

OFFICIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEARING MINUTES

PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HELD ON THE 16TH DAY OF FEBRUARY,
2017 AT 9:11 A.M., AT SUFFOLK COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GRANT CAMPUS,
CAPTREE COMMONS, ROOM 114,
BRENTWOOD, NEW YORK.

PRESENT:

SHAUN MCKAY, President
DENISE LINDSAY SULLIVAN, Trustee
GORDON D. CANARY, Trustee
BRYAN LILLY, Trustee/Secretary
GEMMA DELEON-LOPRESTI, Trustee (not
present)
E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Trustee
CHRISTOPHER NORTH, Student Trustee

THERESA SANDERS, Trustee/Chairperson
JAMES MORGO, Trustee/Vice Chairperson
LOU PETRIZZO, ESQ., General Counsel

1 CHAIR SANDERS: Good evening, everyone. We would
2 like to call the meeting to order. I'll
3 call on our Trustee Canary to lead us in the
4 Pledge.

5 [AFTER RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF
6 ALLEGIANCE, THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
7 TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY
8 COLLEGE WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE
9 CHAIRWOMAN, THERESA SANDERS, AT 4:14 P.M.]

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. And again
11 good evening, everyone. I do want TO make
12 sure that I recognize our guests, not really
13 our guests, they are part of the Suffolk
14 Community College family. We have students
15 here and SGA and journalism students. I
16 don't want to mispronounce your names. Can
17 you just stand and introduce yourselves.

18 MR. RUTHERFORD: Sure. My name is Robert
19 Rutherford. I'm the treasurer here on the
20 Grant Campus. Nice to be here.

21 MR. GEISER: I'm Mike Geiser. I'm a
22 journalism student and I go to the Ammerman
23 Campus.

24 MR. SHAKIR: I'm Faiz Shakir. I'm from the
25 Grant Campus and I'm a student governor

1 senator running for vice president.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. Welcome. And we also
3 have someone from the Deputy Comptroller's
4 office. Oh, he's in the corner, oh, a
5 regular.

6 : John Kennedy, Comptroller Kennedy
7 wanted me to send his best wishes to the
8 Board for another productive and successful
9 year.

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. I feel like
11 you're not a visitor anymore, you're part of
12 the family, so thank you again for coming
13 and please give our best wishes to the
14 Comptroller.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: And we wish the Comptroller a
16 very successful year. I think he needs more
17 than we do.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Exactly. Okay. I would like to
19 request a motion to enter into Executive
20 Session to discuss the medical, financial,
21 credit or employment history of a particular
22 person or corporation, the terms of a
23 contract, matters leading to the
24 appointment, employment, promotion,
25 demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal

1 or refusal of a particular person or
2 corporation.

3 TRUSTEE NORTH: Motion.

4 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Second.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay.

6 All in favor?

7 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
8 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

9 CHAIR SANDERS: So we will just ask the guests to
10 leave the room for a moment while we have
11 our executive session. If you would like to
12 grab something to eat on the way out.

13 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING WAS SUSPENDED WHILE
14 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WENT INTO EXECUTIVE
15 SESSION FROM 4:17 P.M. UNTIL 5:22 P.M.]

16 CHAIR SANDERS: One more time, we would like to
17 request a motion to reenter into our
18 meeting. I thank you all, sorry for the
19 delay. I would like to request a motion to
20 adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and
21 call the Board of Directors Meeting to
22 order.

23 TRUSTEE NORTH: Motion.

24 TRUSTEE MURRAY: Second.

25 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

1 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
2 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 WAS RECESSED AT 5:23 P.M. AND THE BOARD OF
4 DIRECTOR'S MEETING WAS COMMENCED.]

5 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like call the approval of
6 the minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board of
7 Trustees Meeting?

8 MEMBER MORGO: So moved.

9 MEMBER NORTH: Second.

10 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

11 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
12 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

13 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to introduce Vice
14 President of Student Affairs,
15 Dr. Christopher Adams to present the
16 Association's financial reports. Dr. Adams.

17 DR. ADAMS: Good evening, Chair Sanders,
18 Members of the Board of Directors. You have
19 in your packets the financial report
20 September 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017. I'm
21 very happy to report that we are running in
22 the black in all of our accounts in the
23 Association today.

24 I was informed by our Vice
25 President for Business and Finance, Vice

1 President Vizzini that we received the first
2 disbursement of the student activity fee for
3 the Spring semester. So that will be
4 reflected in the February report that will
5 be delivered in March.

6 I'm also very happy to report
7 that we will be receiving the SUNY Block
8 Grants later on in the Spring semester for
9 our childcare centers both at the Michael J.
10 Grant Campus and the Ammerman Campus. As
11 you know the association and all the clubs
12 and organizations and activities including
13 our athletic program, our new now one
14 college forensics team which is doing really
15 well across the country is doing remarkably.

16 And as you know the student
17 engagement process is very important with
18 the Association. So I'm very happy to
19 report that the Association is doing very
20 well. At this time I'll answer any
21 questions that you may have for the
22 financial reports. [NO RESPONSE].

23 Thank you, Chair Sanders.

24 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Dr. Adams.

25 We appreciate that. I would like to request

1 a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors
2 meeting and call the Board of Trustees to
3 order.

4 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

5 MEMBER NORTH: Second.

6 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

7 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
8 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:25
10 P.M. AND THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
11 TRUSTEES WAS RECONVENED AT 5:25 P.M.]

12 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. I would like to
13 request a motion for the approval of the
14 minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board of
15 Trustees Meeting.

16 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

17 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Second.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

19 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
20 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

21 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to introduce Vice
22 President for Business and Financial Affairs
23 Gail Vizzini to present the College budget
24 and College financial records.

25 MS. VIZZINI: Thank you, Chair Sanders. First

1 off the outside audit, we're still waiting
2 for outside auditors to give us the numbers
3 so that we can prepare the management
4 discussion and analysis and then would have
5 completed financial statements for your
6 review and approval hopefully for the March
7 cycle, if not the April cycle.

8 The operating budget, you have
9 the monthly revenue and expenditure
10 projections in your packet. Just a couple
11 of highlights. From the revenue
12 perspective, now that we are through the
13 first part of the Spring 2017 semester, we
14 have the enrollment numbers. We're
15 projecting a one point six million dollar
16 shortfall for the remainder of the year in
17 tuition revenue that's directly related to
18 enrollment.

19 We are, however, confident that
20 we can make up that, mitigated by some of
21 the savings that we're observing in the
22 ongoing operating budget expenses,
23 particularly in the area of utilities, light
24 power and water, our building rentals and
25 employee benefits, specifically the employer

1 payments to the retirement systems. Those
2 rates, as I have reported in the past, are
3 slowly going down. So we have some savings
4 there.

5 We just had a budget and finance
6 subcommittee meeting prior to this meeting
7 and I'm confident Trustee Morgo will brief
8 you in his committee report. There are two
9 items that I wanted to bring to your
10 attention on the agenda that are before you
11 today. Item number one is the monthly
12 sponsor services payment which specifically
13 provides our payment to the County for the
14 health insurance that's provided to our
15 employees.

16 We were advised by the County --
17 we expected this, that those rates were
18 going to increase. They did increase three
19 point six percent. So those of you who may
20 have noticed the monthly bill is up to two
21 point five million. It's usually only about
22 two point four. This will be an additional
23 cost through this fiscal year but we did
24 anticipate a rate increase when we put
25 together the 16-17 operating budget.

1 The other item is briefly the
2 budget transfers that are before you. These
3 are mostly reallocating monies from an
4 equipment account to the proper software
5 account for expenses we have related to the
6 Black Ward System (phonetic) and in the
7 instructional technology budget.

8 Additionally, there's a
9 reallocation from surplus in utilities to
10 public safety equipment and that's for
11 security cameras at the HSEC for safety
12 purposes. And also six thousand four
13 hundred fifty, also from a surplus in light,
14 power and water to Public Safety equipment
15 for carbon monoxide detectors on the Grant
16 Campus.

17 These are for locations that
18 should have but don't currently have. It's
19 a temporary situation until such time we
20 have a capital program to address the
21 revamping of the carbon monoxide detection
22 equipment. Any questions? [NO RESPONSE].

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Gail. I
25 would like to request a motion for the

1 approval of the College resolutions 2017.08
2 to 2017.11.

3 TRUSTEE CANARY: Motion.

4 TRUSTEE MORGO: Second.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

6 Any opposed?

7 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
8 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. The ayes have it. So
10 I'm going move to the Committee reports. We
11 will start with Budget and Finance. Jim.

12 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you, Theresa. Vice
13 President Vizzini mentioned we met right
14 before this meeting. The fact that
15 enrollment is predicted to be down by two
16 percent has a negative impact on our
17 revenue. And one of the things that was
18 made clear is that the State gives its
19 contribution based on full time
20 equivalencies, full times student. So if
21 they were to give the same as they did last
22 year, \$100 per FTE, it would actually be
23 less revenue because the enrollment would be
24 down. So the enrollment being down is
25 something we have to consider.

1 make it convenient. And I would just ask
2 before I forget, Gail, I don't know when
3 that next meeting is but whenever it is,
4 we're getting together with the Legislative
5 Committee on March 3. Right after that we
6 should meet. And I would like to have for
7 the committee members just something very
8 simple, the tuition increases from the past
9 three years and the use of reserves from the
10 past three years, okay? That's my report.

11 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Might I add in the request --

12 TRUSTEE MORGO: Please do.

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: -- that we also include any
14 increases in fees.

15 TRUSTEE MORGO: Fees, yes, fees.

16 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Okay.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you Denise for adding that
18 and thank you, Jim, for your report.

19 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you.

20 CHAIR SANDERS: We look forward to spending a lot
21 of time with you in the next couple of
22 weeks.

23 MR. PETRIZZO: Not really.

24 CHAIR SANDERS: No. I love spending time with
25 him.

1 TRUSTEE MORGO: You should talk to my wife.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: We will move to the Governance
3 Report, Trustee Canary.

4 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I'm
5 very pleased to report progress. The
6 Governance Committee met on February 7,
7 convened at 3:00 o'clock; myself, Chairwoman
8 Sanders, Jim, Alicia, were present and we
9 did the candidate -- the Board of Ethics
10 prospective candidate interviews. So we had
11 five individuals come. We started at 3:00
12 o'clock. We had retired Justice John
13 Bivona. We had Madeline Fitzgibbons, also a
14 retired Justice. We have Evie Zarkadas, who
15 is a practicing attorney, does a lot of work
16 in children and families area of law, John
17 Zollo from Smithtown, and Anthony LaPinta.

18 Mr. Zollo and Mr. LaPinta again
19 practicing attorneys. After the conclusion
20 of the interviews -- and again I want to
21 publicly thank Alicia for coming up with a
22 great set of questions that asked each of
23 the candidates so it was a fair interview
24 process. We had a lot of good discourse
25 with the candidates.

1 idea a lot. We want to have this board meet
2 a couple times -- probably a couple of times
3 a year.

4 Again, it is everyone's hope that
5 we never have to convene the Board to do an
6 investigation into ethics violations --
7 proposed ethics violations or alleged ethics
8 violations. But now that we will soon have
9 the board constituted, we want to use their
10 expertise.

11 So, that was the end of it. I
12 want to point out that the meeting was
13 adjourned at 7:15. Again I repeat, 7:15.

14 TRUSTEE MORGO: Which was better than we thought
15 it was going to be.

16 TRUSTEE CANARY: Yes, actually it was. We blew
17 through is to that was great. And agenda
18 items from the March Governance Committee
19 Meeting and that will be held on Tuesday
20 March 7 at 3:00 o'clock at the Sagtikos
21 Building Conference Room 221, all invited if
22 you would like to join us. But the main
23 agenda item will be the review of the fee
24 schedule to be utilized with the facilities
25 use applications. So, Gail, we would ask

1 your presence hopefully at that meeting so
2 we would talk about that with you.

3 MS. VIZZINI: Sure.

4 TRUSTEE CANARY: Sot that concludes my
5 presentation. Thank you, Chairwoman.

6 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Gordon, and
7 I do want to reiterate the opportunity for
8 people to attend all of the committee
9 meetings if you would like to. I'm sure
10 that if you have time to work it into your
11 schedule, particularly the Budget Committee
12 because we are getting ready to ramp up and
13 have several detailed meetings. And in
14 those subcommittee meetings is when we deep
15 dive into these issues. So please attend.
16 Jim, do you have the date for the next
17 meeting?

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: No. We're going to talk right
19 after the March 3 meeting of the
20 Legislature.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Great, thank you.

22 Student Success, Denise?

23 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: We did not meet. However, we
24 have our next scheduled meeting for March 9
25 at 3:30. So if you want to work Budget

1 around that I would eternally grateful.

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: Oh, okay. That's a good idea.

3 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay great. Facilities.

4 TRUSTEE LILLY: We haven't had a meeting since

5 our last meeting but we do have a scheduled

6 presentation by Rechler and the Long Island

7 Rough Riders scheduled for Wednesday the 22,

8 next Wednesday at 11:15 to 12:15 in Room 105

9 which is next to the Field House. It's the

10 lecture room I think.

11 MR. PETRIZZO: Lecture room next to the Field

12 House.

13 TRUSTEE LILLY: And any and all interested

14 parties I hope you can attend because it's

15 going to be very informative about this

16 might be a very big proposal that this group

17 is suggesting. So, and it could be

18 something that could be very beneficial for

19 the College. So hopefully some of you can

20 attend.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. Thank you very much.

22 Look forward to seeing that presentation

23 again in more detail. Personnel Committee I

24 will give that report. As some of you know,

25 our Trustee Berges had to step down from the

1 Board and he was the chair of the Personnel
2 Committee. So I just stepped in to make
3 sure that we kept on schedule with some of
4 the items that we addressed during the
5 Personnel Committee.

6 This last meeting that we had,
7 most of the discussion was closing out the
8 presidential performance evaluation for
9 2015-16 and doing our due diligence to stay
10 on schedule to start the 2016-17 performance
11 evaluations. Thank you, Jim. Those dates
12 are getting mixed up in my head.

13 So we do have recommendation from
14 the Personnel Committee which is coming to
15 you in the form of a resolution which I will
16 ask Alicia to give us the resolution.

17 MS. O'CONNOR: Sure.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you.

19 MS. O'CONNOR: This is College Resolution
20 2017.12 authorizing a one time non-salaried
21 performance based payment to the College
22 President for the 2015-2016 academic year.
23 Whereas the College President's employment
24 contract provides for yearly performance
25 reviews and evaluations, and whereas the

1 Personnel Committee has completed its
2 performance evaluation of the President for
3 th 2015-16 academic year and whereas the
4 Personnel Committee recommends that the
5 president receives a one time non-salaried
6 performance based payment equivalent to
7 three point five percent of his base salary.

8 Now therefore be it resolved that
9 the College President shall receive a one
10 time non-salaried performance based payment
11 of three point five percent of his base
12 salary for the 2015-16 academic year.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Alicia.

14 I'm going to do two things in
15 this next motion. The first part of the
16 motion is to request that we waive the rules
17 which require us to wait for a certain
18 amount of time after se came out of
19 executive session. We have to wait for 30
20 minutes but I think you'll all appreciate
21 not waiting for much longer. So I'm making
22 a motion that we waive that rule to wait for
23 30 minutes before we vote on the resolution.

24 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved on that motion.

25 TRUSTEE NORTH: Second.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: A move and second.
2 All in favor?
3 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
4 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]
5 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. Now I would
6 like to request a motion for the approval of
7 College Resolution 2017.12. Is there a
8 motion?
9 TRUSTEE NORTH: Motion.
10 TRUSTEE MURRAY: Second.
11 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?
12 Any opposed?
13 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
14 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]
15 CHAIR SANDERS: The ayes have it. Thank you very
16 much. I would like to now move to the
17 Student Trustee Report, Christopher North.
18 TRUSTEE NORTH: Thank you, Madame Chair. Very
19 briefly I haven't met with my committee yet
20 due to the snow storm. We're going to meet
21 this Friday. We're going to go over some
22 things about the student trustee elections
23 and also I would like to briefly like to
24 talk about the ACT Conference that I
25 attended. I want to thank the College for

1 allowing me to attend. It was very
2 affordable and very knowledgeable, knowing
3 that a lot of the different community
4 colleges what they are going through.
5 Different issues and concerns they have and
6 that's -- I thank College for allowing me to
7 do that.

8 SGA has been up to -- the Eastern
9 Campus has a new president and the Ammerman
10 has some new senators, they are on that
11 role. And that's basically what SGA has
12 been up to. And I will continue working and
13 advocating, going up to Albany this Saturday
14 with Chair Sanders and Dr. Adams and a
15 couple of students.

16 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Chris. And
17 thank you for attending the Association of
18 Community College Trustees Legislative
19 Conference in Washington, DC. Christopher
20 North and E. Christopher Murray, I'll use
21 your whole name, attended with us and went
22 through the new trustee training which was
23 very interesting. And they can talk about
24 that and their own. But Chris Murray, do
25 you have anything to add about the

1 conference?

2 TRUSTEE MURRAY: I thought it was very
3 interesting. I thought it was interesting
4 to talk to trustees from other parts of the
5 country and kind of see that our problems
6 are not unique to New York. I also learned
7 a little bit, I didn't realize that other
8 trustees are actually elected positions.
9 They run campaigns.

10 So I think the opportunity to
11 speak to other people from other parts of
12 the country was very helpful and then I
13 thought the programs were very good that
14 were offered.

15 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. Because
16 giving of your time here is a lot. But then
17 when we ask you to travel for these
18 conferences, that can be a double whammy.
19 So thank you for carving out time. I really
20 appreciate your presence, both you and Chris
21 North.

22 We would like to have the
23 Foundation Report, Sylvia.

24 MS. DIAZ: Good afternoon, Madame Chair,
25 Members of the Board. I'll be very brief.

1 I just wanted to update you on the fact that
2 our Gala Committee has been working
3 feverishly to promote our 2017 Gala. Our
4 honoree is of course Randi Weingarten who is
5 a national figure. There's a lot of work
6 that has to be done behind the scenes to
7 ensure that everybody across the country who
8 is involved in labor to some degree knows
9 about this wonderful opportunity.

10 The Gala is May 4, 2017 at the
11 Huntington Hilton. If you haven't received
12 your save the date cards, because they have
13 gone out, I'll leave a couple here to pass
14 down. And any questions, feel free.

15 Did I say May 4, 2017?

16 CHAIR SANDERS: You sure did.

17 MR. PETRIZZO: You mentioned that.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: And you don't have to be golfer
19 to attend. It's a great event.

20 MS. DIAZ: Dancing.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Right. It's really fun, a great
22 event. We have got an excellent honoree and
23 I'll leave the comments to Dr. McKay in
24 terms of some additional things about the
25 honoree et cetera. I will go through my

1 Chair's report. I'm going to combine that
2 with the Executive Committee report. The
3 Executive Committee meets before board
4 meetings and we meet with the cabinet
5 members and our president. And we go
6 through the agenda. We try to make sure
7 that we are all on one page when we come
8 before you at these board meetings and that
9 we're able to move through the agenda nice
10 and smoothly.

11 I apologize for shifting the
12 executive meeting up and then you guys had
13 to wait for us. We usually try to put that
14 at the end so that those of you that attend
15 the meetings, especially for the students,
16 that we don't hold you up. But I hope you
17 had a chance to eat at least.

18 But my executive committee
19 report, we went over the agenda again. We
20 went through some of the budget challenges
21 that we're going to face in this, you know,
22 upcoming year. Which we are poised to stay
23 on track and keep our belts tight and do
24 what it is that we have got to do to make
25 sure that Suffolk remains competitively

1 affordable.

2 In my Chair's report there were a
3 couple of things that has been happening.
4 Some days I run so much, I really believe I
5 should have an office somewhere on any
6 campus. I'm in and out. I know the last
7 time I was there, I just walk into offices.
8 I went and crashed a legal pad. I never had
9 gone down there. I just walked in and
10 they're like, what do you need? I was like
11 nothing, I just came to be nosy. But I'll
12 try to visit all of you when I'm on campus.

13 I think just having a
14 relationship is fun and knowing the
15 reputation of the people that work to see
16 you guys in your home office elements, we
17 feel good as a board that we're doing good
18 work and we're proud of you all as a team.

19 I did attend the ACTT conference
20 and some of my comments was about the --
21 earlier was about the mood in Washington
22 which is a very interesting mood these days.
23 There was a lot happening. People were
24 glued to their phones because news feeds
25 were coming as we were meeting. And you

1 would hear, what, what, and people would
2 start chattering. And then somebody, a
3 nominee got kicked out and then another
4 person and then Russia. And then there's
5 some Marines off the coast of Long Island.

6 And it was like, your head was
7 swirling. Even we had a keynote speaker,
8 what was the correspondent.

9 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Chuck Todd.

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Chuck Todd, even his head is
11 swirling. Now, you know, he does this for a
12 living. And it's so much information that's
13 coming. But it means that we the people
14 have to be really good advocates and good
15 stewards over what it is that with do in all
16 sectors of our life.

17 We had made some recommendations
18 as far as inservice training. Gordan had
19 mentioned for us to maintain our ability to
20 be good stewards based on the new Ethics
21 Board that's coming in and that expertise,
22 how do we utilize that expertise a little
23 bit more as far as the Board is concerned.
24 And we're looking at doing some inservice
25 training and some more professional

1 development for the Board.

2 There was a particular executive
3 order that came through and I had reached
4 out to Dr. McKay. It was the Presidential
5 Executive Order on immigration and there
6 was -- my concern was how does this impact
7 Suffolk students. And Dr. McKay and I were
8 talking and he did issue a College brief.

9 Even though we don't have the
10 legal capacity to help a lot of students
11 that maybe kind outside our scope, it's an
12 educational institution, we are concerned
13 about our student's welfare.

14 And so we have some ideas that we
15 have been talking about, how to direct our
16 students to additional resources that maybe
17 able to help them during this time. There
18 are some law schools in the area that maybe
19 good partners for Suffolk. So we're looking
20 at that. Community engagement, Dr. McKay
21 and I have been bouncing off being at
22 different events at different times.

23 He's in Brookhaven, I'm, you
24 know, somewhere else. But it's a good thing
25 when we have that much activity in a

1 community. And in particular we're
2 celebrating Black History Month. Several of
3 our staff and administrators and, you know,
4 Dr. McKay have been recognized for their
5 achievements as it pertains to our own local
6 history.

7 And so I want to congratulate you
8 all for being recognized. And there is --
9 we had that big snowstorm and a couple of
10 events were cancelled. I know Senator
11 Boyle's Black History Month event had to be
12 rescheduled. So we're going to be doing
13 that. Our own Carol Wickliffe-Campbell is
14 being recognized at that particular event.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: Next Thursday night at the Bay
16 Shore Public Library.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes. So please if you can, put
18 that on your schedule, let's turn out.
19 Yesterday evening was very exciting because
20 the Suffolk County Executive and the African
21 American Advisory Board had their Black
22 History program and Suffolk was in full
23 numbers. The program honored the memory of
24 Dr. Randolph Manning who has given over 40
25 years of his career in education and was a

1 trailblazer here at the College. And so we
2 had a significant number of people that
3 turned out yesterday. And then we had a
4 double whammy because there was an award
5 created by the Suffolk County African
6 American Advisory Council.

7 And that award was created in the
8 name of Dr. Randolph Manning. And his wife
9 was there and his son was there. So it was
10 very touching. And then on top of that, the
11 first awardee was another Suffolk Community
12 College professor who had just recently
13 retired, professor Norman Daniels received
14 the very first award, Dr. Randolph Manning
15 Award.

16 So it was greet evening, very
17 exciting. The County Executive did come.
18 He gave great remarks and Suffolk is just
19 doing wonderful things for a lot of people's
20 lives. And the last thing I will report on
21 in my notes is the Achieving the Dream site
22 visit. The team came and I participated in
23 the next site visit.

24 And it's been interesting, I told
25 Jeff I love data now, I don't know what he's

1 doing to me but all of this data, I'm
2 starting to understand it and how to really
3 talk about it and how to break it down so
4 that we can plan and strategically put
5 things in place to help students be more
6 successful.

7 So I'm excited about our
8 participation in Achieving the Dream and I
9 look forward to all the great things we can
10 do for students. If I left anything out,
11 charge it to my mind and not my heart,
12 working off just a little bit of sleep.

13 And I will now turn it over to
14 Dr. McKay for the President's report.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: Before we do that, please, I just
16 wanted to emphasize a two things on the
17 immigration issue. Hofstra just announced
18 that they have started a whole new part in
19 their Law Clinic to aid people with
20 immigration problems. And also Touro Law
21 Clinic also has an immigration law clinic as
22 well. So, again, if any of our students get
23 jammed up with any of that, we have two
24 areas to direct them to.

25 CHAIR SANDERS: Great, thank you. Sir?

1 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Chair Sanders, Members of the
2 Board of Trustees, first I want to say I
3 thank you for your deliberation and for your
4 recognition after reviewing my performance
5 over the past 15-16 academic year. We have
6 accomplished a lot as an institution but it
7 couldn't be done without your guidance and
8 your leadership. And certainly we are a
9 strong institution because of your
10 volunteerism and because off your guidance
11 to me as the President of the College.

12 We have made some difficult
13 decisions over the past three years and
14 notwithstanding the budgets, notwithstanding
15 our academic polices. And as we advocate on
16 behalf of the College, whether it be here in
17 Suffolk County or in Albany. I know I have
18 traveled on buses at 2:00 in the morning to
19 get to Albany with those students and see
20 them advocate. But that couldn't happen
21 without Chris Adams and Kevin Peterman and
22 the faculty and others who made that happen,
23 to get the students ready, to get to Albany
24 and to speak on our behalf.

25 Because a student's experience is

1 what matters. But certainly the fact that
2 you can recognize me as President here
3 tonight with a performance bonus, I want to
4 say that I thank you and I look forward
5 again to another successful year. But we
6 can take this College to another level.
7 This past week I was in Town of Brookhaven
8 when I was asked to be a keynote speaker.

9 Behind me for 65 students that
10 had three point five GPAs or higher, seniors
11 getting ready to go to college. At the
12 conclusion of that speech, over Carol was
13 trying to get me out of the room, but
14 parents came up to me. We had students in
15 that class already enrolled to come here to
16 Suffolk. Veterinary Science, Accounting
17 Paralegal.

18 And it goes show that we are not
19 just a second or third tier college as
20 people thought we are. We are the first
21 choice college now. The SAT scores of those
22 students coming to us now are much higher
23 than before. The image of the college is
24 par excellence bar none. We're going to
25 continue to work on that.

1 We were in the City last night
2 and we were at Randi Weingarten, Kevin I'll
3 have you say a few words as well. When we
4 spoke to our honoree and members of her team
5 and after they heard about what we are doing
6 here at Suffolk, they are saying, you should
7 be a model for the rest of our system,
8 colleges that we work with. Because part of
9 it was that they were asking how does a
10 Union President and a College President work
11 so well. How does a board chair and board
12 members work so well together at an
13 institution that is so complex and
14 comprehensive.

15 And they were taking notes. And
16 they said that you're resilient, you're able
17 to work together but you listen to each
18 other, and you're entrepreneurial in the
19 sense that you're a comprehensive
20 institution. It took us a lot of work to
21 get to that point. But I can see us going
22 only further and beyond that. Randi was
23 very impressed. But she wants to come and
24 visit the College before May 4 just to visit
25 the campus to see all the buildings, meet

1 some of the faculty, meet some of the Board
2 members and tour the campuses.

3 And Kevin, do you want to take if
4 from there?

5 MR. PETERMAN: Sure, Kevin Peterman, Faculty
6 Association. The opportunity for Dr. McKay
7 to meet Randi, you know, they had met before
8 and it was just a really down to earth
9 meeting. And she really was impressed. We
10 talked about going up to Albany and how we
11 were working together. And I didn't expect
12 this, she said, I want to come visit. I
13 want to see this in action. And I'm hoping
14 we can get little PR out of this, where's
15 Drew, and I think we will.

16 But, as far as I'm concerned, the
17 evening couldn't have gone better. Not only
18 did we catch the express train in and out,
19 that's important to me, I need to the
20 express. But we had a really good, solid
21 meeting. And I think we have nothing but
22 something really positive look forward to.

23 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Thank you. Randi also asked the
24 question, what can I do for you? And we
25 mentioned almost everything, we need

1 sponsorships -- I didn't say that. But she
2 mentioned, very, you know, ardently, she
3 said, do not close your journal until the
4 7th of April because then I'll have everyone
5 National, everyone statewide to able to
6 participate and contribute toward
7 scholarships for students.

8 Because I mentioned that the
9 whole event is really catered helping
10 students who are going through hardships,
11 students that cannot be able to pay for
12 tuition and fees and books. Faculty who are
13 going through hardship at the same time.
14 And she said, that's the core of what we do,
15 transforming lives. And I said, Randi,
16 that's part of our mission. It's the words
17 that are actually etched in our mission.
18 Statement.

19 And she said, that's why you
20 chose me as your keynote. So definitely
21 she's going to be coming here. We'll get a
22 date. And we'll share that with the board
23 members if you are able to join us. And we
24 start at this campus and work our way
25 through the eastern campus. And hopefully

1 we can have the culinary art students to at
2 least show their culinary skills when we get
3 out to the Eastern Campus as well.

4 Today I received an e-mail from
5 Jeff Pedersen. As you know, we normally do
6 an annual review of the operational plan.
7 And there were some highlights in the plan.
8 I will not read all of them, but because
9 we're going through the document now to make
10 sure if they're edits, we got to make the
11 edits. But we'll get to you the final
12 document.

13 But the one pattern stood out for
14 me was the College's overall graduation rate
15 was increased by three percentage points for
16 the periods that we looked at. It went from
17 21 percent to 24 percent in 2016. And that
18 has risen, you know, accordingly from 19
19 percent in 2010-2014 period to now we are at
20 24 percent. Our transfer rates for students
21 that are transferring, again is at an all
22 time high.

23 The students who have transferred
24 before they complete, we're looking at
25 completion rates, we're saying, are we going

1 to retain. But when you transfer, you have
2 the better opportunity to get a transfer
3 scholarship. And we're working on more
4 articulation agreements. You'll see that
5 shortly.

6 We have intensified on this and
7 we have quite a bit of articulations that
8 are being done now. We just signed one with
9 St. John's University where our students
10 will transfer and get at least \$17,000
11 scholarship transfer towards their tuition
12 when they go over. I also want to.

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: I'm sorry, Dr. McKay, what was
14 the transfer rate, did you say?

15 MR. PEDERSEN: 14 percent not including graduate
16 transfers, transferring before graduation.

17 TRUSTEE MORGO: So it's 24 plus the 14?

18 MR. PEDERSEN: Right, 38 percent in the 150th
19 percentile.

20 TRUSTEE MORGO: That 24 percent, that's not
21 necessarily within two years.

22 MR. PEDERSEN: Within three years.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: That's what we report?

24 MR. PEDERSEN: Right.

25 PRESIDENT MCKAY: The other part too that I want to

1 also talk about with transfer, we talked
2 about keeping students on Long Island. 2010
3 we started a program called Stay On Long
4 Island. I would like to report that to
5 date, we have now come to a number 172
6 scholars, and that number is four point
7 three seven one million dollars to date that
8 has been awarded to students that graduated
9 from here and remaining at campuses here on
10 Long Island.

11 We started also with the New York
12 State Presidential Transfer Scholars, a
13 brand new scholarship program that we just
14 started. That one we offered two
15 scholarships totalling \$6,000. Then you
16 have the Spring Awards, that is another
17 document you have before you now. I'm
18 getting ready to look at the Spring Awards.
19 I will receive them on March, I believe
20 March 7 and they are due back by April 4.

21 The document you have before you
22 there will be 18 scholars that will be
23 awarded to the tune of almost \$500,000.
24 When you look at the total number between
25 the beginning of the program and what we're

1 going to add for the Spring Semester, these
2 are students that have graduated from this
3 College. Last year we graduate 4306
4 students.

5 But if every student were to get
6 scholarships from all the universities to
7 the tune of the funding levels here, it
8 shows exactly what the students would have
9 received. However, our students are
10 receiving scholarships from applying
11 directly. Some have direct scholarship that
12 they have gotten from other institutions,
13 and some have Federal Aid that they have to
14 stay here.

15 We know that because a full time
16 institution on Long Island that's private
17 what the cost might be. Because we're SUNY,
18 four year -- which is either Stony Brook or
19 Farmingdale or Westbury versus St. John's or
20 Adelphi or others. While they partners with
21 us, the tuition and fees that you day at a
22 private versus at a State university is
23 quite different. When we have students who
24 are working two and three and four jobs
25 coming to Suffolk County and as they

1 graduate, they either go straight to a job
2 or they transfer to either State -- Stony
3 Brook University, they accept 600 of our
4 graduates every fall.

5 I have a signing ceremony coming
6 up with our nursing student. Our nursing
7 students when they graduate would have to
8 then get into a nursing program four year
9 on. That it would need clinical rotation.
10 Stony Brook University has agreed to accept
11 66 students who are graduates from us
12 automatically to the Bachelorette program
13 automatically. So, what's the signing date?
14 March 7.

15 And right after that we have
16 another signing with St. John's University.
17 I do have on this campus with Dr. Hector
18 Sepulveda working with Northwell Health to
19 create programs that would be in the
20 frontline workers in the field of
21 healthcare. That would be an another
22 signing ceremony coming up shortly.

23 It goes to show that we're trying
24 to keep the students here, put them into
25 fields of work. And the healthcare field is

1 one of the burgeoning fields that we have
2 here on Long Island. So you'll hear more
3 about that over the next coming weeks.

4 Middle States, I am pleased to
5 announce the letter that we just received is
6 what Dr. Debra Kleinman and I have been in
7 discussions over the last several weeks. As
8 you know, Dr. Kleinman is going to be
9 retiring and she and I wanted to make sure
10 we had a chair for the resident team prior
11 to her leaving. Dr. Quentin Bullock has
12 worked at -- or did work at Schenectady
13 County Community College and is now in
14 Pennsylvania. She's familiar with the SUNY
15 system, familiar with Suffolk. And he was
16 approached by Dr. Kleinman.

17 The letter you have before you
18 was sent to Dr. Bullock to thank her for
19 accepting to be the chair of the visiting
20 team at Suffolk County. Now, the remainder
21 of the team that we built out that will be
22 discussed over the next couple of weeks by
23 myself, Quentin Bullock and Debra Kleinman.
24 So I'll update you again over the next
25 couple of weeks when that team has been

1 built out, when the dates have been selected
2 and when they are visiting the campus as
3 well.

4 So I just wanted to let you know
5 that we are moving along in regards to
6 Middle States. The teams are working. The
7 seven standards have been meeting, they are
8 writing. And we are a certain timeline as
9 to when the reports are going to be sent and
10 editing team and that will then come before
11 you as a board. We review and your
12 comments.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: Just a question, so, you know, we
14 have been with Dr. Kleinman for a long time
15 through this process.

16 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yes.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: What's your feeling about
18 Dr. Bullock. Do you have experience working
19 with him or --

20 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Yes, yes. The President which is
21 myself, had the right of first refusal. I
22 do know Quentin extremely well.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay, good.

24 PRESIDENT MCKAY: At my inauguration, at least when
25 he presented as the culinary arts, there is

1 three SCCs in the system; Sullivan,
2 Schenectady and Suffolk. When he was
3 speaking at the podium he kept saying
4 Schenectady Community College. I said,
5 Quentin, you are at Suffolk tonight, you
6 know.

7 But he's very much familiar with
8 the system. He's been at that campus for
9 quite a while before he went to
10 Pennsylvania. And we are in the first round
11 of the seven standards that Middle States
12 has moved to. And Quentin is sitting on the
13 Board of AACC, so nationally he's renowned
14 as well. And he and I served on national
15 boards as well. So I expect nothing but the
16 best from Quentin and I look forward to him
17 working with us here at the College.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay good.

19 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Oh, commencement. We have a
20 keynote speaker for commencement, and that's
21 Hoot Gibson. If anyone knows Hoot Gibson,
22 alumni from the College, and astronaut that
23 took our flag into space, into orbit and
24 back. He's accepted to be a keynote speaker
25 and said that he would bring the flag that

1 he took to space and present it to the
2 college at commencement on that date.

3 So we'll be making all the final
4 arrangements for Hoot to come back. It's
5 always good to have an alumni that his
6 affiliated with the College to come back and
7 to speak and to speak in front of the
8 students that are now alumni moving forward
9 into the field of work. So we just got the
10 letter this week and we look forward to
11 having Hoot with us on commencement date.

12 I have just been asked to give a
13 keynote speech at the Black History Month at
14 the Turkish Cultural Center of Long Island
15 on February 25 at 6:30 in Ronkonkoma. We
16 just got the request today and I have
17 accepted. Madame Chair, that concludes my
18 report.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Dr. McKay.
20 We are now at round table. Yes?

21 TRUSTEE MORGO: Another snow related loss was the
22 need to postpone the campaign kickoff
23 reception in the effort to name the
24 basketball court after Coach Foley and to
25 set up a Kevin Foley and John J. Foley

1 scholarship fund. I think, Chris, we had a
2 lot of interest in it and another victim, it
3 was another victim of the snowstorm. But we
4 have a new date. And the new date is
5 February 28. It's a pregame cocktail party,
6 I guess we could say it was tailgating
7 indoors. Gordon, would you pass these out
8 to the trustees.

9 It's something that if you know
10 Kevin, it's a recognition well deserved. I
11 would joke with him and say there was a time
12 when we wouldn't have a meeting that he
13 wasn't being a guest because of some
14 nationwide championship that one of his
15 teams was able to achieve. And John Foley
16 was a long time trustee here.

17 He also was a Brookhaven Town
18 Council Person and I served with him on the
19 legislature for a while and he was
20 incredibly dedicated to education. Little
21 known fact, he was Chairman of the Board of
22 the Bayport Blue point Board of Education
23 when I was hired. So I would always say --
24 it was back in 1894 -- but I would always
25 say that it was John J. Foley who was just a

1 tremendous guy. And those of us who know
2 Kevin know he is too. So it's the 28th,
3 4:30 prior to the basketball game. It's a
4 playoff game. We don't the opponent yet.
5 There's no charge. So I would say a little
6 reception to talk about how the gym is going
7 to be named and how the scholarship is going
8 to be achieved.

9 So I hope, I really genuinely
10 hope every trustee shows up even for a short
11 time.

12 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: We're allowed to do that, right?

13 More than five?

14 MR. PETRIZZO: You can't talk to each other.

15 TRUSTEE MORGO: We won't talk to each other. So,
16 yes, we can -- we won't have a quorum. So
17 really try to make it and try to get other
18 people to make it too. If you know people
19 who know Kevin or knew John, try to get them
20 to come as well.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Jim.

22 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Anything else for the round
24 table?

25 PRESIDENT MCKAY: One last point, Madame

1 Chairwoman, Board of Trustees and Chris
2 Adams, could you just stand for a minute.
3 Nationally we talk all time about the rate
4 of student borrowing and student debt and
5 student loan and student default rates and
6 all of that. But I have always charged the
7 Student Affairs Office in working with
8 students in regards to before they borrow
9 the loans, talk about the adverse impact of
10 borrowing loans and not being in debt and
11 all of that.

12 Rose Bancroft who works in his
13 office has the difficult task of keeping the
14 student default rate down. I want to
15 recognize Chris Adams tonight and his entire
16 staff. The student default rate currently
17 for Suffolk is nine percent, significantly
18 lower than the national average of 11 point
19 three percent and substantially lower than
20 public colleges that's at 18 point five
21 percent.

22 CHAIR SANDERS: Wow.

23 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Congratulations.

24 DR. ADAMS: Thank you thank you. It's really

25 Rose Bancroft, our College Director of

1 Finance who has come up with a complete
2 marketing plan working with the directors of
3 financial aid on each of the campuses. And
4 they make a lot of phone calls, they send
5 out a lot of e-mails and there's always a
6 push recognizing to keep down student debt.

7 TRUSTEE MORGO: And, Theresa, it also speaks to
8 the affordability of our tuition.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes, yes, absolutely you'll take
10 the budget credit, right, Jim?

11 TRUSTEE MORGO: No. I won't take the credit.

12 CHAIR SANDERS: But it is true. I mean, then
13 I'll close with this one. Because at the
14 ACCT Conference there were a lot of
15 recommendations that were being promoted and
16 some of it was let's not allow students that
17 take developmental courses the ability to
18 get college loans or use financial aid. You
19 know, just all kinds of stuff people are
20 panicking and it's really crazy.

21 TRUSTEE MURRAY: They're trying to get the
22 colleges now to pay some of the default.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes.

24 TRUSTEE MURRAY: Depending if your default rate is
25 too high, the College would have to

1 reimburse for some of the default.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes, it's real strange stuff.

3 TRUSTEE MORGO: Is that private colleges, too,
4 that they're talking about?

5 TRUSTEE MURRAY: I think so.

6 TRUSTEE MORGO: I would hope so.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Well, this was a community
8 college conference so once a policy is
9 enacted if they get money, they are coming
10 after everybody for it. Yes, Gordon?

11 TRUSTEE CANARY: At orientation do we talk at all
12 about like basics of financial literacy and
13 again stressing to the students what it
14 means to default and, you know, really start
15 to hurt your credit rating and all of that?

16 DR. ADAMS: Yes. We're beginning to more and
17 more. We're going toward to averse
18 orientation model pushing students to our
19 website. And we do have a -- if you look on
20 our website, we do have a consumer
21 information part of our website for students
22 to be able to go on and take a look at that.
23 But what we are trying to do now is work
24 with our executive deans on the eastern
25 campus, Dean Laffin is a perfect example, a

1 model for financial literacy at the Eastern
2 Campus. And, again, looking at it,
3 assessing it. If it works, which I know it
4 will, we'll try to cement it to the other
5 two campuses.

6 TRUSTEE GORDON: That's great. You know, I hate
7 to push it back onto the high schools
8 because their curriculum is so jammed up
9 with stuff. But I would love to see more
10 financial literacy in the high school years.
11 Because I just think the kids are coming
12 out, just no clue, no clue.

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: It's just numbers.

14 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes. Someone shared with me,
15 they were talking about credit scores and a
16 student said, Oh, I don't have to worry
17 about that because my score is real low.

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: That sort of ignorance is bliss.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: So that concludes round table.
20 Anything else?

21 TRUSTEE CANARY: I just think that for the annual
22 gala that we should have dancing. Why do we
23 not have dancing at the gala.

24 TRUSTEE MORGO: Why don't you play golf?

25 TRUSTEE CANARY: Forget about the golf.

1 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Have you ever seen Jim dance?

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: Okay.

3 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Mr. Canary, taken under
4 advisement.

5 TRUSTEE CANARY: Randi Weingartner is a real good
6 dancer. She's not going to be happy.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Please note that our next Board
8 Meeting is Thursday, March 16 at 4:00 p.m.
9 in the lecture hall on Eastern Campus. So
10 we are now officially adjourned.

11 Do I have a motion?

12 TRUSTEE NORTH: Motion.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: Second?

14 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Second.

15 CHAIR SANDERS: Denise waves.

16 All in favor?

17 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
18 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you everybody.

20 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
21 TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
22 WAS ADJOURNED BY THE CHAIRWOMAN, THERESA
23 SANDERS, AT 6:15 P.M.]

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