

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
ALUMNI ROOM, BROOKHAVEN GYMNASIUM  
AMMERMAN CAMPUS, SELDEN, NEW YORK  
August 17, 2017

The meeting was held on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Alumni room of the Brookhaven Gymnasium on the Ammerman Campus, in Selden, New York.

PRESENT:

Theresa Sanders	Chair
Jim Morgo	Vice Chair
Gordon D. Canary	Trustee
Bryan Lilly	Trustee
Denise Lindsay Sullivan	Trustee
E. Christopher Murray	Trustee
Gemma deLeon-Lopresti	Trustee
Jerome Bost	Student Trustee
Shaun L. McKay	President
Louis Petrizzo	College General Counsel
Alicia O'Connor	Deputy General Counsel
Ashley Pope	Deputy General Counsel
Jeffery Pedersen	V.P. for Planning & Institutional Effectiveness
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Gail Vizzini	V.P. for Business and Finance
Christopher Adams	V.P. for Student Affairs
Paul Beaudin	Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs

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The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Sanders welcomed everyone; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Gordon Canary.

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Chair Sanders thanked Trustee Canary and moved forward with the recognition of guests. She asked Chief of Staff Carol Wickliffe-Campbell to introduce the guests in attendance. Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell recognized Legislator Monica Martinez and Town of Brookhaven Councilwoman Valerie Cartwright. She then asked Student Trustee Bost if he would like to introduce his guests. He then thanked Councilwoman Cartwright for being in attendance as well as his girlfriend Camille Gooden, Jason Richberg from the Legislative Clerk's office and Rosemary from the Fairway Foundation, and Kiana Lom, the Managing Editor of the newspaper on the Eastern Campus. Chair Sanders then acknowledge two Urban League interns that were shadowing her, Karan Aiyar a student going into his second year at SUNY Old Westbury and his sister Pooja going into high school.

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Chair Sanders proceeded with the swearing in of Student Trustee Jerome J. Bost. Student Trustee Bost was sworn in by Ms. Anna Corrella of the County Clerk's office. After the signing of documents, photos were taken and Chair Sanders welcomed Student Trustee Bost to the Board of Trustees and said they looked forward to serving with him.

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Chair Sanders called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and convene the Board of Directors meeting at 9:14 a.m. Trustee Lindsay Sullivan so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Sanders called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting and reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 9:44 a.m. Trustee Lindsay Sullivan so moved, Trustee de Leon seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

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Chair Sanders requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Morgo so moved, Student Trustee Bost seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

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Chair Sanders introduced Gail Vizzini, VP for Business and Finance, to present the College Budget and Financial report. VP Vizzini reported that the trend for both expenditures and revenue is in line with her previous reports. This year's enrollment was less than anticipated in the budget and the College experienced a revenue shortfall in state aid, tuition and fees of \$1.8 million. Through prudent fiscal management, the College was able to mitigate the shortfall by generating surpluses in light, power and water, and supplies, salaries and benefits. Currently, her office is engaged in closing out the 2016-2017 fiscal year and the new 2017-2018 budget will be loaded for operation on September 1st. The County Legislature adopted the College's total operating budget on June 20th which was consistent with the County Executive's recommended numbers. It included an increase in County contribution of 1.5% compared to the 2.5% percent requested by the College, creating a revenue shortfall of \$418,000. VP Vizzini noted that item 5 is the resolution to amend the Board of Trustees resolution adopting the College 2017-2018 Operating Budget to authorize an additional \$418,000 from the College Reserve Fund to balance the Budget. The authorization for use of reserves in 2017-2018 will then go from \$6.3 million to \$6.7 million.

VP Vizzini reviewed the other resolutions with financial implications. They include: (1) both the June and July sponsor services for health insurance payments to the County; and (2) budget transfers to accommodate the services of an executive search firm, needed furniture for the LRC and the contracted installation of automated controls for the monitoring of the mechanical systems at the Babylon Student Center.

Trustee Morgo asked VP Vizzini about when President Trump visited the College without the College being involved. He read the College was paid \$6,600, and asked that since Trump's an elected official, did he not have to pay this, and since President Trump's values and the College's values are not parallel, was the College made whole? VP Vizzini responded that the request to

use the College's facilities from the Federal Government was treated like any other governmental request to use the facilities in that the rental fees for the use of the facilities are waived. However, the agreement was that they *would* pay for any overtime or additional labor expenses, which they did.

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Chair Sanders called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2017.47 through 2017.53. Trustee Lindsay Sullivan so moved, Trustee Morgo seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Morgo noted that he was informed that there was no response to the letter that was sent to the County Executive correcting his misinterpretation or misapplication of the Legislature's five year budget committee. He added that he believes it's common practice that silence indicates agreement, therefore, the County Executive knows that using the Legislative Committee report as some kind of formula going forward is not correct and since they did not respond, they are in agreement with the College and will proceed in that way going forward.

**RESOLUTION 2017.47 - 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 payments to the County of Suffolk in the amount of \$2,257,518.73 for the month of June 2017 and \$2,574,861.67 for the month of July 2017 (*Attachment I*) are hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2017.48 - 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. 2017.49 - Accepting a Grant Award from the New York State Department of Labor for an Unemployed Worker Training Program**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant award in the amount of \$81,000 from the New York State Department of Labor for an Unemployed Worker Training Program for the period of June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018, and

**WHEREAS**, this program will fund occupational skills training courses provided by the College to unemployed workers in Suffolk County to prepare them for a career in the field of advanced manufacturing,

**WHEREAS**, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that a grant award in the amount of \$81,000 from the New York State Department of Labor for an Unemployed Worker Training Program 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.

Project Director: Amy Mueller Seal

Note: No Full- Time positions

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2017.50 - Fixing Time of 2018 Meetings of the Board of Trustees**

**RESOLVED**, that during the year 2018, meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held on the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
January 18, 2018	Alumni Room, Brookhaven Gymnasium Ammerman Campus, Selden, New York	9:00 am
February 15, 2018	Board of Trustees Meeting Room, Learning Resource Center Grant Campus, Brentwood, New York	4:00 pm

March 15, 2018	Lecture Hall, Montaukett Learning Resource Center Eastern Campus, Riverhead, New York	4:00 pm
April 19, 2018	Mildred Green Room, Babylon Student Center Ammerman Campus, Selden, New York	9:00 am
May 17, 2018	Board of Trustees Meeting Room, Learning Resource Center Grant Campus, Brentwood, New York	4:00 pm
June 21, 2018	Media Room, Culinary Arts Center Riverhead, New York	10:00 am
August 16, 2018*	Alumni Room, Brookhaven Gymnasium Ammerman Campus, Selden, New York	9:00 am
September 20, 2018	Board of Trustees Meeting Room, Learning Resource Center Grant Campus, Brentwood, New York	9:00 am
October 18, 2018	Lecture Hall, Montaukett Learning Resource Center Eastern Campus, Riverhead, New York	4:00 pm
December 6, 2018	Board of Trustees Meeting Room, Learning Resource Center Grant Campus, Brentwood, New York	4:00 pm

1. There is no July or November meeting scheduled.
2. A Board retreat may be held in July and/or November. Location and time to be determined.

\* Subject to change on County Legislative action on the College Budget.

Dated: 8/17/17

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2017.51 - Authorizing an Amendment to Resolution 2017.26 which Approved the Budget for Suffolk County Community College for Fiscal Year 2017-2018**

**WHEREAS**, by College Resolution No. 2017.26, duly adopted on April 20, 2017, this Board approved an Operating Budget for Suffolk County Community College for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the total amount of \$220,882,036, which included a requested County Contribution of \$42,832,685 and a transfer from the Community College Fund Balance Reserve in the amount of \$6,286,043 and

**WHEREAS**, by a resolution adopted on June 20, 2017, the Suffolk County Legislature approved an Operating Budget total of \$220,882,036, which included a County Contribution of \$42,414,805 for fiscal year 2017-2018, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to balance the total budget of \$220,882,036, the Trustees have directed that the transfer from the College Fund Balance Reserve Fund be increased by \$417,880, and therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the 2017-2018 College operating budget total of \$220,882,036 be adopted to include a County Contribution of \$42,414,805 and a transfer from the Community College Fund Balance Reserve in the amount of \$6,703,923.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2017.52 - Authorizing the Acceptance of a Gift from the Suffolk Community College Foundation**

**WHEREAS**, the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc. is the recipient of culinary equipment donated by Sub-Zero Group East, LLC, as follows:

- DO30PE/S/PH- 30” E-Series Professional Double Wall Oven
- BW30/S/PH- 30” Built-In Wine Storage with Professional Handle
- SM15TF/S- 15” Transitional Steamer Module
- FM15TF/S- 15” Transitional Fryer Module
- CI152TF/S- 15” Transitional Induction Cooktop
- Item#821350- 30” Professional E-Series Drawer Front
- ID27R- 27” All Refrigerator- Drawers

and

**WHEREAS**, the Foundation wishes to further donate this equipment to Suffolk County Community College’s Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center for use in the Culinary Arts program, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the College’s acceptance of the above-described equipment from the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc., with gratitude to the principals of Sub-Zero Group East, LLC for their generous contribution to the College’s Culinary Arts program.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2017.53 - Amending the College Operating Budget for a SUNY Chancellor’s Grant for Innovative Study Abroad Programs**

**WHEREAS**, the College was selected to receive a SUNY Chancellor’s Grant for Innovative Study Abroad Programs (ISAP) in the amount of \$4,000 for the 2016-2017 academic year, and

**WHEREAS**, the ISAP Grant provides financial support to unique study abroad programs and opportunities to increase student mobility overseas, and

**WHEREAS**, SCCC’s Theatre Department and Study Abroad Program’s project entitled “Performing Across Borders” involved collaborating with Sibiu International Theatre Festival and the Theatre Department of Lucian Blaga University (LBU) (Transylvania, Romania) to develop mutually beneficial educational experiences for students of both SCCC and LBU, allowing them to explore the current global performing arts landscape, develop new skills, gain experience in theatre production, and acquire intercultural competencies, and

**WHEREAS**, the ISAP grant was utilized to defray costs of a faculty-led, 10-day, 3-credit study-abroad program to Romania for thirteen students, and

**WHEREAS**, matching funds in an amount up to \$13,500 are required, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that a SUNY Chancellor’s Grant for Innovative Study Abroad Programs (ISAP) in the amount of \$4,000 is hereby accepted, and the College 2016-2017 operating budget is amended in said amount to reflect the grant award, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the College President or his designee is hereby authorized to execute any required documentation, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, with the administering agency.

Project Directors: Professor Charles Wittreich,  
Iaroslava Babenchuk, College Associate Dean for Special Programs  
and External Partnerships

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Chair Sanders called for the committee reports, starting with the Governance Committee. Trustee Canary briefly reviewed the items discussed at the August 8th meeting, including a personnel matter, and the upcoming Board retreat, including the confirmed date for the retreat of November 16th; the plan to include the Boards of the Association and the Center for Social Justice and Human Understanding; the possibility of using the Ammerman campus to be cost effective given the large number of people; progress on the Board retreat agenda and a survey to determine topics for discussion and breakout sessions; the hope to have the new Board of Ethics do a meet-and-greet at the retreat and possibly give presentations on ethics; and obtaining the latest version of Robert’s Rules of Order, possibly an electronic version, for distribution to the Trustees.

The committee also addressed the vacant trustee positions. Three names were submitted to the Governor’s Office for review and it was hoped they would be reviewed and approved in time to be in place for the September meeting. The committee discussed touching base with other candidates to see if they are still interested and available in case any of the three names are not approved.

Other items discussed at the committee meeting were the need to change the September Board of Trustees meeting to September 14<sup>th</sup> as it was inadvertently scheduled on a College holiday. It was confirmed that the members of the Governance Committee were available on that date and that other trustees would be asked to advise their availability to see if a quorum can be reached.

After Trustee Morgo recused himself from the meeting, the latest proposal submitted by the Rough Riders was discussed meeting.

Trustee Canary reported that the agenda items for the September Governance Committee meeting to be held September 12<sup>th</sup> would include the presidential evaluation and inviting Trustee Murray, Chair of the Personnel Committee, to attend the meeting, and setting the schedule for the committee's 2018 meetings.

Chair Sanders acknowledged that some of the committees were not able to meet and asked for comments rather than reports. Trustee Lindsay Sullivan announced that the Student Success Committee would be meeting September 6<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Morgo stated the Budget and Finance Committee would meet September 11<sup>th</sup> and would be looking at the status report for Excelsior and how enrollment is trending. Trustee Lilly stated the Facilities Committee did not meet but that he had spoken with Counsel about some of the projects, and that there were just a few things to be completed before the Ammerman campus opened. Chair Sanders commented that the Board was very excited about the new buildings.

Dr. McKay commended the staff of ETU, facilities, the library, data communications and IT for working around the clock and around the trades' schedules to get the new Learning Resource Center up and running. He reported that the ribbon-cutting date had been pushed to October 19<sup>th</sup>, but that the building would be occupied before then. Kevin Peterman agreed it was quite an achievement, and with two and a half weeks left before classes start, the team was determined to get it 100% completed. He said everyone was really working well together.

Trustee Canary reported that he had toured the new building several weeks ago and at that time it seemed like a stretch to get the work completed for September 5<sup>th</sup>, but that great progress has been made since then. He asked what the schedule for the STEM building construction was.

Dr. McKay replied it was in the design phase and that he and Mr. Petrizzo had met with the team and made some corrections to the design. The project was on schedule and just below cost. He said the new design, when approved, would be sent to the Facilities Committee and a report would be given to the Board.

Chair Sanders asked the new Student Trustee, Jerome Bost, to compile and present a formal report for the next meeting. Student Trustee Bost said he appreciated the opportunity to be at the meeting and to be able to take in as much information as he could before going on the record.

Chair Sanders moved to the Foundation report. Dr. Diaz spoke about the upcoming 34th Annual Golf Event, and the honorees Michael J. Grant and coach Kevin Foley, bringing the Grant and Foley families back together again. She reported there had been an outpouring of support from the College community, and from the community at large, because both honorees are notable figures and very highly regarded in Suffolk. Dr. Diaz encouraged anyone who had not bought tickets to do so.

Dr. Diaz reported that the current campaign had reached an exciting milestone during the week: of the \$7 million the Foundation was scheduled to raise, they had reached a little more than \$6.4

million and were positioned well to complete the campaign. She stated that all those dollars directly support the students and their success at Suffolk, answering an increasing need not only for general scholarships but also for the hardship funds established by the various campuses. She said the Foundation truly appreciates the support of the institution. Chair Sanders added that this is how the College gives the students least able to afford tuition the opportunity for scholarships.

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Chair Sanders combined the Chair's report with the Executive Committee report. She spoke about being on vacation, at times with no cell phone contact, when she learned that President Trump was definitely coming to the College, but knew that the team at the College would handle it well, that she really had no role in the visit, and with Secret Service and President Trump's team taking care of the agenda and equipment, the College team was simply operating in a support role. She expressed pride that the College was able to accommodate such an important person and everything went smoothly. She went on record to congratulate everybody for making sure the event went well.

Chair Sanders brought the discussion to the recent incident at the University of Virginia, and the tension spilling over into other communities. She said the College has the responsibility to continue to teach the truth and be a resource for factual information, to make sure its students, the next generation leaders, are prepared to lead and work toward being an inclusive nation. She also raised the question of what lessons can be learned from the incident, and reported that after having good discussions about the protocols the College has in place and the response times from the Suffolk County Police Department, she felt comfortable that the College was prepared to protect students, faculty and visitors to the campuses. She said if the College could teach the truth and keep the students safe, it would be a beacon of light in all this turmoil.

The discussion returned to the Trump visit. Trustee Morgo had congratulated Mr. Peterman on his letter to Newsday, and offered his view that opinions were separate from what is right and wrong. He expressed dismay that President Trump had come out on the wrong side of morality in his speech. Trustee Canary mentioned the hundreds of vociferous but non-violent protesters at the site of Trump's visit, and said it was a teachable moment for the students that he hoped would be included in class discussions.

Addressing the response to the UVA incident and the clash of opinions on the Trump visit, Dr. McKay reported he had a team in place, including the Chief Diversity and Affirmative Action Officers, Assistant Directors of Campus Activities and Student Affairs, Executive Deans, the VP of Student Affairs and himself, to discuss issues across the campuses and how to respond. He said they were currently discussing how to respond to these incidents when the students return September 5<sup>th</sup>, and what to say in the Welcome Back message to the College community, as well as addressing the subject at Convocation. He agreed it is a teachable moment, especially with the diversity of students from all over the world and all walks of life, and said the College would be proactive in its programming. He said part of this would be bringing Nelson Mandela's grandson to the campus. He added that with all the statements being made, opinionated at times and not always factual, teaching and learning must be allowed to curve within the context of the classroom, and despite the validity of everyone being entitled to their opinion, the College, as a teaching institution, must present the facts.

Trustee Canary also congratulated Mr. Peterman on the letter to Newsday, commenting, not as a criticism, that there should have been no need to explain the College's position in hosting the President.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti wondered if the unfortunate remarks Trump made about how the police should treat suspected gang members was inciting distrust for the police, especially among the students from immigrant or undocumented families. Chair Sanders answered that this had been a topic of concern even outside the Trump visit, and that the College is still a beacon of light and a safe haven. She said the synergy of having the Suffolk County Police substation on campus was bridging that relationship.

Dr. McKay explained that the substation opening ceremony included the police, the community leaders and members of the student body, with the emphasis that it was all one community working together and helping one another. He stated there would also be COPE substations at the Ammerman campus and at the Southampton Police Department. Dr. McKay said the students would be made aware of the social commitments and the positive relationship with the police, and how much they are a help to the College community. He said safety and security is paramount, but the College is also promoting awareness, and trust that the police are part of the College community.

Legislator Martinez, who had been at the ribbon-cutting for the SCPD substation, stated the Trump visit was an issue they were all facing. She said she represented a very diverse community with many undocumented, unaccompanied individuals, and she felt obligated to take care of them and alleviate their fear and make sure they have a safe place to go. She said the substation was a great alternative to the Third Precinct, and just having it there as a community relations bureau was a welcoming touch. She said the Charlottesville incident was very difficult, and there are kids that are afraid, and she thanked the College for always making it inviting and a place to feel safe.

Legislator Martinez stated that, as chair of the Education Committee, the College would always have her utmost support, even with the backlash from her colleagues. She said there is a need to keep educating the young to be successful and accepting of others, the only way for the nation to grow in these tense moments. She thanked the Board and College community for their efforts. She mentioned she needed help with a constituent regarding the meal plan. She also asked that the College give the Rough Riders their undivided attention at the next meeting and leave no questions unanswered on both sides. She said she could see the troubling side of it, but also the positive, not only the economic development aspect but also to offer students who are passionate about soccer a program, and as an outlet in the anti-gang initiative. Chair Sanders called Legislator Martinez a staunch supporter who attended every budget working group meeting and thanked her for her work.

Councilwoman Valerie Cartwright spoke, thanking the College and Board for their commitment to excellence and teaching the truth, and for providing a safe haven for students. She said she was happy to partner with the College, with the facilitation of Student Trustee Bost, when the immigration executive order first came out, and she brought a bi-lingual attorney from the

attorney general's office to the College to speak to the students, quell their fears, and instruct them on what to do if confronted. She said she was accessible at any time, thanked the Board for inviting her and said she would be back.

Student Trustee Bost wrapped up the discussion on the Trump visit by reporting that a number of students had called to tell him they were happy to have a police commissioner who condemned any rough handling of prisoners or suspects both in and out of custody, and to have Suffolk's president, Dr. McKay, stand up for the students regardless of their immigration status in his speech at an event. He thanked Dr. McKay and Councilwoman Cartwright and said this was the reason he was serving on the Board as Student Trustee.

Chair Sanders continued with the Chair's report, stating the Board is working hard to fill the BOT vacancies, and reminded the Board of the upcoming opportunities for training with the ACCT in Las Vegas and the NYCCT in Albany. She encouraged the trustees to participate in a training at least within a 12 month cycle. She also asked the trustees to block out time on November 16<sup>th</sup> for the retreat, where this year they would be collaborating with the other governance structures in the College, the Foundation Board and the Ethics Board. She thanked all the subcommittee chairs for all the work they do, making her job so much easier, and specifically acknowledged Trustee Lilly for his service to the Board, as his term was expiring. Trustee Lilly reminded the Board that Trustees Hazlitt and Alvarez-Groneman had stayed on after their terms had expired and acknowledged he may still be serving for a while.

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Chair Sanders moved on to the President's report. Dr. McKay introduced Matt Okerblom, Chair of the Calendar Committee, to give an overview of the research and reasoning behind moving to a secular calendar, an item that has been on the table for several years. He stated the Committee wanted this presented today and to be considered over the next month for a vote at the September Board meeting.

Mr. Okerblom explained that in the last year and a half to two years the committee, with representation from Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, the Faculty Association, and Human Resources, as well as Faculty Governance representatives from each campus, did a thorough review of all the SUNY colleges in the system and private colleges here on Long Island. He reported they found that a large majority of them are all already on a secular calendar, including 79% of four year colleges in the SUNY system, 86% of the two year colleges, and many of Long Island's private colleges, including Hofstra and Adelphi.

Mr. Okerblom reported that the Calendar Committee recommended that the College move forward with this initiative for two main reasons. First, to align with the College's vision and one of its institutional goals of diversity, and because of the importance of treating all the different religions and observances in the same equitable way. Secondly, to enable the committee to make a more consistent and clean calendar for the students, avoiding interruptions in the class schedules and the confusion it causes, and to allow the College to start the semester a little later. As part of the initiative, the Committee put together a religious observance policy to conform to New York State law that would allow students an excused absence without penalty and the opportunity to make up a test or assignment. He pointed out that the Board had in their packets a

draft of the policy, and Frequently Asked Questions that would be put up on the website, drafted similar to those of Stony Brook and New Paltz.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti asked if this policy could in any way effect any of the collective bargaining agreements with faculty. Mr. Okerblom replied that it had been discussed with the Faculty Association and Human Resources and there is no issue.

Dr. McKay continued with his report, calling on Lauren Tacke-Cushing, liaison officer for Middle States, to give an update in anticipation of a visit later in the fall. Dr. Tacke-Cushing reported that the work was right on schedule and moving along, with the standards committee reports having been received in the spring and the writing committee working doggedly over the summer to be able to submit the draft to the College community by September, get feedback by October, and get it to the team Chair by November.

Dr. Tacke-Cushing announced that a new team Chair had been selected and approved by Dr. McKay, Steven Rose, President of Passaic County Community College in New Jersey. She reported the team is verifying that he would be able to adhere to the dates agreed upon by the previous team chair: his visit on November 7<sup>th</sup>, and the self-study team visit March 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. McKay publicly commended Dr. Tacke-Cushing and Professor Linker for all the work they put into the project, and acknowledged that the writing team is really at the core of what the next step is all about, a very difficult process in trying to achieve consistency and gather documentation from so many subcommittees and sources. Chair Sanders remembered the time when the mention of Middle States would make them shudder, but that now it is a totally different, calm atmosphere.

Dr. McKay announced the College's Academic Convocation would take place on the first day of fall classes, September 5<sup>th</sup>, and invited all to attend, reminding them it will be a good way to show support for the new students coming in. He reported the Academic Calendar Committee met as a cabinet in the past week, and decided Commencement will be on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., to accommodate families who want to travel on that holiday weekend. He mentioned again that Nelson Mandela's grandson would be on campus September 14<sup>th</sup> and hoped some Board members would be in attendance.

The President also announced the official ribbon cutting for the Learning Resource Center at the Grant Campus would be October 19<sup>th</sup>, scheduled at 2:00 p.m. to allow members of the Board to be in attendance. He said the College is working on getting officials from across the State and County to be in attendance and to invite as many local officials and agencies as possible to attend. He stated it is a wonderful building, a huge achievement, and would be a legacy for the College.

Dr. McKay commended Student Trustee Bost and Chair Sanders for attending the substation ceremony and representing the College, and said they were all working with the elected officials and Commissioner Sini, talking about the value of education, role of advocacy and why the need for support in the community is valid. Chair Sanders shared that the Commissioner was already

asking for substations on the other campuses before the ribbon was even cut. She said they had a good relationship that allowed them to joke and banter, evidence of the things that the Board has asked Dr. McKay to do in terms of building the relationships.

The President stated he was also honored to bring remarks to Presiding Officer Gregory, at his Civic Tech Conference that took place on the Ammerman campus. He said it was well attended, and a host of topics was discussed. He said it was important to invite all elected officials and business and community leaders to the campus for their events in order to showcase the College and to be a part of the solution and not part of the problem. He promised the College would see more of that in the year ahead.

Dr. McKay reported he and John Lombardo met with Nature's Bounty, looking for training in the ESL area for over 100 employees, and announced there is an introductory class of 20 students officially underway. The College also hosted Nassau Community College in the past week, with President Hubert Keen and his cabinet discussing best practices in finance, governance, academic scheduling and other topics, including how our grants office, Foundation and bargaining units work, which is new to Dr. Keen having been at a different level at SUNY. He said they exchanged numbers for functional areas in order to work together as two neighboring institutions in the SUNY system.

Dr. McKay acknowledged it was a very busy summer, and thanked the Chair and Ms. Wycliffe-Campbell for clearing his calendar and getting him on the plane. The Chair said it was very important to get rest with the high-pressure job and insisted he book it for next year as well. With that, the President concluded his report.

Trustee Canary stated he was happy to get to know Dr. Keen and thought it was a great compliment that he reached out to Suffolk to see how it operates, once again demonstrating that Suffolk Community leads the way.

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Chair Sanders asked for a motion with oral consensus to move the Board Meeting originally scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> to September 14<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Canary seconded and the motion carried.

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The Chair started the Roundtable discussion, noting that 30 students from the community who had been mentored by the College's faculty would be graduating from a summer youth employment training program the following day, citing it as an example of how the College connects with the community.

Dr. McKay reported on an articulation agreement signing with St. John's, which, in addition to benefiting the students, would offer a doctoral program to College employees for 50% of the cost of attendance to help them further their education and careers. He stated there are currently 25 employees enrolled and more who are interested -- another example of bringing local resources to the entire institution.

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Chair Sanders requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, the terms of a contract, or matter leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. She stated there would be no further business after Executive Session. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business after the Executive Session, the Board of Trustees meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

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The Board of Trustees next meeting is September 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Alumni Room of the Brookhaven Gymnasium, on the Ammerman Campus in Selden, New York.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon Canary  
Secretary