

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM WEBINAR
April 15, 2021

The meeting was held on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via conference call.

PRESENT:

E. Christopher Murray	Chair
James Morgo	Vice Chair
Gordon Canary	Secretary
Theresa Sanders	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
Kevin O'Connor	Trustee
Gemma deLeon-Lopresti	Trustee
Priscilla Zarate	Trustee
Kaitlyn Gambina	Student Trustee
Louis J. Petrizzo	Interim President
Alicia O'Connor	Deputy General Counsel
Ashley Pope	Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Mark Harris	V.P. for Business and Financial Affairs
Dr. Paul Beaudin	V.P. for Academic and Student Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Angelica Rivera	A.V.P. for Employee Resources

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 9:04 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Canary.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and convene the Board of Directors meeting at 9:05 a.m. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Zarate seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting and reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 9:08 a.m. Trustee deLeon-Lopresti so moved, Student Trustee Gambina seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray requested a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2021 Board of Trustees meetings. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Zarate seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray introduced Dr. Mark Harris, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs, to present the College Budget and Financial report. VP Harris began his FY'22 budget presentation by first highlighting some things to close out the FY'20 audit that were presented and approved at last month's meeting. Based on the financials and the audit presented, there was a 2.9% overall reduction in tuition revenue, as well as a reduction in fees. The significant impact as a result of overall reduction in tuition and fees was mitigated with the drawdown of \$1.5 million of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) I funds to cover certain expenses, as well as student fees that were reimbursed. Due to the disruption of COVID, the College saw a 5.3% reduction in salaries, personnel services, and about a 1.7% decrease in overall benefits costs. Based on the College's efforts, expenses were reduced by about 7.9%. The College was able to end the year on a positive note by adding \$4.09 million to fund balance.

Based on the trends for the fall, spring, and summer, the College is seeing a 6% reduction in tuition and 5% reduction in fees and other revenue, and is projecting revenue loss of about \$8.5 million. However, based on the ability of the College to claim expenses and potential revenue loss for FY'21, it was able to pull down about \$4.057 million from HEERF I, resulting in a projected net revenue loss of a about \$4.4 million compared to what was anticipated at the start of the budget year. In terms of the costs, looking at both salaries and benefits, the College saw about an 8.1% reduction/savings due to the cost mitigation efforts that have been undertaken in FY'21. The reduction in expenses was not only from salary and benefits but also from the College reducing some course sections and improving the utilization rate of those sections. The overall reduction is about 8.1% for salary and benefits and about 23.3% in our total expenses, about 11.6% in other variable costs. Based on the reduction in projected revenue and costs, the College is projecting to increase the fund balance by about \$5.67 million for FY'21.

VP Harris reviewed the year over year comparisons of the use of the fund balance with FY'18 being one of the most challenging years for the College where it had to use a significant amount of the fund balance. He noted the efforts of faculty, staff, and administrators in recognizing and addressing the challenges that COVID posed to the College.

For FY'22, the budget projected was based on certain assumptions of the primary sources of funding. The State aid assumption is a decrease in floor funding from 100% to 98%. The College also requested a 3% increase in County funding primarily because of the projected 5.4 percent decrease both in tuition and fees. Due to the HEERF II, the College will access about \$9.9 million of funds to offset some costs and loss of revenue. In terms of our cost assumptions, the College is factoring about a 6.6% increase in salaries, overload, overtime, and adjunct positions based on increased face-to-face and on-premise work. An increase in benefits of about 1.9% and approximately 20.3% increase in other costs due to projected on-premise work and face-to-face modality, as well as provide support for instructional, IT, plant maintenance equipment, and other operating costs.

VP Harris reviewed the graphical representation of FTE's and Headcount showing the College's decrease in both from FY'15 to FY'22. He said it was critical for the College to put in place initiatives to help improve retention rates.

VP Harris concluded his presentation by summarizing the proposed FY'22 budget. The proposed budget is based on 98% State funding, 3% contribution from the County - about \$1.34 million over the prior year - and a decrease both in tuition of 5.4%, as well as fees. The College then has the ability, based on its eligibility, to draw down about \$9.9 million from HEERF II that will supplement the revenue shortfall. There is an expected increase in projected costs, both on the personnel services side and other variable expenses to support services to students as the College transitions back from online to face-to-face. The College will still be dependent on use of the fund balance in the amount of \$4,954,803.

Chair Murray thanked VP Harris for his presentation and asked Trustee O'Connor if he wanted to add anything as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. Trustee O'Connor thanked VP Harris and said he agreed with the freezing of tuition and it seemed a good use of fund balance in order to provide the services needed for the students.

Trustee Coverdale gave kudos to Dr. Harris and his team for really holding the line in the most difficult of circumstances, and said she felt the projected budget for FY'22 was extremely thoughtful and prudent.

Trustee Morgo commented that he echoed Trustee Coverdale's sentiments and that it really was a remarkable job that Dr. Harris, President Petrizzo and the entire team was able to do in getting a 23% savings during a very difficult year, and as well as freezing tuition for the second year in a row. He added that it says a great deal about the College's commitment to its students and, hopefully, the freezing of tuition will attract future students to help our enrollment. Trustee Morgo also congratulated Trustee O'Connor, because he took over the Budget and Finance committee and brought the surplus almost back to where it was when he was Chair of the committee.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti gave kudos to the entire budget committee, as well Dr. Harris and his entire staff. She also thanked the entire College staff for all the sacrifices during this difficult time, saying it shows the cooperative nature and relationship that the College has with its staff. She noted that her son attended the College and they didn't feel that the quality had been sacrificed while he attended classes virtually. The student experience from her family's perspective has been phenomenal and she gave kudos to the entire staff.

Trustee Canary also thanked and gave kudos to VP Harris and his team for their work in a very challenging year. He noted that VP Harris had a 20.3% increase in costs related to plant maintenance and IT efforts. He said he was also concerned about air-handling situations and what SUNY is going to require the colleges to do to bring students back full-time. He asked if the College was projecting for those potential costs. VP Harris said

the College has a Safe Start Committee and a subcommittee of that broader committee, which is the Plan and Operations Committee. They have been meeting on a biweekly basis. He said prior to even talking about coming back in the fall of 2021, the team kicked into action following guidelines as outlined by The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and switched to a higher-grade filter, MERV13. This did cost more money; fortunately, the College was able to recoup those costs through the CARES Act and now from the HEERF II. He added that the committee worked collectively with not just Plant Operations from each campus but also Central Facilities and the campus Executive Deans to identify what the needs were in terms of air quality. Certain departments require special air filtration systems and the College has met those needs working through the procurement department to expedite the process of getting what was needed. In an effort to ensure that the environment in which its employees and students work is safe, the College has outfitted its offices and classrooms with plexiglass, etc. The College has also purchased additional mobile sprayers for cleaning in order to sanitize and disinfect quicker.

President Petrizzo said the CARES Act I money was very helpful to the College in that regard. The College was able to buy the sprayers that VP Harris referenced and all of the PPE that is necessary to keep employees, students, and faculty safe.

Trustee Zarate said she too thanked the entire team, as well, for keeping the students as their first priority when it comes to their fiduciary-related decisions.

President Petrizzo said there were also a number of student fees that were also either being reduced or eliminated this year. He asked VP Harris to review some of those fee reductions. VP Harris then reviewed the resolution in which tuition and fees would be reduced. In addition to the Association reducing the Student Activity fee, the College has decided to not charge the vehicle registration fee. The College will only charge those students who are taking in person physical education classes the physical education fee. A student who is taking fewer than 9 credits on campus will not be paying the meal plan fee.

President Petrizzo added that the distance education fee was also being modified. This was a fee that was charged each time a student took a distance education class. The fee was used to compensate the College for the management system that's necessary for the distance education experience. Now there is one fee for distance education, no matter how many DE classes you take.

Chair Murray said he too wanted to echo the rest of the trustees and thanked VP Harris, President Petrizzo, the administration and everyone at the College for all the good work, and congratulated them for a wonderful job managing everything during this difficult year.

Chair Murray called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2021.16 through 2021.24. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee O'Connor seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2021.16 through 2021.24. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee O'Connor seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.16 - Approving Monthly Sponsor Services for Suffolk County Community College

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the health insurance payment to the County of Suffolk in the amount of \$3,140,063.21 for the month of March 2021 (*Attachment I*) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.17 - 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.18 - Authorizing the Acceptance of a Gift from the Suffolk Community College Foundation

WHEREAS, the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc. is the recipient of refrigeration equipment from Long Island Cares, Inc. / The Harry Chapin Food Bank, valued at \$5,208, as awarded under a capital equipment grant, and

WHEREAS, the Foundation wishes to further donate this equipment to Suffolk County Community College for use in the Michael J. Grant Campus Food Pantry, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Student Affairs on the Grant Campus has been consulted and has indicated a need for this equipment for the benefit of students and their families, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the College's acceptance of refrigeration equipment, valued at \$5,208, from the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc., for use in the Michael J. Grant Campus Food Pantry.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.19 - Authorizing the Acceptance of a Gift from the Suffolk Community College Foundation

WHEREAS, the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc. is the recipient of three Stryker Stair Chairs from the North Babylon Fire Company, valued at \$11,400, and

WHEREAS, the Foundation wishes to further donate this equipment to Suffolk County Community College for use on the College campuses, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Fire and Public Safety and the Campus Executive Deans have been consulted and have indicated a need for this equipment for the benefit of the College community, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the College's acceptance of three Stryker Stair Chairs, valued at \$11,400, from the Suffolk Community College Foundation, Inc., for use on the College campuses.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.20 - Amending the College Budget for a Grant Award Increase from the State University of New York (SUNY) for the Distribution of New Open Educational Resource (OER) Funding

WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 College operating budget provides \$73,139 of remaining funds from the State University of New York (SUNY) for the distribution of the Open

Educational Resource (OER) Funding, for the period of September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the grant award has been increased by \$7,692, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$80,831, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2020-2021 College operating budget in the amount of \$7,692 to provide for the increase in the grant award, and

RESOLVED, that the 2020-2021 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$7,692 from the State University of New York (SUNY) for the distribution of new Open Educational Resource (OER) Funding, and the College Interim President or his designee is authorized to execute a contract, with the administering agency, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the College's Office of Legal Affairs.

Project Director: Paul Beaudin, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Note: No full-time positions

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.21 - Amending the College Budget for a Perkins V Career and Technical Education Act Program Grant

WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 College operating budget provides \$804,678, including indirect costs, from the NYS Education Department for the Carl D. Perkins Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V CTEA) Program for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the award has been increased by an additional amount of \$288,066, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$1,092,744, including indirect costs, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the 2020-2021 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$288,066, including indirect costs of \$12,861, from the NYS Education Department for the Carl D. Perkins Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V CTEA) Program, and the College Interim President or his designee is authorized to execute a contract with the administering agency, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the College's Office of Legal Affairs.

Project Director: Dr. W. Troy Tucker, College Associate Dean of Sponsored Programs

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.22 - Amending the College Budget for a Grant Award Increase from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program

WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 College operating budget provides \$201,000 from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program, and

WHEREAS, this grant supports the provision of quality child care services at the Ammerman and Michael J. Grant Campuses, and

WHEREAS, the grant award has been increased by \$5,028, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$206,028, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2020-2021 College operating budget in the amount of \$5,028 to provide for the increase in the grant award, and

RESOLVED, that the 2020-2021 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$5,028 from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program, and the College Interim President, or his designee, is authorized to execute any required documentation with the administering agency.

Project Director: Barbara E. Hurst, Director of Business Affairs, SCC Association

Note: No in-kind contribution required

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.23 - Approving the Budget for Suffolk County Community College for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

WHEREAS, the provisions of the New York State Education Law and regulations adopted in accordance with such law direct the Boards of Trustees of New York Community Colleges, subject to the approval of the State University Trustees, to prepare, approve and implement budgets, and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has developed its Operating Budget setting forth the budget total for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 budget includes necessary amounts for meeting the operational needs of the College, and includes sufficient amounts for collective bargaining agreements, and

WHEREAS, the State commitment for base aid per full-time equivalent (FTE) has decreased to 98% of last year's FTE funding, and

WHEREAS, the College is submitting its Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to the Suffolk County Legislature and the Suffolk County Executive's office as per the Memorandum of Understanding, and

WHEREAS, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees has carefully reviewed all the facts and circumstances attendant to the College's proposed 2021-2022 Operating Budget, and after due deliberation, is in support of the determinations made herein,

WHEREAS, the College Board of Trustees is requesting an increase in County support of 3% or \$1,343,383 to the College for 2021-2022 in order to freeze current tuition, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees seeks a sustainable level of sponsor support to meet the mutual goals of keeping higher education attainable to the residents of Suffolk County and tuition affordable at Suffolk County Community College, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that it will not raise tuition rates for the 2021-2022 Academic Year, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to access the Community College Fund Balance Reserve Fund to balance the budget, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves an Operating Budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$208,296,316 for operations and \$3,932,764 for grants, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the annual tuition charges will remain the same at \$5,470 per year for full-time resident students and \$228 per credit for part-time resident students, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021-2022 operating budget shall include a transfer from the Community College Fund Balance Reserve in the amount of \$4,780,594 and be it further

RESOLVED, that annual tuition and fees as provided in Resolution No. 2021.24 are to be included in the College budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

Total Appropriations:		\$212,229,080
Operation Appropriations:		\$208,296,316
Grant Appropriations:		\$3,932,764

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.24 - Adopting a Tuition and Fee Schedule for 2021-2022

WHEREAS, the College recommends that there be no increase to tuition for the 2021-2022 academic year, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Tuition and Fee Schedule be approved for the 2021-2022 academic year, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the following Tuition and Fee schedule be approved:

Full-time Students	Fall <u>2021</u>	Spring <u>2022</u>
Tuition, Residents	\$2,735	\$2,735
Tuition, Non-Resident	\$5,470	\$5,470
Part-time Students	Fall <u>2021</u>	Spring <u>2022</u>
Tuition, Residents (per credit)	\$228	\$228
Tuition, Non-Resident	\$456	\$456

And be it further

RESOLVED, that the student Tuition and Fee Schedule (*Attachment III*) is hereby approved and adopted for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Chairman Murray moved to the committee reports and called for the Student Success Committee. Trustee Pagdanganan said the committee met on April 14th. This month, Dr. Paul Beaudin welcomed guest speakers Associate Vice President John Lombardo and Specialist Laura Galletta from the Office of Workforce Development. The Advanced Manufacturing Training Center offers many training opportunities to develop and upgrade skills necessary to gain a career in the manufacturing field. The center offers several programs such as the CNC machine operator, welding, IPC certification, industrial automation, Mastercam, soldering, and electronic assembly, among others. Programs offer national and international certification upon successful completion. Input from the Industry Advisory Board helps the College to sustain its program relevance. Through this industry support and engagement, the College has become a dependable reliable source for skills gap training, as well as for local companies to hire from. The program has also received numerous grant awards and has been recognized with regional and national awards through the years. A current focus is outreach to high schools. As an example, the robotics clubs are groups that often possess the skill,

ability, and interest to do well in the manufacturing environment. Regional employers are also eager to work with us and recruit from the College's program since there are not many colleges that offer anything similar. Several new programs have shown promise. First - a new program to support those with autism which focuses not only on training but on career readiness. The second is the industrial manufacturing tech program which provides insight into many different industries and is ideal for those who are not quite sure which area they want to pursue. The third one is the boot camp outreach to post high school students who are between 17 to 29 years old, and this has been very successful. The College is able to provide an introduction to manufacturing that includes 200 hours of work-related experience. There are growth opportunities for this program and the challenges for the program are centered right now on funding for machinery and expansion of space. She thanked Dr. Beaudin, AVP Lombardo and Ms. Galletta for all the great work that they've been doing towards workforce development.

Chair Murray called for the Foundation report. Trustee Pagdanganan said the Board of Directors met on April 15th. The Foundation is happy to report that the Bonadio Group has issued a modified opinion following their audit of the Suffolk Community College Foundation. There were no adjustments or material weaknesses cited in this final report.

The Foundation's virtual fundraising events will continue. Later this evening, the Foundation will host a virtual wine tasting event with the Del Vino Vineyards. Then on April 21st the next fundraiser will be the Spring into Wellness, a one-hour virtual yoga and mindful experience. All proceeds from this will go to all our student scholarships.

Suffolk Federal Credit Union CEO Michele Dean, who is also an alumna from Suffolk's class of 1988, recently visited a production class of the College's radio/TV/film program. During the visit, Professor Gayle Sheridan's class taped a video segment that touched upon the financial literacy and the partnership agreement in place between the College, the Foundation, and the Credit Union. Students will edit the video which will then be available via the College's YouTube channel and the Credit Union's website.

Planning is also underway for this year's Foundation Golf Classic, scheduled for Monday, August 30th at Southward Ho Country Club in Bay Shore. This year's event will be restructured to comply with New York's COVID-19 guidelines in order to provide for a safe setting for our participants.

Chair Murray called for the Student Trustee report. Student Trustee Gambina said SGA met the new candidates for student government and student trustee, and had elections last week. The results from the election would be known soon and once announced Trustee Gambina said she would help in ensuring a smooth transition. SGA is also encouraging students to get the vaccine as soon as possible since it is now open to students.

Chair Murray called for the Advocacy Committee report. Trustee Zarate said the committee met on April 13th via Zoom. The Advocacy Committee welcomed and

thanked VP Araneo and Dr. Beaudin for attending to discuss ways the College is utilizing its opportunities at vaccination sites to highlight the College's programs and further spread information to the community. VP Araneo discussed the new SUNY Suffolk programs videos that were created for the College's website and YouTube channel. Through the Office of Institutional Advancement and with the assistance of the Admissions and Enrollment Management departments, the project was developed to promote the College's programs virtually with the goal of recruitment and potentially increasing enrollment and retention. The videos also allowed the students and their parents to have a video resource of programs offered at the College. These videos are currently being used throughout the College and during the online admission events and are displayed at the vaccination sites in all three campuses.

The Suffolk County government Stop Asian Hate rally also took place on Saturday, March 27, 2021. The well-attended rally of over 500 people was hosted by County Executive Steve Bellone, the Office of Minority Affairs, and the Suffolk County Asian American Advisory Board with the purpose to offer our support to the Asian community and bring awareness to the recent spikes of hate crimes against Asian Americans nationwide. County Executive Bellone's message relayed that hatred and intolerance will not be accepted in Suffolk County. Although Suffolk County has not had much reported activity on any hate crimes against Asian Americans, the Suffolk County Police Department will stay vigilant about incidents not reported because of fear. The following week Senator Schumer hosted a press conference with a similar anti-hate message. The Advocacy Committee posted an article on the Board of Trustees social media site to demonstrate their support and position on these issues plaguing the Asian community. Drew Biondo, Director of Communications, stated that the College's President, Lou Petrizzo, also issued a brief to the College community citing the College's support and anti-hate message. Students of the Radio and TV Production department have also been vocal with their anti-hate public service announcements and support of all groups, including the Asian community.

On April 1, 2021, over 1,000 people attended the All in for SUNY and CUNY virtual rally. The Advocacy Committee was one of the attendees. The primary goal was advocacy and investment in SUNY and CUNY institutions by finalizing a budget in support of SUNY and CUNY, as well as outreach to leaders for more funding. The County has said in its call letter that the College should not ask for more than a 1.5% increase over the County's current contribution. The Advocacy Committee will be seeking an additional 1.5% from the County Legislature which amounts to approximately \$675,000. Suffolk County has received hundreds of millions of dollars in federal aid. They gave the College no increase last year even though they indicated they would when they encouraged the College to adopt the County's AME contract provisions for our employees. In the meantime, the College has provided numerous services to Suffolk County, most importantly, making its campuses (and staff) available as County and State vaccination centers for thousands of Suffolk County residents. The College's staff have taken cuts in pay and longevity payments and hopefully this has generated enough goodwill to receive the additional funding this year. This funding will go to the College's students who will see no increase in tuition and cuts in fees.

The Advocacy Committee also discussed potential virtual advocacy opportunities and having an advocacy platform to set forth bullet points which will become conversational topics with our County and State leaders. She shared an email communication and sample letters created by New York State Affirm which allows members and committee organizations to use for the purpose of advocating for funding. It was discussed that a similar letter created by the College can potentially help organizations within the College to advocate, as well as encourage student engagement and advocacy. This type of virtual advocacy can be very accommodating for students who are unable to attend in person.

The Committee reviewed the draft document of the goals and priorities of the Advocacy Committee and agreed that what had been captured aligns with the mission and vision of the College, the operational plan and institutional goals. The Committee agrees that this document will be a live document and will set forth short-term goals, as well as long-term goals. Trustee Morgo suggested that the Committee's goals and priorities document be shared with other Board of Trustee members. The Committee agreed to add virtual advocacy opportunities, conversations within the County, advocacy platforms, community participation, and events and presence at other meetings as part of the short-term goals for this year.

The Suffolk County Legislature Education Committee's April meeting has been canceled due to lack of agenda items and points of discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for May 5th and the College will have representation at the meeting. The next Advocacy Committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the next Board meeting.

Chair Murray moved onto the Chair's report. Chair Murray said that given the circumstances with the vaccine, he would like to have both the Executive Committee and the Board May meetings be held in person, adding that he felt you lose something on Zoom, and having in-person meetings are important. Trustee's Canary and Gambina agreed. Trustee Sanders said it would be nice to still have the online option available, if possible. Chair Murray said as long as the College could provide both, he agreed. President Petrizzo said he believed the College could, but would confirm with IT and get back to them.

Chair Murray moved to the President's report. President Petrizzo first thanked VP Harris, Associate Dean of Finance John Bullard and the entire business and finance team for all the work they've done in crafting the 2021-2022 College Operating budget. President Petrizzo said the big news of the week was Governor Cuomo's visit to the Grant Campus this past Monday. He thanked Chair Murray, Trustees Coverdale, Canary, Pagdanganan, Zarate, and Student Trustee Gambina for coming out and supporting the event. He said the College put on a flawless event, and showed all of New York State the wonderful facilities of the College and the community spirit of the

entire College. He thanked AVP Rivera and Athletic Director and Special Events Chief Neftali Collazo and their respective teams for organizing the event and doing it with less than 24 hours' notice.

President Petrizzo said the College is in the process of distributing \$6.3 million in student grants under the federal funding approved in December of 2020, under the CARES Act II funding. The money will be going to Pell Grant students based on the formula developed by SUNY Systems Administration based on their estimated family contributions on the students' FAFSA forms. The money will hopefully provide the College's students with some relief from the pandemic and hopefully be of some assistance to them as they go through the registration process for summer and fall.

He reported that April is student elections month, and the newly elected Student Trustee is Zachary Frost. Mr. Frost is a nursing student on the Dean's List, and has taken classes both at the Grant and Ammerman Campus. He will be sworn in at the August meeting. Student Trustee Gambina will continue to serve her term through June 30th.

Summer and spring registrations have been proceeding. Summer of '21, much like summer of '20, appears to be going very well. Fall registrations are showing students favoring remote classes over in-person classes, noting it was an interesting development for the College. Right now, registration is for continuing students; the volume of registrants is encouraging.

The IT department will be retrofitting three classrooms, one on each campus, with a hybrid technology which have a trial in the fall semester. This technology will allow the College to conduct classes remotely and in person at the same time. One faculty member will be able to lecture the students in the classroom and other students on a remote connection. This is a trial of the technology which will allow the College to solve a number of issues, social distancing, and the issue of faculty members teaching less than full-sized classes and the cost associated with that. The College is hopeful that this may produce some benefits that can be expanded on going forward.

The College had started a vaccination program for students. Unfortunately, due to the CDC's recent guidance on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, the College has had to pause the student vaccination program pending further direction from SUNY and the CDC. The College is hopeful that it can get that program back up and running and get our students in for vaccinations sooner rather than later.

President Petrizzo said that last evening the College sent around a program via email -- a Thank You tribute to the College's essential workers, in person classroom faculty, custodial workers, and everyone who came to the College during the dark days and who continue to be here making the campus a safe and healthy work environment for everyone. He said Institutional Advancement did a wonderful job constructing the Thank You video and encouraged everyone to take a minute to view the video when possible.

Trustee Canary asked President Petrizzo what his guess would be about SUNY mandating students in the fall be required to have the vaccine. He said they had recently discussed this at a presidents' meeting. He thinks that as long as the vaccine continues under emergency use authorization, SUNY will not take a further step with respect to mandating vaccinations. Once that authorization changes, and it is expected to change, that issue will be revisited. It seems to be the presidents are split on whether or not to require it. The institutions that have dormitories obviously feel very differently than some of the other institutions.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti asked President Petrizzo if the College found that the students who preferred the online course vs. going back to in person were students who had part time jobs or possibly had to travel between campuses and use public transportation. She noted the online modality allows the students greater flexibility to their schedule. She said she thought the pilot program to offer both in person teaching and online for students was great and, hopefully, it will be a success.

President Petrizzo said they have great hopes for it, noting that it will be a different experience for an instructor to handle both in person and students in the remote modality. It requires some training on the part of the instructor, but the hyperflex cameras that will be used should help both the instructor and the students have the experience they want.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti asked how the faculty have been adapting to teaching online. Dr. Beaudin said the College has been very fortunate to have unbelievable people working in its Center for Innovative Pedagogy and they have provided thousands of online training to faculty over the spring, summer and fall semesters, noting many faculty took advantage of online training. He added that the registration numbers do seem to indicate, for a lot of students, that they still want to pursue online learning which, in part as Trustee deLeon-Lopresti noted, was due to the flexibility it can provide them.

President Petrizzo added that the leader of the Center, Camille Karlson, just recently won a SUNY award for being an outstanding distance education administrator and one of the instructors, Yu Zhang from the Eastern Campus, also won an award for distance learning teaching.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti commented on President Petrizzo's remarks about the sacrifices of the frontline workers that were connected to Suffolk. She said she happened to be volunteering at Brookhaven Hospital signing up people for their COVID vaccines and, after a long day of hard work, one of the student nurses from Suffolk County Community College came in to assist, as well. She was very impressed by this young man and the College's students that are everywhere doing good things for the community.

Trustee Zarate asked President Petrizzo if it was ok share the Thank You tribute publicly, because she felt it was very important for the community to see. President Petrizzo agreed, and indicated that it should be shared.

Trustee Canary asked in regards to expanding the online capabilities, whether the College had a feel for how many of its students have been frustrated with not having a good broadband service which interrupts their sessions. President Petrizzo said it did offer hot spots and laptop to students. The College also put Wi-Fi in its parking lots and told students they could come into the parking lot and park in the spots of the school. The College's IT staff also have student tech representatives who are on hotlines fielding the calls that come in, and any time students have problems with their Wi-Fi or with their equipment.

Trustee Coverdale noted that the broadband signal and internet access is a particular problem for residents on the East End which could impact some of the East End students. President Petrizzo said he would keep an eye out for issues from students in those areas.

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Chair Murray moved onto Roundtable. Trustee Morgo said two things occurred to him that were important during the Advocacy Committee report and during VP Harris's presentation of the budget. He provided a historical perspective: at one of his first meetings as a trustee discussing the budget, Trustee Sanders said that we shouldn't balance the operating budget on the backs of the students. This stayed with him for a very long time, but every year there was a percentage increase in tuition. They had to because although it's statutorily required that the County provide 33% of the operating budget and the State provide 33% and student tuition 33%, it's not that way and that hasn't happened. The students have made up for the extra funds needed. He noted that for the second year in a row the College is freezing tuition, as well as decreasing fees, which has only happened one other time in the last 20 years. In addition, the cost savings measures that the administration was able to put in was key and remarkable.

He added that for anyone who criticized the College and its budgeting who said they were spending like drunken sailors, well, that certainly wasn't the case - which was evident through the College belt-tightening, along with the federal commitment through both the CARES Act and the American Rescue Act. He said he didn't want to diminish the assistance of the State or the County, and in fact, was confident the County is going to come through with the 3%, but he did want to point out that the federal government did help the College at this time and he felt that's something that should be recognized. Lastly, the decision to freeze tuition is really a sign of their commitment to the futures of the students and, hopefully, this will attract new students to help enrollment.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti, following up the point of Trustee Morgo tying the advocacy with the financials, said that the graphics that Dr. Harris produced were very powerful and was one of the best graphical presentations she has seen from the College in a while. She asked if it could be turned into an infographic, a one-pager with just the highlights of the important graphs and some bullets to show the value of what the

College does, to be used as powerful advocacy tool. Trustee Morgo said it could be used at the Education Committee of the County Legislature. President Petrizzo agreed and said he would have someone work on it.

Trustee Canary asked President Petrizzo how the donation of the Stryker chairs from the North Babylon Fire Department came about. Did the Fire Department select the College or was there some type of an association with someone at the College. Ms. O'Connor said it came through Joe Fraccalvieri, the Plants Operations Director on the Grant Campus who is affiliated with that fire department, and it was presented by the president of the fire department. Trustee Canary commented that this was a great contribution the fire district made.

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Chair Murray requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of an employee at 10:21 a.m. Trustee Coverdale so moved, Trustee deLeon-Lopresti seconded, and with all in favor, the motion carried.

With no further business to be conducted at the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board of Trustees meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m. The Board of Trustees next meeting is May 13, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Canary
Secretary