



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Public Retreat/Special Meeting

#### Minutes

April 8, 2021

A retreat/meeting of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order by Mr. Carl V. Thulin, Chair, at 12:05 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, 2021, via Webex.

Call to Order

The announcement of public meeting was made by Mrs. Connie Bello in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. Notice of this meeting was publicized through a resolution adopted at the November 5, 2020, reorganization meeting and distributed as required by law. Also, given the current healthcare crisis, a notice was publicized on April 2, 2021, indicating this meeting would be held via Webex, as provided for by New Jersey Public Law 2020, Chapter 11, approved on March 20, 2020, for public bodies to conduct meetings by electronic means during periods of emergency.

Public Meeting  
Announcement

Those in attendance were: Mr. Thulin, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Jerry Dasti, Mr. Robert Fall, Mr. Frank Dupignac, Mrs. Joanne Pehlivanian, Mr. Joseph Teichman, Ms. Emily Napolitano, Dr. Jon Larson, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration Sara Winchester, Vice President Eileen Garcia, and Vice President Joseph Konopka. Also in attendance were Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth, Executive Director of Institutional Planning, Effectiveness, and Compliance; Ms. Mary Troy, Director of Institutional Research; Mr. Anthony Jordan, Enterprise Applications Director; and Dr. Maysa Hayward, Associate Vice President of International Programs.

Attendance

Upon unanimous roll call vote, a resolution was adopted to move into closed session upon adjournment of this meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, collective bargaining, and pending and anticipated litigation.

Resolution Adopted  
for a Closed  
Meeting Following  
this Meeting

As per Bylaw #1252.2, the Board of Trustees engaged in a self-assessment, which was coordinated by Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth. She provided a brief summary on the need and intent of the survey and the process utilized for the last self-evaluation in Spring 2016. After the 2016 assessment, the cycle was changed from every two years to every five years to more closely match other evaluation cycles within the College, and it was decided the assessment would be administered by Dr. Beshara-Blauth using the New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits assessment tool.

Board of Trustees  
Self-Assessment

The self-assessment was launched on February 16, 2021, with a closure date of March 9. Ten of the eleven trustees participated, representing a 90.9% response rate. The results of the assessment were shared by Dr. Beshara-Blauth with the trustees; they indicate that

the Board functions well and works well together. It also highlights the effectiveness and dedication of the Board, the open communications with the administration, and the student-centered focus on the College.

Ms. Beshara-Blauth recommended that the Executive Committee meet to discuss the strengths and opportunities for development to determine the appropriate course of action.

Dr. Larson congratulated Dr. Beshara-Blauth for her excellent management of this process. He noted there are few, if any, other college Boards that work together as well as OCC's Board.

Dr. Beshara-Blauth then introduced Ms. Mary Troy, Director of Institutional Research, and Mr. Anthony Jordan, Enterprise Applications Director, for a presentation on the new data warehouse. Through the use of advanced technology, Mr. Jordan created this home-grown data warehouse for enrollment reporting. The data will be available to the viewer in many different modalities on the dashboards, which will provide a clearer picture of student demographics and an easy way to compare data from year to year. In fact, the possibilities are endless on how the data can be viewed and utilized in the future.

New OCC Data Warehouse

The data warehouse will be available on the OCC website through Ocean Connect. The trustees were asked if they would like to access enrollment through the data warehouse instead of receiving email messages, and they agreed this new approach will provide them with much more valuable information. Ms. Troy will send them instructions for access as soon as it is available on the website.

Dr. Larson commended Ms. Troy and Mr. Jordan for their work on and commitment to this project. It was a superb effort that will be beneficial to all.

Ms. Winchester discussed another anticipated round of stimulus funds being received by the College to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. Many student applications continue to be received requesting assistance. It was anticipated that the original stimulus funding designated for the Spring semester would be limited in order to ensure funds were available to students in Summer and Fall. However, the additional funding will allow continued distribution to the students this semester.

The County Health Department offered to vaccinate OCC employees on campus on April 9; 120 employees were registered by April 5.

Employee Vaccinations

With no public comments forthcoming, the trustees moved into closed session at 12:47 p.m. At 1:31 p.m., the trustees adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone  
Secretary

Connie Bello  
Recording Secretary