

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MICHAEL J. GRANT CAMPUS
BOARD ROOM, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)
AND VIA ZOOM
OCTOBER 21, 2021

The meeting was held on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. both in-person in the Board Room of the LRC on the Michael J. Grant Campus and via Zoom.

PRESENT:

E. Christopher Murray	Chair
Shirley Coverdale	Second Vice Chair
Gordon Canary	Secretary
Theresa Sanders	Trustee
Gemma deLeon-Lopresti	Trustee
Kevin O'Connor	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
Priscilla Zarate	Trustee
Zachary Frost	Student Trustee
Dr. Edward Bonahue	President
Louis J. Petrizzo	Executive Vice President and General Counsel
Alicia O'Connor	Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Mark Harris	V.P. for Business and Financial Affairs
Dr. Patty Munsch	Associate V.P. for Student Affairs
Dr. Lauren Tacke-Cushing	Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Kaliah Greene	Interim V.P. / Executive Director, Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Angelica Rivera	Assistant V.P. for Human Resources

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 4:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Canary.

Trustee asked for a moment of silence for Colin Powell, former United States Secretary of State in honor of his outstanding service to the U.S. military, the nation and the people of the United States.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and convene the Board of Directors meeting at 4:02 p.m. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee Sanders 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 4:05 p.m. Trustee Sanders so moved, Trustee Canary seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Sanders so moved, Trustee Canary 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. First, he gave an update of FY'21-year end projections. The financial team continues to work on reporting final year- end numbers, as well as working with the external auditors to ensure proper accounting and reporting of all the transactions. One of the key determinants for FY' 21 is really trying to correctly record those transactions relating to HEERF II that were received in FY' 21. The College remains confident that it will end with a healthy fund balance and will be in a much better position in December to give a more accurate update on the final number. During this close process, they still have to determine the exact amount that they will need to reserve for doubtful accounts (receivables that still have not yet been paid by students), the rough estimate is about \$1.2m. There is also an outstanding accrual that they are working with the auditors to determine if the assumption is correct.

In regards to cash flow, the College continues to maintain enough cash to meet its short-term obligations. The FY'22 1st quarter cash disbursement (\$12.5m) from SUNY will be made mid-November because their board meeting was pushed from September to late October.

For FY'22 budget update, the income and expenditure statements are for the transactions from September 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021. Seeing that this is the first month of the fiscal year, they are still trying to determine the final credit and non-credit revenue, as well as the cost impact based on number of course sections. Again, it is too early to project net impact on fund balance and they will have a better sense of where the revenue projection will be for the Fall in December. One of the things they are working with the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness is determining what the FTE impact will be in terms of a revenue loss, specifically because fall enrollment has significantly decreased compared to the 5.4% that had been budgeted. They want to see what the difference is and then make an application to the US Department of Education to get reimbursed for the delta between what was budgeted and what the actual loss in FTE is.

Chair Murray asked if it was too premature to have any sense of what the State is going to do next year. President Bonahue said he had not heard anything as of yet and there is a Presidents' call scheduled with the Chancellor and he promised to touch on the budget looking in the year ahead. He said if there was any news, he will bring it forward.

VP Harris then reviewed the one resolution that had financial impact. Item number one represents the monthly service to Suffolk County for the employee health insurance for \$2,893,933.46, which is in line with the typical monthly payment.

Chair Murray then asked Trustee Canary to review the resolution that was recommended by the Governance Committee. Trustee Canary said the Committee had met on Monday afternoon. Discussion was had about a proposal received by the Special Events department to permit Future Stars Tennis Academy of Harbourview LLC to enter into a three-year licensing agreement to conduct youth sports camps on the College's three campuses during the summer months. Assistant Director of Special Events, Steed Alberti, informed the Committee that the College's licensee which previously operated a summer camp on the Michael J. Grant Campus was no longer in business, so there was no conflict there. Future Stars is an established, well-organized company that was able to run camps during the summer of 2020 and 2021. They already run camps at SUNY Purchase, Farmingdale State College, and St. Joseph's College, and are looking to expand their locations.

The proposed fee arrangements would be based on a percentage of the total number of weeks campers are enrolled. The College would be guaranteed a minimum payment. There will be some staffing needs, such as lifeguards at the pools. The Committee agreed that in addition to the revenue source, this program would be a great way to introduce families to the College campuses to see what SUNY Suffolk is all about, and hopefully, be a path for future students when they are ready to enter into college. The Governance Committee had to take this up because this presented a different fee structure than what is normally done under the Facilities Use Policy. The license fee would be calculated on a total number of weeks that the campers are enrolled, and since this fee arrangement falls outside of the scope of the Policy and its fee schedule, they had to propose this resolution to authorize the license agreement. The Governance Committee felt that this organization apparently runs outstanding camps - Steed has spoken to SUNY Purchase, Farmingdale State College, and St. Joseph's College, and they are all quite pleased with their relationship with them and how they run their facilities and their operations. The Committee felt it could go forward with the recommendation to the Board to approve this new contract.

Chair Murray called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2021.57 through 2021.61. Student Trustee Frost so moved, Trustee Sanders seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.57 - Approving Monthly Sponsor Services for Suffolk County Community College

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the health insurance payment to the County of Suffolk in the amount of \$2,893,933.46 for the month of September 2021 (*Attachment I*) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.58 - Accepting a Grant Award from the County of Suffolk to Support Wetland Restoration Projects

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant award in the amount of \$87,500.00 from the County of Suffolk, acting through its Department of Economic Development and Planning, to support wetland restoration projects for the period of May 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS, said grant award is funded through the Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program, and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has been designated as the contractor to support the County of Suffolk with wetland restoration projects by providing environmental services, including collecting samples of mosquito larvae, nekton, and wetland vegetation from tidal ditches and marsh surfaces, and obtaining groundwater and tidal ditch measurements of chemical parameters, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the College President, or his designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a contract in the amount of \$87,500.00 with the County of Suffolk, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, to support wetland restoration projects for the period of May 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

Project Director: Professor Rosa Gambier

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.59 - Amending the College Budget for a Grant Award Increase from the U.S. Department of Education for a Childcare Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Program

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 College operating budget provided \$91,500 from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) for a Childcare Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Program, and

WHEREAS, the grant award has been increased by an additional \$19,400, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$110,900, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2021-2022 College operating budget in the amount of \$19,400 to provide for the increase in the grant award, and

WHEREAS, this increase will provide additional funds for childcare subsidies on a sliding scale, and extend hours to meet the critical need for campus-based childcare for forty (40) low income, Pell-eligible student-parents, annually, for four years, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the 2021-2022 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$19,400 from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) for a Childcare Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Program, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$110,900.

Project Director: Vickie Calderon, Director of Suffolk Kids' Cottage, Michael J. Grant Campus

Note: No full-time positions

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.60 - Authorizing Resident Tuition Rates for Students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Displaced by Hurricanes Maria and Irma and Implementation or new Tuition Benefits for Students from Haiti Displaced by the August 14, 2021 Earthquake / Hurricane Grace

WHEREAS, a substantial number of students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been displaced because of Hurricanes Maria and Irma; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to be disaster areas in accordance with Major Disaster Declarations 4335, 4336, 4339 and 4340; and

WHEREAS, the people of Haiti were impacted by both a 7.2 magnitude earthquake on August 14th and the following impact of Hurricane Grace days later, with at least 2,000

individuals lost in the aftermath and more than 1.2 million people impacted by both events, including over half a million children; and

WHEREAS, by a resolution adopted on October 12, 2021, the SUNY Board of Trustees authorized amending the SUNY guidelines to permit resident tuition rates applicable to SUNY State-operated institutions to be charged to students from Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Haiti displaced by the above referenced conditions, and

WHEREAS, the SUNY Board of Trustees encouraged the boards of trustees of the community colleges to take similar action, and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College wishes to similarly support students who have been impacted so that they may continue to pursue their academic studies without interruption, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that Suffolk County Community College is authorized to apply resident tuition rates for the 2021–2022 academic year to new students entering the College from Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Haiti who have been displaced from their homes by the above referenced disasters.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.61 – Authorizing the Use of College Facilities for Summer Youth Sports Camps

WHEREAS, the *Facilities Use Policy* of Suffolk County Community College permits external entities to utilize College facilities for a fee as established in the *Policy* and as specified in a duly executed license agreement between the parties, and

WHEREAS, Future Stars Tennis Academy at Harbourview LLC has proposed licensing College facilities during the summer months to conduct youth sports camps on the College’s three campuses for a license fee to be calculated upon the total number of weeks campers are enrolled, and

WHEREAS, such a fee arrangement falls outside the scope of the *Facilities Use Policy’s* adopted schedule of fees, and

WHEREAS, the College welcomes the opportunity to host summer youth sports camps on its three campuses to support Suffolk County’s families and provide healthy, organized activity for children of various ages, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the College President, or his designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a license agreement with Future Stars Tennis Academy at Harbourview LLC, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, permitting the use of the College’s Ammerman, Michael J. Grant, and Eastern Campuses for summer youth sports camps.

Chairman Murray moved to the committee reports and called for the Student Success Committee report. Trustee Pagdanganan reported the committee met on October 5th. In its continuing discussion regarding student basic needs, the Committee reviewed data highlights from two student surveys. The first one was from May 2020 which was a College survey that focused on the student transition to remote learning due to COVID. The survey was emailed to 21,015 students and the College received 2,148 responses, mostly Ammerman, mostly full-time, and mostly second-year students. The questions were how often do you worry about online classes? 57.2% cited very often. How often do you worry about accessing or using technology needed for online classes? 33.2% cited very often. How often do you worry about paying your bills like tuition, rent, Internet access, and medical? 44.8% cited very often. How often do you worry about eating day-to-day? 46.4% said never, however, 17.2% said very often.

In April of the following year, the annual student opinion survey was issued by SUNY to 11,715 of the College's degree-seeking students. One section of the survey asked students to use a 5-point scale to indicate areas negatively impacting upon their academic performance. The College received 977 responses, primarily female, 24 years and younger, and full-time students. More than half of the students did not respond to the questions and the majority of those who did respond indicated they were not being negatively challenged by the following: job or family responsibilities, childcare, disability issues, health, paying for college, adequate housing, food insecurity/hunger, and transportation. While these results may seem to be in conflict, on-campus feedback captured indicates a gap in meeting basic student needs. In addition, campus food pantry usage during the pandemic has more than doubled. The second survey results may also have been influenced by survey fatigue and the young age of most of the respondents. The committee's next steps will be reviewing basic need support models that are operational at other colleges, as well as a discussion on the potential for grant funding.

Trustee Canary asked if there was a write-in section on the survey if they wanted to bring up anything else that, maybe, was not in the form of a question, Trustee Pagdanganan deferred to Kaliah Greene, Interim VP / Executive Director, Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, for a response. Ms. Greene said that for the April survey there was a write-in section. Many of the comments that came in were about technology. She said she wanted to underscore that the results aren't necessarily reflective of the entire population. This is a subset of the population that took both surveys. It was voluntary and, so, although students didn't focus so much on some of the food and housing insecurities needs, based upon conversations on the campus, it appears that there is a need that warrants further assessment.

Chair Murray asked Trustee Canary if the Governance Committee had anything additional for their report. Trustee Canary said the Committee also had discussed the Policy on Naming Opportunities. The current policy only allows for naming of campus

facilities, buildings, and other campus areas, but not academic programs. The Foundation Executive Director, Sylvia Diaz, explained the proposal of the family of Jane Shearer to make a charitable pledge to the Foundation to name the College's nursing program the "Jane F. Shearer School of Nursing," and to be able to do this, an amendment to the current policy on naming opportunities will be required. Executive Director Diaz explained that making such a change would open the door to future naming opportunities. During the discussion the committee was advised that it is a common practice and that other local colleges, such as Farmingdale and Nassau Community College already name academic programs. The Committee asked Deputy General Counsel Alicia O'Connor to work on language for updating the naming opportunities policy and the committee will review the proposed revisions at their next meeting.

Trustee Zarate then indicated she had a question for the Student Success Committee. She asked in regards to the survey that was sent to 21,015 students, how much outreach was done to be able to get better feedback from the students since the College only received 2,000 responses. Ms. Greene said the survey from 2020, was administered through the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness through Dr. Caroline Burns, who is the survey and research director. She sent out the initial survey and then, each week, there was a follow-up survey sent out to students. Since the College was in a time of transition due to COVID, there was nothing posted, where students could go physically; everything was via email. The surveys are voluntary, so even if the College tries to connect with students, it really is up to them as to whether or not they participate in the survey.

Chair Murray commented to Trustee Canary he was excited about the efforts to look at different revenue streams for the College. Trustee O'Connor asked if the College pursued allowing naming rights for programs, how would they determine what the naming rights are worth.

Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Executive Director of the of the Foundation, responded that they have been thinking about this for a long time and when this opportunity presented itself, they did look at what the market is on these potential gifts. They looked at a recent naming opportunity and transaction that took place at Farmingdale State College, as well as the market within the SUNY system, to be as close to what they would be comparing it to. They are in the midst of conversing with the family to determine that, however she noted this policy is more of a generic policy, not specific to this particular naming opportunity.

Chair Murray called for the Personnel Committee report. Trustee deLeon-Lopresti said the committee did not meet, however, there was some background work that was performed related to the Presidential Evaluation process and they are going to meet next month and provide an update.

Chair Murray announced that Trustee Jim Morgo had agreed to Chair the Facilities committee and try to get it going again. Trustees Canary and deLeon-Lopresti agreed to serve on the committee, as well.

Chair Murray called for the Foundation report. Trustee Pagdanganan announced that alumni Terry Sexton, a former adjunct faculty member, and her husband were able to support recent alumni Noriko Okada along her pathway to success in higher education. An international student, Noriko came to the United States from Japan to study art following a series of difficult life challenges. Her courage and resilience led her to become an award-winning artist who is currently advancing her education to the doctoral level. Terri and Tom Sexton recognize Noriko's gifts and talent and decided to establish a fully endowed scholarship fund that will provide a generous gift annually to an art student studying at Suffolk.

Lisa Calla, a member of the Foundation board, has established the Elizabeth Gonzalez Memorial Beacon Student Hardship Fund to honor the memory of Elizabeth Gonzalez, a student at Touro Law School who was tragically killed by a drunk driver. It is one of the six hardship funds established across the College. This fund will provide financial support to high school students enrolled in the Beacon Program. Suffolk's Beacon Program is a concurrent enrollment program that allows high school juniors and seniors to take college courses at their high school campus during their regular school hours.

Lastly, she announced the Foundation was having another virtual fundraiser, "Harvest for a Cause," on Wednesday, November 17th from 7:00 to 9:00. This event features a secret family recipe for hot buttered cider whiskey and a brown sugar blanketed baked apple. Attendance is \$50 and a variety of sponsorships are available. She encouraged all to help and support the fundraiser.

Chair Murray called for the Student Trustee report. Student Trustee Frost said it had been a little quiet over their past couple of weeks due to midterms. He noted that he did learn a lot about the food pantry that operates on the Grant campus and that a lot of the professors and faculty members that are running the food pantry are doing that on their own time. He thanked everyone involved, saying it was a huge undertaking, giving out hundreds of pounds of food to feed the students and their families. He said he shared the information about the food pantry with a fellow nursing student and she was able to benefit from it - being a single mom with two kids. Lastly, he announced the College's men's soccer team quarter finals game was this upcoming Saturday at 1:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to come out and support the team.

Chair Murray moved onto the Chair's report. Chair Murray announced that in discussion with President Bonahue, they decided to move back the Trustee's retreat from November 2021 to January 2022, to give them more time to go through the strategic planning process and have a more enlightened conversation in January. Therefore, in November there would be a regular Board meeting. Chair Murray said the Executive Committee of the Board would be participating in the SUNY and Aspen Board Engagement Workshop and asked President Bonahue if registration was still open. President Bonahue responded that, at the moment, Chair Murray and Vice Chairs

Morgo and Coverdale are committed, and, if anyone else was interested, to please let him know.

Chair Murray moved to the President's report. President Bonahue thanked Chair Murray and the Trustee for their contribution of time and service to the College. He also thanked Dr. Donna Ciampa for hosting the meeting at the Grant Campus as well as the tour she gave him and Trustee Pagdanganan of the food pantry. He noted there was a food pantry at each campus and if any trustee would like more information or to take a look at any time, to let him know. He then recognized the Governance and union leaders present at the meeting. Professor Tat Sang So from the Grant Campus, Professor Courtney Brewer from the Faculty Association, Sean Tvelia from the Guild and Josephine Makowski from AME.

He shared with the Board that in addition to having the monthly Cabinet meetings, he will be restarting, in January 2022, another monthly meeting that has not been used in some time because of COVID - the President's Council meetings. The meetings will include both Cabinet members and leaders from Governance and the union organizations in order to have more frequent and inclusive conversations about topics that matter to everyone.

Dr. Bonahue reported that since the last meeting, the College submitted its final enrollment count to SUNY. As the semester started in September, the College reported that overall enrollment was down about 14%. He added that the silver lining is that the College was able to bring that down a couple of percentage points with the Late Start classes and high school classes, which enroll later. The SUNY mandate to have all students on campus vaccinated did not result in any significant loss of students. The College found that the overall head count decreased by only 8%, but what decreased more was the ability of those students to take a full schedule. There is some anecdotal evidence that students might have taken more classes if they had been able to find them in ways that fit their schedule; being a transitional semester, the College would like to have more classes on campus beginning in the spring.

As the vaccination mandate went into effect, the policy required the College to deregister students if they had not complied with the vaccination mandate. A college-wide effort from Central Administration, Student Affairs on campuses, Campus Deans, nurses, as well as program coordinators and department chairs reached out to students in every area. The College was able to collect vaccination confirmations from almost every student in the College who had an on-campus course. By the SUNY deadline they were left with 88 students in on-campus classes who we were required to withdraw for noncompliance. There were an additional 24 noncredit students for a total of 112, that's out of 10,000 students with an on-campus class. Dr. Bonahue asked the Board to join him in expressing appreciation to the staff on behalf of the College for their hard work.

Moving forward, the course offering plans for spring is 60% on campus with 40% online. The College plans to be responsive to the enrollment trends; if they see that more students are gravitating towards on campus, they will be flexible on that side.

Dr. Bonahue reported the Strategic Planning process was in the final stages of a multi-year process and will guide the College through the next five years. He added it was very important to have an opportunity to engage with the whole College and he plans to do so by having a town hall, "A Call to Conversation," on each campus about where the College sees itself now and where it would like to be in the years ahead. The Strategic Planning Council has been very active and he has met with them and both the Council and Cabinet have encouraged him to share his own vision for the future based on what he's learned over the past four months.

Dr. Bonahue then shared and reviewed with the Board a draft of some values and goals that will be the basis for the college-wide Call for Conversation town hall meetings on each campus. He feels this will give the opportunity for the whole College to come together and take a look at this language and reflect on whether this represents who they think they are as a college community and where they are heading. The mission and vision statement have existed for the last fifteen years and they aren't going to do anything with those at the moment. Eventually, they will be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Council. Where he feels there is an opportunity is to think about the values as a college. The values are more abstract, and easier to get a handle on in terms of overall philosophy.

He noted that not all of the values are stated in the draft that the Strategic Planning Council worked on last year, but they do reflect the many conversations he has had with the Board, community stakeholders, Governance leaders, and with the Cabinet. This is a statement of many of the values that they embrace as a learning community. Academic freedom, academic excellence, and student success, open access to educational opportunity and lifelong learning. The College understands that attending a community college is not one and done, but they strive to be a college that allows students to take advantage of all the opportunities offered. The College values student engagement, collaboration with the community, honesty, civility, and shared governance. It also values social justice, diversity, inclusion, and equity, civic engagement, global citizenship, and ethical stewardship of financial, physical, and human resources, as well as assessment, professional development, innovation, and continuous improvement. He said this was simply a starting place, but he hoped it will engage the College community in ways that allow them to reflect on the right collection of values.

Dr. Bonahue then reviewed the Institutional Goals that he said he redrafted more in terms of aspirations and actions that they want to take going forward. For example, the College values access, but what is it that they want to do. They want to ensure that the College is ready to meet the needs of all students, regardless of background or previous education. The College wants to offer the highest quality academic programs that support students' attainment of educational and professional goals. It has an

aspirational statement about how it's going to support students through a variety of services, going to embrace a welcoming culture in which every community member understands that they belong, and it's going to eliminate disparities in access and achievement. The College aspires to advance the equitable development of the region's economy, workforce and communities, and seeks to add value to all students' education through innovative and conscientious improvement of all institutional operations and services. He said these are all meant to be very aspirational statements of long-term aspirational goals and it's hard to know whether you can achieve any of these in one year. The next step would be to draft more measurable and operational objectives that would have more focus, more opportunities for individual units in the College to take more specific steps. He added that the next time he presents this to the Board will probably be next year, but, at that point, they should have had a great conversation college-wide where they will have reflected on whether this correctly represents what they want Suffolk to be. The town hall meetings will be held both in person and will have a Zoom option. The first is next Wednesday at the Eastern Campus, then November 10th on the Grant Campus and November 17th at the Ammerman campus, all at 2:00 p.m. He invited and encouraged all members of the Board to attend if their schedules permitted.

Dr. Bonahue continued with some announcements. On Monday his office was informed that SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras will be visiting on a Friday afternoon. He thanked Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, Mary Lou Araneo, Sandy O'Hara, and Donna Ciampa, for quickly pulling together a program. He added the Chancellor is interested in student basic needs and mental health. He asked if anyone was interested in meeting the Chancellor to let his office know.

Dr. Bonahue pointed out that the College was getting some nice coverage in *Noticia* as they could see in the media clips that were provided. The College is seeking to engage the community a bit more in *Noticia* and placed some ads, both in terms of recruitment and in terms of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Lastly, he noted that as Chair Murray had mentioned, the Board retreat was moving from November to January to allow the Board to participate in the SUNY/Aspen Seminar Series.

Chair Murray asked in regards to the students that were deregistered because of the vaccine mandate, if there was a process where they can get back into school and if there was a grace period given to them. Dr. Bonahue asked Dr. Munsch to help in answering his question, but noted that SUNY had announced a deadline in late September. Following that, SUNY gave an additional two-week grace period which many students took advantage of. During all this time, the College continually reached out to students via email, text and phone calls. If they got past the end of the grace period and the College contacted a student and if they said oh, I forgot to turn in my card, I'm on my way to get a vaccination today, the College did its best to get them back in the class.

Dr. Munsch said the College deregistered students on a Friday, and alerted them so that they would have the entire weekend to come into compliance. The College did have a number of students submit cards the following Monday and Tuesday and continues to get cards and they are having conversations with faculty about reinstating students. She said this was an ongoing process and they will continue to work with each student and each faculty member to try to keep as many students whole as possible. Chair Murray asked if the students had the option of switching to participating virtually. Dr. Bonahue said that they held that out up until the time that the Late Start classes began. At this point, with the amount of communication that they've had, they can't offer every student that option; it wouldn't be equitable to create solutions for one student.

Chair Murray said that in regards to the Strategic Planning process, the Board was very interested in participating as much as possible and Trustee deLeon-Lopresti had volunteered to participate and asked Dr. Bonahue to keep her and any other trustees involved in the process.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti thanked Dr. Bonahue for the sneak peek and said she was encouraged by the sneak peek, the careful crafting of the language and the words selected, adding that you can already get a sense of the kind of culture that Dr. Bonahue wants to create within the College and a sense of a vision for the future. Dr. Bonahue thanked Trustee deLeon-Lopresti and welcomed all the trustees to attend any of the town hall meetings. He said he could also send out the meetings of the Strategic Planning Council, as well. Chair Murray thanked him and asked if he would circulate those dates, that would be great.

Trustee Sanders asked what the format was for the Chancellor's visit the following day. Dr. Bonahue said it was very open-ended; the Chancellor has asked for topics that the College might be interested in sharing. He asked Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell to review the schedule for the visit. Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell said the Chancellor asked for specific topics; on the agenda was the College's mental health services and programs, a visit to the Fine Arts Center where he will observe a photography workshop and he will also have an opportunity to see the faculty art that is in the Center. They also plan to show the Chancellor the progress on the STEM building and talk to him a little bit about the Offshore Wind Training Center. Trustee Sanders said she planned to make time and stop in during the visit.

Her other question was about connectivity. She said she couldn't understand why a student would leave home to come to the campus to take an online class instead of an in-person class, then realized how it could be an issue of connectivity in a lot of underserved communities. She asked if the College had anything that they we're doing to help students and families with connectivity at home.

President Bonahue noted that some of this had happened prior to him arriving and would ask others to help him in answering. However, he said that during the pandemic, the College distributed hundreds of laptops, and hot spots that enabled students to

continue to do their work. The College did get back many of those laptops; some were returned damaged, however, some were not returned at all. He added the College would continue to monitor and assess the needs of students and provide them with support needed. They do recognize that some students come to campus just to use the Wi-Fi in order to get their work done and participate in classes.

Dr. Reese, Executive Dean of the Eastern Campus, said that the College does have reserved spaces at each of the campuses where students can work interiorly to secure a workstation for their real-time classes or for their online classes. Additionally, she said they are finding that students who are taking the online classes here at the campuses are having their face-to-face class meet either prior or immediately after, which is one of the reasons you see students on campus attending virtual classes.

Dr. Bonahue asked Dr. Diaz to give an update on the disbursement of the hardship grants that the Foundation was able to support in 2020. Dr. Diaz said the Foundation continued to distribute those funds and, given this new information, she felt it might be pertinent to assess the need and see how the Foundation could help support the needs of the students with connectivity issues.

Student Trustee Frost added that he has seen through his line of work that a lot of students will go to places of worship, like churches and libraries, to get the Wi-Fi in order to participate in class. Something that they've been doing to help is they will take their patient's zip code and provide them a list of four to five different places that will provide them with free Wi-Fi. He said maybe that is something the College can adopt, as well.

Trustee Canary asked if the students coming onto campus to participate in virtual classes could potentially be disruptive to other students trying to study quietly. Executive Dean Reese said the College provided quiet spaces, where students can get a key and go into the single quiet space room or a larger space, if needed. The College also provides headphones, if needed, in an effort to support them as much as possible.

Trustee Zarate added that she felt it was important for the College to go back to serving the students' technology and connectivity needs like they did in the initial stages of the pandemic. She, herself, finds it very difficult for a student to have to do coursework over a phone, noting that not every phone is capable of managing certain applications or platforms that are used by the colleges.

Dr. Bonahue said he would come back to the next meeting with a better summary of what the College is already doing and what additional measures it can take to meet the needs of the students.

Student Trustee Frost said he would also bring the concerns to his next meeting with all the individual student governments and see what kind of information they can bring back to him in regards to technology needs the students are facing and any barriers in terms of connectivity.

Chair Murray moved onto Roundtable. With no comments for roundtable, Chair Murray called for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of an employee and to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation. Trustee Sanders so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, and with all in favor, the Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session at 5:03 p.m.

With no further business to be conducted after Executive Session, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

The Board of Trustees next meeting is November 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Canary
Secretary