

Portland Community College Board of Directors
PO BOX 19000, Portland, Oregon 97280

February 27, 2020
Sylvania Campus
12000 SW 49th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, 97219

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Hannah Alzgal, Mohamed Alyajouri, Jim Harper, Tiffani Penson, Alex Diaz Rios, Dan Saltzman, Michael Sonnleitner (by video)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harper called the Business Meeting to order at 6:29 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published. Alyajouri/Saltzman

The January 19, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as published. Penson/Diaz Rios

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Sylvania Campus Update – Lisa Avery

I'm here to talk with you tonight about some strategies we have been embarking on to increase enrollment here at Sylvania, and not just increase enrollment but really focus on the needs of working adults. Two things we have really been working on is one, is to try to offer more programs and services to working adults and secondly, as you know, we are embarking on a major remodel that will change our classroom availability on campus. In advance of that, last winter, we started working with our business faculty to structure classes for Friday. Friday Academy is the result of many areas of our campus coming together to create opportunities for working adults to enroll and succeed. Students enrolling in Friday Academy at Sylvania earn 12+ credits, while only coming to campus on Fridays. These hybrid classes are a blend of online and in-person coursework, giving students the flexibility of online classes with the support of on-campus life. Students in Friday Academy come to class between 9am to 3:15pm for our cohort-style teaching sessions. With two tracks, business and transfer, students have the opportunity to earn their associates degree credits with the support of our specially trained faculty and student support services. Friday Academy Students need to be prepared to complete work outside of the classroom, so excellent time management skills are a must. An ideal student for this program will be seeking a general transfer, accounting, or business associates degree and has completed all prerequisites for their track.

The first Friday Academy was offered Winter 2019 and had 107 students enrolled. Winter 2020 had 184 students enrolled. As the HT remodel expands we are doing a lot of work to be creative with our scheduling. This is an attempt to bridge online and fully

face to face. 33% of enrollees reported being 31 or older; 43% reported being employed part-time, and 24% reported being employed full-time. We are trying to have that flexibility for full-time workers. Student success data shows that hybrid offerings can be some of the most positive outcomes in terms of retention and success. It is a very competitive enrollment environment right now.

Legislative Session Update – Mark Mitsui

As you probably know, Senate Republicans walked out and that left some bills stranded. I wanted to highlight some of the bills that are of interest to community colleges that are waiting for the return of the Senate Republicans. One is House Bill 4146, which is a funded mandate regarding being able to cover part time faculty health care particularly when faculty are employed between different colleges. Another Bill HB 4160 for underrepresented students; this has to do with part of our budget request last time. Part of it had to do with a 35 million dollar request for underserved students in the community colleges. We wanted it to come out of the revenue package which really ended up only being for K-12. This time around there is interest in what has been called a roadshow, which is how the K-12 advocates engaged the legislature for their revenue packet. This is a bill that would outline a statewide tour for state legislatures to visit community college and university campuses across the state. This bill has been referred to ways and means and is awaiting a reconvening of the Senate.

Senate Bill 1521, the omnibus education bill. This incorporated some language around putting additional traction behind the previous transfer bill. There has been some progress made through the previous legislation and the learning points from that previous legislation are baked into this senate bill. Finally, HB 4055, this is the bill identifying a hunger and homelessness study for higher education - predominantly for the universities.

I want to add that Portland Community College led the proposal for the development of a strategic initiative for a funded statewide hunger and homelessness survey, which was just concluded and distributed by the Hope Center out of Temple University. 14 of the 17 community colleges participated. The homeless rate was approximately 20%, the hunger/food insecurity rate was over 50%, and the housing insecurity was about 40%. About two thirds of all students experience at least one form of basic needs insecurity. PCC's data was also released and our numbers were very, very similar. The question on homelessness had to do with six months prior to the administration of the survey. These included staying in a structure not included for human habitation (cars, recreational vehicles, tents), and couch surfing was also included in the definition of a homeless student. Housing insecurity had to do with whether or not you thought you could make next month's rent payment. Food insecurity meant that you weren't regularly sure where your next meal was going to come from. Suffice to say this is very, very alarming and is also consistent with national data. There have been some questions raised in research communities in regard to methodology. The sample population for PCC was about 3,800 students with around a 12% response rate. We are planning on using that data in preparation for the next long session to help spin up the next budget request. This data has been distributed to legislators.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

BUSINESS SESSION

Chair Harper proposed approval of Resolutions 20-090 to 20-108. Saltzman/Diaz Rios

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

Student: Hannah Alzgal

I wanted to report out on what District Student Council has been working on, regarding student initiatives. I want to acknowledge all the work the DSC members have done around organizing with tuition rollback. It was emotional work, talking to students about the struggles with the cost of college. I want to highlight that DSC and College Administration found a window of opportunity to collaborate by investing a million dollars in direct student support services, student leadership opportunities, and efforts that are centering around the marginalized communities that attend here. I think this is a really great success of out of this long effort and I really want to commend everyone that was involved in that.

DSC is working on editing our current budget policies and any other standards of practice that we use. I will be reporting out about those later, by the end of the year. People of color in DSC have formed an affinity group within the council as an opportunity to provide space for our own struggles and really take the charge of equity work for the DSC.

The Eco-social justice directors are preparing for a presentation at WOHESC later this month about their positions and how that has been working in student government and their efforts regarding sustainability.

Classified: Jeff Grider

Our Classified Federation has been working hard at getting squared away for the AFT National Convention delegate election. We have been working on our constitution and by-laws, updating things for the modern age with things like email voting, perhaps. We are also quite busy without normal labor relations business, as well as getting our new contract draft proofread and ready for printing soon.

Faculty and Academic Professionals: Frank Goulard

We had a great Winter School at the end of January where Jeff and I, and hundreds others across the state participated. You learn a number of things from organizing, bargaining, to the latest legal developments and so on. Vincent Blanco, who is our labor relations specialist for both locals was also in attendance. We had, out of the 100 statewide, about 20 from PCC, so that was a nice representation and good source of information and networking opportunities as well.

HECC had our meetings in early February, both the funding and achievement subcommittee meeting and the regular meeting. As President Mitsui mentioned, the various bills the HECC has been involved with is also on hold. We are meeting in Roseburg in April at Umpqua Community College. We were in Ashland a few months ago. About once every three months we travel. You kind of have a fishbowl or tunnel vision when you don't get off campus enough. With gratitude, it's a real pleasure to be able to get out and see the places, get the feel of the students at the particular place.

Board Members:

Director Diaz Rios

I recently moved to Zone 4 for many reasons, mainly a fifteen hour commute and I'm working on my second Master's degree at Portland State and I am a more than full time teacher for my wild sixth graders. I plan to stay on the board until June 2021 and then we will see what the future holds after that.

Director Sonleitner

Before I left Portland I attended many political events. I am following with care the Republican walkout and its impact on our priorities.

Director Saltzman

I would like to make two requests for future information sessions. One is the Hope Study that was mentioned earlier. I feel like there are lessons to be learning from this information and I want to know what our responses are to the findings of the study. Secondly, I would like us to drill down on the future of the Portland Teacher Program. I would like to get to the bottom of this to see how it can be as robust as it should be.

Director Alyajouri

Our DC trip was really inspiring, every year we do this with the students and some of the leadership and, aside from having the usual meetings we normally do with our legislators, it was just an honor to have additional meetings with agencies. They gave us the chance to have the students connect directly with these leaders for opportunities that can benefit PCC for many years to come.

Additionally, I want to make sure everyone is taking care of themselves during this COVID-19 craze. I work in healthcare, so this is my 24 hours a day thinking. Our staff at OHSU are preparing and if anyone has any questions or concerns can talk to me anytime about what we are doing as a healthcare community.

Director Harper

I want to follow up on our trip to DC. It was probably the busiest trip I've ever been on. Mark put together a wonderful set of visits for us. I think we don't appreciate the value we have in our President, because he opens those doors. We went to the Department of Labor, the National Skills Coalition, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. We had a wonderful visit with AARP. We talked to the National Science Foundation and we talked to AACC. They welcomed us with open arms and if you look at, I've been on this board for 14 years, and this was the second time thanks to Mark

that we were actually able to take these meetings. If you talk to some of the students with us, they will tell you how busy it was. It was great.

President Mitsui

Just a quick note that on the board calendars you will see a hold for an optional meeting next Thursday. Because we have been discussing the student board member arrangement and agreement that would be a topic for that meeting with Hannah's participation of course. Next Thursday can be a work session that we can dive into more detail with that, as well as Director Saltzman's request to go in to more detail about the Hope Survey.

This is my first year as a commissioner on the NWCCU. One big development at the federal level is new rules regarding accreditation that are due to come in to effect July 1st. The big change is now institutions can seek accreditation through credits other than their region's accreditors. In other words, the Department of Education has opened the door for accreditor shopping. Institutions can go to any part of the country. One of the columnists in *Inside Higher Ed* has expressed his concern that this could be a race to the bottom. It's only natural, institutional behavior to seek the cheapest, fastest, and easiest accreditation process possible. Right now there are accrediting bodies that accredit institutions that have demonstrated practices that result in many student complaints, or the institution going out of business as ITT did two years. ITT was accredited by a national accreditor, accredited by the US Department of Education. We took on their nursing students at great cost to the state, at great cost to the students, and we were able to get them all through to graduation, but that was the condition of the institution after they went out of business. They were accredited, let me repeat that. We have to keep our eyes peeled, certainly as a member of the commission I will be more attuned to this particular topic.

I have also joined the board and been elected to the American Council on Education. This is the umbrella organizations for all the higher education organizations. One of the advantages is that they are an incredible resource for us. During my orientation, one of their presenters provided very helpful information around the DACA decision coming up in June and had some very nuanced interpretations that could help us develop an algorithm in preparation for the decision. There are some very nuanced preparations we need to take in to consideration.

I want to thank Traci Fordham and Tricia Brand for staffing the Preferred Future Task Force to spin that group up again. This was the group that was developed as a result of the 2016 elections, when executive orders, protests, several statements and tweets came out that greatly alarmed our community. I formed the Preferred Future Task Force in order to project out, in advance, key flash points that we need to be prepared to address proactively. Now, with the election season coming up I have asked for this group to be spun up again to take a look at, for example, those periods of time after the conventions and entry in the general election where the political tensions will ramp up again. Take a look also at the many issues that will come up in between, in particular the decisions around DACA. June will be a particularly tense time and we should

prepare for that to garner resources to help our students to respond to the stressors associated with the highly probable decision around DACA rescission.

We were also named by the National Skill Coalition to be a member of the Support Services Academy. We were the only community college that was invited. We will also be a part of the Policy Academy through SkillSPAN. We have been asked to join the policy for quality postsecondary schools task force through HECC and CCWD. I will be serving on that task force to identify quality postsecondary credentials.

We sent a strong team of 40 individuals from PCC to Achieving the Dream. We had a fantastic four days and it was very encouraging to see institutions that have significantly improved their equitable student success rates and let us know that we are where they were, maybe three or four years ago. It was good to hear we are on the right track.

I then attended the Second Nature Climate Action Summit in Atlanta. I was very pleased and proud of faculty member Kim Smith, who presented on the amazing work she has done globally, nationally, and regionally with the Greater Portland Sustainability Education Network, which is a program through the United Nations University.

I have been asked to join the Aspen Institute Ascend Initiative for pioneers for postsecondary student success for parents. This is a national group roundtable of presidents who will be sharing best practices on how to support parents in postsecondary education, in particular community colleges.

I also want to thank Briar Schoon and Tony Ichsan for their presentations at Second Nature. They did a great job and garnered some very helpful ideas and strategies for sustainability at PCC.

I have been co-chairing the artificial intelligence task force identifying implications of AI for higher education. We will be generating a rough draft report by June and a final draft closer to the legislative session to Governor Brown. The report will consist on recommendations for how the higher education system can best prepare students for an AI influenced workscape.

We were also awarded a 495,000 boost grant through the Kreisge foundation. This is for a two-gen strategy and a partnership with Albina Head Start to help parents upskill through integrated education and training strategy, while their children receive support services through Head Start. The goal is to move both generations out of poverty through education and training at the same time.

We had a great fundraiser for comprehensive campaign at Thomas Lauderdale's. It was a great opportunity and it was a wickedly good time with Rock Creek Choir singing and Thomas playing the piano. The donors were there in force – over 150. We got at least two Champions of Opportunity committed that night.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Jim Harper, Chair

Mark Mitsui, College President

Prepared by:

Jeannie Moton, Executive Coordinator

Minutes approved on March 19, 2020.