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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Minutes

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Grant Campus
Brentwood, New York
September 20, 2018
9:09 a.m.

Stenographically recorded and
transcribed by Donna C. Gilmore,
a Notary Public within and for
the State of New York.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

3 BOARD MEMBERS:

4 Theresa Sanders, Chair

5 James Morgo, Vice Chair, Trustee

6 Jerome J. Bost, Student Trustee

7 Gordon D. Canary, Trustee

8 Shirley Coverdale, Trustee

9 Gemma deLeon-Lopresti, Trustee

10 E. Christopher Murray, Trustee

11 Kevin O'Connor, Trustee

12 Belinda Pagdanganan, Trustee

13 Denise Lindsay Sullivan, Trustee

14 A L S O P R E S E N T:

15 Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President, Suffolk Community
College

16 Louis J. Petrizzo, General Counsel, Executive VP

17 Alicia O'Connor, Deputy General Counsel

18 Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, Chief of Staff

19 Sandra O'Hara, Office of the President

20 Christopher Adams, VP for Student Affairs

21 Mary Lou Araneo, VP for Institutional Advancement

22 Paul Beaudin, VP for Academic Affairs

23 Gail Vizzini, VP for Business and Financial
Affairs

24 Sylvia Diaz, SCC Foundation, Executive Director

25 Andrea Dunkirk, Faculty, SCCC

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2 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Good morning,
3 everyone. I'd like to call our meeting
4 to order, and start with our pledge.

5 Trustee Canary?

6 [FOLLOWING THE RECITATION OF THE
7 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, THE BOARD OF
8 TRUSTEES MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY
9 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS AT 9:09 A.M.]

10 TRUSTEE CANARY: I'll ask you to
11 just remain standing for one moment, a
12 quick prayer. As you all know, we lost
13 Evelyn Rodriguez, and we need to remember
14 her and we need to say a prayer for her
15 and her family.

16 [MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you,
18 Trustee Canary. And we will move to the
19 swearing in of our new trustee, Kevin
20 O'Connor. Kevin, please step up.

21 [TRUSTEE KEVIN O'CONNOR WAS DULY
22 SWORN BY SPECIAL DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
23 CHRISTOPHER COMO.]

24 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
25 much, and welcome aboard, Kevin.

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2 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: We will now
4 have recognition of guests by our chief
5 of staff, Carol Wickliffe-Campbell.

6 No guests today?

7 All right. I'd like to request a
8 motion to adjourn the board of trustees
9 meeting and call the board of directors
10 meeting to order.

11 TRUSTEE CANARY: Moved.

12 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: I think Chris
13 is second.

14 All in favor?

15 [WHEREUPON, THE MOTION MADE AND
16 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you.

18 I'd like to request a motion for the
19 approval of the August 16, 2018 board of
20 directors meeting.

21 TRUSTEE MORGO: Minutes.

22 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: The minutes,
23 excuse me.

24 MS. SULLIVAN: Motion.

25 TRUSTEE CANARY: Seconded.

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2 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: All in favor?

3 [WHEREUPON, THE MOTION MADE AND
4 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
6 much.

7 I'd like to introduce Vice President
8 of Student Affairs, Dr. Christopher
9 Adams, to present the Association
10 financial report.

11 VP ADAMS: Good morning, Chair
12 Sanders and members of the board of
13 directors.

14 In your packets or online there
15 should be a financial report that also
16 was e-mailed to you for the Association,
17 September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018.

18 I'm happy to report in all the
19 various cost centers of the Association
20 everything is operating very nicely. You
21 will notice, though, in the graduation
22 account, that we did go in the red
23 approximately \$2000. The reason for that
24 is that we had more students that
25 graduated or chose to walk in the

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2 ceremony this year, which meant extra
3 diploma covers. We also had many
4 enhancements to the commencement
5 ceremony, thanks to the good work of
6 Natali and Steve. For those of you who
7 have been in past ceremonies, there were
8 a lot of complaints about the people up
9 on the stage not having enough sound and
10 video for them to be able to see. So we
11 made those enhancements to the ceremony,
12 and it seemed to be very positive for
13 this cycle, so that's one of the reasons
14 why we're in the red in that account.
15 However, we do have reserves so that when
16 the audited financials happen in December
17 we will be able to use the reserves to
18 clear up that account.

19 So very happy to report that in the
20 Association everything is going really
21 well. We do have some invoices that have
22 not been paid as of yet, they came in the
23 last week of August, so some of these
24 balances when I do submit the final
25 financial reports after they are audited

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2 these accounts will go down somewhat to
3 pay for those invoices that have come in.

4 Are there any questions so far in
5 the Association August 31st report?

6 Okay. And I also do not have any
7 resolutions on the board of directors
8 side as well, so thank you, very much.

9 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you,
10 Dr. Adams.

11 There's a question?

12 TRUSTEE CANARY: Not a question,
13 just a thank you.

14 I want to thank you again for
15 bringing the students Saturday. We had
16 our International American Littoral
17 Society Beach Cleanup that Senator Boyle
18 sponsors each year. Chris has been great
19 bringing the students. We had, like,
20 what, 30 students that joined us, and I
21 just want to thank him for that effort in
22 getting the kids involved, our students
23 involved.

24 VP ADAMS: Thank you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very

1 Board of Trustees 9/20/18 meeting minutes
2 much.

3 I'd like to request a motion to
4 adjourn the board of directors meeting
5 and call the board of trustees meeting.

6 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

7 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Moved and
9 seconded.

10 All in favor?

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

13 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: I'd like to
14 request a motion for the approval of the
15 minutes of the August 16, 2018 board of
16 trustees meeting.

17 TRUSTEE MORGO: Moved.

18 TRUSTEE CANARY: Seconded.

19 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: It's been moved
20 and seconded.

21 All in favor?

22 [WHEREUPON, THE MOTION MADE AND
23 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

24 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: I'd like to
25 introduce Vice President for Business and

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2 Financial Affairs Gail Vizzini to present
3 the college budget and college financial
4 records.

5 VP VIZZINI: Thank you, Madame
6 Chair.

7 I have been advised by the state
8 comptroller's office that their audit of
9 the college's information technology
10 operations is near completion. A draft
11 audit and the IT letter are in the draft
12 stage and they will be forwarded directly
13 to Dr. McKay. Each of you, as members of
14 the board of trustees, the vice president
15 of IT, and myself will review to determine
16 if there are any factual errors.

17 The scope of the audit, if you
18 recall, concentrated on IT operations,
19 testing the vulnerability of the system,
20 and the adequacy of the training of our
21 personnel. In addition, the auditors
22 reviewed our online banking operations,
23 who has access to what accounts, and
24 other checks and balances there.
25 Informally, the senior auditor told me

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2 that there were no significant findings,
3 which I was very pleased to hear. But
4 when you receive those documentations
5 from the comptroller's office, I wanted
6 you to know what they were.

7 The '17-'18 operating budget, our
8 office is paying the last claims that are
9 dribbling in, and we're looking forward
10 to closing the '17-'18 year. The outside
11 auditors should begin their field work
12 probably in November, early December.
13 You have the projections from '17-'18.
14 As I have reported before, the overall
15 revenue shortfall was about 900,771,
16 primarily in the enrollment-generated
17 areas of tuition and fees. The college
18 was fiscally prudent, we were able to
19 hold the line on expenditures and we
20 mitigated the revenue shortfall.

21 Moving to the 2018-2019 operating
22 budget, if you recall, when we put
23 together the '18-'19 operating budget,
24 the assumption was that enrollment would
25 decline, but by 1.25 percent, which

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2 seemed reasonable at the time. However,
3 as of the 9/17 fall enrollment report,
4 the unduplicated head count showed that
5 enrollment is at 96.7 percent of where we
6 were at this time last year, or a
7 3.3 percent drop, which is 2.05 percent
8 less than the assumptions that we made in
9 the budget and the revenue that we
10 included in the budget. So each
11 1 percent equates to a potential shortfall
12 of \$1 million. Therefore, at this time
13 we are projecting a \$2 million, little
14 bit more than \$2 million shortfall moving
15 into the '18-'19 operating budget.

16 Knowing this, Dr. McKay directed me
17 to implement Phase I of the shortfall
18 mitigation plan, which is to sweep
19 20 percent of equipment and supplies from
20 all the campus and all the central
21 administration accounts. These funds are
22 put in a contingency and cannot be spent
23 until the revenue picture improves. We
24 are also continuing our vigilance in
25 terms of our extended vacancy policy and

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2 the associate vice president for human
3 resources has been directed to set up a
4 protocol for the temporary hirings, and
5 she and I have collaborated on an
6 improved process requiring adequate
7 justification to move ahead with
8 temporary hires, college aides and other
9 personnel of that nature.

10 We will continue to monitor the
11 revenue and expenditures and report to
12 you, and so that we know that we keep in
13 line our expenditures with the revenue
14 that we are expected to bring in.

15 That concludes my report.

16 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Any questions?

17 Thank you.

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you, Gail.

19 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Okay. I'd like
20 to request a motion for the approval of
21 the college resolutions No. 2018.55 to
22 2018.58. And they are in your packages
23 and online.

24 TRUSTEE BOST: Motion.

25 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: We have a

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2 motion. Is there a second?

3 TRUSTEE COVERDALE: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you.

5 All in favor?

6 [WHEREUPON, THE MOTION MADE AND

7 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Great. Thank

9 you, very much.

10 We will move to the committee

11 reports. Can we start with budget and

12 finance?

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yes. Thank you,

14 Madame Chairwoman, also known as Theresa.

15 Very quickly, we did not meet before

16 this trustee's meeting, as we've talked

17 about budget and finance has become a

18 year-long committee. We're in a meeting

19 on the 25th of this month, next Tuesday.

20 But I do want to say something about

21 where we are in regards to particularly

22 last month. First of all, I was very

23 pleased, frankly, that we had a good

24 discussion/debate about the status of

25 finances last month. I was also pleased

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2 that we did not have a unanimous vote for
3 the approval of the new budget. I
4 thought that was healthy and I was glad
5 that, one, a trustee took the time to
6 object to it, just so that -- this is all
7 in the minutes, so I don't have to go
8 over all of this -- but after the public
9 sector, state, and the county made their
10 contribution to our operating budget,
11 less than what it statutorily should be
12 -- Kevin, that will be explained at some
13 other time, it's easier if you had a
14 sense of theatre in the absurd to
15 understand it, because one-third doesn't
16 mean one-third. Nevertheless, we still
17 had a 636,000 gap and we debated last
18 month whether to take the gap from
19 reserves, increase student tuition, which
20 was off the table immediately, or to do a
21 split between savings and reserves. We
22 decided on the split.

23 The one variable always is
24 enrollment, and you just heard Gail talk
25 about enrollment. General Petrizzo

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2 talked about the expected surge in
3 enrollment, and we have seen that surge.

4 Chris, do you have anything to add
5 about the enrollment?

6 VP ADAMS: Yeah, I can add a couple
7 of points. Now that Gail brought you
8 down to a low I'll try to bring you back
9 to positive.

10 So if you recall at the June
11 meeting, we were approximately down about
12 9.8 percent FTE, and a lot of work went
13 in this summer. We talked about it at
14 the August meeting, and we did get the
15 old Petrizzo surge at the last minute
16 that came in, a lot.

17 TRUSTEE MORGO: I said General, I
18 didn't say --

19 MR. PETRIZZO: You said old.

20 VP ADAMS: We banded together, our
21 marketing team, led by Mary Lou and
22 Andrew Fawcett, we hit the air waves,
23 Newsday, a lot of work went into working
24 with our executive deans across the three
25 campuses, and very happy that, you know,

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2 we made a lot of ground up in a short
3 amount of time.

4 However, I do want to just let you
5 know that it does not count the Beacon
6 program under the direction of
7 Dr. Beaudin and Deborah Wolfson, and
8 they've been bringing approximately 5000
9 students. Now, Gail will remind me
10 always that they're not bringing in the
11 full tuition, but on the state side we do
12 get that FTE money. So we approximate
13 that we'll bring up about 1 1/2 to
14 2 percent in the FTE, and we'll be able
15 to hopefully share those numbers with you
16 at the October meeting, because the
17 census will be done and due to SUNY at
18 that time.

19 So I think there are a lot of
20 positives. We are up in first-time
21 students. We are down in transfer and we
22 are down in continuing. And under the
23 leadership and direction of Dr. Beaudin
24 that was directed by Dr. McKay to put
25 together a report, we're going to look at

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2 some of the reasons why we're down,
3 approximately 844 students that we're
4 down, continuing students. We want to
5 know what happened to them; did they
6 transfer, did they stop out, was it
7 financial reasons. So we're going to be
8 investigating that. I know Dr. Beaudin
9 is working with someone in my office,
10 Dr. Patty Munsch, to develop some
11 datasets that we will go over and
12 hopefully we'll have a report to
13 Dr. McKay at the mid October or the end
14 of October to go forward.

15 So again, I don't think all is lost.
16 I think there was a lot of positives that
17 came out of this enrollment cycle. We're
18 very excited to hit the ground running
19 again with the new enrollment cycle. One
20 of the things that we've developed is an
21 online application, with our IT team,
22 thanks to Shady, our vice president of
23 information technology. I think that
24 will have a lot of positives for a lot of
25 individuals that want to come to the

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2 college. That was launched on
3 September 12th. That's going to really
4 help us with a lot of things, it's going
5 to make things easier, because we in the
6 previous always had paper applications,
7 and processing paper applications there's
8 a lot of data entry. Sometimes there was
9 mistakes made. The actual online
10 application will force individuals to
11 fill out required fields, so all the
12 information that we need to consider an
13 application we can get right away. So I
14 think there's a lot of positives that
15 will come out of this enrollment cycle.

16 We are in the process now of looking
17 at a CRM system, working with our
18 colleagues. Our CRM system will really
19 help us and bring us into the 21st
20 century when it comes to our admissions
21 and doing outreach to students and
22 parents that are inquiring about the
23 institution. So I think there are a lot
24 of positives that have come out of this
25 enrollment cycle, and I think, again,

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2 we've just got to keep working very hard.
3 And we understand that the population of
4 high school graduates continues to go
5 down and will continue to go down across
6 Long Island, but we're doing everything
7 we can to stem that tide, and again,
8 looking, thanks to Dr. McKay, we created
9 this flex programming where students can
10 take morning classes, they can take
11 evening classes, weekend classes, and
12 also online classes in a flex scheduling
13 atmosphere.

14 So I think, again, we just have to
15 continue working hard and working with
16 our colleagues, and across the three
17 campuses banding together and working
18 really hard.

19 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: What does CRM
20 stand for?

21 VP ADAMS: Customer relations
22 management system, and SUNY has one,
23 actually, on state contract called Slate.
24 We can save a lot of money with going in
25 that direction, and I know that our team

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2 and information technology have already
3 worked together and have looked at it and
4 it really fits all of our needs going
5 forward.

6 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: I just
7 wanted to add, I commend you, Dr. Adams,
8 for all the work. I know that you were
9 harassing students for a month trying to
10 get them -- sorry, did I say harass?

11 VP ADAMS: Well, we call it
12 intrusive recruiting.

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: One of
14 the things I think we may have to think
15 about, because the enrollment situation
16 on Long Island with regards to high
17 school graduation rates and number of
18 students that are graduating is not
19 changing, it's only getting worse, and
20 it's something that we really have to
21 keep in mind, and I think that we really
22 need to continuously -- and we do -- but
23 continuously think about out-of-the-box
24 situations where we can get more students
25 and serve more students. College, as we

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2 know, is not for everyone, but we do need
3 to produce people who are eligible to be
4 in the workforce. So that piece, and we
5 do that well already, and I think that's
6 something we have to continuously develop
7 and grow.

8 VP ADAMS: Absolutely.

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yeah, I just want to
10 echo what Chris said and Denise just
11 said. At the ACCT conference, this
12 declining enrollment is felt by community
13 colleges across the country for a variety
14 of factors. As the economy improves the
15 number of community college students
16 declines. So that's something we see.
17 And I want to again echo Denise; Chris,
18 Mary Lou, the folks who have gone after
19 new enrollment have done a really superb
20 job in a difficult time.

21 Finally, I want to ask Trustee
22 O'Connor, you probably haven't decided
23 what committee you're going to serve on
24 yet. However, something that would seem
25 to be totally appropriate for you, sir,

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2 would be budget and finance. So next
3 meeting is September 25th, and you
4 probably would want to take a chair of a
5 committee after a while, so this is
6 something I'd like you to consider as
7 well.

8 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Is this the
9 ambush? Voluntarily told to.

10 TRUSTEE MORGO: Use the word
11 recruited. I hope you don't consider it
12 harassment, however.

13 TRUSTEE CANARY: May I?

14 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Yes.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: I made a statement
16 at the executive committee and I want to
17 make it publicly here today. I want to
18 thank the entire team for their efforts
19 with the advertising. As I said, I think
20 we're starting to reap benefits of a very
21 intensive advertising campaign. I think
22 that's really gone a long way towards
23 convincing parents that this is a
24 wonderful institution that they do want
25 to send their kids to. Also, I think we

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2 are the beneficiaries of constant media
3 attention to driving up all of the costs
4 of college and all of the college student
5 loan debt that's out there, and I think
6 that's also helping position us. And as
7 you said, when the next recession hits,
8 we're going to be well-positioned because
9 of all this great work that we're doing
10 with flex schedules and better
11 computerization and all of that, we'll be
12 much better positioned for this new
13 throng of students who are going to be
14 coming to us when the economy does
15 finally tank. We're well into like
16 12 years of a cycle.

17 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Pushing.

18 TRUSTEE CANARY: I'm not praying for
19 it. I mean, again --

20 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Prepared.

21 TRUSTEE CANARY: I don't have to
22 tell you, Kevin, you're in the finance
23 world, you know that we're pushing the
24 envelope on the cycle. So it's probably
25 going to happen, but anyway, you know,

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2 again, I'm not wishing it.

3 TRUSTEE MORGO: I know. I know.

4 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
6 much.

7 Yes, and congratulations on all the
8 extra efforts. It's not easy to get
9 students to respond and be responsible.
10 So thank you, very much, for helping us
11 to close that gap.

12 We will move to our student success
13 report.

14 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: Our
15 student success committee did not meet
16 this month. Our next meeting is
17 October 15th at 9:30 on the Eastern
18 campus.

19 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
20 much.

21 Governance?

22 TRUSTEE CANARY: Well, as usual,
23 governance committee did meet on
24 September 17th, right in this room, right
25 at this table.

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2 TRUSTEE MORGO: Considerably colder.

3 TRUSTEE CANARY: Yes, and now I'm
4 sweating. The pendulum swings.

5 So myself, Chairwoman Sanders, Jim
6 Morgo, Deputy General Counsel Alicia
7 O'Connor, Gail Kenehan, as we sat at
8 4:00, and the committee welcomed former
9 trustee Anne Shybunko-Moore, who had
10 requested to meet with the committee to
11 discuss the college's hiring procedures.
12 Deputy General Counsel O'Connor
13 distributed a copy of the search
14 committee procedures developed by the
15 human resources office quite a few years
16 ago. The committee will review the
17 procedures to see if updates should be
18 recommended. Also, the committee will
19 consider Ms. Shybunko-Moore's comments
20 and respond to them. Ms. Shybunko-Moore
21 left the meeting after her presentation
22 and that discussion.

23 The committee moved on to the
24 discussion of the policy on naming
25 opportunities and endowed funds. This is

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2 a new area we're taking a look at.
3 DGC O'Connor distributed red-line copies
4 with proposed changes to the original
5 policy form from 2008. Policy authorizes
6 the college's buildings and facilities to
7 be named after entities, such as private
8 corporations which make significant
9 donations to the Suffolk Community
10 College Foundation. DGC O'Connor noted
11 that the office of institutional
12 advancement and the executive director of
13 the foundation were also reviewing
14 policy. The committee requested that the
15 legal affairs office research other
16 naming policies, including the County of
17 Suffolk's policy. The committee is going
18 to review it and get back to DGC O'Connor
19 with additional comments and concerns so
20 it can be reviewed at the next board of
21 trustees governance committee meeting.

22 The last item discussed by the
23 committee was the college's policy
24 authorizing use of college facilities by
25 noncollege entities, which had been

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2 adopted by the board in 2016. This
3 policy provides guidance for the
4 college's provision of services or
5 resources to private individuals or
6 outside entities.

7 Agenda items for the October
8 governance committee meeting will include
9 discussion about the college's hiring
10 procedures and protocols and the policy
11 on naming opportunities and endowed
12 funds. The next committee meeting is
13 scheduled for Monday, October 15th at
14 4:00 in President's Conference Room at
15 the NFL Building. We adjourned at 5:05.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
18 much. Lots of detail talked about.

19 Personnel committee? Gemma?

20 TRUSTEE deLEON-LOPRESTI: The
21 personnel committee met early this
22 morning from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., and we
23 will give a brief report during executive
24 session.

25 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very

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2 much.

3 We don't have reports for facilities
4 or advocacy committees, so I will now
5 defer to the student trustee report.

6 TRUSTEE BOST: Good morning, Chair
7 Sanders.

8 So I attended orientation actually
9 on Grant campus. I kind of feel guilty
10 if I don't participate in at least one
11 orientation in the beginning of the
12 school year.

13 So Dr. Keane, thank you for inviting
14 me. We had a packed house here in Grant.
15 And I also had an opportunity to actually
16 go inside some of the classrooms, and
17 there students were actually able to get
18 information as far as the hours for
19 tutoring, more about their degree
20 programs, and even went in detail as far
21 as the partnership opportunities that are
22 offered upon leaving Suffolk. So it was
23 definitely well-attended, people were
24 actually impressed.

25 The second thing I was involved in

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2 was in our last meeting I think we spoke
3 a little about the ELL program and ESL
4 program. Immediately after that meeting,
5 you know, I had some discussion with
6 members of PTK and they've had an
7 interest in working directly with how can
8 we provide, you know, assistance and
9 help, you know, some of our fellow peers.
10 And with that, Dr. Beaudin and Dr. Adams
11 made themselves available to come out to
12 Eastern campus to actually meet with them
13 for a meeting late in the evening, around
14 5:30, 6:30. So thank you, both, for
15 that.

16 From that meeting PTK is just
17 looking to get more engaged in working
18 with that specific population. Some of
19 the details were sitting in some of the
20 classrooms to --

21 TRUSTEE MORGO: Jerome, excuse me.
22 What's PTK?

23 TRUSTEE BOST: Oh. Phi Beta Kappa.
24 It's an honor society I'm also a member
25 of. I apologize for that.

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2 Let's see. Going on to my report --
3 should I talk into the microphone? Can
4 everyone hear me? Okay, good.

5 So I also received a report from the
6 student government association regarding
7 them getting reports that a number of
8 students weren't able to participate in
9 commencement for two reasons, due to
10 limited tickets and also travel. So with
11 that request I advised them to follow up
12 with data, because when you are student
13 government you can work together on an
14 initiative, but for that to be valid you
15 really have to show that you're
16 representing the students on that campus.
17 So they're working to get data to me.
18 I've been in conversation with Chair
19 Sanders and also cc'd Chair Lindsay on
20 this, and we plan on meeting with them to
21 participate, get them engaged more or
22 less in how we can better serve the
23 students next year during commencement.
24 So I'll be able to provide more details
25 to student success committee on that.

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2 And Dr. Adams, of course, has made
3 himself available to move forward with I
4 guess a steering committee to work on
5 addressing some of these concerns brought
6 by student government.

7 I think there's one more. So
8 knowing there's students that actually
9 looked to run for the position of student
10 trustee, I still felt as though I wanted
11 them to, even though they didn't win in
12 that election, to still bring some of
13 their ideas forward and work on some of
14 the initiatives that they wanted to for
15 the year. So I asked Dr. Adams if we can
16 create a committee where we meet with
17 these students like once per semester and
18 discuss some of those initiatives that
19 they want to work on and actually bring
20 them forward. So those two students
21 agreed, and we have our first meeting
22 scheduled for the first week in October,
23 so I'll definitely pass that information
24 on to the student success committee.

25 And that concludes my report.

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2 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you,
3 Jerome.

4 TRUSTEE CANARY: Jerome, I'm just
5 concerned to hear this issue about
6 commencement. So cost and transportation
7 were issues that prevented some from
8 attending?

9 TRUSTEE BOST: Travel and tickets.

10 TRUSTEE CANARY: Oh, oh, okay.

11 TRUSTEE BOST: Like travel distance.
12 So like if you're a student of Eastern
13 campus and you're like limited to, for
14 transportation, it may be tough to
15 actually make it to Grant. And the
16 second thing were requests regarding
17 students may want maybe two or three
18 tickets or more so their families can
19 actually participate and watch them
20 graduate, and that was something through
21 student success that Denise is already
22 working with, but in that process I
23 happened to get an e-mail from students
24 maybe about a week after we had our
25 committee meeting.

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2 TRUSTEE CANARY: My understanding
3 was we were totally maxed out on
4 occupancy in the center, right, so that's
5 a tough one. I mean, do we have to start
6 thinking about changing the venue on
7 commencement to accommodate --

8 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: That's
9 maximum capacity --

10 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: We're looking
11 at that.

12 TRUSTEE CANARY: Okay, thank you.

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: Good question.

14 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you,
15 Jerome.

16 TRUSTEE BOST: You're welcome.

17 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Foundation
18 report. Sylvia?

19 MS. DIAZ: Yes. Good morning,
20 Madame Chair and members of the board.

21 I'm very, very thankful today for
22 the support of this board, the college
23 community, in supporting our wonderful
24 golf event last month, a very successful
25 event at Nissequogue Country Club. We

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2 couldn't do it without you, so certainly
3 appreciate that support.

4 Up and coming in our calendar is of
5 course the Salute to Excellence Gala
6 scheduled for October 4th at the
7 Huntington Hilton. We will be
8 recognizing and celebrating 30 years of
9 automotive excellence in training, a
10 wonderful program that we all know is
11 growing in leaps and bounds, and we're
12 really, it's a great opportunity to
13 recognize the community partnerships that
14 have developed as a result of the
15 automotive program and the industry here
16 on Long Island, and of course on the
17 national level.

18 Additionally, the Governance Awards
19 are scheduled for October 26th at
20 Lombardi's on the Bay. You're invited to
21 attend that, of course, and you can go
22 online to register for that event. Also,
23 of course, tickets are available still
24 for the Gala online as well at the
25 Foundation website.

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2 So thank you, all. Thank you, very
3 much.

4 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you,
5 Sylvia.

6 I'll give my chair's report in
7 addition to the executive committee
8 report, so I'll combine those.

9 The executive committee meets the
10 Monday prior to the board meetings. So
11 we go over the agenda for the board of
12 trustees meeting and board of directors
13 meeting. We prepare with the cabinet
14 details as it pertains to presenting
15 items here at the board meeting.

16 For my report for the last 30 days
17 it's been pretty interesting. A couple
18 of things coming up. Please save the
19 date for November 15th for the board of
20 trustees annual retreat. We will be
21 joined again, hopefully, by our
22 foundation board and our center board,
23 and we have a combined session in the
24 morning, we have a legislative breakfast
25 in the morning, and then we do breakout

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2 sessions. So please save the date,
3 November 15th. It will be here in the
4 LRC, this beautiful building we will
5 utilize it. We held the retreat for the
6 first time here last year, and it was
7 wonderful. So we've got great
8 facilities, we're going to continue to do
9 that.

10 The community has suffered several
11 losses. On a national level we have lost
12 a leader, Senator McCain, who was a POW
13 that came back and overcame his personal
14 trauma to serve this country. And on the
15 entertainment side we've lost Aretha
16 Franklin, who not only did her music
17 impact many generations, but she also was
18 a prominent civil rights leader during
19 the 1960s. And our own Trustee Canary
20 mentioned Evelyn Rodriguez, a local
21 individual, just a local mom, who through
22 her own personal tragedy stood up and
23 became a community advocate. And it's a
24 testament that ordinary people can do
25 extraordinary things, and sometimes that

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2 comes through our own personal sacrifices
3 and tragedies. So our community has had
4 several losses in the last month, and for
5 each of you, we make sure that we
6 maximize the time each day and make sure
7 that this work, whether it's volunteerism
8 or whether you're getting paid to be
9 here, that you maximize that and do your
10 best and give your all each and every
11 day.

12 The last thing I have on my report
13 is our Association of Community College
14 Trustees, which is a national association
15 that Suffolk County Community College
16 belongs to. It is a training body, it
17 helps with a lot of growth and
18 development for board members, and I
19 encourage you to get engaged. Your
20 mailboxes are always going to be full
21 with information from ACCT. They have
22 their next regional training here in
23 New York at the Marriott Marquis. It's
24 going to be taking place October 24th
25 through October 26th. On October 24th,

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2 which out of all the days is the one-day
3 training academies, so they have new
4 board member trainings. They have, So
5 You Think You Want to be the Board Chair
6 training, like, they have all types of
7 academies. Yeah, they have training for
8 if you want to be the board chair. But
9 they have all types of academies. So we
10 will re-e-mail the information. It is in
11 New York, so it's close. Those academies
12 are very, very helpful. I always
13 encourage trustees to continue their
14 in-service training by attending some of
15 those ACCT conferences and workshops.
16 They are very helpful. Right now Jerome
17 and myself are registered to attend the
18 actual conference for those three days.

19 Also at that conference, thank you
20 to our own Trustee Morgo, who nominated
21 me for the regional trustee award, and
22 that nomination was supported by the
23 entire board. It is a process. They
24 make sure that just not one person is
25 putting your name up, but they did ask

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2 for background and information. I didn't
3 even know who they were talking about by
4 the time I read the package that was
5 submitted and Mary Lou just cleaned it up
6 and made me look like a superhero. But
7 this is regular work, so I appreciate the
8 nomination. I was selected as the
9 Eastern Regional Trustee winner, so I
10 will receive an award on Friday,
11 October 26th, at the Marquis Marriott,
12 and that is going to be a luncheon award.
13 And then they do this thing called, it's
14 almost like the Oscars, then you go to an
15 evening event, and they nominate all the
16 regional winners to be like the national
17 winner. So we all sit and we hold our
18 breath and we see who wins the trustee
19 Oscar.

20 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: Do you
21 get a tiara?

22 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: I don't know,
23 we might get a tiara, probably just get a
24 pat on the back, go back and do some
25 more.

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2 TRUSTEE CANARY: Is there a talent
3 portion?

4 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: I hope not.
5 Because I will totally disappoint you
6 guys. I can't sing, there's no --
7 nothing. So I can sit and I can
8 orchestrate, but...

9 But thank you again for the support.
10 This is a, while the work is long some
11 days, it is very rewarding, and again,
12 particularly when you sit out and you
13 look at that packed room during
14 commencement and you see all the families
15 and you see the hope in the eyes of the
16 family members when they look at their
17 graduates. So thank you, very much, for
18 that support.

19 TRUSTEE MORGO: Madame Chairwoman,
20 you can bring consensus, and that's a
21 talent.

22 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: And I only regret
24 that I can't be there on the 26th.

25 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: We'll send you

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2 Facebook feed live or something. I'm
3 sure Drew and Mary Lou will figure out
4 how we promote this.

5 Thank you, very much. That
6 concludes my report and I will pass it
7 over to Dr. McKay for the president's
8 report.

9 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Thank you, Madame
10 Chair, members of the board. And on
11 behalf of the college community, Madame
12 Chair, we also want to express our
13 congratulations to you and members of the
14 board of trustees. We do understand that
15 it's not just a volunteer role, but a
16 critical role that each of you play when
17 you help us as an institution to move
18 forward and represent the region as
19 you've done. So being recognized
20 nationally as a regional award winner
21 says a lot about your work and your
22 contribution to the trusteeship and for
23 this region, the Eastern region, so
24 again, congratulations.

25 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you.

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2 PRESIDENT McKAY: This last week I
3 spent quite a bit of time out in the
4 community. I met with Kevin Law at the
5 LIA, he was very, very generous of his
6 time, to talk a bit about the vision that
7 we share for the institution, our
8 relevance in not just the region, but
9 across the state. And he shared with me
10 where he was in regards to the LIA, the
11 REDC, and where things were moving.
12 Trustee Morgo and, in an e-mail to me,
13 referenced that Trustee Canary and
14 Senator Boyle was at the REDC, the voting
15 steering committee level, and the
16 importance and significance of having our
17 elected representatives to be in the room
18 when the decisions are made. And a note
19 was sent out to that regard to thank both
20 Gordon and the senator for being there to
21 reflect our region's needs. Not too
22 often do we get the chance to say thank
23 you for them spending the time to
24 advocate on behalf of the region, but
25 specifically on behalf of the college,

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2 because of how unique we are.

3 We heard before Trustee Lindsay
4 mentioning us now having to tell our
5 story and we heard about the
6 advertisement and communication. That's
7 a whole effort that has been started many
8 years ago to get the branding and
9 messaging out to the communities
10 appropriately. And our own new board
11 member was featured in one of those
12 commercials as an alumni. Later on today
13 you will hear from one of our students
14 that come from a nontraditional
15 background that you hear in my
16 presentation to talk about his experience
17 here at the college and what it meant.

18 Part of our role now going forward
19 is looking at the middle of the
20 institution and how do we effectively
21 communicate amongst each other and to the
22 external community as well. I do have a
23 professional development day for the
24 cabinet scheduled for the 1st of October,
25 it will be right here in this campus in

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2 this room, where the cabinet will have a
3 day out of the offices so we can then
4 work together to take a look at the
5 institution to see where we are, to look
6 at our goals for the next year, to be
7 able to ensure that the discussions from
8 convocation as well as what we've heard
9 throughout the year are captured in the
10 effort for the cabinet.

11 We are in the last two years of our
12 strategic plan. I was at the launch
13 recently, where Dr. Pedersen and
14 Executive Director Kaliah Greene met with
15 the steering committee to talk about
16 where we are, looking at the dates of the
17 planning launch and who is going to be
18 involved, the scanning of the internal
19 external environments. The board will be
20 a critical part of that and all of the
21 constituent groups. Because we want to
22 hear, is the mission relevant, is the
23 vision still relevant, what are the
24 things that we need to focus on as we
25 build the next plan for the next seven

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2 years. So that plan is going to commence
3 from 2020 through 2027. So we're at the
4 point now of closing out the existing
5 plan. What I've asked members of the
6 cabinet to do, and Dr. Beaudin, was to
7 look at all of the reports that we have
8 completed, all of the committee work, our
9 self-study work, and to see what we have
10 in our recommendations in regards to what
11 have we already implemented into the
12 fabric of the organization, is it
13 working, if it is working, how we assess
14 it to see what's not working and then to
15 address that.

16 We also looked at, we will be
17 looking at the Title III report, which is
18 an encompassing report that we had an
19 external reviewer that gave as a final
20 write-up on that for over the three-,
21 four-year period. Dr. Parker and Mary
22 Lou -- should I wait a minute?

23 What we're looking at now with the
24 Title III report, being that that was a
25 faculty and administration and

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2 student-driven exercise, where we have
3 learning objects that the faculty created
4 that are still being used behind the
5 Intranet, we are talking now about how
6 can we then get that to be available to
7 all students now that those widgets could
8 then be updated and continue to use. And
9 to look at that report to see if there
10 are things there that we know that we can
11 then continue to do and imbed into the
12 operation and what are the things that we
13 have not done. So you get that, you have
14 the voluntary framework of assessment, we
15 have the self-study reports. There's a
16 number of report that we have. Now we
17 have to then do what? Look at all of
18 them and condense them into one document
19 to help us drive our next iteration of
20 work. That will be included now with
21 what Dr. Pedersen and they are doing in
22 the OPIE as part of the information that
23 we'll use. We'll have that also with the
24 cabinet so that we can see exactly what
25 worked, what are still outstanding, and

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2 then imbed that into our next two years
3 going forward. What we have done with
4 the six institutional directions was to
5 make sure that at the presidential level
6 that each of the directions in those six
7 areas were done every single year and was
8 done by cabinet and done throughout the
9 institution, in addition to directional
10 goals that were done by departments and
11 by divisions, and those are what we
12 funnel up into the aggregate at the end
13 of every annual report. So now we'll
14 have now the ten-year cycle looking back
15 on every single year as a report for the
16 institution. That closes out now that
17 strategic plan. In that, we will also
18 look to see what are some of the things
19 that are continuing, what are some of the
20 things that we know that have changed
21 over time. We'll see that from the
22 environmental scan and involving the
23 external community involved in that as we
24 go forward.

25 I also met with the building trades

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2 yesterday. That's with all 34, 35 trades
3 together. I do that once in the fall and
4 once in the spring, and to share where we
5 are as we go forward and how we work well
6 together and to listen to see if we can
7 do things differently to help them as
8 they do their work. That meeting went
9 very well yesterday. They gave me at
10 least half-hour of their time to address
11 the entire executive of that group. In
12 that group, which is expected, some were
13 either alumni, some have children who
14 attended, some know neighbors who
15 attended, and they share their stories
16 with us, which is great, and I had time
17 to share with them the value that they
18 bring to not just the region, but to the
19 college, giving us an opportunity to
20 deliver on what we have as goals. So
21 that meeting went very well, and I'll be
22 meeting with the executive director in a
23 one-on-one meeting as a follow-up.

24 We also have the individual
25 accrediting bodies. We do have an OTA

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2 visit October 1st, 2nd and 3rd. That's
3 for a program held here in the allied
4 health area. So there will be a site
5 visit that day and I'll be meeting with
6 the visiting team on the 2nd, as always
7 they meet with the president to talk
8 about your vision, your goals, how do you
9 support the program and all of that, so
10 that's available for us.

11 Sylvia mentioned the Salute to
12 Excellence Gala on the 4th. We will be
13 having our professional development day
14 for the entire college community on
15 October 9th.

16 And then I started now something
17 totally different, which is beyond the
18 town hall meetings that we've held every
19 year, every semester. It's having a day
20 that is not scheduled with no agenda, to
21 be on the campuses where the deans will
22 use that day to take me around to the
23 various areas of development and growth,
24 meet with faculty, staff and students,
25 and to see what's happening on the ground

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2 on the respective campuses. That, the
3 East campus had theirs, and yesterday I
4 was here at the Grant campus and I saw
5 phenomenal work here. I've asked Dean
6 Keane to share with the board what
7 they're doing here on the campus in
8 regards to from the community groups that
9 they're involved with to the high
10 schools, to the middle schools, and then
11 also to workforce training and
12 development. And it was phenomenal work
13 that I've seen with Theresa Saladino and
14 Liz Spagnola when they presented to the
15 chairs exactly how their work impact the
16 decisions that they make. And it was a
17 very comprehensive decision that
18 Dr. Keane made to have us see that.

19 The other part that Chris mentioned,
20 or the others mentioned with the CRM and
21 what they're doing is getting the
22 dashboard data down to the departments so
23 you can see exactly how it impacts their
24 work. The chairs now will be able to see
25 the students that will be coming to them

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2 directly and be able to interact with
3 admissions and counselors. The
4 difference you'll hear later is the group
5 that is in the liberal arts general
6 studies group. That's the largest
7 population of the college that they're
8 not in a declared major, so when we have
9 students that are leaving in the second
10 and third semester, those are the
11 students that traditionally will be
12 leaving early and not completing a
13 degree. So we're going to have an effort
14 looking at that entire population, and
15 that I believe Dr. Adams will take
16 through with the student success
17 committee in having a discussion about
18 how do we address that population.

19 Madame Chairwoman, members of the
20 board, I'll ask Paul to step forward.
21 Part of us telling the story really is us
22 having a student experience, because not
23 too often do we get to hear about the
24 impact of our work and how it does then
25 transform the lives of those that we work

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2 with, and it's important for us from time
3 to time to share with the board the
4 significance of the policies that you
5 establish and the work that we do have.
6 So I've asked Paul to step forward this
7 morning and to share with you the story
8 line and to have a student to share his
9 story.

10 Paul?

11 DR. BEAUDIN: Thank you, Dr. McKay.
12 Chair Sanders, members of the board,
13 thank you for your time today.

14 Back in December of 2015,
15 Dr. Johnson, who was the VPA at the time,
16 gave a presentation on STEM and CTA
17 pathways, and this was part of
18 Dr. McKay's vision to make sure that
19 every person who wants to pursue some
20 kind of education here at the college
21 would have an opportunity for personal
22 transformation and economic empowerment.
23 So I just want to go through a few of the
24 things that we have done for that pathway
25 program. Some of these things had

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2 existed prior to December of 2015, but
3 we've done a pretty good job, I think, of
4 pulling things together for you.

5 I owe a great debt of gratitude to
6 Vice President Araneo and to Dr. Troy
7 Tucker, who is with us today, because
8 many of these opportunities for members
9 of the community are grant funded. And
10 one of the first things that I want to
11 talk a little bit about is our high
12 school STEP and Liberty Partnership
13 Program, and that's under the direction
14 of Assistant Dean Arlene Jackson, who is
15 here with us today. We have 755 county
16 high school residents coming to us almost
17 every Saturday, and if you're on the
18 Ammerman campus or near the Ammerman
19 campus you will see dozens of yellow
20 school buses dropping off students that
21 are part of that program. Again, that's
22 a grant-funded program. More recently,
23 Debra Wolfson, who directs -- and quite
24 honestly, you know, Dr. Adams was kind to
25 say that the Beacon program is under my

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2 direction and under Dean Wolfson's
3 direction. Actually, my only role in
4 that program is to say thank you.
5 Deborah Wolfson does an amazing job, not
6 only directing the Beacon program, but
7 also now our early college program, which
8 positively impacts about 5000 Suffolk
9 County high school students every year.
10 And Dean Wolfson has recently had some
11 inquiries from some of our local high
12 school partners about the technical
13 pathways program that New York State has,
14 is doing more and more work with and
15 encouraging our school districts to
16 participate in. Trustee Lindsay
17 Sullivan, you've had that for I think a
18 couple of years now at your high school.
19 Continuing education, another
20 grant-funded, a lot of grant-funded
21 programs within continuing ed, again
22 because of Troy Tucker, Dr. Tucker's
23 incredible work, including our ophthalmic
24 program.

25 In the workforce development side of

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2 the house we also have some grant-funded
3 programs, but most of those are
4 fee-generating programs, and John
5 Lombardo helps to direct that. So for
6 some of those programs, whether they be
7 continuing ed or workforce development,
8 some of the graduates of those programs
9 are immediately going into the workforce.
10 A number of them are continuing on into
11 credit-bearing programs here at the
12 college. We have in our C-STEM program
13 93 students who are currently enrolled
14 here at the college who are doing
15 incredible work in research at Brookhaven
16 Labs and at national labs around the
17 country. That's a great testament to
18 those folks who work in that program,
19 because quite honestly, our students are
20 getting placement at national labs while
21 competing with students who are in
22 baccalaureate and master's degree
23 programs. To sort of have associate
24 degree community college students
25 competing for position at national labs

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2 around the country is an amazing
3 testament to the science and math faculty
4 here at the college.

5 We currently have a number of AAS
6 technical programs, and that would
7 include our cyber security program, which
8 is just beginning its third year. I have
9 110 students on the slide, but I was
10 actually corrected by Pete Maritato the
11 other day, who said, but Paul, we also
12 have some part-time students in our cyber
13 security program, so we have nearly
14 130 students who are in that program.

15 Dr. Galiotis is with us today.
16 Dr. Galiotis is developing or helping to
17 develop AAS technical programs which will
18 be taking up residency in the new
19 building here on this campus in a couple
20 of years. We also have associate
21 AS programs. AS and AA programs, as many
22 of you know, are primarily transfer
23 programs to four-year institutions, and
24 we have about 240, for example, we have
25 about 240 students in our engineering

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2 program, and we have a number of other
3 AS programs in career science technology.

4 Recently, we made the observation
5 that lots of students who come to us in
6 technical programs are not interested in
7 completing an AAS degree. They are
8 interested in gaining those skills on the
9 four-credit side of the house which will
10 lead directly into the workforce. So we
11 now have a 28-credit automotive program.
12 It's just beginning, we have 19 students
13 in our first semester of that program.
14 Those students have the opportunity,
15 ultimately, to pursue a degree, but by
16 and large, they're interested in gaining
17 the technical skills to go directly into
18 the workforce. So we have one pathway
19 from continuing ed and workforce, we have
20 another pathway for those students who
21 graduate from us. More and more, though,
22 our students are also thinking about how
23 do I take what I have here in the
24 AS programs and to go on to bachelor of
25 science or bachelor of science and

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2 engineering programs. Our students who
3 complete our AS programs go on to some of
4 the best colleges and universities not
5 only in the state, but also around the
6 country. So we're very proud of the fact
7 that students are leaving Suffolk County
8 Community College, we have hundreds of
9 students every year who go up to Stony
10 Brook, we have students who are going to
11 Cornell, we have students that are going
12 to Chapel Hill, Clarkson. More and more
13 institutions are seeking our students.

14 I may have mentioned to some of you
15 in the past, we are now preparing a
16 document with the dental school at the
17 University of Buffalo. It is a two plus
18 four program, two years at Suffolk, four
19 years at UB Dental, and they will be DDSs
20 working in the field. So to get that
21 invitation from the University of Buffalo
22 because of the academic rigor of this
23 institution is really a wonderful
24 opportunity.

25 I said to Dr. McKay a couple of

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2 months ago, I think that we need to have
3 students helping to tell the amazing
4 story of their experience here at the
5 college, and I'm going to introduce
6 Andrea Dunkirk. Andrea works in the
7 office of continuing education. Andrea
8 works in many of our grant-funded
9 programs, and Andrea is going to
10 introduce our student speaker today.

11 MS. DUNKIRK: Hello. Thank you,
12 everybody. Thank you, board of trustees,
13 Dr. McKay, college administration.

14 I work with grant-funded programs,
15 and particularly the tech hire and the
16 health IT, and I work with the ophthalmic
17 technician program. And they've both
18 been very successful.

19 We've brought one of our students
20 here, Paul. Paul walked into my office
21 late December, unemployed, not knowing
22 where he was going, what he was doing,
23 and we brought him right into the health
24 IT boot camp, we talked to him about
25 opportunities, we spent 60 hours. Before

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2 you knew it he joined our ophthalmic
3 program which began late February, he
4 went through the ophthalmic part one, and
5 then he started talking about he's going
6 to come back to school and join our
7 nursing program. So over the summer we
8 put Paul through the externship at an
9 ophthalmic facility. He's coming back to
10 do the part-time ophthalmic two, which
11 starts October 1st, and he has joined in
12 working toward his nursing degree he's
13 getting all the prerequisites started
14 right now.

15 So I'm going to let you speak to
16 Paul.

17 STUDENT PAUL: Thank you for
18 indulging me with my story today, Madame
19 Chair and Dr. McKay and members of the
20 board.

21 I am a full-time student now at
22 Suffolk Community College, which is a
23 remarkable statement to make, not just
24 because I'm a nontraditional student, but
25 because of where I come from and how this

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2 came about.

3 I'll take a step back from what
4 Andrea said about me to tell you I always
5 wanted to be a doctor, from the time I
6 was very young. I was in a very good
7 high school, a preparatory school, and I
8 was a very good student. In fact, the
9 four years that I attended school I was
10 known not as Paul, I was called The
11 Professor. But sometimes life circumstances
12 get in the way. You spoke about children
13 that don't graduate high school. I did
14 not graduate high school. The last two
15 months of my high school career, while
16 the other classmates of mine were
17 preparing for graduation, The Professor
18 was digging pools for a construction
19 company to survive. I really was one of
20 those kids that fell through the cracks.

21 So I lived with this shame that I
22 had of being a high school dropout, even
23 though I was an exceptional student. So
24 I had this dream, still, I wanted to go
25 to school. I set aside time and money

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2 and got my GED at Suffolk a few years
3 after I was supposed to graduate school,
4 and then I again set aside time and money
5 to attempt to go to college, and I was
6 able to do one semester up at Cobleskill.
7 I got straight As, it was wonderful, but
8 the realities of life were I had to
9 survive, I had to go to work, which is
10 what I did.

11 And I got out of the manual labor
12 business and started selling, I became a
13 salesman with a small company, and I
14 built up that small company. We became a
15 bigger smaller company. I was the
16 director of sales and marketing, had my
17 own sales. I was very proud of my life.
18 Along the way I also was a single parent.
19 From the time my son was 1 1/2 years old
20 I raised him on my own. And I did this,
21 worked full time.

22 At some point my dream of going back
23 to school, which I always wanted to do,
24 someday I'd love to go back, some day,
25 became more of a regret of I wish I had

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2 been able to go back to school, because
3 life is very busy, especially when you're
4 a single parent and you work full time.

5 Like many people on Long Island and
6 many people in the industry I was in, I
7 began to feel the squeeze of the economy
8 when it crashed. It was devastating to
9 my industry. We were surviving to a
10 point, but as I said, it was a small
11 company and then the owner of our company
12 had major tax problems, both personally
13 and with the company, which destroyed
14 just about everything. So I found
15 myself, like many people my age, in this
16 bad economy out of work, with outdated
17 skills, a complete dinosaur, frankly. It
18 was not an enviable place to be in, and
19 being unemployed I wish on nobody. It is
20 very depressing, it's very deflating to
21 your ego, it takes a lot out of you. And
22 the longer it goes on the worse it gets.

23 Going back to school was a long dead
24 dream and something I never thought of,
25 and I really didn't know what to do,

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2 because I really didn't have in many ways
3 marketable skills, and I also had this
4 deep dark secret that not only did I not
5 have an education, which everybody
6 thought I did, I didn't even have a high
7 school diploma. I was a high school
8 dropout. I found myself spending a lot
9 of time at the library, because that's
10 what I could afford to do. It cost me no
11 money. And at the library, one day I saw
12 this flier about health IT information
13 technology boot camp, and an ophthalmic
14 technician program that will prepare you
15 to take the COA, which is the certified
16 ophthalmic technician assistant boards,
17 which is a national certification. And,
18 you know, I was somewhat cynical. I
19 thought well, I don't really know, nothing
20 is free in life.

21 But nonetheless, I found out who was
22 running the program and where it was,
23 which is Andrea, and I found myself in
24 her office late on a Friday afternoon,
25 saying to the woman behind the desk, what

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2 is the deal with this program. It says
3 it's free, is it really free, and
4 blah-blah-blah. And like I said, I was
5 very skeptical. And I heard this voice
6 saying hold on a minute, I'll be right
7 out. And Andrea came out. And I'll tell
8 you, she took me into her office and sat
9 down and was talking to me about the
10 program and said, well, you know, you
11 start off here because there's a
12 workplace book camp, she said that it
13 will teach you information technology and
14 move on to the ophthalmic technician
15 program. And she said, you know, if you
16 want to after this you could even go to
17 school full time, which I thought was
18 about the most absurd thing I had ever
19 heard for a person like me to be going
20 back to school full time.

21 I will say this. I walked out of
22 her office that day transformed. I'm
23 sorry to get emotional, but I had no
24 hope. I didn't know what to do. I was
25 probably qualified to go out and be a

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2 waiter with my skills, even though I ran
3 a company. I had no education and, like
4 I said, I was a dinosaur. I left her
5 office with a feeling of hope again,
6 which I had not had in a long time.

7 So I entered her program. I moved
8 on to the ophthalmic technician program,
9 and I enjoyed it immensely, more than I
10 can even express to you. The whole time
11 this ridiculous statement she had made to
12 me about going back to school was
13 rattling around in the back of my head.

14 So I went back to her office in the
15 springtime and I said, you know, I'd like
16 to go back to school, but I wouldn't even
17 know how to start. So she picked up the
18 phone and started making phone calls, set
19 me up with financial aid and see this
20 person. The next thing I know I was
21 taking a college entrance exam, filling
22 out a schedule, and now I'm a student. I
23 did do an externship, an internship this
24 summer for the ophthalmic technician
25 program. The company saw that I knew

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2 what I was doing, I knew what I was
3 talking about, and this was all because
4 of the training I got through this
5 ophthalmic technician program. They
6 offered me a job on the spot. Ironically,
7 the very reason I joined the program was
8 to get a job and I had to tell him I
9 can't take the job, I'm going to school
10 full time in a couple of weeks. So he
11 said well, keep in touch with me in case
12 you get sick of going to school, you're
13 going to come and work here.

14 I was prepared to do nothing, other
15 than to go back to what I was doing for a
16 living at a much lower level and to go
17 through an interview process, which I had
18 never had to do before, and I wouldn't
19 have had to expose myself, as I am right
20 now, to say that I had no education, no
21 high school diploma, and I would have had
22 to have done this because I wasn't
23 trained for anything in a modern economy.
24 Now I have been. Now I am trained. Not
25 only was I offered the job, which I had

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2 no qualifications for prior to meeting
3 Andrea, the two programs I was involved
4 in prepared me for what I'm doing right
5 now, which is actually very difficult,
6 being a full-time student after many,
7 many decades, taking very difficult
8 courses, and I got a lot of training with
9 technology through Andrea's classes.
10 Without them I wouldn't be surviving so
11 far in this semester. I don't know what
12 I would have done, but I owe this to
13 Andrea personally. And I mean Andrea
14 personally, because had I met somebody
15 different that day when I walked in to
16 her office, somebody who was less
17 encouraging, somebody who didn't open up
18 my imagination to the possibilities, even
19 at my age, I don't even know if I would
20 have joined the program if it had been a
21 less-welcoming person, a less-encouraging
22 person. But I owe her a great deal.

23 The program is phenomenal. It has
24 lifted me, and while my story is unique
25 to me, the aspects of my story are not.

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2 You spoke about the high, high school,
3 the rate of students not graduating high
4 school. That's me. There are many
5 single parents out there that want more.
6 Most of them are female. That's an
7 undeniable fact. So I was nontraditional
8 that way, too. But there are many single
9 parents who need something like this.
10 And frankly, had this existed back when I
11 was digging pools the last couple of
12 months of my high school career, I may
13 have been able to do that instead and I
14 would not have had this, I would not have
15 had this long career of hiding my
16 educational background amongst the people
17 that I was with.

18 I cannot say enough for these
19 programs. I appreciate you listening to
20 my story, because it is for me very
21 moving and emotional to say that I'm a
22 full-time student. And yes, I do hope to
23 get into the nursing program. I know
24 there's very few spots in there, but I'm
25 doing my best, so we shall see. Want to

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2 help me out with that I have no problem.

3 Thank you, very much, for listening
4 to my story.

5 DR. BEAUDIN: Thank you, Professor
6 Mansfield, for that.

7 And I want to thank Andrea and
8 Arlene, Dr. Galiotis, Deb Wolfson and
9 Troy Tucker, and Vice President Araneo,
10 every single person who helps to make
11 this pathway program so successful.

12 And again, thank you, very much, for
13 telling your story today.

14 STUDENT PAUL: Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT McKAY: Madame Chair,
16 members of the board, that concludes my
17 report.

18 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, very
19 much, Dr. McKay. That was very moving.
20 And this is why we come. It's why we
21 come and we need to hear more of these
22 testimonies about the impact that Suffolk
23 Community has on a life. Congratulations.

24 I'd like to move to roundtable on
25 our agenda. Is there anything?

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2 TRUSTEE MORGO: Three quick things,
3 taking up on what you just said, that we
4 have to hear more of these testimonials.
5 So do our county sponsors in the
6 legislature and so do our state
7 representatives have to hear them.

8 Paul, what you said is a great
9 snapshot of why Suffolk County Community
10 College is so important. With your
11 demographic, as you said, nontraditional,
12 we are also the place where many children
13 of immigrants come and this is their
14 pathway to a solid middle class, too --

15 STUDENT PAUL: Well, I am the child
16 of an immigrant, so I fit that
17 demographic, too.

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: So I am, as a matter
19 of fact.

20 The second thing, I just want to
21 reemphasize something I said earlier. I
22 mentioned that last month I thought it
23 was a very positive thing that we had a
24 discussion on one of the resolutions. So
25 often we just routinely pass all the

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2 resolutions. Admittedly, some of them
3 are routine, some of them don't need
4 discussion. And also, the executive
5 committee goes in to discussion on
6 Mondays on the resolutions. For example,
7 this past Monday we looked at the
8 Kreiling capital program override. It
9 was more than double, as a matter of
10 fact. But I was very happy to hear that
11 none of the override came out of the
12 operating budget, we found another
13 capital program. We discussed it at the
14 committee meeting, Vice President
15 Petrizzo told us how it was funded, and
16 we were satisfied with it. But I think
17 when you get the packet and look at the
18 packet, if there are any resolutions that
19 you think should be discussed more at the
20 meeting, we can take them out of order,
21 we don't have to pass them all at once.

22 And finally, the last thing,
23 Dr. McKay reminded me of this, Dr. McKay
24 mentioned the Regional Economic
25 Development Counsel. It was -- you all

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2 know what that is, right? I said it
3 instead of REDC, we have so many acronyms
4 that I thought it would be good to
5 mention that. But the REDC two weeks ago
6 revealed what its priority projects were.
7 Those projects then go up to Albany and
8 we find out the final results in
9 November. One of the priority projects
10 was the cyber security building that was
11 put as a priority, which means it is
12 going to get some funding from the REDC.
13 Depending upon what happens upstate we'll
14 know how much funding we're going to get.
15 But that's a testament to Dr. McKay and
16 his whole team for putting that forward.
17 So I was very happy to see that. And
18 again, we need every bit of funding that
19 we can get. We can't bond, so our
20 capital programs all have to come from a
21 combination of state and the county. But
22 it's kind of naive to say that one has
23 nothing to do with the other, because
24 they're both interrelated.
25 So that's just the three things I

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2 wanted to put across.

3 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thanks, Jim.

4 Any other roundtable items?

5 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: I have
6 one thing.

7 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Yes.

8 TRUSTEE LINDSAY SULLIVAN: Dr. Beaudin
9 alluded to one of the programs in my
10 school so I just wanted to talk about
11 that, and I have something I want to give
12 to all of you.

13 The program that he's talking about
14 is our culinary program. We were
15 building a home ec, for lack of a better
16 term, family consumer science now,
17 classroom, and I was looking at these
18 specs that were being made and I said
19 well, we have nine periods in a day and
20 the classroom is only going to be used
21 five. What can we do with that room for
22 the other four; why don't we build a
23 culinary program. And at that point all
24 we had was blueprints. And I went to my
25 K12 partner, which I'm not going to name,

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2 and said these are my plans and this is
3 what I want to do, can you help me to do
4 this. And they said oh, it's not
5 possible. And I said, well, we didn't
6 even build it yet. What do we have to do
7 to make it work, and they said no, it's
8 not going to work. And I said okay. And
9 then I called Suffolk and spoke with -- I
10 don't even remember who I connected with
11 at that point, and they sent me the
12 people from the culinary school, and I
13 did the same thing and said this is the
14 plan and this is what I want to do and
15 will this work? And he said of course,
16 anything is possible. And he said but
17 you have to change the stove, because
18 it's an electric stove and a chef will
19 never see an electric stove unless
20 they're on a cruise ship, and you have to
21 change the refrigerator and make it a
22 walk-in, and we said okay and we tweaked
23 everything and now here we are three or
24 four years later and I have the program
25 filled to capacity, our students leave

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2 high school with seven culinary credits
3 to Suffolk Community College, many of
4 them transfer to the program in
5 Riverhead, and they have the capability
6 of receiving a food handler's
7 certificate, which allows them to be a
8 manager of a restaurant. So those are
9 the kinds of things that make the
10 difference in lives, you know. Someone,
11 bringing you in that door, putting that
12 arm around you and saying anything is
13 possible, that's what we do as well.

14 And that brought me to Jane Scher
15 gave me some handouts. At one of our
16 meetings we were talking about the
17 culinary school and how we really need to
18 bring -- you know how I'm always saying
19 gotta bring on campus, gotta bring people
20 on campus. They have wonderful programs
21 where you can take your significant other
22 and take a cooking class. So I want to
23 pass these out. Maybe we will all start
24 to cook and have fun.

25 And that's all I have to say.

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2 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Thank you, so
3 much, Denise. We're always promoting
4 Suffolk, I tell you.

5 Any other roundtable items?

6 Okay, thank you. I'd like to
7 request a motion to enter into executive
8 session to discuss the medical,
9 financial, credit or employment history
10 of a particular college employee.

11 TRUSTEE BOST: Motion.

12 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Motion.

13 MS. PAGDANGANAN: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: Second.

15 All in favor?

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

18 CHAIRWOMAN SANDERS: And there will
19 be no further business transacted after
20 the executive session.

21 [THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING WAS
22 ADJOURNED AND THE BOARD ENTERED INTO
23 EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:27 A.M.]

24

25

