



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Public Retreat/Meeting

Minutes

February 9, 2023

A retreat/meeting of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 12:03 p.m. on Thursday, February 9, 2022, by Mr. Jerry Dasti, Chair, in the Conference Center and via Webex.

Call to Order

The announcement of public meeting was made by Mrs. Jodi Heitmann in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. A notice of this meeting was publicized on February 3, 2023, 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.

Public Meeting
Announcement

Those in attendance were: Mr. Dasti, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Stephan Leone, Mr. Frank Dupignac, Mr. Robert Fall, Mr. Carl V. Thulin, Mr. Steven Zabarsky, Mr. Raymond Joseph Latshaw, Mr. Jack Sahradnik, Dr. Jon Larson, and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration Sara Winchester. Also, in attendance was Dr. Joseph Konopka, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Middle States Co-Chairs Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth, Executive Director, Institutional Planning; Mr. James Marshall, Associate Director of Assessment; and Ms. Heidi Sheridan, Executive and Artistic Director of the Grunin Center.

Attendance

Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee

Dr. Konopka, presented the following Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum items, following discussion and clarification regarding Bylaw #1270, which was introduced at the January 26, 2023, Board meeting, and is being recommended for adoption at this meeting.

The Board, upon unanimous roll call vote, approved the following recommendations from the Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee:

➤ New Board Bylaw

New Board
Bylaw #1270

- Bylaw #1270, Bylaws for the Operation of the Board of Trustees, Administration, Evaluation of the President

- The following items, as accepted by the College Senate at its meetings on December 7 and 15, 2022, were approved unanimously upon roll call vote:
 - Revised Programs
 - Associate in Science Degree in Hospitality, Recreation, and Tourism Management
 - Associate in Science Degree in Social Work
 - Revised Program Options
 - Associate in Arts Degree in Liberal Arts, Education Option
 - Associate in Arts Degree in Liberal Arts, Psychology Option
 - Associate in Arts Degree in Performing Arts, Music Option
 - Inactivate Program
 - Associate in Applied Science Degree in Web Marketing
 - Revised Courses and Name Changes
 - MUSC 120, Applied Music I to Individual Applied Music Lessons I
 - MUSC 121, Applied Music II to Individual Applied Music Lessons II
 - MUSC 220, Applied Music III to Individual Applied Music Lessons III
 - MUSC 221, Applied Music IV to Individual Applied Music Lessons IV
 - STSC 171, Student Success Seminar for the Helping Professions to Student Success Seminar for Education and Behavioral Science Students
- The Board approved the temporary suspension of Policy #8600, Campus Safety and Security, Alcohol and Substance Abuse, for the Ocean County College Foundation Scholarship Celebration on Friday, June 23, 2023, on the Ocean County College Campus Mall from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Discussion Items

Dr. Larson introduced Dr. Beshara-Blauth, who discussed the one-page review of Standard VII, Governance, Leadership, and Administration, which was distributed to the Trustees.

Dr. Beshara-Blauth, Mr. Marshall, and Ms. Sheridan then provided a final review of the Middle States Self-Study Report. The Team Chair visit in November 2022 and subsequent feedback was discussed, including replacing old language of “recommendations” with “opportunities for ongoing institutional improvement and innovation.” Dr. Beshara-Blauth highlighted the Self-Study Report edits. The report is ready for submission to MSCHE with the supporting evidence.

Ms. Sheridan then discussed the Team Visit, including the welcome reception to be held on Sunday, April 2, which will provide the Trustees, Steering Committee/Core Team, and other members of the College Community to welcome the Visiting Team in an informal setting.

The Trustees commended Dr. Beshara-Blauth, Mr. Marshall, and Ms. Sheridan and then indicated their support for the submission of the Self-Study Report to MSCHE.

Dr. Konopka introduced the updated 2022-2025 Academic Master Plan, which was revised with minor changes to align with the College’s Strategic Plan, explaining that all objectives remain the same as previously submitted in 2019.

Ms. Winchester shared with the trustees the parameters on which the OCC FY 2024 budget was developed, discussed the anticipated effects due to declining enrollment, and explained the use of fund balance in order to balance the budget. In addition, Ms. Winchester explained the recommendation to increase tuition 3% from \$175 to \$180 per credit, which includes books, and the need to adjust the course fee schedule to cover the increase in costs to the College. It was noted that the tuition increase will be the first in three years. The Trustees are in favor of a tuition increase, which will be included on the February 23, 2023, agenda.

At the request of the Trustees, Ms. Winchester will provide a report on the costs and expenditures associated with the Egyptian programs, with projections to include the new Badr University cohort.

Ms. Winchester then provided details on the costs related to the increase of health benefit premiums to the College.

The next meetings of the Board are scheduled for:

Meetings
Scheduled

Thursday, February 23, 2023	9:30 a.m.	International Programs Committee (As Needed)
	10:00 a.m.	Finance Committee
	10:00 a.m.	Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee (As Needed)
	10:30 a.m.	Buildings and Grounds Committee
	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee
	11:30 a.m.	Closed Session
	12:30 p.m.	Regular Public Monthly Meeting

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone
Secretary

Jodi Heitmann
Executive Assistant to the President