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

# BUSINESS SESSION June 18, 2015 Southeast Campus, Community Hall 2305 SE 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97216

# **MINUTES**

#### **BOARD ATTENDANCE**

Denise Frisbee, Jim Harper, Chair Deanna Palm, Gene Pitts, Kali Thorne-Ladd

# **WORK SESISON**

The Board of Directors met to discuss accreditation, Achievement Compact, Workforce Development, Strategic Plan Update, Internal Auditor Update and OPC/OCCA.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Directors met at 6:00 pm in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)-in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2), (a) Employment of a Public Official, (d) Labor Negotiation, (e) Real Property Transactions, (f) Information Exempt from Public Disclosure (Attorney-Client Privilege), (h) Litigation

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Palm called the business meeting to order at 7:35 pm and invited all present to introduce themselves.

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The May 18, 2015 Board Meeting minutes were approved as presented. Harper/Frisbee

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published. Pitts/Thorne-Ladd

#### **INFORMATION SESSIONS**

# Legislative Update

Meghan Moyer, Government Relations Director

Ms. Moyer noted it is a very exciting and busy and chaotic time in the legislature. Currently the phase is affectionately referred to by lobbyists as "hurry and wait". Which is when things move superfast and then no action, and then superfast again. She conveyed issues of interest to PCC. These will be clarity on the Community College Support Fund, the fate of funding for the Margaret Carter Skill Center, Accelerated Learning, and Fifth Year Programs, House Bill 3063 which is the funding stream for Future Connect, status of the Free Community College Bill and also other bills of interest.

Starting with the Community College Support Fund, it looks like the Education Subcommittee of Way and Means has passed out House Bill 5024, which is the Higher Education Budget. The Bill has an appropriation of \$550 million for community colleges. Due to some funding formula changes related to strategic initiatives that is about \$542 million that will go through the distribution formula. This was the amount that was asked for, which is better than the

Co-Chairs budget which was at \$535 million or the Governors' recommended budget which was \$500 million. This shows some significant progress, it does represent a 20% increase from last biennium. Director Palm wanted to make comment that this 20% increase is good news, although not where we need to be but with past history, to be at 20% moving forward—we should have a round of applause to celebrate this victory. She noted that a lot of people in the room had a part in the \$550, she thanked them all. Continuing good news with HB 5024, the Higher Education Appropriation, there is now permanent funding for the Margaret Carter Skills Center at \$302,000. PCC will not have to go back each biennium to lobby for funds to support the Center. Ms. Moyer thanked Dr. Edwards and Director Thorne-Ladd for making a trip to Salem for it. Senator Carter did a lot of the work on behalf of making the funding permanent.

Accelerated learning conversations are happening simultaneously with Fifth Year Learning, although it appears that there will be two separate bills related to both. Right now it looks like there will be \$7 million put into a Special Purpose Appropriation, known as a SPA. It will sit with the emergency board. Which means that it does not actually sent to spend, but is set aside and the emergency board which meets quarterly can release it when they feel comfortable doing so with the intent that they are directing HECC to have a conversation about what the qualifications should be for Dual Credit. This is an important conversation that PCC does care about. We have a lot of different approaches around Dual Credit or Accelerated Learning going on around the state. There is no consistency, both in how we set and ensure quality and how those opportunities will be funded. Due to enrollment cap here at the college, we are largely uncompensated for Dual Credit which makes it difficult for us to significantly increase the amount we can participate in with our K-12 partners. systems use some very different approaches like Willamette Promise or Eastern Promise, which there are questions about what is the standards that need to be in place for Dual Credit to be accepted by universities. It is encouraging that the Legislature does want to take this seriously. They were delaying the decision making on this because they would like the HECC to come back with some recommendations at the time there is money to assist. Within that \$7 million there are a couple of likely to be budget notes related to it. The first is that there should be some funds targeted specifically towards providing support services for low-income and/or first-generation students. This is not the same as the Aspirations to College. The intent is primarily around academic advising. Of all the updates tonight, this is the one most influx about what it will look like or do. For a while the conversation included a moratorium on fifth-year. Right now the conversation has moved to a 2<sup>nd</sup> bill that will put a one-year moratorium on the expansion of fifth-year programs but will allow existing fifth-year programs to continue but not expand. The HECC is supposed to come back to the Legislature in the short session with recommendation for a funding model for fifth-year programs. The legislation would not, currently as it is being talked about would open up the opportunity for fifth-year programs, if the legislature does nothing in the session. Right now the bill has a one-year moratorium.

Close work has been done with Representatives Gallegos, Reed, and Smith-Warner around the Aspirations to College Program for PCC, which helps fund the Future Connect Program. House Bill 3063 makes a budget request of \$3 million of the legislature to invest in it. This is a doubling of the current level. The program was funded last year at \$750,000 so a continued service level for the biennium would be \$1.5 million. The request that we are making is \$3 million, so basically doubling of it. Conversations are positive; Representative Buckley who is a co-chair of Ways and Means has publically said that there will be some

funding for the program but not at what level. There are still conversations around it about the path to \$3 million. There are strong champions for it but it is unclear exactly what the funding level will be. The funding level would be distributed by HECC to the 14 community colleges that receive Aspirations to College funding. PCC's share is about 1/3 of the allocation. Hopefully, the distribution will remain equitable by enrollment of whatever funding is approved. Director Palm asked if PCC was the only community college with the city partnerships. Ms. Moyer replied yes. PCC's funding model is unique when it comes to Aspiration to College, the leveraging of both private and local government dollars.

The next issue is one of the more interesting ones, Senate Bill 81. It has been coined "free community college". This has changed rapidly in the last week. The -A10 amendment which is the most recent being worked on. There is no anticipation of it looking significantly different from the -10s, it is possible that the -10s are the ones that get adopted. A highlight of the -10s, first-it is a \$10 million a year allocation, but becomes effective in the 2016-17 academic year. It is not a tuition waiver anymore. It seems confusing because at the beginning of the amendment, it does still talk about tuition waivers. The reason that language is in there, is because it has to fit what is called "relating to" clause for the amendment to be allowable to the bill. It is not going to be a tuition waiver program, it is going to be a grant program. The grant program will be administered through OSAC. The HECC will have the ability to set rules related to eligibility and criteria for prioritization. This is an issue that both PCC and the other community colleges partners through OCCA care deeply about, which was to be very thoughtful about where this would do the most good. Many community colleges express a desire that it be targeted more towards low income. That was not something that the chief sponsor wanted to put in legislation but it does leave a lot of latitude to the HECC of how this looks. As we continue our advocacy we will continue to talk to the HECC about where this funding will be most appropriately targeted. It does not have any income restrictions. It will create a minimum grant which is significantly different from the original proposal. This is a good change. If a student is full eligible for Pell, then you could get the minimum grant of \$1000 minus \$50, which is an odd component of this bill. The program will be prorated, related based on full-time enrollment, but at least half-enrolled in order to be eligible. It does have a GPA requirement from high school and relatively equivalent GED score of 2.5 GPA. This program will only be eligible for people who graduated from high school or a GED Program within the last 6 months. This will not go to returning students, it is targeted to recent graduates. It will have the requirement that students maintain the 2.5 GPA. It is not possible through this structure to estimate how many students will receive grants because we do not know what criteria HECC will send. If a student is fully Pell eligible it will be the \$950, if a student doesn't get any Pell, it could be up to \$5000. It is unclear how many students will benefit. It is also unclear how many of those students will be PCC students versus other community colleges. It is limited to community college. This will not be administered by the community colleges, it will not be something that PCC will determine who gets it. It will be done by OSAC and the process will be run like the Oregon Opportunity Grant. Some clarification language was added so that students who are not FAFSA eligible will be eligible for this grant. This is a huge plus because some of those students have huge financial aid needs. There is a requirement that if a student is FAFSA eligible, you must fill out the application, which PCC is supportive of. Something will pass, this Senate Bill was part of a deal in order to pass other priority legislation so a lot of work has been done to transform this into something that may be more effective.

Director Frisbee noted that this help for the students would be great. She clarified that \$10

million is being proposed per year. It will start in the 16-17 academic year. Director Palm asked about the pathway forward. Ms. Moyer responded that final tweaks are being made, she is not sure if any changes will be made from the -10 amendments. She doesn't think it will move tomorrow. The education subcommittee is meeting tomorrow morning but the agenda is packed. She does expect a bill to move out of the education subcommittee early next week, then goes to the full Ways and Means, which will be in pretty quick succession. She feels that they want to move this off the table, because it is a bigger endgame bill to get passed. It will take longer before you see floor votes. The Senate is more enthusiastic about this than the house. It will go to the Senate floor first. There is work that needs to be done, related to votes being lined up. Director Palm asked if OCCA or even PCC could provide a benefit by supporting the amendments. Ms. Moyer stated there are conversations about how folks are reacting. She said there is no value to any opposition, it is significantly better that what they were originally looking at. The level of enthusiasm is somewhat related to some of our other priorities in the sense of what the legislative priorities are. If they are able to be support of things that are targeted toward low-income and first generation, then she sees this as a whole benefiting PCC. She doesn't want to say we should jump up and down because it is within the context of what the budget priorities are. Director Frisbee asked if there was any idea how Tennessee was doing with this. Ms. Mover noted that they Tennessee is only at the process of awarding this, they have not had an academic year, Fall will be the first for them. Their FAFSA applications state-wide went up by 40%, we do not know how that will translate into enrollment. It is structured significantly than what we have. This is now being called the Oregon Promise. Director Thorne Ladd noted there are a lot of other promise initiatives throughout the country. She noted, hopefully best practices were gleaned.

Ms. Moyer referenced the changes to SB215 which is the OEIB change. There is significant restricting of OEIB where their role becomes more of a convener, not that of a direction setter. There is an interim work group that will meet to discuss further changes. It is a work in progress. There will be a Superintendent of Public Instruction for at least until 2019 but we have not seen the end of restructuring OEIB. HECC was left untouched, there will be no significant changes to the authority or functioning of the HECC.

She gave an update on some workgroups that PCC will most likely be asked to participate. SB113 creates two study groups, one to look at how to calculate and report staffing ratios, largely wanting to track if there is a growth in administrative staff versus instructional staff. The more complicated and likely to result in legislation is around the concept of being able to provide health insurance to part-time faculty who teach at multiple public institutions. What was clear through work groups that PCC participated in is that there is no uniform way of measuring if someone is .5 or not, there needs to be a uniform definition of how much time someone works and questions about administration and collective bargaining agreements. PCC will be actively engaged in that conversation led by Senator Dembrow.

# Communications Update

Jennifer Boehmer, Manager, Marketing

Rob Wagner wanted to make a few quick points to kick off the presentation. It is the second year of the #thinkPCCfirst campaign. The return on investment is astounding. It is leveraging our brand identity to take advantage of everything done in the community. From government relations to record breaking fundraising it is all reflected in the public survey work. Lastly, he noted it aligns with the Strategic Vision that is outlined in the Strategic Plan.

To echo what Rob Wagner said, Jennifer Boehmer stated that the challenge with advancing PCC is really about talking what is known as a beloved institution and raising up goodwill and visibility with public relations and marketing activities and then using that goodwill to parley into action. Getting people to take action on behalf of PCC is key. When we talk about this campaign it really is talking about moving the needle forward, not just in recruitment but in philanthropy, legislative, alumni support and just general public goodwill. PCC's unique values proposition really is that this is the College that is working on behalf of our entire community to bring success to the region. That is something that no other institution can claim in the same way that PCC can.

Last year the #thinkPCCfirst campaign was debuted to really try to advance that initiative in a bolder more assertive way that ever. That campaign was really about claiming PCC as a first choice, not just a fall back option. This was done by featuring the profiles of some amazing students in a way that showcased them as driven, focused and serious. There was also a hashtag to get the conversations going with the community since so many lives are touched by this institution. There was a television ad (video was shown) that ran as well. This was about taking an idea and executing it in a really unpretentious authentic way. The results of this campaign were significant. There were 162,000 people who viewed a social media post that related to #thinkPCCfirst, as well as 75,000 YouTube impressions, and about 13,000 who engaged with PCC. These are people who responded to social media, who clicked through and watched the ad, who took some sort of action-visited the website as a result of this campaign.

Additionally, the recent reputation polling showed sky-high favorability for the College. We were able to successfully yield a lot of new stories and editorials about why PCC should be thought of as a first choice option. With credit to the board, community leaders are really using that #thinkPCCfirst in their rhetoric and speeches. Saying it in public forums is really important.

Some really good news that occurred this spring. The national AACC affiliate council, which is known as the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, the marketing and PR arm of AACC recognized the #thinkPCCfirst campaign as the Best Community College Recruitment campaign. This was the first time PCC has ever received this award. It was a tremendously proud moment for us. Director Palm noted that was a big victory.

Now, the momentum must keep going. There will be a #thinkPCCfirst 2.0. A few goals moving into the next campaign are to continue to claim PCC as a first choice for savvy students, drive the idea that community college is about getting education but a cause that we all can get behind, mount a recruitment campaign that is also an advocacy campaign, and "turn out the turquoise". She shared a few samples of the ads that will be placed in the five counties of the district. Typically places where college might not have been thought of as an option. This is primarily an image driven outdoor campaign because we are trying to raise up image for PCC.

The campaign roll-out started in April with enrollment. There were a lot of radio and Pandora web ads, bus shelters throughout the district in places near campuses. May was about advocacy. That is when the Tri-Met buses began traveling, those will be on the road for a full year. There were also 15 prominent city billboard placed, many intentionally placed in underserved areas. June is about influencers, there are two wallscapes in downtown Portland. In

the past we have not been able to do this, but because of connections we have made we are now able to. To be able to drive over the Morrision Bridge and see PCC as part of the landscape and claim our place as a leader of this community is a tremendously proud moment for all of us.

To continue the good work of #thinkPCCfirst we need everyone's help. Some ways to do this are using the #ThinkPCCFirst hashtag, add "Think PCC First" to your speeches and meetings and watch for opportunities to join with us in showing PCC pride.

Pride to the PCC Advancement Team is about unity, unity is together creating action, and action is about advancement. That is what they are here to do!

Rob Wagner added a quick word of note, Jennifer Boehmer just got in from St. Louis from the NCMPR, next year she will be the president of that association. As part of the America's Promise Initiative spurred by Jill Biden, and now has worked his way into President Obama's Community College proposal and picked up in the thread of political campaigns-they are interested in establishing a national campaign around the value of community college and has asked NCMPR under Jennifer's leadership to lead the campaign. She will be meeting with people to talk about what we have done with our campaign, what PCC's experience has been with driving the brand as college as a cause. Huge kudos to her and the team for putting PCC on the map.

# Southeast Campus Update

Dr. Jessica Howard, Campus President, Southeast Campus

Dr. Howard noted they have done a great many things this year at Southeast. One of the most noticeable is that air conditioning in this very room. Bond funded improvements and expansion is almost complete. The campus has more than doubled square footage, gone from two buildings to six. Some of the most recent work has been to the Community Hall, the room has been completely renovated. A commercial kitchen has been renovated in order to serve two purposes. For many years the SE Campus has been associated with the Extended Learning Campus, and so the connections to those departments are deep. In that very kitchen Community Education cooking classes will be offered. Spaces like this are at a premium. To be able to offer that Community Education which has been relocated to the Administration Hall is huge. It will also be used as a catering kitchen so that more academic can occur in this space. This is the kind of growth that we see as being full of potential because it embraces the past and grows into the future. There are so many more things that the new facilities will be able to provide. Last fall, the campus opening was tremendous. At the end of this year it feels as if SE Campus has come into its own. Work is being done on the Child Development area and it should conclude the campus improvements. We have great hopes going forward.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Chair Palm proposed approval of Resolutions 15-134 through 15-153 that are on the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously. Pitts/Thorne-Ladd

# PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Shannon Baird, Faculty Member

Mr. Baird noted he met with many of the board members last week as a faculty member in the information listening sessions that have been happening. He would like to speak just a bit more on the presidential search that will be conducted. To follow up on some of the comments that were made to be sure that everyone is on all the same page in terms of where we are in this process. He referenced his email that was sent to faculty members last week on following up on what was discussed. The thrust of it was to make sure what transparency meant for everyone. Also, that the process that is developed would be defined. After the meeting he met with one of the board members and it was suggested that the qualifications for the interim presidency position would be posted, he has not seen those. He images that there will be a process for that and it will be public and that there will be time for anyone who is interested in applying for that position to do so, based on the qualifications that are determined, presumably with people's input. He also wanted to talk about the fact that he did receive quite a few comments to his email. Chair Palm noted that they did receive a copy of the email. He thinks that the primary thing that came out of this and what he really wants to push forward is the fact he does believe that PCC is strong enough, and that the board are strong enough and that they have the support of the community to engage in a process where the board might try and define a new way of finding a permanent president. He believes that the college can in fact, support an organic process that they don't necessarily need to follow the model that is being put forth at the conferences that board members of the board and presidents attend nationwide that tell you how you need to do this in order to get the best candidate. He believes that in fact the wonderful presentation earlier by Jennifer Boehmer, gave him the most eloquent way of putting it, which is the best idea is right in front of you. In fact, he believes that sometimes the best people are right in front of you as well. He threw out a couple of names of wonderful people who he thinks would be fully capable of leading this college and he does believe that within our community if not necessarily within PCC, we have an amazing wealth of opportunity here for people who really contribute in a way that was meaningful, that was lasting, and that was from the heart. One of the key things that perhaps could guide that is the fact that it was suggested that the presidency could in fact be broken into two positions. One position could be held by the campus presidents, for the internal, in coordination with the vice presidents and directors. Perhaps there could be a chair that rotated between the campus presidents for some kind of hierarchy. Then we could search for a president that is external that does coordination with the Foundation, that does coordination with the Legislator and that does coordination with our industry professionals and supporters within the community. That way we could have a situation that would perhaps avoid the kinds of pitfalls that we found with the previous president with terms of the claims of micro-managing, etc. on the internal side. We could take advantage of those things that you all and others have said were the pluses of Dr. Brown's tenure here which were his external abilities to engage with those people outside of PCC. Those are his primary comments. He added that he greatly appreciates the board continuing to listen to them. He doesn't think that there are many issues more important than this one in terms of the success of the college over time. He also thinks that there is time, the confidence of Sylvia Kelley and we are quite happy to see this process take the needed time that it does to engage in a very transparent, very organic, very supportive process.

# Sara Packer, Part-time Instructor

Ms. Packer piggy-backed on some of Mr. Baird's remarks and also many other things that have been said here today. She is really heartened by the thought that the board has seen that chain of very thoughtful emails, because they worry. She is a part-time instructor and

they worry about how much communication is actually possible with the board and would like to maximize it. Thank you for that. She noted she thinks that it is obvious that we have the most beautiful community college campaign in the universe. Since Southeast has moved from a center to a campus, we also have the most beautiful campus in the universe. What are students coming to, they are coming to an instructional faculty that is 76% part-time, that is racing from campus to campus and college to college to stay off of food stamps. She thinks that it is really important for the new interim president and president to put a focus on how to change that instructional picture. If we want to continue to have the type of voter support that made this gorgeous campus and all of our campuses so beautiful, our students, our voters—there are student who say, my teacher couldn't stay after class to talk to me, my teacher didn't know about this program or that program because they work at three other colleges—she thinks that it is extremely important for us as faculty, when we are receiving the benefits of voters and this wonderful campaign that students come to a place where they meet faculty who are able to serve them in every respect. We are already them terrific instruction, we need to give them more. So she thinks that, she also heard in the campaign, a single bold move can change everything. She thinks that a president and a board that is focused on this really tremendous issue of faculty insecurity, and wondering where health care is going to come from and if they will get enough classes to qualify for health care, and whether they will be actually be employed next term and so on. That doesn't serve these students who are coming in through wonderful campaign and our beautiful campus.

# Fatmah Worfley, Student

Ms. Worfley wanted to introduce herself. She is the student body president of Sylvania, she will be the interim District Student Council Chair for 2015-2016, representing ASPCC. She thanked the board members having student representation on the council and she is looking forward to learning more about the diverse and unique relationship between the students and the board.

# Tony Vezina, Student

Mr. Vezenia noted he is the incoming Cascade President. He first congratulated David Betts on all his hard work this year and thanked him for being at the Pride Festival, even though he had graduated and was done at PCC. He said he feels that what PCC is all about, being there to represent students who are diverse. He commented that is reflected in the campaign marketing is the diversity. Another thing he wanted to touch on is his appreciation for the board's willingness to create a line of communication after the February board meeting when students showed up and were angry about the tuition increase. He knows sometimes that hard decisions have to be made, and that is the life we live in. Economics is always the easiest thing to get around, but he feels safe that saying on behalf of the people he represents, the fact that you guys come and be open with students is appreciated and would like to see it continued throughout the next school year. It is part of the Strategic Plan and elevating students. He is excited to have read the Strategic Plan and what that entails. Again, he would like to encouraging all board members to reach out to the students and make them a priority, they can help in more ways than you know.

#### **REPORTS**

#### **ASPCC**

David Betts, District Student Council

Mr. Betts thanked everyone. It noted it has been a pleasure, his final report will reflect some of that. A brief recap of his year as DSC Chair, included ASPCC educated students and

sough support to increase the student activity fee which was approved by the board in February. This will being in an additional \$84,000 for each campus to fund Diversity Resource Centers across District for the next biennium. This will allow every campus to offer the same support structure to students. In the fall, there was a voter registration campaign that resulted in over 3,000 registration cards adding to a new record of over 55,000 for the State of Oregon. In case, Frank was here, that was about 17% contributed by PCC. ASPCC worked with Parking and Transportation to find a budget for the biennium that would serve the needs of students. This lead to support of an increase to the transportation fee that will double the number of subsidized bus passes available to students per term from 1,600 to 3,000 starting this fall. Southeast became a campus, and recently had their new signature event of Cultures East. This is of course adding to the other great signature events. POWWOW at Sylvania. Harvest Festival at Rock Creek, and the African Film Festival at Cascade which continues to bring community members, students and faculty together to celebrate the diversity that makes PCC in Portland so great. The availability of new buildings and amenities is ongoing as the bond construction continues all over the District. Students raised their voices over concerns of tuition and got involved, particularly the international students. This has encouraged and strengthened the communication from administration to the student body. Again, thank you.

Notable speakers like Time Wise and Arun Ghandi came to PCC to speak with hundreds of students and faculty in attendance. Also, this weekend at Pride, we had the largest group yet of students and faculty representing PCC and the support for community and equality that we all believe in, fight for, and hold dear. Those are just a few examples of the great work done here at PCC, and that is not mentioning the numerous campus events, club activities, sustainability efforts and awareness of Earth Week, and fundraising efforts.

It has been a very busy and great year for students at PCC, and it has been an honor to be a representative here to report to you all each month. Each campus has been busy hiring the next year's cohort of ASPCC student leaders, and I'm happy to say that I wish I was going to be here next year to see all the great work they will achieve. With that, I would like to introduce the interim Chair of the District Student Council. Fatmah will be standing in until the DSC is able to nominate the Chair for '15-'16 in September.

Chair Palm wished David all the best and much success.

#### **Board Members**

Gene Pitts, Board Member

First of all, thanks for the comments regarding the College Conversations. One of the things we mentioned in these College Conversations is that we were well on the way down the path to getting the process and selection process and criteria out for ratification tonight. Then this magical thing happened about three weeks ago, we started going out to the different PCC campuses and centers and having difficult but very meaningful and fulfilling conversations with many of you in the room here and all the other campuses and centers as well.

We got a lot of good insight and feedback from those conversations and we are really taking that input to heart. What we are going to do is spend additional time; I think one of the things I said at one of the conversations is that we are less concerned about schedule and more concerned about getting it right. To the getting it right part, we want to take the time we need here to really internalize the conversations that we have had with the campuses and centers

over the past three weeks or so and meld that into our thinking and we should have more than to say at the July meeting.

If I could say one other thing to, I think I mentioned to many of you that I am originally from South Carolina. When I heard the tragedy that occurred in Charleston last night, my heart just broke. I am having a hard time. Nine families lost beautiful family members for what can only be described as an unspeakable act of evil. I ask that you keep the families in the Charleston community in your thoughts and prayers.

# Denise Frisbee, Board Member

I want to say that both Jennifer's report on the marketing campaign and then David Bett's reflection on accomplishments. At the end of year, you have to take stock of all the wonderful things that have happened this year. I want to say thank you for the graduation, it was wonderful, she was quite moved by Jeff Petit's little ode to failure. I asked Jeannie to send me the speech so I could share it. I think it was really important and beautiful. That event was just as wonderful as always and the students are so proud and we are so proud. I wanted to thank all of you that helped make that wonderful graduation. Through you David, convey to the students how grateful we are that you all take this opportunity and make us so proud with what you accomplish. That was wonderful. I wanted to echo Director Pitts' comments about the listening sessions. I know all of us went to several and I was very impressed by how candid and interested in everyone was in talking to us. We are compiling and reflecting on all the comments we heard, and we heard a lot. It was about transparency as well as many other themes. The need for stronger communication internally and we're taking that to heart. We really thank you for being brave and forthright and direct with us. I hope you can accept we will be brave and forthright and direct in response. These are difficult decisions and we need the support of the college to make them. Thank you for that. I also just have to note that we passed a budget tonight for the college that is premised on \$519 million and of course as we heard from Meghan, we are going to get a significant additional chunk which is exciting to us. We will be talking about what to do with those dollars based on the strategic planning that we started, board goals that we identified and priorities we have been talking about over the last year. We will be looking forward to putting into practice our communication skills as we develop and share those priorities. Thank everybody, and I know many of the board members worked hard at the legislature also and thanks to the Advancement Team and Meghan for all that work. It is exciting to see that community colleges are raising the esteem of the outer world and they are finding out what we have known all along, this is the transformation place. I just had to comment on that.

# Kali Thorne-Ladd, Board Member

I also wanted to comment on how refreshing the engagement has been. In the time I have been on the board I have seen this progression of people getting involved, the students and the community, the faculty really helping us to hear what it is that they envision and desire for PCC. It makes our jobs better to understand what it is the community at PCC is thinking and wanting. The listening sessions that we did, I found very insightful. I think the gentlemen over there, that there are a lot students have to offer. I was scribbling down what they were saying, because there were some really great ideas, that I thought, we should consider this. Not that all the ideas are not good ideas. I just really value people sharing and us having a chance to digest that. I think all of us on the board appreciate that, so I just would say thank you. It is a striking contrast from when I joined the board to now. Thank you for your

transparency, for your honesty, for your passion for PCC, for your belief in this community and your desire to see it be the best it can be.

# Jim Harper, Board Member

I just want to second what everyone has been saying. Having been out and talked to all of you, this is why we are such a great school. This is what makes PCC great. I talked about the annual retirement dinner that was a couple of week ago where 62 employees retired. If you looked out there, we filled the cafeteria at Sylvania with other retirees who come back to share and talk about how they enjoyed the school, what is going on with them. I went to commencement here a week ago, you can't help but stand up there, sometimes I have to argue with some of the other directors about who gets to shake the most hands, because they want to take more than their share of the time. This is what it is all about, having been there. It was the most pleasant thing in the world that we had to do when we came out to talk, to see the people that care about this school and share really strong feelings about what they like and didn't like. They were very honest with us about that. So, that is what it is all about. I can tell you, that we are committed to this school. We are going to do the best possible job and make you all proud, make us proud too.

# Gene Pitts, Board Member

A few comments here, the conversations were very passionate but you know that is what makes PCC such a special place. People do have such pride and such passion in this organization. The institution is bigger than the presidency, it is bigger than the board members, bigger than any of us here so the whole collective spirit of all of you allows me to know with confidence that we are going to get through this transition and we are going to do it right and we are going to do it well.

# Deanna Palm, Chair

I think there was comment tonight whether or not we had seen an email chain. I just really want to assure you all that anything that comes through that board resolutions email that goes directly in all of our email boxes. We see all of that information. You don't have to wonder about whether it got passed down to a board member, it did. It gets into their email. we talk about it, make sure everyone received it and that they are reading it. From that perspective, I don't want there to ever be any concern that there is any sort of filter going through that. Really that is your opportunity, if you can't make it to a forum to have direct contact, and if one comes to her, as the chair, I share it immediately with the rest of the board members. They are all seeing the information. We are very cognizant that a common theme that was heard throughout these conversations were communication issues, communication loops. It might have been communication sieves that were not happening the way they should of. I know from the standpoint of the college and the administration, they heard that loud and clear as well. So we are working to try to ensure that you have a confidence that you are being heard and that your learning information, your hearing information and you are a part of the conversations as you should be. Those are important themes, I think we talked at one point in time at one of the campus conversations that didn't see us writing or taking notes, that is because we wanted to make sure that you knew we were intently listening to you all. There were people in the room taking notes, and those notes and that information and those conversations and comments have all been compiled for board members. I don't want you to think that any of those things were lost. They are all things we are taking in, we are looking at what that means, making sure that anything that we do is reflective of the information that we heard from you. All of these things take time and energy and effort on

your part to participate and we want to thank you for doing that and be willing come out and spend your time with us. We truly appreciate that.

Jim Harper, Board Member

It has been a tradition around here, as I recall, when someone that we really care a lot about leaves, we always thank them and give them a round of applause. I want to thank David for the job that he has done representing us and the students.

#### President

Sylvia Kelley, Acting President

Ms. Kelley personally thanked all the board members for their time and dedication you each put into all of the forums you attended. It took courage, for all of you to do that and make the statements that you did and to listen to the PCC community. I also want to thank PCC for having the courage to have these conversations and ask the tough questions. It took a lot for everybody to do that. I think personally I can say, I have spoken with some of the board members, those conversations for me, have changed me-literally. We say that, all of us with a little bit emotion. It has changed who we are, and for me personally it has given me a wonderful experience of getting to know each of the campuses and the personalities and the people. There is a lot of love and caring for the PCC family that you have all shared. I would like to thank the board for being willing to do that.

Thank you for all of the events that you attended on behalf of the college. You have put in a lot of personal time and commitment to PCC.

The last thing on the agenda is the monthly news that we report each month. It is posted on the website for review.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next business meeting of the Portland Community College Board of Directors will be held on July 15, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Sylvania Campus.

Deanna Palm, Chair

Sylvia Kelley, Acting Presiden

Prepared by:

Jeannie Moton, Assistant to Board of Directors

Minutes approved on July 16, 2015.