**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**MEDIA ROOM, CULINARY ARTS CENTER,**

**RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK**

**JUNE 19, 2014**

The meeting was held on Thursday, June 19, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Media room of the Culinary Arts Center in Riverhead, New York.

PRESENT:

 Dafny Irizarry Chairwoman

Bryan Lilly Trustee/Secretary

Belinda Alvarez-Groneman Trustee

Gordon Canary Trustee

Arthur Cliff Trustee

James Morgo Trustee

Paul Pontieri Trustee

Theresa Sanders Trustee

Anne Shybunko-Moore Trustee

Felipe Espitia-Cetina Student Trustee

 Louis J. Petrizzo General Counsel

Mary Lou Araneo V.P. Institutional Advancement

 Carla Mazzarelli V.P. of Academic & Student Affairs

 Jeffery Pedersen V.P. for Planning & Institutional Effectiveness

 Gail Vizzini V.P. of Business and Financial Affairs

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The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 4:10 p.m.

Chairwoman Irizarry was joined by Trustee Morgo and Trustee Pontieri to present former Trustee Walter Hazlitt with an award for his years of service to the College. Chairwoman Irizarry stated Trustee Hazlitt always spoke about the history of the College and what the College meant to both the region and State and the importance of advocacy. She stated he was a great mentor, friend and Trustee and it had been an honor to work with him. Trustee Pontieri then spoke about Trustee Hazlitt stating that in the many years Trustee Hazlitt has been involved, he has much institutional knowledge about what is right and wrong and he has a kind way of saying it. He went on to say that former Trustee Hazlitt led the Board very quietly from where he sat, but very firmly from what he believed. Along with the firmness and quietness, his ability to make a point, round it out and clarify was always much appreciated but more than anything else he appreciates his friendship. Trustee Morgo then spoke and agreed with everything said by Chairwoman and Trustee Pontieri. He continued to say that he has known Walter for more than thirty years and he considers him one of the great men of Long Island. He spoke of how Walter never ‘sugarcoated’ anything and was someone that Trustee Morgo would go to ask for advice. He stated that Walter is an exceptional human being and he is glad to call him a friend. Trustee Morgo also teased former Trustee Hazlitt about receiving gas mileage to which former Trustee Hazlitt stated that his depth and feeling for the College and Board of Trustees is costing him $35 for attending tonight’s meeting.

Former Trustee Hazlitt addressed the Board by stating that it has been a pleasure to be a member of the Board of Trustees and what stands today is a really a first class educational institution.. He spoke about the differences from today to when he first sat on the Board of Trustees. He stated that he is very proud of being a member of the Board of Trustees and he believes he will receive passing grades on his ‘report card’. He also pointed out that it wasn't always an easy job and he mentioned when a few years back the College was in the process of negotiating Plan C which was causing the College to face the possibility that it may lose accreditation because Middle States said either you correct that or you're out. There was a period of tough negotiations and as a result, the College’s accreditation was protected. He also spoke about how at one point high school guidance counselors were deterring students from attending Suffolk County Community College and now the College has evolved and developed into a program that can’t be matched.

After Mr. Hazlitt spoke, there was applause and Trustee Pontieri added that the College is a much better place for having Trustee Hazlitt a part of it. Chairwoman Irizarry presented Mrs. Hazlitt with flowers and stated that the Board appreciates her sacrifices and her commitment to the College as well. Trustee Hazlitt was presented with a plaque that read, “Walter C. Hazlitt in gratitude for your dedication and commitment to our students, faculty and staff through years of service on the Board of Trustees, 1997-2014”. Trustee Hazlitt thanked everyone and photos were taken

Chairwoman Irizarry then presented Student Trustee, Felipe Espitia Cetina with an award for his service, stating that he did a remarkable job and the Board is grateful for his dedication. She told him his legacy has been bringing students to the Board room and a greater participation of students in college life. Chairwoman thanked him for his service and wished him well. Whereupon Student Trustee Espitia thanked everyone and photos were taken.

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Trustee Pontieri called for a motion to enter into Executive session to discuss personnel and litigation matters at 4:26 p.m., and asked that Chairwoman Irizarry not attend. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Lilly seconded, motion was approved unanimously.

Chairwoman Irizarry called for a motion to adjourn Executive session and call the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 4:43 p.m. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Lilly seconded, and Chairwoman Irizarry abstained, and motion was approved.

Trustee Morgo stated as Chair of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee, it's his job to report on nominees. He informed the Board that he sent e-mails and telephoned members asking if they were interested in pursuing a Board office. Minutes before his report, Trustee Groneman advised Trustee Morgo that she is no longer seeking the position of Board Chairwoman.As a result, the following members are interested in the following positions Chairwoman Dafny Irizarry, Vice Chair Theresa Sanders and Secretary Brian Lilly. Trustee Morgo asked if the vote be by voice or paper ballets and Chairwoman Irizarry advised there is no contested positions. Trustee Morgo moved vote by affirmation for the slate which was seconded by Trustee Shybunko-Moore. The motion carried and Trustee Morgo congratulated the elected officers. Chairwoman Irizarry thanked everyone and congratulated the rest of the officers.

Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and call to order the meeting of the Board of Directors at 4:45 p.m. Trustee Lilly so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, motion was approved unanimously.

Chairwoman Irizarry called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting and reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 5:07 p.m. Trustee Sanders so moved, Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina seconded, and motion was approved unanimously.

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Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Espitia-Cetina so moved, seconded by Trustee Morgo, motion was approved unanimously. Trustee Morgo questioned the special meeting minutes of June 4th and asked General Counsel Petrizzo that the minutes reflect he was in attendance for the meeting but not present in the room for the vote. Chairwoman Irizarry apologized to Trustee Morgo pointing out that General Counsel Petrizzo did encourage her to wait but she was impatient and wanted to get things going.

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Chairwoman Irizarry introduced Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs, Gail Vizzini, to present the College Financial Report. VP Vizzini stated the College’s overall budget for 2013-2014 is trending to the positive. She stated revenue continues to exceed what is in the budget because of the College exceeding the enrollment projections. The College continues to exercise prudent financial management in order to stay on target to end the year in the black. VP Vizzini continued by reporting that, on Tuesday, June 17th, the County Legislature met and adopted the College's 2014/2015 operating Budget as requested by the Board, and recommended by the County Executive, with the 2% increase in the County contribution. She commented that this demonstrates to the College recognition by both branches of government that a no-growth scenario in the County contribution is no longer sustainable, and that they most definitely wish to partner with the College to keep tuition affordable. She said the vote was18-0.

VP Vizzini noted item #4, the resolution before the Board to accept the College's annual financial statement for the year ending August 31st, 2013. She reported that similar to last year, the College received overall a clean bill of health and unqualified opinion, a good thing in accounting, affirming that the College’s internal controls are effective. She stated the management letter did identify two items, one familiar to the Board, which is a change in the method of revenue recognition for the State share of its capital assets. VP Vizzini stated that for the second year in a row, the outside auditors have recommended that, regarding the County share, the presentation should be consistent. She explained this would mean that the $46 million liability that the College presently shows would only appear on the County statement, not on the College’s. She said in her opinion, this may be worth a conversation with the County, but that last year the county was not willing to entertain that change.

VP Vizzini continued with the second item mentioned in the management letter concerning how the College calculates its uncollectibles, and that they recommended a more conservative methodology which the College actually changed during the course of the year. She stated they are recommending the College continue to use that methodology. She explained it simply means calculating that the longer the time that passes, the less likelihood there is of collecting the unpaid tuition or what is owed to the College.

Trustee Pontieri wanted to know the percentage of the total tuition not collected. VP Vizzini answered the College currently has $6.5 million in collections, and historically, collects about $750 thousand to $1 million or so per year, annually. She stated the College is in the process of going out for RFQ and RFPs to enhance its collections. Trustee Pontieri wanted to clarify if is a collection agency that is used and VP Vizzini confirmed the College uses a legal firm and collection agencies. She asked if there were any other questions.

Trustee Morgo commended the President, Counsel and the legislature for the incredible job done with the legislature on both the operating budget and the capital program. He said it was a stellar year and through the leadership of Mr. Zwirn and everybody working with the legislature, and Vice President Vizzini, he thought both established trust and credibility with the legislature which goes a long way. VP Vizzini thanked Trustee Morgo and there was applause.

Chairwoman Irizzary stated she concurred with Trustee Morgo. She noted she had the opportunity to meet with Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory, and his commitment is very strong for supporting the College and providing the much-needed contribution from the County. Chairwoman Irizarry stated she had no doubt the College’s efforts and collaboration will continue to increase the percentage, and thanked VP Vizzini and the others for their hard work and dedication.

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Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2014.50 through 2014.60. Trustee Sanders so moved, seconded by Trustee Morgo, the motion was approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.50 APPROVING MONTHLY SPONSOR SERVICES FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, the State University of New York Regulation No. 602.7 requires the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees to review and approve all Sponsor provided services and their estimated value in advance of the service being rendered, and

**WHEREAS**, the regulation also requires the approval of the payment of each Sponsor Service satisfactorily performed, and

**WHEREAS**, health insurance is considered a Sponsor Service, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the health insurance payment to the County of Suffolk in the amount of $2,243,968.98 for the month of May 2014 and $2,004,662.62 for the month of June 2014 (Attachment I) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.51 ADOPTING A CLASS MAKE-UP POLICY FOR COLLEGE CLOSINGS**

**WHEREAS**, when the College cancels classes due to inclement weather or other emergency, faculty members should adhere to guidelines and procedures to ensure that missed instructional time is recouped, in order to serve the needs of our students and comply with applicable academic standards and best practices, and

**WHEREAS**, the College desires, therefore, to establish a policy for making up missed instructional time due to College closings, be it therefore,

**RESOLVED**, that the “Class Make-Up Policy for College Closings,” as set forth in Attachment II, be and the same is, hereby, approved and adopted, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that said Policy shall be effective immediately.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.52 ADOPTING AN EMPLOYEE POLICY FOR CHILDREN IN THE WORKPLACE**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College greatly values its employees, and recognizes the important contribution of children and family to a fulfilling life, and

**WHEREAS**, as an institution of higher education, however, the College must maintain a proper and professional workplace for the benefit of the College’s students, faculty and staff, and

**WHEREAS**, the College desires, therefore, to establish guidelines concerning children in the workplace which seek to foster an appropriate learning and working environment for all members of the College community, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the “Employee Policy for Children in the Workplace,” as set forth in Attachment III, be and the same is, hereby, approved and adopted, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that said Policy shall be effective immediately.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.53 ACCEPTING THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 2013**

**WHEREAS,** the State Comptroller requires Suffolk County Community College to annually file as Independent Auditor’s Report on its financial statements, and

**WHEREAS,** Suffolk County Community College contracted with the independent CPA firm of O’Connor Davies, L.L.P. to perform an audit for the College for fiscal year ending August 31, 2013, and

**WHEREAS**, O’Connor Davies, L.L. P. submitted an Independent Auditor’s Report and management letters to the College, and

**WHEREAS**, the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs has reviewed the report and management letters and recommends that they be accepted, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that Suffolk County Community College accepts the Independent Auditor’s Report and the management letters for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2013.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.54 AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES**

**WHEREAS,** the State Comptroller requires Suffolk County Community College to annually file an Independent Auditor’s Report on its financial statements, and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to Procurement policy, the Suffolk County Community College issued an Request for Proposal for independent annual audit services; and

**WHEREAS**, the responses to the Request for Proposal were reviewed by the evaluation committee, and

**WHEREAS**, the lowest qualified bidder is The Bonadio Group, and be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the College President or his designee is authorized to enter into a contract with the Bonadio Group for annual independent audit services for a cost not to exceed (a) $63,000 for Audit Year 2014; (b) $64,750 for Audit Year 2015; and (c) $66,500 for Audit Year 2016, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by College General Counsel.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.55 AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH RELIANCE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC FOR A MOBILE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2014, the College issued a request for proposals for a mobile communication system which would enhance the College’s ability to provide essential information to our students through modern technological methods, including texting, and

**WHEREAS,** the responses to the request for proposals were evaluated by the College Evaluation Committee, and

**WHEREAS**, it was determined that the proposal submitted by Reliance Communications, LLC, also known as “SchoolMessenger,” best meets the needs of the College, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the College President, or his designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a contract, in a form as approved by the College General Counsel, with Reliance Communications, LLC, for a mobile communication system for an annual cost of $25,000.00.

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**RESOLUTION NO.2014.56 AMENDING THE COLLEGE BUDGET FOR PARTICIPATION IN A PROJECT ENTITLED “BIOPREP: BIOLOGY PARTNERSHIP IN RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS”**

**WHEREAS**, the 2013-2014 College operating budget provided $20,915.00 in anticipation of an award from the Research Foundation of SUNY/National Institute of General Medical Sciences for participation in a project entitled “BioPrep: Biology Partnership in Research and Educational Programs,” and

**WHEREAS**, the award includes an additional amount of $24,648.00, which includes indirect costs, increasing the grant award to $45,563.00, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend the 2013-2014 College operating budget to reflect the increase in this grant award, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the 2013-2014 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of $24,648.00, including indirect costs, from the Research Foundation of SUNY/National Institute of General Medical Sciences for participation in a program entitled “BioPrep: Biology Partnership in Research and Educational Programs,” and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract amendment, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, reflecting the increase in the grant award for participation in a project entitled “BioPrep: Biology Partnership in Research and Educational Programs.”

Project Director: Rosa Gambier

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.57 ADOPTING THE SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

**WHEREAS,** the student conduct program within the Division of Student Affairsis committed to an educational and developmental process that balances the interests of individual students with the interests of the College community, and

**WHEREAS**, with this aim in mind, an extensive review of the College’s current student code of conduct, adopted by this Board in 2008, was undertaken by the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, the Associate Deans of Student Services, the College Associate Dean for Educational Resources, and the Office of Legal Affairs, and

**WHEREAS**, a revised and updated Student Code of Conduct was prepared in order to ensure compliance with current legal requirements and best practices, and

**WHEREAS**, the Suffolk County Community College Student Code of Conduct governs the student disciplinary process at the College, describes prohibited behaviors, and outlines potential sanctions for violations of the Code, be it therefore

**RESOLVED,** thatthe College hereby adopts the “Suffolk County Community College Student Code of Conduct,” (Attachment IV), effective immediately, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the College hereby revokes the “Student Code of Conduct and Student Conduct Process,” adopted by this Board on August 21, 2008.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.58 APPROVING ANNUAL SPONSOR SERVICES FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR FY 2013-2014**

**WHEREAS**, the State University of New York Regulation No. 602.7 requires the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees to review and approve all Sponsor-provided services; and

**WHEREAS**, the regulation also requires the approval of the payment of each Sponsor Service satisfactorily performed, and

**WHEREAS**, Workmen’s Compensation and Liability Insurance are considered a Sponsor Service, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the following charges for Sponsor Services totaling $1,905,268.65 for the College’s 2013-2014 fiscal year are hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

1065 628300 Workman’s Compensation $1,113,849.85

729600 Liability Insurance 492,744.75

 Administrative Charges 298,674.05

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**RESOLUTION NO.2014.59 APPROVING A MAJOR CHANGE ORDER AND AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW LIFE SCIENCE BUILDING ON THE AMMERMAN CAMPUS**

**WHEREAS**, J. Petrocelli Contracting, Inc. was awarded a contract (“Contract”) to construct the new Life Science Building on the Ammerman Campus, and

**WHEREAS**, work which was not anticipated under the terms of this contract or shown on the design drawings is required, consisting of HVAC hot water isolation valves, access road and fire protection piping modifications requested by the Fire Marshal, additional sprinkler heads and drain valves, casework access panels for maintenance, and storm water system changes to incorporate existing drainage from Inner Loop Road, and

**WHEREAS**, all prior approved change orders were within the allocated budget for this construction project as indicated in Attachment V, and

**WHEREAS**, at this stage of the construction, the College estimates that sufficient contingency funding remains in the project budget, and

**WHEREAS**, including the other additional work described herein increases the contract with J. Petrocelli Contracting by more than twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00), thus constituting a major change order as defined in the College’s *Procurement Policy*, and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to such policy, all major change orders require the approval of the Board of Trustees, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that a change order in the amount of $66,117.82 to the Contract with J. Petrocelli Contracting, Inc. for additional work to be performed for the construction of the new Life Science Building on the Ammerman Campus, is hereby approved, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the College President is authorized and empowered to execute the necessary documentation, as approved by the College General Counsel, reflecting the change order and the nature of the additional work so authorized.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014.60 APPROVING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees established a policy on the authorization of budget transfers, and

**WHEREAS**, according to that policy, the transfers on Attachment VI must be authorized by Board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the President recommends the transfers on Attachment VI as necessary for the operation of the College, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the budget transfers shown as Attachment VI are hereby approved.

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Chairwoman Irizarry moved onto the Committee Reports. Chairwoman Irizarry called for the Student Success Committee report. Trustee Sanders reported the committee met on June 11th and was joined by both Chairwoman Irizarry and Student Trustee Espitia- Cetina. Trustee Sanders thanked Student Trustee Espitia for his contributions to the committee. Trustee Sanders stated there was a presentation from the Association and there were detailed discussions with Barbara Hurst since many of the activities reported under the Association have a huge impact on whether or not a student is going to be successful at the College. She noted that she was impressed that the accountability is clear. A lot of time was spent going through the financials and the committee is confident that Dr. Adams has a great team around him. Trustee Sanders agreed with Trustee Morgo in that the support from legislators’ is important and the goal of the Board is to keep tuition affordable.

Trustee Sanders spoke about the integrity of the College and Board making sure that they are both an advocate in and outside of the boardroom. She spoke of keeping the momentum and engagement of students that have stepped up but maybe did not win an election and how to keep them engaged. She acknowledged that she is pleased to see students attend the Board of Trustee meetings, taking on leadership roles and understanding the function of the College. Lastly, Trustee Sanders thanked the students for attending and announced that Professional Development Day will be the following day and that some of the Trustees will be attending along with faculty and staff.

Trustee Canary asked Trustee Sanders to expand a little bit the Professional Development Day and Trustee Sanders deferred to Dr. Adams to explain. Dr. Adams explained there is a college-wide professional development committee through student affairs college-wide, which will have their first professional development program the following day on DACA, which is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. They will have a member of the Homeland Security community relations team give a Power Point presentation for two hours. It's open to faculty, staff and students and will take place tomorrow at the Ammerman Campus, Montauk Point Room in the Babylon Student Center from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Dr. Adams explained that there are approximately forty five students, faculty and staff members signed up for this professional program. Trustee Sanders invited Trustee Canary to attend.

Chairwoman Irizarry moved onto the Budget and Finance Committee and Trustee Morgo requested that when there is a Budget and Finance Committee meeting, he would like Dr. Adams to go over the audit letter for the Association and that someone from the college put together that meeting. He also requested that Vice President Vizzini be at that meeting as well to inform the committee if there is any follow-up to the resolution that the Board passed along with the budget, asking for a committee – joint committee with the legislature to look at the sustainability of the County. He asked that VP Vizzini come and report on where the College is on that as well and if there is any progress with that.

Chairwoman Irizzary called for the Facilities and Technology Committee report. Trustee Lilly reiterated what Trustee Morgo said about making sure that the capital budget was reinstated since these projects are very important to the College and for the future of the College. He added that once finished they will be great assets to the College and during their construction, they are very important to the County overall within workforce. He also stated that every dollar spent on some of these projects is multiplied in the community, so by making sure that these projects continue, they benefit not only the College, but they benefit the County as well. He commended VP Vizzini and Ben Zwirn for their hard work.

Chairwoman Irizarry called for the Personnel Committee report. Trustee Pontieri asked General Counsel Petrizzo the status of the evaluation forms in terms of being mailed out. General Counsel Petrizzo stated he had drafts of revised guidelines and drafts of rephrased surveys. He didn’t think the Board would have time to go through those and to adopt changes before sending them out this year.. With Trustee Pontieri’s consent and approval, he would like to send out last year's survey adding another category for cabinet members, which they didn't have last year and it caused a little bit of confusion. General Counsel Petrizzo pointed out that this year there will be five categories, three from the original guidelines, a fourth for cabinet members and the fifth for the Trustees. He also stated that they may have to do a little adjusting when they come in, in order to get everybody in the proper survey area, but they will use last year’s form. Chairwoman Irizarry questioned when the guidelines and drafts would be shared and General Counsel Petrizzo informed the Chairwoman that he would have them available the following day. He noted there were substantial changes from the old form and Guidelines..

Chairwoman Irizarry reminded the Board that at the last meeting, Trustee Alvarez-Groneman reported on the Foundation during round table and the Board felt that it would be more appropriate to add that report to the Advocacy Committee and Trustee Alvarez-Groneman agreed. She also announced that Trustee Shybunko-Moore volunteered to be the chair of the Advocacy Committee. Trustee Shybunko-Moore had no report and deferred to Trustee Alvarez-Groneman to report on the Foundation. Trustee Alvarez-Groneman reminded everyone about the golf outing taking place on August 25th with the cocktail hour at 5:00pm and the dinner is at 6:00pm. The cost of the dinner is $125. She pointed out that last year Trustee Morgo attended and she would like more participation from the Board this year. She will be sending email reminders. She asked that if members cannot play maybe they could come down to support the Foundation dinner. Chairwoman Irizarry thanked Trustee Alvarez-Groneman for her report and confirmed that she will be in attendance for the cocktail hour and dinner.

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Chairwoman Irizarry moved onto her report. Chairwoman Irizarry announced the Board of Trustee’s Retreat will take place on July 17th from 9:00am – 1:00pm with Ms. Dona Bulluck from SUNY as the board guest. She would like to see everyone attend since the retreats are very informative and a great tool to make this Board better and stronger. Chairwoman Irizarry also announced the New York Community College’s Trustee Institute Conference taking place from September 18th – 21st and stated that it is a great opportunity for trustees to learn about other community colleges in New York. She also announced another conference that she and Trustee Canary would be attending August 4th – 6th in Washington, DC for the American Community College Trustees – Governor’s Leadership Institute. General Counsel Petrizzo asked where the July 17th retreat would take place and Ms. Sandra O’Hara confirmed the location was in Captree Commons, on the Michael J. Grant Campus.

Chairwoman Irizarry noted an email that she shared with the Board about nominating Trustee Hazlitt for an award to be presented at the September 18th – 21st conference. She asked that if they haven’t already done so, to get back to her regarding the email and since the recognition is well deserved.

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Chairwoman Irizarry called for the President’s Report. General Counsel Petrizzo introduced the College Director of Athletics, Kevin Foley to make a presentation to the Board on the athletic program.

Mr. Foley introduced his assistant, Athletic and Intramural Coordinator, Kerry Swanson, who would assist him with the PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Foley thanked Chairwoman Irizarry and the Board of Trustees for inviting him and giving him the opportunity to talk about the 2013-2014 athletic year. He prefaced his presentation by saying that, while he has been at the College 38 years and has coached for over 23 years, it was not until he came back from retirement two years ago that he really began to understand the national prominence of the College’s athletic program. He said that by attending some national conferences, he began to see the scope of the College’s program and the high level of athletic performance in the academic as well as the athletic area, which puts the College in the upper echelon of the top junior colleges in the country. He acknowledged Vice President Carla Mazzarelli and Dr. Chris Adams who have supported him tremendously on a day-to-day basis over the past two years and have been very helpful to him and the athletic program.

Mr. Foley reminded the audience that last year he talked about how the College came in at second place in the 2012-2013 NATYCAA Cup, joking that they may need “to fire the athletic director” because this year the College finished sixth out of 180 schools in the NATYCAA Cup. He explained that the NATYCAA Cup is for the Division III non-scholarship schools competitions between junior colleges across the country and that coming in second last year and sixth this year is a very prominent thing. He talked to the director of the NATYCAA Cup who has been going to competitions for the past ten years, and the director acknowledged that Suffolk’s athletic program is one of the best in the country.

Mr. Foley noted the Learfield Sports Directors Cup, for scholarship and non-scholarship schools, Division I, II and III junior colleges, and said this year, out of 680 schools Suffolk Community College finished in the top 25--probably 19th or 20th, but he didn't have all the data. He emphasized that for a small community college without dorms to complete athletically at that level is a tremendous acknowledgment to the coaches and to the students. He said that going to the NATYCAA convention last year, he began to see how prestigious this is, noting that Stanford University has an administrator whose sole job is to count points for the Learfield Cup, which they have won 18 years in a row. He said on a junior college level, Gloucester Community College has won the Learfield Cup two or three times in the past five years and that is a tremendous acknowledgement of the prominence of their athletic program and Suffolk Community College’s athletic program.

Mr. Foley stated he would share three particular things with the Board: one, about the College’s athletes who are students; two, about the athletes who are sportsman; and three, about the athletes as competitors. Addressing his first point, he shared with the Board that this year the College has seven student athletes who are NJCAA Academic All-Americans, qualifying for this with 45 real credits. He explained that real credits are bona fide credits that one can use towards a diploma, towards a degree, with no remedial or developmental courses permitted. He said there were four students with a 3.8 grade point average. Mr. Foley added the College had 34 athletes who made the All-Academic team with a grade point average of 3.2 or above this spring in Region XV, and one young man, a national champion, who had a 4.0 GPA. He hoped this would help dispel the notion that athletes are “dumb jocks,” noting that many of the College’s student athletes do tremendously well in the academic area.

Addressing his second point, Mr. Foley announced that the department is very proud that this year two teams, the baseball team and the women's basketball team, won the prestigious Referees Sportsmanship Award. He said that under Coach Brown, the baseball team has won this sportsmanship award five times, and the women's basketball team has won it for the eleventh time. He explained that the competition includes four-year schools as well as junior and community colleges, and is not just local but involves the whole metropolitan area. Mr. Foley emphasized that winning this award is taken very seriously by the teams within the department, and they do their best to put Suffolk County Community College in the spotlight and give the College something to be proud of.

Moving on to his third point, Mr. Foley announced that nine teams competed and placed at the national tournaments this year. The men’s soccer team which won the regional championship, lost 1-0 in the nationals by a highly contested goal, but still placed second. Mr. Foley said the College’s soccer program is one of the elite programs in the country, with Coach Frank Vertullo doing a tremendous job the last eight years, winning approximately 88% of his games, building the team, and getting his young men on to four-year schools. The women’s tennis team which won a regional championship for the first time and placed fourth in the nationals at Forest Hills. Mr. Foley praised Chris Cosenza, the Physical Education Department Chair who has done a great job building the program. The men’s cross country with two All-American student athletes on the team. The women’s cross country with three All-Americans student athletes on the team; Mr. Foley explained that to become All-American, students must place in the top 15 in the country. He said that Bob Mott is retiring after 20 years with the College and that the track coach, Matt French will take over the women’s cross country program. He pointed out that many of the coaches are College alumni, including both Bob and Matt. The golf team, which placed eighth nationally, led by a veteran who recently came back to school and placed twelfth out of 110 people in the country; Mr. Foley said the team had just returned from Buffalo, and expanding on Dr. Adams earlier comment, told the Chairwoman the College would be spending down its reserves in paying for the teams going out to the nationals and would show a significant reduction in these reserves in the August report. The men’s tennis team placed third. The baseball team, the Region XV champions, which lost 5-4 in the last two innings to Tyler, Texas, the national champions. Mr. Foley said that Air Force planes flying over the baseball field was an indication of how big baseball is at the junior college level in parts of the country. He praised Coach Brown for doing a great job, mentioning that he was Coach of the Year in the region. The men’s track and field, with five All-American student athletes and one national champion and placed third. Mr. Foley shared with the Board that two and a half years ago he thought the track team would be the elite team in the athletic program in three to five years, but he was wrong--they have already established themselves. The women’s track and field team with seven All-American student athletes and five national champions and placed second, losing by half a point after a dramatic near-win. Mr. Foley said this was just the beginning, they would consistently get better, and the team is truly the diamond in the program. The women’s soccer team won the Region XV Championship for the first time ever, but lost 1-0 in the nationals on penalty kicks to the third place team. Mr. Foley said the team was on the rise and he praised the coach, Christina McMahon, coach of the year.

Mr. Foley also announced that the College had started the first women’s lacrosse team on Long Island and they had a tremendous start. He said in a year or two they would be a national powerhouse. He said their two coaches are veterans and educators and do a great job with the young women.

Mr. Foley then showcased a few individual students who were present at the meeting. He pointed out Josiah Hoshyla from the Eastern Campus, and noted that he was a national pole vault champion with a GPA of 4.0 this semester, a student who had gone away to a four-year school, but then came back to take advantage of the academic and athletic opportunities at Suffolk. Next he talked about Tori Thompson from North Babylon High School with a GPA this semester of 3.1, a three-time national champion this year, five-time national champion in the past two years, a very quiet and humble lady who could “run like the wind”. He said that if the College was a more prominent four-year school this student would be all over USA Today.

Trustee Pontieri asked Mr. Foley to repeat what high school Tori Thompson was from. Mr. Foley replied North Babylon and added that Josiah comes from Hampton Bays. He then pointed out Travis George from Harborfields High School, a baseball All-American this year with a GPA of 3.55. Mr. Foley said Travis was one of the College’s Academic All-Americans over two years, and he would be attending La Salle University on an academic scholarship, not athletic, and he hoped he’d get to play there.

Mr. Foley then announced last, but not least, he’d like to talk about a former student, a former All-American at Suffolk County Community College, former employee and head baseball coach and the only one at Suffolk ever to be inducted into a hall of fame as a coach, Coach Eric Brown. Mr. Foley explained this past year Coach Brown was inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Hall of Fame, and that since Coach Brown had to be at his World Series in Tyler, Texas at that time, Mr. Foley had the opportunity to go and represent him in Grand Junction, Colorado. He emphasized how special this award was, that out of five people from Division I, Division II, Division III, four-year schools and community colleges, Coach Brown was selected this year for his efforts of over 25 years representing the College. Mr. Foley recapped that Coach Brown had won the sportsmanship award at least five times, and that he’s done a tremendous job not only winning baseball games, but bringing out the best in young men on and off the field.

Mr. Foley concluded by saying the College was looking forward to next year to begin expanding the athletic program. He said he hoped by this time next year, the College would begin to have more women's national champions, joking that might happen when he fired the women’s basketball coach. He said the men's basketball team scored the highest of any junior college in the country, and he hoped to see the women’s team do better. Mr. Foley thanked the Board for their support and for allowing him and the College to do an important job that directly affects the lives of students each and every day. He said the College has over 300 student athletes, and while they are not all Academic All-Americans, when the athletic teams go out and represent the College, they represent the College at a high level and they and Mr. Foley appreciate all of the Board’s support.

Trustee Morgo congratulated Mr. Foley on a wonderful job, and asked if Mr. Foley was joking or was he stepping down as women’s basketball coach. Mr. Foley answered probably not, but said he was only partially kidding because he wanted to get back to the nationals after a three year dry spell even if it meant him “taking a moment”.

Mr. Foley expressed how important it was to get back to the nationals, how thrilling and special it was for the students, how much the experience meant to them and how it made a difference in their lives. He said that all the College’s coaches understand that winning and losing is not the most important thing. He said he and Coach Swanson and others have been fortunate to have been at the nationals seven or eight times, and to this day the kids who have gone all say it was something special and wonderful in their lives.

Trustee Sanders said she had a question but was not sure if it was for Coach Foley or for VP Mazzarelli. She asked if the College is tracking the success of its athletes for student success numbers, where they are going when they leave and what school districts they are coming from. She pointed out that there is a lot of discussion about this in the Student Success Committee and she wondered how those numbers could be pulled out. Mr. Foley replied that it is easy to track where the students come from. Trustee Sanders asked about where they are going. Mr. Foley said after spending 33 years in a classroom, which he loves, he felt it was important to understand that success isn’t necessarily measured by whether the students go on to a four year college. He gave examples of team members who chose not to go on to school but were successful in their choices, including a young lady who manages an apparel store on Long Island and just bought her first home, young men and women going into the service, and something the department is very proud of, over eleven women from the basketball team who are New York City Police officers right now, not all of whom went on to four-year schools.

Trustee Sanders followed up with an idea relevant to the Get There from Here Scholarship. She said if the College is sending all of its developed intellectual capital on to, for example, a Stanford or other school, then the College should strategically ask those colleges to provide a scholarship for the students. She stated she agreed success is not always measured by whether a student went on to a four-year school, but she was looking at it from a different standpoint. If students are going on to some four-year schools that are not part of the Get There from Here scholarship program, how can the College provide scholarships.

Mr. Foley answered there is a fair number of student athletes who get partial scholarships from an athletic point of view. He explained that the athletic programs in the Division I, II, and III levels give out aid in different ways, some being more affluent, with Division I being tougher. He said they have a lot of grant money to give student athletes what they want while they don't have athletic scholarships. He said he thought anywhere between 20 and 25 or 30% of Suffolk’s student athletes who decide to go on are good enough to warrant some type of financial aid. Trustee Sanders said that was great and thanked Mr. Foley.

Trustee Canary thanked Coach Foley and everybody involved in the athletic program for providing such a positive and enriching experience to the student athletes. He said he was “blown away” by what Mr. Foley had shown the Board, and thought it was an incredible recruitment tool for the College to let the high school coaches know the kinds of solid programs that it has on all different levels, men's and women's, and expanding with new teams. He called it a tremendous endeavor. He asked General Counsel Petrizzo if the College is doing something special for Coach Brown for his accomplishment of 25 years, having his team go into the nationals and being inducted into the Hall of Fame. He said he would like to see the Board give him some special recognition in some way, shape or form.

Mr. Petrizzo suggested inviting him to the Board, and Trustee Morgo agreed. Mr. Petrizzo said he thought the College had recognized the Coach at the gala and the Chairwoman said, yes, it was a few years ago, but it wasn’t by the Board and to do that was a great suggestion by Trustee Canary. Mr. Petrizzo agreed.

Mr. Foley stated he personally thought that would be well-deserved, and pointed out the alumni that the program has and the alumni that come back, and said Coach Brown is the epitome of everything one wants as a teacher. He said he thought the Coach would be honored to be here. Trustee Canary thanked him, and Mr. Petrizzo said they would see if the Coach was available for the August meeting.

The Chairwoman followed up on Trustee Sanders' comments regarding the interest in tracking what happens once the students leave Suffolk, but added that she would also like to see their completion rate, the percentage of completion of those who are participating in the athletics program. She told Mr. Foley if he does have some completion rates that he could share with the Board that would be great.

Mr. Foley said the one thing to understand is that if someone goes to school one year or two years, sometimes before accumulating the 60 credits, a lot of the four year colleges will offer them scholarships or get them into school. He said 30 or 40% of the College’s athletes do not complete, but move on in that regard. He explained that it’s not exactly that they're getting a diploma, but they've earned enough credits to be eligible to play at the next level.

Trustee Sanders said that is at the heart of what the College and the Board are concerned about, that student success is subject to the real story because it doesn't always mean the student walked across a stage. They could have done a number of things. Mr. Foley gave an example of two people that have 52 credits or 48 credits and who have both been given partial scholarships and will not be coming back to Suffolk. He said he feels this is still a success story and the Chairwoman and Trustee Sanders agreed.

Chairwoman Irizarry shared that when she became Chair in 2010, President McKay and she had agreed to provide the Board of Trustees with a weekly report that comes to the members every Friday. She stated these types of accomplishments are shared in that report, and she had read about Coach Brown in the last report, as well as about a wonderful grant application that is going on for a virtual reality career relations lab. She said it is great to have these presentations, these visuals, and that the Board is able to know about the great accomplishments of the athletic program on a weekly basis because they are shared with them through those Board of Trustees reports, and she thanked Coach Foley.

General Counsel Petrizzo introduced Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Christopher Adams for his presentation with the students on HACU. Before reporting on HACU, Dr. Adams thanked Athletic Director Foley and expressed his appreciation for working with him. He then went on to explain HACU, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and what they have to offer the College. He stated that Chairwoman Irizarry asked if the College could look into developing a chapter here after attending a conference in Chicago this past fall with Dr. Hector Sepulveda. Dr. Sepulveda brought students together from all three campuses to speak to students and make it college-wide. Dr. Adams continued to explain that this organization is not just about Hispanic students but all students and that once the college joins, all students are members. This organization offers scholarship programs, leadership academies and initiatives. Dr. Adams thanked both, Dr. Sepulveda and Christina Vargas, Affirmative Action Officer for advising the trip to Washington, DC in April. He then introduced three students – Vanessa Cordova, Jesse Pazmino and Stephanie Vallecillo who went on the Washington, DC trip as representatives of the College and HACU.

Ms. Vallecillo handed out an attachment which was a table of contents for the PowerPoint explaining what HACU is about. She explained that she was unable to attend the Washington DC trip in April since she is a voting delegate of the student assembly.

Ms. Cordova stated that she was from the Grant Campus and thanked the Board, administration and President McKay for the opportunity to present at the meeting. She then spoke about her visit to the Capital and being involved in the19th Annual Capital Forum and HACU on April 6th.There were 408 schools included in HACU. Ms. Cordova said that they made connections with a lot of HACU interns, HACU alumni and a lot of presidents from other colleges and universities. They met with Congressmen Tim Bishop and Peter King and they had an advocacy class before going to the capital.

Jesse Pazmino, Student Government Vice President at the Grant Campus stated that the HACU trip was wonderful and he learned a lot about advocacy, especially for students under the Dream Act. He also said that he learned to network and met administrators, deans, presidents of schools, trustees and students from all of the United States who have the same goals and ambitions that he, Ms. Cordova and Ms. Vallecillo do. He said it was a wonderful experience and he thanked everyone for the opportunity and he would like upcoming students to have the same opportunity to attend.

Ms. Cordova stated that they have started a HACU committee which right now has twelve students. All twelve students have applied for scholarships and also the Student Tract opportunity. She explained that the Student Tract represents HACU and the College and students will have the opportunity to travel to Colorado for a conference and Washington, DC and New York City in October. The committee has been going around campus explaining HACU and encouraging students to apply.

Mr. Pazmino said that they met a student who received an internship through HACU and Ms. Cordova applied to Student Tract and Study Abroad in December. Chairwoman Irizarry asked if there are any internship opportunities for students and Dr. Adams replied that there is one student from the Eastern Campus who has been accepted for an internship and Student Affairs is always on the lookout for opportunities.

Christina Vargas stated that HACU internships are starting now for next summer so the push will be to have as many students apply for the summer internship in Washington, D.C. There are many different governmental agencies and opportunities and they provide the sponsorships. Students are being prepped so they could be eligible for next summer.

Trustee Espitia-Cetina commented that he would like to see more of this program next year and Chairwoman Irizarry added that as Dr. Adams stated earlier, this is for all students. She does not want students misled to think it’s only for the Hispanic students. She would like to see a diverse group take advantage of the opportunities offered by HACU.

General Counsel Petrizzo thanked the HACU students for attending and noted that this would complete the President’s Report.

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Chairwoman Irizarry moved onto the Roundtable session. Trustee Morgo stated that the RFQ for legal services was emailed and thanked General Counsel Petrizzo for sending it to the Trustees. General Counsel Petrizzo said that there are a couple of questions at the end of the e-mail and he stated that after it is reviewed the administration will need some guidance on a few procedural matters.

Trustee Morgo also expressed with hesitation the recently concluded Board elections. Trustee Morgo felt strongly that there was inappropriate interference with the Board’s decision. He continued that he felt it inappropriate that people were calling him telling him that the Chairwoman should be replaced. He stated that he is not judging motives but wanted it on the record for a couple of reasons, the first being because it happened. Secondly, so that in the future when board members are making decisions they make those decisions themselves. He then reiterated the fact that the College is doing very well and the Board should focus on the progress of the school.

Trustee Espitia thanked everyone for letting him sit on the Board and allowing him to voice his opinion. He said it was a great experience and an honor to serve the College.

Trustee Pontieri suggested the Board look into starting a Governance Committee that would look into certain issues and make recommendations back to the Board. He used as an example the recent situation with Trustee Shybunko-Moore and a current issue with the Personnel Committee. He continued to say that a Governance Committee can take a look at policies and be an essential part to the operational part of the Board. He also pointed out that this committee would work with legal counsel and that the committee would be confidential in the sense that a board member can bring something to the committee and have them look into it. He suggested that this could be something that the Board discusses at the Retreat.

Chairwoman Irizarry agreed it would be appropriate to discuss the possibility of a Governance Committee at the retreat since the focus of the retreat is to review and go over the bylaws.

Trustee Pontieri also asked the Board to consider revising the meeting calendar to include some morning meetings since afternoon meetings conflict with some of the other boards that he sits on. He also stated that he did not want something changed to accommodate one individual but would like the consideration of all Board members. Chairwoman Irizarry said that the Board will take it into consideration and see if accommodations can be made.

Trustee Shybunko-Moore stated that she was happy to be at the meeting and she hopes that some positives come from it. She referenced how Trustee Pontieri mentioned that different groups are looking at their policies and procedures regarding attendance, and she hopes the Board could focus on the positive. She also stated that the strength of the Board has been demonstrated. She directed her comments to Rick Brand from Newsday and asked that he focus on the strengths of the Board and not the negativity. She also asked that he respect the Board’s position as representatives of the College and to please focus on the true mission, not necessarily what's going on behind the doors.

Secondly, Trustee Shybunko-Moore announced that Walter Hazlitt is being honored on Tuesday, June 24th through the Ward Melville Heritage Organization at Flowerfield from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. She unfortunately has a conflict but hopes that other members of the Board of Trustees or members of the community have received invitations and can attend. She proceeded to hand out copies of the invitation and then thanked the Board for the position as Chair of the Advocacy Committee.

Trustee Lilly thanked Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina for his service to the Board. He then thanked Dr. Adams for helping his nephew who harassed him for changes at Commencement and commented that Dr. Adams always has the student’s best interest at heart.

Trustee Canary stated that although he’s only known Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina for four months he thinks he’s an exceptional young man. He wished Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina good luck and great success in whatever endeavor he undertakes. He told him to thank his parents because successful people don’t just happen; they come from a good foundation.

Chairwoman Irizarry thanked the Foundation for their support at a fundraiser sponsored by the Long Island Latino Teachers Association which was held last Friday. She thanked the Board for their trust and support as Board Chair. She stated that she looks forward to serving along with them for another year. She asked to keep the unity and teamwork and to keep working hard. She thanked everyone for their support.

Trustee Canary stated that Mark Lesko, Executive Director of Accelerate Long Island called him on May 29th as a follow up to a conversation he had with Trustee Morgo regarding the Fab Lab concept that he asked the Board to explore. He informed the Board that Accelerate Long Island is very excited about it, involved with and is trying to push Fab Labs and other concepts of innovation labs, etc. Trustee Canary also said that Mr. Lesko asked him to reach out to Nancy Goroffan, Associate Provost at SUNY Stony Brook who's involved with pushing the SUNY 2020 funding program. Trustee Canary brought the information back to administration and that's going to be followed up on. Chairwoman Irizarry thanked him for the update.

It was suggested by Trustee Pontieri that Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina make the motion to adjourn the meeting since it was his last meeting.

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With no further comments, Student Trustee Espitia-Cetina called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting at 6:20 p.m. Trustee Sanders so moved, Trustee Pontieri seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

With no further action, the meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The Board of Trustees next meeting is August 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, of the Health Sports and Education Center, on the Michael J. Grant Campus, in Brentwood, New York.

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Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Lilly

 Secretary