

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

September 17, 2020
Via remote access

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Mohamed Alyajouri, Denise Frisbee, Jim Harper, Tiffani Penson, Dan Saltzman,
Michael Sonnleitner, Alex Díaz Rios, Riley Turner

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board met in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2), to discuss (e) real property, (f) attorney/client privilege, and (h) litigation.

WORK SESSION

The board met in work session and discussed diversity, equity and inclusion, goals, fees, strategic planning, and budget.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alyajouri called the Business Meeting to order at 5:51 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The September 17, 2020 agenda was approved as published. Penson/Sonnleitner

Alyajouri – Yes

Frisbee - Yes

Sonnleitner – Yes

Díaz Rios - Yes

Penson – Yes

The August 20, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as published. Sonnleitner/Frisbee

Alyajouri – Yes

Frisbee - Yes

Sonnleitner – Yes

Díaz Rios - Yes

Penson – Yes

RECOGNITIONS

Governance Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

Once again, PCC is being recognized with the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2019 Consolidated Annual Finance Report (CAFR).

College Retirement – Cau Chung

Cau Chung will be retiring on September 30 after serving 40 years at PCC.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

COVID-19 Update – Mark Mitsui

The COVID Opening Leadership Team (COLT) completed a reopening matrix that identifies thresholds for moving to different phases of reopening depending on the availability of vaccines and viable treatments. It's a well thought out rubric that

incorporates a variety of different elements that is the result of a very intentional, collaborative process that is evidence based. It is compliant with OHA, CDC, and other requirements and standards.

We are not going to be offering in person instruction for fall quarter. The guiding principle for that decision is health and safety. This is a new virus and the evidence base and knowledge base surrounding this particular disease is constantly evolving and changing. As the disease evolves our policies and decisions must evolve as well. I know there are folks who want us to reopen, at least certain programs, and I have heard the term acceptable levels of risk; when I hear that term I must confess that I interpret that as saying acceptable loss or casualties. I believe it is better to be more conservative until we have a viable treatment. I honestly lost a lot of sleep thinking about that acceptable level of loss in terms of life or severe illness in terms of reopening, and I couldn't justify it. Health and safety of our employees, students, and community comes first. That being said, we know that this decision has impacted our students, faculty, and staff and that is a very difficult position for them and makes this kind of decision even more difficult. I've been on some calls with national associations with other presidents who had put together their plans to reopen that were quite elaborate, well financed, and included stringent procedures and there were some things they just couldn't control. We have a different context. We are going to stay tuned to the rest of the state and see what happens with the colleges that are offering in person classes. I wanted to let the Board know the rationale behind our decision. We are planning for a reopening, in a way that is as safe as possible for our students and employees. We are watching the vaccine testing closely and monitoring the CDC panels.

Health Technology Building Update – Linda Degman, Director, Planning and Capital Construction and Krista Phillips Managing Architect

This is the first time we've ever taken on a major renovation of a whole building like this, and it's been quite the undertaking. I want to commend Krista and her huge team who have been working on this. This is really more than just one project. It's about 22 projects all wrapped up in this building. We have made a lot of progress over the last 2 years and it will be amazing to see its transition.

This project has been quite a journey and we really are just getting started. We have managed to impact every building on the Sylvania campus in the midst of renovating Health Technology (HT). Early on in the process Linda made the decision to go about this project as an unoccupied renovation. While renovating the east side of the building everyone had to be dispersed to other buildings around the campus. One of the most amazing things about this project is the amount of engagement we have had around this project. We spent 12 months in pre-design gathering feedback from stakeholder groups and town halls. We've got a bout 100,000 sq. ft. of space that we are renovating in the building. In order to get people out of the building we are having to do this in phases and we also have the biology users moving to the ST building on the second floor. Our project is mission focused and we created a set of vision statements to guide our process. These statements are: 1. Welcoming all while representing program missions. 2. Make equitable spaces for inclusive teaching and learning. 3. Nest

specialized programs in a collaborative environment. 4. Sustainability centered on health and wellness.

Medical imaging will be relocated to the basement; level 1 will include exercise science, PE, and dance; level 2 will be the gym, nursing, and consolidated offices; level 3 will be general purpose classrooms and architecture. We are about 65% of the design process and we are starting to really understand the building. We are creating a designated green space, which was something we were hearing Sylvania campus needed. Sylvania is quite hilly and we kept returning to the concept of having a lawn. One of the most important components to this HT project is, how do we improve this building from a design and performance standpoint and carry these details to future projects? We are adding a façade as a way to invite the outdoors in and the indoors out, which will add a lot more light into the building. We can bring the beautiful Sylvania landscape in to building, which we are very excited about. We are really up against a hard project with so much concrete to work with. We are bringing in some lighter paint and finishes and really making them very dynamic and engaging. We are working to achieve openness and making people feel really comfortable in the building as they are going about what they do. Right now we have this very old, outdated skylight and we are creating roof areas that will bring light in from all different directions. Construction won't start on the HT proper until next summer.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

BUSINESS SESSION

Chair Alyajouri proposed approval of Resolutions 21-031 to 21-0047. Penson/Díaz Rios

Alyajouri – Yes

Frisbee - Yes

Sonnleitner – Yes

Díaz Rios - Yes

Penson – Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

PCC Federation of Faculty and Academic Professionals: Frank Goulard, President

As Mark mentioned earlier, we took an important pivot in late March from face-to-face instruction to remote. It was crucial for our students, but it took a toll on our faculty and staff. At the time we were hoping that part-time faculty could have some kind of stipend in recognition of the extra work beyond the normal work of preparing a spring time course, which didn't happen. I do know that it did happen at other community colleges throughout the state. That is a backdrop for the current concern that as we keep going in remote, there are a lot of costs that are piling up from printing the ink on personal computers, to the extra electricity use, internet, personal laptops overheating and ergonomics. I know that some of this can be addressed with Deans applying some of the equipment, some of the Chromebooks the department might have, but others can't. One potential solution was - beyond a potential stipend, which some colleges are doing to help with those monthly expenses – is to allow more faculty and staff go on campus

and conduct their job in more than just 20 minutes. For example, a faculty member could use their stand up desk with the more sophisticated video and camera set up and conduct their lecture with the whiteboard there and it makes for a lot better experience for the students. This is something that we would be open to discussing.

We have had widespread reports on another matter that section enrollment maximums have been told by Deans to exceed those maximums with the waitlist folks, rather than creating a new section for the waitlist. Lastly, I wanted to echo President Mitsui's talk about COVID-19. I think it is very important to be sensitive to the situation at hand. We don't know, we have an invisible threat to us with this virus. I encourage our COLT team to look at the other 16 community colleges. Over the next month these respective community colleges will be offering at least some hands on CTE classes on their campuses. There is a risk there, but hopefully we can learn what they are doing right so that we can apply the best possible practices so that our own CTE programs can then operate those crucial hands-on classes. We are the economic first responder for our students for things to thrive again.

PCC Federation of Classified Employees (AFT Local 3922): Jeff Grider, President

I would like to sincerely thank President Mitsui for both making the hard decisions that you had to in regards the colleges operations and for the generous extension of closure pay for our Classified employees who were not able to work on site or from home through August 31. I wanted to mention the wildfires – I just wanted to acknowledge the additional trauma that all of our community members are going through both as a direct result of the fires themselves and from the fallout from the smoke. We were unable to have our executive council meeting this month due to the fires. We've worked almost non-stop since the last meeting on finding a solution to the inequitable situation of ending closure pay and likely eventual unpaid leave for our lowest paid, most vulnerable Classified employees. 160 people are going to be affected by this. I don't really have much nice to say at this point, particularly as the enrollment and budget outlooks continue to improve. I will simply respect our process of working together toward a solution with HR and PCC Administration and hoping for quick result.

District Student Council Chair Antonia McSwain

Today concludes our last day of training at the DSC, so that is very exciting. We are literally jumping in next week as a whole DSC with our first business session on Friday. Legislative Directors tomorrow are jumping in a conversation with Mark and Emma Kallaway about voter registration, so it's definitely a quick turnaround. I would like to say I'm very thankful for the district students that pushed through this week given everything we have been going through the last six months and the unexpected fires. Folks that live a little bit closer to the fires and were more directly impacted by them, the fact that they were still able to show up was an amazing thing and I'm very appreciative of those folks who made it through those trainings. Regarding the conversation around COVID, I am appreciative of the care and time taken in making these decisions. These are very uncertain times and it is nice to be able to trust in your institution and know that they are keeping the minds and safety of the students aligned. I hope everyone is taking care of themselves and being safe.

Board Members:

Chair Alyajouri

I wanted to make note of a couple items on the Consent Agenda, particularly 21-041 and 21-047. The board recommended and approved some new appointments for this upcoming year. Director Jim Harper and Director Alex Díaz Rios will be our Board liaisons to the Foundation and Director Sonnleitner will be our OCCA rep on behalf of the Board. We look forward to a lot of great updates from these Directors.

The Board is also moving toward creating a brand new position in the Board Secretary role as we need better organization around our goals, deliverables, and our evaluation process.

Director Sonnleitner

I appreciate my board colleagues' support for being the representative to OCCA this year. I will be very conscious seeking to see how the other community colleges are coping. I also appreciate the Board nominating me to be on the Oregon School Board Association's (OSBA) Board. I would like to see greater cooperation between OSBA and OCCA.

Director Frisbee

I wanted to thank Michael for stepping up to do OCCA because it's an undertaking and I believe it's an important role. I wanted to say thank you to Antonia for looking at voter registration, often the students undertake a big voter registration drive, but it's so hard this year because people aren't on campus. The deadline this year is October 13 and it really matters.

President Mitsui

I wanted to echo Director Frisbee and Jeff Grider's acknowledgement of noting the impact of the wildfires, smoke, displacement, and stress associated with evacuation notices and evacuations on top of the pandemic. It's a very difficult time for our community, employees, and students. A lot of what we've been experiencing we can link back to phenomenon like climate change. Not every adverse weather event is linked back to climate change, but many are. We are having once in a century events every few years now and this tells us that the planet is changing and it's changing from CO2 and greenhouse gas emissions. And we are under an administration that has pulled out from the Paris Accords. So again, this is a very important election and underscores the importance of voting. I want to thank Antonia and Riley for their leadership, along with Emma Kallaway, for their work together to engage TurboVote as a technology and strategy to encourage civic engagement through voting amongst our students in a remote environment. A lot of milestones are coming politically that will act as flashpoints for our community. I want to also thank Traci Fordham and Tricia Brand for co-chairing the Preferred Future Task Force, which was originally established after the 2016 election to help prepare responses from certain political moments. We are stepping through different scenarios and thinking about response plans and communication strategies. I wanted to assure Frank, we are checking in across the state on what other colleges are doing. Every Tuesday morning the Oregon Presidents

Council has been meeting since the end of March to exchange notes, practices, and experiences around this pandemic. They've been a very collaborative group. Looking forward to the DREAMers event. We normally have a breakfast but this will be a preprogrammed remote event and I ask that you participate in this incredible fundraiser for these incredible students. I've made a matching commitment and I'm happy to talk with you about that. I know the students would enjoy your participating in this event, as would I. An update on the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC) in Scappoose, the walls are up and the foundation is laid and they are working on the interior. I know the community there is very excited about the fact that we have a building there as a statement that, yes we are going to serve the community. I took a trip out there last week and was able to drive around the facility there. It's beautiful and will add a lot to the community. The 4th and Montgomery building is moving forward and we are excited about our presence there as well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Mohamed Alyajouri, Chair

Mark Mitsui, President

Prepared by:

Jeannie Moton, Executive Coordinator

Minutes approved on October 15, 2020.