

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
CULINARY ARTS CENTER, RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK  
June 18, 2015**

The meeting was held on Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Media room of the Culinary Arts Center, in Riverhead, New York.

**PRESENT:**

Dafny Irizarry	Chairwoman
Theresa Sanders	Vice Chair
Bryan Lilly	Secretary
Gordon D. Canary	Trustee
James Morgo	Trustee
Paul Pontieri	Trustee
Anne Shybunko-Moore	Trustee
Gardy E. Amilcar	Student Trustee
Dr. Shaun L. McKay	President
Louis Petrizzo, Esq.	General Counsel
Jeffery Pedersen	V.P. for Planning & Institutional Effectiveness
Gail Vizzini	V.P. of Business and Financial Affairs
Christopher Adams	V.P. of Student Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. of Institutional Advancement

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The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 9:10 a.m.

Chairwoman Irizarry welcomed everyone; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Canary.

Chairwoman Irizarry then introduced Executive Assistant Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, for the recognition of special guests. Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell proceeded to introduce Dr. Suzanne M. Johnson, the College's newly appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Johnson served as the interim President at Portland Community College's in Portland, Oregon, however she spent most of her career at Dowling College. At Dowling she served for many years as a member of faculty, beginning as an instructor and moving through the ranks to tenured professor. She was appointed to numerous administrative positions, including program coordinator, college-wide committee Chair including curriculum, personnel and academic standards, department Chair, academic division Chair and interim dean of the college. Her experience includes leadership in curriculum development and improvement, assessment and accreditation, as well as mentoring and evaluation of staff. Dr. Johnson is well versed in the priorities of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, having served as co-Chair of Dowling's decennial accreditation review. In addition, Dr. Johnson has focused extensive attention on student retention. While at Dowling College, she completed an overhaul of the college's academic student support services, developed the first advisory center for all undergraduate students, created effective placement testing for all entering first year students and developed enhanced instruction courses in Math and English to increase student academic success and retention across the first year.

Dr. Johnson holds her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology and her Master's degree in Psychology from Stony Brook University, and her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Ithaca College. She will officially begin her new role on June 29th.

Dr. Johnson said she was honored and privileged to become a part of Suffolk Community College. She noted she was delighted to be home, and could not wait to work with the amazing colleagues at the College.

Chairwoman Irizarry welcomed Dr. Johnson on behalf of the trustees, and stated they looked forward to working with her and to supporting her in helping the College's students become successful.

Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell then introduced Mr. Wes Lundburg, the new Executive Dean of the Ammerman campus. Mr. Lundburg comes from the New Bedford campus of Bristol Community College. A veteran of the United States Coast Guard, he began his career in higher education as an adjunct professor teaching developmental and English courses at the University of Alaska. He went on to gain progressive academic and administrative experience, serving in the roles of dean of academic affairs, dean of instruction and interim president and CEO at various institutions in Minnesota and Alaska. Mr. Lundburg brings over ten years of experience in executive administration at three community colleges, as well as time devoted to development of curriculum and student life and support programs. An experienced accreditation evaluator for both the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Mr. Lundburg has served as team Chair on four accreditation visits. He has presented several times at the National Communication Association convention and has published in the peer reviewed Kentucky Journal of Communication. He earned his B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts from Fresno City College and M.A. degree in Literature and English from the University of Alaska. He is currently in the Ph.D. program at Walden University, with anticipated completion in the spring of 2016. Mr. Lundburg began his employment at the College on June 1st.

Mr. Lundburg stated he was very happy to be at the College. It is a position that he and his family very much wanted to see him in. He looks forward to working with the Board of Trustees, President McKay and his entire team.

Dr. McKay welcomed Mr. Lundburg to the College and also noted his son would be enrolling at the College for the fall semester in the Honors Program.

Chairwoman Irizarry welcomed Mr. Lundburg to the team on behalf of the trustees. She then requested a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular college official, college employee medical, financial or credit matters leading to the promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person, and discussion regarding the settlement of pending litigation initiated by the college at 9:20 a.m. Trustee Lilly so moved, Trustee Shybunko-Moore seconded, motion was approved unanimously.

Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and call to order the meeting of the Board of Directors at 10:35 a.m. Trustee Lilly so moved, Trustee Sanders 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 10:51 a.m. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Pontieri seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

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Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Morgo stated he had a correction to page 2. The second paragraph, second sentence, third line, should read "that he would do a little better than the two percent". It just says that he would "do a better than the two percent." With the corrections made adding the word "little", Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Pontieri seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

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Chairwoman Irizarry introduced Vice President Gail Vizzini to present the College budget and financial report. VP Vizzini stated the expenditure and revenue reports continue to show that the 2014-2015 operating budget continues to trend towards the positive. In regard to the 2015-2016 operating budget process, the County Executive recommended a budget for the College that included a 2.5 % budget increase in the County contribution of \$1M. At the last meeting, the options were discussed should the College not receive the other \$1M that was requested. VP Vizzini said that members of the College administration, Dr. McKay, Lou Petrizzo and Ben Zwirn met with representatives from the County Executive's office, and from the direction of the Board, the College advocated for the additional operating budgets before the Legislature's Education Committee. Those discussions led to providing

the College with operating budget relief in the form of a capital project. The County is willing to provide a new capital project for the College in the amount of \$500K. This still leaves the College with a \$988,438 shortfall.

The Budget and Finance subcommittee met to consider some of the options to address the shortfall. VP Vizzini stated what was suggested and reflected in correspondence via e-mail from Trustee Morgo as well as what the administration recommended that is a reduction in appropriations of \$500K. She said if the County is willing to capitalize \$500K the College could then identify those areas in the budget and reduce the budget by \$500K. She continued to state that making a cut in the operating budget for the \$988,438 would be far too draconian for the College to sustain and would impact areas of operations. VP Vizzini strongly recommended taking the balance from the reserve. This would be an additional \$488K from the reserves. The resolution presented for approval states that the new total for the operating budget would be \$214,759,767, and a transfer from the reserve fund balance in the amount of \$2.79 M.

Dr. McKay said he wanted to thank the Board for their extensive deliberations and support in advocating with the County Executive's office and legislature. He also thanked the faculty unions and the Guild, as well as VP Vizzini and her team for the hard work that goes into the preparation of the operating budget. Dr. McKay stated it was important for the College to stay engaged and keep communicating with the County Legislature and County Executive's office.

Trustee Morgo stated this would be his Budget & Finance committee report. He referred to his email that listed the events that occurred during the budget process. He noted the one thing that wasn't mentioned was back in April, the Board decided the \$180 increase in tuition, was a fixed limit. They agreed they were not going to go beyond \$180 increase. He stated that what was received was a compromise; they would have liked the infusion of \$2M from the County. The compromise was put forth by the County Executive, and he believed it was a fair compromise. He noted as Dr. McKay had mentioned the idea of a long-term plan with tuition certainty was a good idea and hoped it would be followed through on. He mentioned he spoke with Legislator Calarco and he said he was thinking of codifying it in a Legislative resolution. Trustee Morgo said he was in favor of such a resolution. There will be meetings with representatives of the Legislature and the College so things can be put in place to determine tuition certainty.

Chairwoman Irizarry thanked Trustee Morgo and Student Trustee Amilcar for all of their hard work during the process. Trustee Canary said kudos to everyone involved. He said it was a tough effort, and hoped that the College did not have to go through this again next year. He asked that when the Legislator has this resolution ready for introduction, they be informed of it so they can go back and lobby for that. He thanked Trustee Morgo and Dr. McKay for their efforts.

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Chairwoman Irizarry requested a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2015.47 to 2015.54. Trustee Sanders so moved and Trustee Morgo seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.47 - 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 \$2,361,994.38 for the month of May 2015 (Attachment I) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.48 - ACCEPTING A GRANT AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR A CYBERSECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College has been approved to receive a grant award in the amount of \$699,486 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund a new workforce development program entitled “Leading Innovation through Green High-Tech Engineering, Sustainability & Security” (*LIGHTES*<sup>2</sup>), and

**WHEREAS**, the *LIGHTES*<sup>2</sup> program will leverage New York State’s significant and ongoing investment in sustainable technologies to provide skilled technicians at entry, intermediate and advanced levels for the Long Island workforce, and

**WHEREAS**, the *LIGHTES*<sup>2</sup> program will be conducted from June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2018, and

**WHEREAS**, a matching contribution is not required, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that a grant award in the amount of \$699,486 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund a new workforce development program entitled “Leading Innovation through Green High-Tech Engineering, Sustainability & Security” (*LIGHTES*<sup>2</sup>) is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute a contract and any other required documentation, upon such terms as shall be approved by the College General Counsel.

Program Directors: Peter J. Maritato, Nina A. Leonhardt

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.49 - AWARDING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF ROOFS ON THE GRANT AND AMMERMAN CAMPUSES**

**WHEREAS**, capital project No. 2149 has been approved by Suffolk County and the State of New York for funding, and funds have been appropriated by the Suffolk County Legislature, and

**WHEREAS**, public bids for the replacement of roofs on the Grant and Ammerman campuses were solicited and opened on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and

**WHEREAS**, these bids were reviewed and the qualifications of the lowest responsible bidder were checked by the College and its Consultant of Record, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the College President or his designee is authorized to enter into a contract with Statewide Roofing of Ronkonkoma N.Y. in the amount of \$3,358,000 for the replacement of roofs on the Grant and Ammerman campuses project upon such terms and conditions as shall approved by the College General Counsel.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.50 - APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF A LAWSUIT**

**WHEREAS**, the College has commenced a civil action against a company and an individual alleging a claim for a breach of contract, and

**WHEREAS**, the parties have entered into discussions to resolve the matter in its entirety, and

**WHEREAS**, the parties wishing to avoid the burden, uncertainty, delay, expense, and distraction of litigation have reached an agreement for the settlement of the College's claim against the company and the individual, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the College's lawsuit against the individual and the company be settled in its entirety for the amount mutually agreed upon by the parties to the action.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.51 - AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SAYVILLE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO LEASE THE SAYVILLE DOWNTOWN CENTER**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to a lease agreement, the College has leased the Sayville Downtown Center from the Sayville Union Free School District since 2005, and

**WHEREAS**, said lease agreement will expire August 14, 2015, and

**WHEREAS**, the College wishes to continue utilizing the Sayville Downtown Center for the benefit of its students and lease such additional space in the Center as may be available, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the College President is hereby authorized to execute an agreement, upon such terms as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, between the College and the Sayville Union Free School District to lease the Sayville Downtown Center for a period of at least five (5) years.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.52 - APPROVING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

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

**WHEREAS**, according to said policy, budget transfers must be authorized by a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees, and

**WHEREAS**, the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs recommends the budget transfers on Attachment II as necessary for the operation of the College, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the budget transfers shown on Attachment II are hereby authorized and approved.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.53 - AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLLEGE'S CAMPUS PLAN FOR DESIGNATION OF TAX-FREE AREAS UNDER THE START-UP NEW YORK PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, by a resolution duly adopted on May 21, 2015, this Board authorized the College President to execute, submit and implement a "Campus Plan for Designation of Tax-Free Areas" ("Campus Plan") for certain Suffolk County-owned property located in Selden and Wyandanch, and certain vacant land on the Michael J. Grant Campus of Suffolk County Community College, and

**WHEREAS**, the Campus Plan included the creation of an advisory committee comprised of College officials who would review any proposals from private companies to operate a business on the designated properties, and make recommendations, as appropriate, and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Suffolk has requested that two County officials serve on the College advisory committee, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes an amendment to the Campus Plan for Designation of Tax-Free Areas to include the following County of Suffolk officials from the Department of Economic Development and Planning to serve on the College's Start-Up NY advisory committee:

- Deputy Commissioner of Economic Development and Planning
- Director of Project Development

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015.54 - AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 2015.31 WHICH APPROVED THE BUDGET FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016**

**WHEREAS**, by College Resolution No. 2015.31, duly adopted on April 9, 2015, this Board approved an Operating Budget for Suffolk County Community College for fiscal year 2015-2016 in the total amount of \$215,259,767 which included a transfer from the Community College Fund Balance Reserve in the amount of \$ 2,304,974, and

**WHEREAS**, by a resolution duly adopted on June 16, 2015, the Suffolk County Legislature approved an Operating Budget total of \$214,759,767 for Suffolk County Community College for fiscal year 2015-2016, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to balance the budget, the College has identified \$ 500,000 of equipment expense which could be eliminated from the budget allowing a reduction to the Operating Budget total and has proposed to increase the transfer from the Community College Reserve Fund from \$ 2, 304,974 to \$2,793.412, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that College Resolution No. 2015.31 be amended to reflect that the Board of Trustees hereby approves an Operating Budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 in the total amount of \$214,759,767, which is comprised of \$211,582,237 for operations and \$3,177,530 for grants, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the College Resolution No. 2015.31 be further amended to reflect that the 2015-2016 Operating Budget shall include a transfer from the Community College Fund Balance Reserve in the amount of \$2,793,412.

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Chairwoman Irizarry proceeded with the committee reports, beginning with the Student Success Committee. Trustee Sanders stated they did not have a report as the committees focus was on the budget issue. Student Trustee Amilcar mentioned that over the course of the year, the positioning and transition program successfully completed three trips, and that he was going to do his best to continue to guide it so that other students have an opportunity to get an idea of where they will end up after they finish with Suffolk. He thanked Dr. Adams for helping to push this initiative, and thanked the institution for allowing it to be in place because it helps a lot of students. Trustee Morgo asked Student Trustee Amilcar if he knew where he would be going next year, and Trustee Amilcar replied he did not know yet.

Trustee Lilly reported that the Facilities and Technology committee did not meet and had no report. He thanked Trustee Morgo, Student Trustee Amilcar, and the Budget committee for going before the Legislature, acknowledging it is a thankless task, and saying he was glad it is being done because a new group of students is being reached and are coming in. He attended Senior Recognition Day at his son's school and his wife told him there were 28 students coming to Suffolk Community College in the Honors Program from just that one school. He said this shows the College is reaching a whole new group of students, and that people are starting to realize this is a great alternative. He said he was shocked by that number and was checking to make sure he had it correct. Chairwoman Irizarry stated it is the best option available.

Trustee Canary followed up with an experience of his own, where at an event at Saint John the Baptist High School some of the teachers told him the Board is doing great things at the College. He said St. John's is talking up the College to the seniors and juniors to convince them it has evolved into an excellent option for their students.

The Chairwoman announced the Board already had the report from the Finance and Budget committee, and would move to Advocacy and Personnel. Trustee Shybunko-Moore stated she had nothing to report regarding Advocacy, but in her new role as Chair of the Personnel committee, they had their first meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and determined that the 2014 presidential evaluation has been completed. She said the 2015 process has been initiated with receipt of the evaluators' names, and the Board plans to review the names submitted by the President and will submit a revised list, if necessary, by June 25<sup>th</sup> to ensure that this year's evaluation is done in a timely matter.

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Chairwoman Irizarry moved on to her report. She announced for the record that Trustee Sullivan was absent due to illness, Trustee Escorbore was absent due to professional duties, and that she would be leaving the meeting early because of her professional duties during Regents week. She said that before announcing the Chair and elected officers for next year, she would like to share some remarks.

The Chairwoman stated that the past four years have had remarkable challenges as well as accomplishments. She said after five years serving as a member of the Board of the Trustees Executive Committee, one year as Secretary, and four years as Chair, she was excited to pass the torch to the next Chair, with whom she had been planning the transition for over a year. She said it was a great honor and privilege to serve as Chair of the College Board of Trustees, and thanks were due to many people for this honor. The Chairwoman especially acknowledged her parents, who she said are the foundation of who she is and what she does, and who remind her that life is about growing, loving, serving, and dreaming. She explained that was how at the age of nineteen she found herself in a new country with a desire to learn a new language and seek a better future, and now twenty years later finds herself serving as Chair of the largest Community College of New York.

Chairwoman Irizarry stated that the journey while serving as Chair has been very meaningful and transformational and that she is proud of the work accomplished collectively. She acknowledged the Trustees who volunteer their time, administrators, faculty, staff, students, sponsors, community organizations, businesses, and many regional, national and overseas partners in collaboration. She said she was deeply grateful for the trust and support offered while serving a facilitator of this Board.

The Chairwoman highlighted some of the many accomplishments of the past four years, calling them defining moments. These included the resolution adding the institutional goal of diversity and the approval of an affirmative action officer; the restoration of accreditation by Middle States after months of hard work including coming into compliance with seamless transfer; the passing of many resolutions to help student success, especially making the early college program affordable to high school students, support for the Dream Act and the Pell Act, the approval of the tobacco-free policy; and the Start Up New York resolution.

The Chairwoman said she was especially proud of the commitment and the work done this year to provide high quality affordable education, giving special mention to the structure and the protocols developed in the Board's active committees which have contributed tremendously to the institution. She acknowledged that her journey had not been free of conflict, but that the Board had remained loyal and focused on its fiduciary duties, including protecting the image of the institution. She stated that, having remained transparent and honest, accessible and available to all constituencies, and facing the challenges presented, she was confident and satisfied in passing the torch. She announced that she planned to continue serving as an active Trustee, contributing on two committees, Student Success and Personnel, rather than the six she was formerly on, to give herself some freedom to prepare to attend law school next January with the goal of acquiring more tools to continue advocating for students and educational opportunities.

The Chairwoman thanked everyone for their support and trust, and told her fellow trustees it had been a true privilege working with them. She said she hoped they would at some point you decide to serve as Chair or at least as an officer of the Executive committee. She congratulated and extended her best wishes and support to the next Chair, Trustee Sanders, to Vice Chair Trustee Morgo, and Secretary Bryan Lilly.

Trustee Sanders thanked the Chairwoman for passing the "blow torch". She pointed out that it was a unique accomplishment to spend a year in transition figuring out how to maintain the synergy with the Board, very important and specific roles as Board members. She stated the Board's job is to make sure the institution is

affordable for the students. She thanked the Chairwoman for her leadership, friendship, and guidance, and emphasized that there were more positive things that happened, truly evidenced in this last budget process, and that they would continue to work together.

Trustee Morgo said he echoed all of Trustee Sanders sentiments, and added that coming to this country at nineteen, learning the language and ending as Chair of the institution, there was no one better than Chairwoman Irizarry to personify what the College is and what it means to the students. He recognized that she also goes to every event and meeting, because she really believes in the mission of the College. He thanked the Chairwoman for her service and she thanked him for his support.

Student Trustee Amilcar agreed with his fellow Trustees, and personally thanked the Chairwoman for her guidance and leadership. He said the Chairwoman was key in helping him make the transition to the Board and he appreciated that level of commitment. He said he wished there was a way to thank the Chairwoman on a larger scale. Chairwoman Irizarry responded that he should just make the institution proud that he started at Suffolk.

Trustee Canary also agreed with everything said regarding the Chairwoman and her service. He said in the past fifteen months that he had served with her, he saw her dedication and noted the amount of time put in before and after meetings, as well as the tremendous number of events the Chairwoman showed up for. Trustee Canary thanked the Chairwoman for her efforts.

Trustee Pontieri said he thinks of leadership as a vision and understanding the need and the ability to bring together a group of people with a common goal, and that is what the Chairwoman has done. He said aside from her role on the College Board, she had worked with him on other projects including the programs she runs in the village in summer for the Spanish and Latino population. He said she first worked with him seven or eight years ago and helped him work through some very difficult times. He acknowledged the good work the Chairwoman had done while on the Board and thanked her also for the work done on the outside and for that outside relationship.

Trustee Shybunko-Moore thanked the Chairwoman for keeping the Board grounded and rooted in why they are here during all the happenings that went on. The Chairwoman responded that it was her pleasure.

Chairwoman Irizarry then requested a motion to appoint Trustee Sanders as Chair, Trustee Morgo as Vice Chair and Trustee Lilly as Secretary. Trustee Pontieri so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, and with all in favor and no abstentions, the motion carried.

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Chairwoman Irizarry called for the President's Report, explaining that she may have to step out early. Dr. McKay asked Foundation Board Chairman Ed Boughal and Dr. Sylvia Diaz to give a report on the Foundation, in response to the Board's on-the-record request at the last meeting. Mr. Boughal first thanked the Chairwoman for all her work, recognizing that the Board of Trustees as well as the Foundation is an integral part of the College and for doing what is best for the students. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to make a presentation and turned it over to Dr. Diaz to explain where the Foundation is going and what the future holds for it.

Dr. Diaz also thanked the Chairwoman for her service, and said that her story is compelling and is like those the Foundation shares in the community to show how the College is really transformative for some people. She wished the Chairwoman the best of luck, thanked everyone for inviting her to speak, and gave a special thanks to those who have supported the Foundation over the years prior to her coming on board. She stated that with those generous gifts and support, philanthropy absolutely fosters student success. She thanked Mr. Boughal for his commitment to the Foundation over the years. Mr. Boughal replied that it all for the students.

Dr. Diaz reported that donor investment in the College Foundation enabled the growth of new and existing scholarships and provided an opportunity to expand educational opportunities for students at Suffolk. She said that \$550,000 in scholarships were distributed this past year to deserving students College-wide. She named the many new scholarships that were established this fiscal year, including the William J. Lindsay Memorial Scholarship fund. She reported that the Foundation also supported experimental learning for the Culinary Arts students this year through a travel experience to Florence, Italy, and created the United Way of Long Island Youth Build Pathways to



Success program. She explained that despite the fact that there is a calendar for folks applying for scholarships, hardship does not happen by the calendar, so those dollars have to be made available year round to students.

Dr. Diaz listed additional gifts, programs and funds made available to the students, including a \$50,000 grant from the Island Outreach Foundation to support veteran services as part of the College's new veterans' resource center. She pointed out that the Foundation looks for those partnerships that are happening institution-wide to assist students in moving forward.

Dr. Diaz reported that this year the Foundation, along with the Ammerman campus faculty Senate, recognized exceptional graduates from the College at an awards event held April 29<sup>th</sup>. She said for the first time, donors were asked to participate and had the opportunity to meet with some of the scholarship recipients. They got so much out of it, seeing the fruits of their generosity, and seeing students succeed because of their good fortune and the donor experience.

Dr. Diaz also reported on the Salute to Excellence Gala held on May 7<sup>th</sup>, where leaders of the financial services industry raised nearly \$200,000 in funds to benefit student scholarships in Suffolk. She said more than 250 guests gathered at the Hilton Long Island where they enjoyed musical performances by theatre program students, delicious food, and good company, and heard from students who had had wonderful experiences at the College. She announced that the Foundation would be holding its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual golf event on August 24<sup>th</sup>. She welcomed everyone to participate in that event, and to be involved in the committee structure as well, with the first committee meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>. She announced they would be honoring the namesake of the police academy building at the Grant campus, former Police Commissioner John Gallagher.

Mr. Boughal interjected that Mr. Gallagher was also a former faculty member and had been an Assistant Dean for Grant campus, as well as Chief Deputy County Executive. Dr. Diaz added that he was a wonderful supporter of Suffolk Community College and very excited to be recognized on that day.

Dr. Diaz reported that the Office of Alumni Relations had proudly welcomed the newest alumni, over 4000 graduates of the 2015 class, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, who were given welcome packets and encouraged to stay connected to their alma mater.

Mr. Boughal stated that the Board of Trustees' and the Foundation's job is to sell the community college to the industries that will benefit from the College, to explain to them that the main assets of the College are the professors and the people who work here and what a great job they do, and how much they can benefit working hand in hand for the betterment of the community as a whole. He said the College must understand that they do have assets that can be sold to the community members out there, to make them recognize that the college is not just the learning institute, but a living institute. He spoke about working with the College in a selling and marketing mode to get them to become more involved.

Mr. Boughal stated at present we are not getting anywhere near the revenues we should be getting to benefit the College or the students. He said the Foundation's role is to provide services not just for the student body but also for the College in those areas that the College is not allowed to spend money, areas that are important in terms of planning for the future, and for alumni. He said he was not satisfied with the level they are at, and said the Foundation really needs support and effort to be able to market to the community. He pointed out that the young people are leaving the area, and the Foundation provides the kind of support to allow them to stay, and the community college is the focal point for that. He said despite all the Foundation accomplishments Ms. Diaz talked about to get there, it is still nowhere near where they want to be.

Dr. Diaz stressed that the Foundation Board has made a commitment to see that level of growth. She reported that at this time last year the Foundation raised about \$2.795 million, and that this year they are up almost \$1 million, at \$3.7 million. She said this Foundation Board has committed to increase leadership giving to 15% in the forthcoming year, an issue to be voted on at the next Board of Directors meeting. She stated that the faculty and staff have also committed to this, with their own giving up 28% over last year at this time, a significant number. She said it means, collectively, the institution is getting its message out there and promoting its brand.

Dr. Diaz emphasized that leadership giving is key because it positions the Foundation to be able to make significant asks to other foundations, corporations, and individual donors. She explained that they ask “what is your leadership giving, is it a hundred percent? Is everybody committed?” She stated the institution is on a trajectory to reach that goal of 100% in leadership giving, and can only do it with everyone’s help. She shared that every day she hears stories of students’ struggles, and the Foundation is there for them. She asked everyone to think this year about how they would engage with the Foundation to help make those connections and bring additional resources to the Foundation. She thanked everyone on behalf of the students at the College.

Trustee Canary noted there were a couple of hedge fund billionaires in Suffolk County and asked what kind of engagement the Foundation is doing with them. Dr. Diaz replied they were actively engaging. She reported Dr. McKay had lunch with one of the hedge fund people a couple of weeks back, and said they were aiming high. Dr. McKay added that there is often not enough money to support the many students facing difficulties. He said we are working on it, and there are staff members present who are working with the Foundation now on this issue. He thanked the Board of Trustees for their commitment, stating that no one said “no”. He thanked the Chairman for changing his calendar to be at the meeting, and for working to generate the interest that the Foundation needs. He stated that his executive team would also commit to the challenge that was put to the Board. He congratulated the new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, concluding the President’s report. He announced that he would hold the reports from Middle States for the August meeting because of the time.

Newly appointed Chair Sanders told Mr. Boughal and Dr. Diaz that the Trustees appreciate what they are doing, and the support that the Foundation has given the College. She said she was personally looking forward to planning the Board retreat again, an event that enabled the College Board and the Foundation Board to share some synergy. Dr. Diaz congratulated Chair Sanders.

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Chair Sanders moved onto the round table. Student Trustee Amilcar said he thought the new virtual orientation program will be another great tradition and he wanted to thank Dr. Adams for helping him facilitate and move it forward, a great tool for new students to be introduced to the institution.

Trustee Canary asked how the badminton tournament was going. Dr. McKay replied that there were over 340 athletes competing for \$120,000 and that the top twenty in the world need points to qualify for the Olympics. He encouraged Trustee Canary to attend the finals on Sunday when the best of the best would be playing. He said the College is so proud of this tournament, and that emails have been sent to other NY State Community College Presidents challenging them to set up badminton tournaments and create teams, because at present it is high school teams competing and there is nothing at the collegiate level. He stated that bringing the sport to Long Island will generate economic development and visibility.

Dr. McKay was reminded of something Trustee Morgo said, that the College gets some revenue from economic development because folks have to pay to use our campus. He said the more the College can do in that area, the more it will bring attention and bring revenue. Trustee Canary asked if the Foundation is getting a cut of the prize money. Dr. Diaz answered that she didn’t know about that. Chair Sanders stressed that the level of commitment that goes into putting these events on is really making Suffolk stand out. She threw out a suggestion, saying Hofstra has hosted the Presidential debates for years, yet Suffolk County never had one, adding that, seriously, this is how the College does increase its brand.

Chair Sanders announced that the meeting would not move into a second executive session. She thanked her colleagues for their vote of confidence and thanked her other Executive Committee Board members, saying they would continue to move forward and continue the open discussions that were started. She thanked Dr. McKay and said she looked forward to working with him.

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Chair Sanders requested a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Lilly so moved, Trustee Canary seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further action, the meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The Board of Trustees next meeting is August 20, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lecture Hall MD-105, of the Health, Sports and Education Center, on the Grant Campus in Brentwood, New York.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Bryan Lilly  
Secretary