. Ms. Bettendorf replied that while the curriculum and course requirements are the same, some differences include smaller classes and an approach to teaching that increases engagement in the subjects being taught through student involvement.

Director Frisbee praised the Honors Program and said earlier in the day the parent of a PCC Honors student said her son was thriving in the program and was involved in PTK. She said the parent added that the experience was providing him his first opportunity to carry on a leadership role. Director Frisbee commented on the value of the Honors Program and others in achieving the college mission in terms of meeting the needs of the highly prepared students as well as those needing extra assistance.

Director Williams complimented the report saying he said he was glad to see honor students needs being recognized but hopes that someday this manner of teaching will be the norm for all students.

Legislative Update

John Wykoff, Legislative Director, Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) Mr. Wykoff said the short February legislative session was originally intended for performing adjustment actions but with the governance changes and conversations around Higher Education this session will include new legislation as well. He reminded the Board that the last legislative session approved \$425 million for the Community College Support Fund but two 3.5% holdbacks totaling about \$14.5 million were withheld by the State with the idea that if the revenue forecast fell the legislature wouldn't then have to come back to make cuts nor would the governor have to do across-the-board budget cuts for community colleges as well as all state agencies and state funded programs. He said although he expects the upcoming quarterly Revenue Forecast to be a little brighter than anticipated he does not expect

the State to give any of the 3.5% back. Mr. Wykoff added that OCCA would continue careful scrutiny of budget issues as the session gets underway and noted the importance for all 17 Oregon community colleges to continue to advocate for maintaining community college funding because as enrollment continues going up and funding goes down students could face serious consequences. On a more positive note Mr. Wykoff said further budget cuts would have to be approved by the legislature and he doesn't believe there would be enough legislators in favor of additional cuts to pass a vote. He said there is also a possible \$50 million capitol construction appropriation with \$10 million of that for community colleges and work is underway to have a list of community college projects ready in the event it passes.

Mr. Wykoff reported that two evolving entities, the governor's Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) and the legislature's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) that could affect governance but that any changes OEIB and HECC would likely make affect four-year institutions and are less likely to affect community colleges. He assured the Board that OCCA would continue to monitor and report to them any matters of concern regarding community college governance. Mr. Wykoff said there is concern around who identifies local workforce needs, who sets outcomes and who determines capacity needs because those are roles community colleges are the most qualified to fill as they already have community relationships and have the best sense of workforce needs in their communities. He said another concern is that there may be too many boards being created and decisions about which boards to continue is a decision the legislature will not likely be able to settle in the February legislative session. He reiterated the importance of OCCA and Oregon's community colleges' continued vigilance and clarity in communicating the valuable role local governance plays in meeting workforce training needs and getting students ready to transfer to four-year institutions. He added that a non-governance item OEIB is working on is creation of a template for Achievement Compacts that would determine what each Oregon community college's learning outcomes should be and what to measure but not how to meet those outcomes because that is specific to each community college district. He said it has not been determined what would happen if outcomes were not met.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

BUSINESS MEETING

Director Williams proposed approval of Resolutions 12-068 through 12-078. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Reports:

Michael Morrow, Faculty Federation President, added to the PCC's Honors Program update that having the program will give students applying for scholarships a valuable leg up.

Mr. Morrow thanked Dr. Pulliams and Chair Harper for their support in urging everyone to register and vote in the upcoming election to fill the unexpired Congressional District 1 seat. He added that this would be a busy year politically that will culminate with the November 6 general election.

Mr. Morrow expressed gratitude to Kristin Watkins for her approach to selection of PCC's first Governmental Relations Manager and thanked her for her understanding of the importance of this position to coordination between the legislature and PCC. He thanked Mr. Chung for his inclusion of both federations in the upcoming hiring process for the Human Resources Director. He also thanked Mr. Chung for the transparent 2013-2015 budget process that is underway.

Mr. Morrow said about 12 Academic Professional and Faculty would attend the AFT Winter School at the end of January. He added that some Classified will also be attending.

Mr. Morrow concluded his report by expressing his gratitude to the College for honoring retirees and for recognizing that PCC has hard working folks doing really nice things for students. He thanked one of the retirees in the January consent agenda, Toni Garreton, for her work and dedication to PCC students.

Deborah Hall, Classified Federation, thanked the College for the decision to host the forums for the new Associate Vice President of Finance at the CLIMB Center because having them at the CLIMB Center gave staff a rare opportunity to participate in a college event.

Ms. Hall reported the Classified members have been canvassing by phone and in person for the upcoming Congressional District 1 election. Additionally they are going to Salem for a lobby day on February 20.

Ms. Hall concluded her report by noting that the January consent agenda included Sandy Reeds, a valued 12 year PCC employee who was very active in the Classified Federation who will be missed.

ASPCC Student Representative, Liliana Luna Olalde, Chair, District Student Council, said as a former ESOL student of Toni Garrett she thanked her for her dedication to teaching.

Ms. Olalde reported students ended Fall term at Rock Creek Campus with a party. Other activities included tours of Mt. Hood Community College and Clark Community College with architects in preparation for designing the ASPCC Office at Rock Creek Campus. She said that Southeast Center would be celebrating Black History Month with a gala celebration. She said student book exchange district-wide was very successful.

Ms. Olalde reported that upcoming events include a District Student Council poetry slam, district-wide student club fairs, continued voter registration efforts, lobby day in Salem and continued serving on over 50 district-wide committees.

Board Reports:

Director Pitts reported that Richard Tracy has resigned from the Board Audit Committee because he has retired and will be moving away. He asked Board members for suggestions as to the process they would like to see in filling the vacancy in the spirit of transparency and openness in the selection process.

Director Williams noted that a recent article in *The Oregonian* regarding People of Color's report card for the Oregon's House and Senate indicated People of Color feel they are not welcomed or treated equally in Oregon. Director Williams said this has impacted People of Color as a group negatively and has kept talented people from coming to Oregon because there is little to attract or keep them in the state. He asked that the College continue its commitment to hiring People of Color.

District President Report:

Dr. Pulliams thanked Board members, campus presidents, and staff for arranging and attending the recent legislative forums that are so important to the outcomes in development of the governor's educational reform process.

Dr. Pulliams suggested there would be value in providing more focused reports to the Board around on the great job that is being done in classrooms and throughout the district in terms of staff, faculty and student programs.

Dr. Pulliams noted the Board's attendance at events throughout the year. He thanked Chair Harper and Directors Squire and Palm for attending the Oregon Leadership Summit at the Convention Center; Chair Harper, Vice Chair Frisbee and Director Squire for attending the Governor's State of the State address; and Directors Squire and Williams for attending the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Breakfast at the Convention Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Portland Community College Board of Directors will be held on March 1, 2012 at 7:30 PM in the Board Rooms at the Sylvania Campus.

Jim Harper, Board Chair

Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President

Prepared by:

Lorna J. O'Guinn
Assistant to Board of Directors

Minutes approved on March 1, 2012