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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Minutes

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Eastern Campus  
Riverhead, New York  
October 20, 2022  
4:02 p.m.

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

1                               October 20, 2022

2       A P P E A R A N C E S:

3       BOARD MEMBERS:

4       E. Christopher Murray, Chair

5       James Morgo, Vice Chair, Trustee

6       Shirley Coverdale, Vice Chair, Trustee

7       Gordon D. Canary, Secretary

8       Belinda Pagdanganan, Trustee

9       Theresa Sanders, Trustee

10      Priscilla Zarate, Trustee

11      Zachary Frost, Student Trustee

12

13      A L S O     P R E S E N T:

14      Edward T. Bonahue, Ph.D., President

15      Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, Chief of Staff

16      Sandra O'Hara, Assistant to the President

17      Louis J. Petrizzo, General Counsel, Executive VP

18      Patricia Munsch, Vice President for Student  
19      Affairs

19

20      Mark Harris, Vice President for Business and

21      Financial Affairs

22      Dr. Daphne Gordon, Entrepreneurial Assistance  
23      Center

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23      Legislator Stephanie Bontempi

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24      Dr. Dante Morelli, President Faculty Association

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25

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2                   CHAIR MURRAY: Good afternoon,  
3                   everybody. We're going to start, and  
4                   I'll start with asking Gordon to please  
5                   lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

6                   [Following the Pledge of Allegiance,  
7                   the meeting of the Board of Trustees of  
8                   Suffolk County Community College was  
9                   called to order by Chair Murray at  
10                  9:02 a.m.]

11                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you all for  
12                  coming today, very happy about.

13                  At this time I'd like to ask Carol  
14                  Wickliffe-Campbell --

15                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: I'm happy to.

16                  CHAIR MURRAY: So at this time I'm  
17                  going to ask Dr. Bonahue to introduce the  
18                  guests that have joined us today.

19                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you.

20                  And unless anyone came in, I'd like  
21                  to introduce Mr. Dave Bergen, former  
22                  employee of the college, now with Carr,  
23                  the Carr Company?

24                  MR. BERGEN: Yes.

25                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: And I'd also

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2                           like to introduce Dr. Daphne Gordon.  
3                           Dr. Daphne Gordon leads our  
4                           Entrepreneurship Assistance Center,  
5                           Brentwood campus, and Trustees, three of  
6                           the agenda items that you'll be looking  
7                           at today are from grants or activities  
8                           related to our Entrepreneurship  
9                           Assistance Center. And so I would like  
10                           Dr. Gordon just to give us a little  
11                           overview of what the Entrepreneurship  
12                           Assistance does, and the scope of its  
13                           programs.

14                           DR. DAPHNE GORDON: Good afternoon.

15                           The Entrepreneurial Assistance  
16                           Center is a grant-funded project, funded  
17                           by Empire State Development Corporation,  
18                           with the goal assisting individuals in  
19                           starting and expanding their businesses.  
20                           We service everyone, but have special  
21                           initiatives to reach women, minorities,  
22                           disabled and dislocated workers. As  
23                           such, we've been a center since 1996 --  
24                           1995 -- and since, because of our work in  
25                           the communities, specifically work with

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2                   minority communities, we were awarded a  
3                   \$500,000 grant from Citi Foundation to  
4                   help minority businesses recover from the  
5                   pandemic.

6                   So what we do with that, we have  
7                   one-on-one business counseling, we have  
8                   webinar series to help them make the  
9                   transition from brick and mortar  
10                  businesses to actually e-commerce  
11                  businesses during the pandemic, and then  
12                  also help them secure financing that was  
13                  available to businesses to recover from  
14                  the pandemic.

15                  As a result, we serviced almost 620  
16                  businesses, we secured 5. -- 6.8 million  
17                  in financing and \$9 million in contracts.  
18                  Just last week, two of our entrepreneurs  
19                  were awarded New York State Entrepreneur  
20                  of the Year as a result of their impact  
21                  and their growth while they were served  
22                  by Entrepreneurial Assistance Center.

23                  In addition, the two other items  
24                  that Dr. Bonahue would like me to talk  
25                  about is the, are the REACH grants. We

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2                   received two REACH grants from SUNY.  
3                   REACH is an acronym for Racial Equity for  
4                   Adult Credentials in Higher Education,  
5                   and the goal is to assist, to encourage  
6                   adults who are black, Hispanic, and  
7                   Native American who are 25 years of age  
8                   and over until 64 to encourage them to  
9                   get credentials and ultimately an  
10                  associate's degree. So we have  
11                  identified six non-credit courses that,  
12                  with the industry credentials so they can  
13                  get a secure job and hopefully at some  
14                  point they will come back and get an  
15                  associate's degree. So we received  
16                  \$15,000 for REACH, and that, we'll use  
17                  that money for marketing. And we  
18                  received another 200,000 from Workforce  
19                  Development Training, which will help us  
20                  secure a counselor for our participants  
21                  to help them with retention, and then  
22                  also funding to help them pay for some of  
23                  the training programs. Suffolk County  
24                  Department of Labor has agreed to pay for  
25                  the training programs. Our goal is to

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2                   train a hundred individuals over a period  
3                   of three years.

4                   That's it.

5                   PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,  
6                   Dr. Gordon.

7                   And Trustees, that's over \$700,000  
8                   in support for entrepreneurship and  
9                   economic development through the  
10                  Entrepreneurship Assistance Center.

11                  Any questions for Dr. Gordon?

12                  TRUSTEE MORGO: Yeah, I have one.  
13                  Hi, Dr. Gordon.

14                  DR. DAPHNE GORDON: Hi.

15                  TRUSTEE MORGO: The companies you  
16                  work with through Empire State  
17                  Development, are they Suffolk County  
18                  companies or are they from all over?

19                  DR. DAPHNE GORDON: They're  
20                  primarily Suffolk County residents who  
21                  are interested, who have a hobby, trade,  
22                  skill that we help them -- well, they're  
23                  primarily Suffolk County residents, we  
24                  have a few Nassau, but primarily Suffolk  
25                  County residents and they have a hobby,

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2                   trade or skill, and we teach them the  
3                   basic business model, marketing,  
4                   management, taxes, finances and the law,  
5                   to help them start a business. Business  
6                   strategy, also we create a business plan.

7                   So the two individuals who won the  
8                   entrepreneurial of the year, one is,  
9                   they're both minority and women, one is a  
10                  Hispanic woman who has a construction  
11                  company based in Bay Shore, and she has  
12                  just generated \$1 million in revenue this  
13                  year. She said she started training with  
14                  us in 2019. The other woman is an  
15                  African-American woman who has a nursing  
16                  home care center, and she's secured  
17                  government contracts through the MWEE  
18                  program, generating revenue of a million  
19                  dollars a year as well.

20                 TRUSTEE MORGO: And where is that  
21                 home care center? Do you know where it's  
22                 located?

23                 DR. DAPHNE GORDON: She's, I know  
24                 she's in Brentwood, I'm not exactly sure.  
25                 So she provides companions and nursing



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2                   aides to individuals who need assistance.

3                   TRUSTEE MORGO:   Excellent.  Thank  
4                   you.

5                   CHAIR MURRAY:   Gordon?

6                   TRUSTEE CANARY:   For full disclosure  
7                   and wearing my other hat as chairman --  
8                   as chief of staff of Senator Boyle, I've  
9                   sent over a couple of constituents to  
10                  Dr. Gordon and her program, and she's  
11                  welcomed them with open arms and provided  
12                  them with assistance, and we greatly  
13                  appreciate that help.

14                  CHAIR MURRAY:   Any other questions?

15                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE:  Thank you,  
16                  Mr. Chairman.

17                  And also, if I could introduce one  
18                  more visitor.

19                  Suffolk County Legislator and Vice  
20                  Chair of the Education and Labor  
21                  Committee, Stephanie Bontempi has joined  
22                  us.

23                  Thank you, Legislator Bontempi.

24                  And please, I forgot, Greg Atherton,  
25                  her chief of staff.  Greg Atherton, thank

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2                   you.

3                   MR. ATHERTON: Thank you.

4                   PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,  
5                   Mr. Chairman.

6                   CHAIR MURRAY: At this time we have  
7                   a request from Dante Morelli to speak for  
8                   a couple of minutes on an issue regarding  
9                   the faculty, and so at this point, Dante,  
10                  it's all yours.

11                  DR. MORELLI: Thank you, Chairman  
12                  Murray.

13                  My name is Dante Morelli. I have  
14                  the honor and privilege of serving the  
15                  faculty, the members of the faculty  
16                  association as their president.

17                  On October 7th, there was a  
18                  county --

19                  (Microphone equipment issues.)

20                  Thank you. Good afternoon,  
21                  everyone, and thank you again, Chairman  
22                  Murray.

23                  As I said, my name is Dante Morelli.  
24                  I'm the president of the faculty  
25                  association. And I wanted to report on

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2                   something that came up at the October 7th  
3                   committee meeting, the education and  
4                   labor committee meeting of the Suffolk  
5                   County Legislature.

6                   There was some discussion and  
7                   confusion about the number of full-time  
8                   versus adjunct faculty working at the  
9                   college. I have those numbers today that  
10                  I would like to share with the board and  
11                  college leadership.

12                  We have 1,506 total faculty working  
13                  this semester, and the number of  
14                  classifications, from classroom  
15                  instructional faculty, professional  
16                  assistance counselors, librarians and  
17                  specialists all performing a multiple of  
18                  duties, and we have adjuncts and both  
19                  full-time people in all of those  
20                  classifications. We have 1099 of that  
21                  1,500-plus number as adjuncts. That's  
22                  73 percent of the faculty serving  
23                  students this semester are adjuncts, and  
24                  that leaves 27 percent for full-time. So  
25                  it's 407 full-time faculty members, which

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2                   is down from a high of about 478  
3                   full-time faculty members from 2015.

4                   So I just wanted to share that with  
5                   the board. I know there was a discussion  
6                   there and some, you know, numbers were  
7                   not in front of college leadership at the  
8                   time, so I wanted to report that to the  
9                   board and to college leadership.

10                  That's all I have to report. Thank  
11                  you for your time, Chairman Murray.

12                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,  
13                  Dante.

14                  CHAIR MURRAY: So we're going to go  
15                  back to the agenda, and at this time I'd  
16                  like to request a motion to adjourn the  
17                  Board of Trustees' meeting and call the  
18                  Board of Directors' meeting to order.

19                  TRUSTEE CANARY: Motion made.

20                  TRUSTEE SANDERS: Second.

21                  CHAIR MURRAY: All in favor?

22                  ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

23                  [The motion made and seconded was  
24                  voted on and carried. The Board of  
25                  Trustees' meeting was recessed at

1                   October 20, 2022

2                   4:12 p.m. and resumed at 4:17 p.m.]

3                   CHAIR MURRAY:    So we're now in the  
4                   Board of Directors' meeting and I'm going  
5                   to request a motion for the approval of  
6                   the minutes of the August 18, 2022 Board  
7                   of Directors' meeting.

8                   Motion to accept the minutes?

9                   TRUSTEE SANDERS:    So moved.

10                  CHAIR MURRAY:    Second?

11                  TRUSTEE ZARATE:    Second.

12                  CHAIR MURRAY:    All those in favor?

13                  ALL MEMBERS:    Aye.

14                  [The motion made and seconded was  
15                  voted on and carried.]

16                  CHAIR MURRAY:    At this point I'd  
17                  like to introduce Vice President for  
18                  Student Affairs, Dr. Patricia Munsch, to  
19                  present the Association financial report.

20                  DR. MUNSCH:    Good afternoon,  
21                  everyone.    I'm going to try to see if we  
22                  can, I'll stand away from the podium  
23                  here.

24                  Good afternoon, members of the  
25                  Board.    Before I move into the September

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2                   financial report, I do want to give some  
3                   numbers from our previous academic year.  
4                   As we have been discussing throughout the  
5                   year, last year, '21-'22, we were  
6                   utilizing our reserve accounts in Student  
7                   Association to ensure that we could  
8                   continue work -- let's see, I think we're  
9                   good from here -- we wanted to ensure  
10                  that we could continue continuity of  
11                  service and activities for our students,  
12                  and we made the decision to utilize and  
13                  access our reserve funds to help support  
14                  the budget difference between the  
15                  enrollment difference. By the end of  
16                  August of 2022, we used approximately  
17                  \$550,000 from our reserve account,  
18                  leaving an estimated \$3 million in the  
19                  reserve account, and so there's still a  
20                  healthy reserve fund for the Student  
21                  Association moving forward.

22                  What I'd like to address today is  
23                  the financial report you have in front of  
24                  you. What you'll see in that financial  
25                  report is approximately 80 percent of the

1                   October 20, 2022

2                   student fee money that will be brought in  
3                   this semester, the remaining 20 percent  
4                   will come in either the end of this month  
5                   or the beginning of next month, and you  
6                   can see that most areas have started  
7                   working in student activities, student  
8                   life, art, music, theatre and athletics  
9                   in moving the institution forward and  
10                  advancing our student program activities.

11                  You will notice that the Peconic  
12                  Cafe at this time does not have a budget  
13                  in the current budget line, because at  
14                  this time we are still seeking a director  
15                  of the food service for the Eastern  
16                  Campus and for the Peconic Cafe. That  
17                  search is under way, and we're confident  
18                  that we will be able to open the Peconic  
19                  Cafe shortly for the students on the  
20                  Eastern Campus.

21                  Mr. Chair and members of the board,  
22                  are there any questions?

23                  CHAIR MURRAY: Yes, one quick one.

24                  Can you put a percentage as to where  
25                  we are with our activities now as

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2                   compared to pre COVID?

3                   DR. MUNSCH: I would say at this  
4                   point our activities to pre COVID are  
5                   about 75 percent of where we were. Most  
6                   of student life is back on board in its  
7                   complete pre-COVID way. Our student  
8                   clubs specifically need a little bit more  
9                   time as we develop new student leaders to  
10                  take over the clubs and organizations on  
11                  campus, but our athletic teams are all  
12                  back and running, our art, music and  
13                  theatre programs are all running, all of  
14                  our student governments and programming  
15                  boards are running, both child care  
16                  centers are up and running, and so I  
17                  would say about 75 percent of student  
18                  life is back to what we anticipated in a  
19                  pre-COVID way. I believe that over the  
20                  course of this semester we'll be back to  
21                  about 100 percent of where we were pre  
22                  COVID.

23                  CHAIR MURRAY: Great. Any other  
24                  questions?

25                  If not, thank you, very much.



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2                   DR. MUNSCH: Thank you, all.

3                   CHAIR MURRAY: At this time I'd like  
4 to request a motion to adjourn the Board  
5 of Directors' meeting and call the Board  
6 of Trustees' meeting to order.

7                   TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

8                   CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

9                   TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

10                  CHAIR MURRAY: All those in favor?

11                  ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

12                  CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

13                  Thank you.

14                  [The motion made and seconded was  
15 voted on and carried. The Board of  
16 Directors' meeting was adjourned and the  
17 Board of Trustees' meeting resumed at  
18 4:17 p.m.]

19                  CHAIR MURRAY: So at this point I'd  
20 like to request a motion for the approval  
21 of the minutes of the August 18, 2022  
22 Board of Trustees' meeting.

23                  TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN: Moved.

24                  CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

25                  TRUSTEE ZARATE: Second the motion.

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2                   CHAIR MURRAY: All those in favor?

3                   ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

4                   CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

5                   Thank you. I'd like to introduce  
6 Vice President for Business and Financial  
7 Affairs, Dr. Mark Harris, to present the  
8 college budget and college financial  
9 records.

10                  VP HARRIS: That's what happens when  
11 the finance person comes up here, the mic  
12 works.

13                  Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,  
14 members of the board.

15                  We submitted the financials and then  
16 in September, the first portion of the  
17 financials that I would like to just  
18 address a little bit was really the cash.  
19 You know, we hear the saying that cash is  
20 king. Over the past three years, what we  
21 have done is really looked at how we have  
22 been trending from a liquidity  
23 perspective, and a few years ago we were  
24 in a position where we really had to make  
25 some serious decisions about how to fund

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2                   our operations based on our liquidity at  
3                   the time. But based on the latest  
4                   report, our cash in hand was about  
5                   \$89.3 million, and this is up about  
6                   \$10 million from the same time last year,  
7                   and about \$30 million compared to the  
8                   prior, prior year. So from a cash flow  
9                   perspective we have taken steps to ensure  
10                  that we remain liquid, at least that  
11                  we're able to maintain our pay, our  
12                  operating expenses, the most important of  
13                  which would be our payroll and then our  
14                  staff payroll deductions. So from that  
15                  perspective we are in a very good  
16                  position managing our cash flow.

17                  The fiscal '20 year, 2022 year ended  
18                  August 31. We're in the process of  
19                  really working through the close-out. We  
20                  will be having our auditors come on  
21                  campus to start doing the field work to  
22                  gather some information and then do some  
23                  assessment. But based on where we are,  
24                  at least what we can see right now, we're  
25                  projecting about \$3.7 million use from

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2                   reserve for Fiscal '22, and that's about  
3                   \$1.2 million than what we budgeted at the  
4                   start of Fiscal '22 and about \$500,000  
5                   better than what we had anticipated when  
6                   we were discussing Fiscal 2023 budget.

7                   So that is some good news for us as  
8                   we close out Fiscal '22. But again, this  
9                   is still preliminary numbers, because we  
10                  do have to present those assumptions to  
11                  the auditors and they have to test to  
12                  make sure that our assumptions are  
13                  correct.

14                  In terms of Fiscal '23, the  
15                  financials that we presented just  
16                  represents September and September only,  
17                  which is the first month of the fiscal  
18                  year '23, and it's very early. There  
19                  have been some discussions about  
20                  enrollment decrease in the fall, and that  
21                  impact is about \$2.7 million worse than  
22                  what we budgeted. If you recall, the  
23                  anticipated use of fund balance is about  
24                  13.6, and with the decrease in enrollment  
25                  for fall adding another 2.7, that would

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2                   put us to about 16.3. But just a little  
3                   bit of caution, that we're very early in  
4                   the fiscal year, and what we have been  
5                   doing is really looking at those  
6                   opportunities where we can mitigate that  
7                   2.7 by looking at the number of sections  
8                   that we have this year, looking at the  
9                   last year, looking at our variable costs,  
10                  but also taking a deep dive into some of  
11                  the other expenses that we budgeted to  
12                  see where we can close the gap, so at  
13                  least our baseline remains what we  
14                  budgeted of at least that \$13.6 million.

15                  So in terms of the revenue, our  
16                  tuition is down, net tuition is down  
17                  about \$2.3 million, and then our net fees  
18                  down another \$1.3 million. We have seen  
19                  some improvement in our costs by about  
20                  \$1 million give or take, so that's why  
21                  we're about that 2.7. But again, our  
22                  goal is really to close the gap between  
23                  that 2.7 and what we had initially  
24                  budgeted.

25                  In terms of the HEERF III, which is

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2                   the last portion of the stimulus funds  
3                   from the federal government, we have  
4                   about \$5.2 million left over from the  
5                   institution, of which we had budgeted  
6                   about \$5.1 million. So our goal really  
7                   is to look at the lost revenue for fall  
8                   to see how much of that we can recoup  
9                   through HEERF, and then that will help us  
10                  to some degree.

11                  And then in terms of the funds that  
12                  are left over from the student side it's  
13                  about \$3.7 million, so we've being  
14                  working with student affairs to really  
15                  distribute about \$3 million of that 3.7  
16                  in terms of block grant, and then with  
17                  the remaining \$700,000 the plan really is  
18                  to get that out to students between fall  
19                  and no later than the end of spring 2023.

20                  So those are all the items that I  
21                  wanted to discuss for the financial piece  
22                  before I talk about the two resolutions  
23                  that I have.

24                  Any questions?

25                  CHAIR MURRAY: Any questions from

1                   October 20, 2022

2                   the board?

3                   What is our current fund balance at  
4                   this point?

5                   VP HARRIS:    So when we closed our  
6                   Fiscal '21 we had about 41.4.

7                   TRUSTEE MORGO:  Say that again,  
8                   Mark.

9                   VP HARRIS:    \$41.4 million.

10                  CHAIR MURRAY:  And that percentage  
11                  to the budget, what does that come out  
12                  to?

13                  VP HARRIS:  It's a little bit  
14                  over 20 percent.

15                  CHAIR MURRAY:  20 percent.  So  
16                  we're, I believe Middle States recommend  
17                  between 10 and 15?

18                  VP HARRIS:  That's correct.

19                  CHAIR MURRAY:  So we have too much  
20                  money.

21                  TRUSTEE MORGO:  Never say that.

22                  CHAIR MURRAY:  It's beyond what the  
23                  guidelines call for.

24                  VP HARRIS:  So when we closed out  
25                  Fiscal '21, yes, we were above what the

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2                   recommended, the 10 to 15, and we were  
3                   very comfortable with that number,  
4                   primarily because we had anticipated the  
5                   lingering effects of COVID on our  
6                   enrollment. That's why when we had the  
7                   discussion for Fiscal '23 budget, we  
8                   anticipated that there was sufficient  
9                   funds in the fund balance to give us a  
10                  reset year for Fiscal '23.

11                 CHAIR MURRAY: Right. Thank you.  
12                   Jim?

13                 TRUSTEE MORGO: Mark, as we know  
14                   from 2019 and 2020, the winds of change  
15                   come rapidly. What was our fund balance  
16                   in 2019 or 2020?

17                 VP HARRIS: So in 2019, we were a  
18                   little bit over \$20 million. We  
19                   significantly increased that fund balance  
20                   in Fiscal '21, based on two strategies  
21                   that we had used. We were able to recoup  
22                   lost revenue through HEERF, but also we  
23                   looked at our costs in general, and we  
24                   were able to really hold the line. So a  
25                   combination of getting replacement for



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2                   the lost revenue from HEERF due to the  
3                   disruption of COVID, but I think  
4                   significantly it's really managing those  
5                   lines that we had in terms of cost  
6                   reduction that really gave a significant  
7                   boost in terms of our fund balance for  
8                   Fiscal 2021.

9                   TRUSTEE MORGO: But things could  
10                  change as rapidly as they have, as well.

11                  VP HARRIS: Absolutely, and when we  
12                  did the projection, you think about  
13                  \$41.4 million Fiscal '21 with a projected  
14                  use of 13.6, so you will see, if all  
15                  things remain equal for Fiscal '23, then  
16                  we will decrease that number to about  
17                  10 percent, 10 to 12 percent based on  
18                  Middle States recommendation.

19                  TRUSTEE MORGO: So we'll be at  
20                  10 to 12 percent.

21                  VP HARRIS: About 10 to 12 if  
22                  nothing changes.

23                  TRUSTEE MORGO: My friend, Gordon,  
24                  says that the state comptroller says you  
25                  shouldn't have too much, but DiNapoli is

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2                   only talking about school districts. The  
3                   better the fund balance we have, the more  
4                   fiscally responsible we are, so...

5                   TRUSTEE CANARY: And for  
6                   accreditation.

7                   TRUSTEE MORGO: And for  
8                   accreditation, yes.

9                   VP HARRIS: Because typically,  
10                  that's one of the questions when we do  
11                  the Middle State, they ask about your  
12                  financial stability and how comfortable  
13                  we are with that.

14                  TRUSTEE MORGO: Right.

15                  VP HARRIS: Okay, no further  
16                  questions.

17                  There are two resolutions. Item  
18                  No. 1, Resolution 2022-55, and this  
19                  resolution, this confirms the action that  
20                  the BOT executive committee members took  
21                  because we did not have a September  
22                  meeting, and they included payments, or  
23                  premiums, for the health insurance, one  
24                  for the month of July in the amount of  
25                  \$3,124,187.96, and then for the month of

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2                   August, \$2,980,033.93, and we needed to  
3                   get these approved so we could pay to  
4                   close out our Fiscal 2022.

5                   And then for the month of September,  
6                   Resolution No. 2022-58, in the amount of  
7                   \$2,845,780.98.

8                   So those are the two resolutions  
9                   that I'm presenting on behalf of the  
10                  finance.

11                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

12                  Any other questions?

13                  Thank you, very much.

14                  VP HARRIS: Thanks.

15                  TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you.

16                  CHAIR MURRAY: At this point in time  
17                  I'd request a motion for the approval of  
18                  college resolutions No. 2022.55 through  
19                  2022.64. You have the description of  
20                  what those resolutions are for, so I just  
21                  wanted to ask for a motion to approve  
22                  those resolutions.

23                  Jim?

24                  TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

25                  CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

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2                   TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN:    Second.

3                   CHAIR MURRAY:    All those in favor  
4                   please say aye.

5                   ALL MEMBERS:    Aye.

6                   CHAIR MURRAY:    Any opposed?

7                   [The motion made and seconded was  
8                   voted on and carried.]

9                   CHAIR MURRAY:    The motion passes.

10                  At this point I would like the  
11                  committee reports.

12                  Budget and finance, I don't think  
13                  that they met this month, and probably  
14                  will start in earnest in January.

15                  Student success -- no. I'm sorry.  
16                  Belle.

17                  TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN:    Thank you,  
18                  Mr. Chair.

19                  I just a have short report about the  
20                  student success committee. We met last  
21                  Friday. And I wanted to share the  
22                  student support via the department of  
23                  social services.

24                  Despite the IT challenges with the  
25                  county right now, the department of

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2                   social services continues to meet with  
3                   our students. However, the meetings are  
4                   currently by phone only. They do hope to  
5                   resume in-person appointments soon and  
6                   eventually offer the Zoom option as well.  
7                   The college is also using grant funding  
8                   to support part-time college aid to  
9                   assist with scheduled appointments, and  
10                  outreaching to students about the support  
11                  options available at the college.

12                  That's our report.

13                  Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

15                  Governance. I know we met  
16                  yesterday.

17                  TRUSTEE CANARY: Well, thank you,  
18                  Mr. Chairman. I actually have two  
19                  monthly meetings to read quickly here.

20                  So the governance committee met on  
21                  Monday, September 12th, myself, Chair  
22                  Murray, Jim Morgo, Alicia O'Connor and  
23                  Gail Kenehan being present.

24                  Deputy General Counsel Alicia  
25                  O'Connor advised the committee that we

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2                   had a 100 percent response to the Board  
3                   of Trustees' self-assessment, with  
4                   Scantron. Scantron has provided the raw  
5                   data to the governance committee. The  
6                   results of the survey to be discussed at  
7                   the October governance committee meeting  
8                   and the Scantron results will be sent,  
9                   has been sent to all of the Board of  
10                  Trustee members.

11                 DCG O'Connor reviewed with the  
12                 committee that in 2017 when the ethics  
13                 board was created, the ethics board  
14                 specifically for the Board of Trustees,  
15                 the college president reached out to  
16                 various organizations; Suffolk County Bar  
17                 Association, Nassau County Bar  
18                 Association, Hispanic Bar Association of  
19                 Long Island, Amistad Long Island Black  
20                 Bar Association, Touro Law School,  
21                 Hofstra Law School, in an effort to get  
22                 recommendations for candidates to serve  
23                 on the board of ethics. Unfortunately,  
24                 this effort did not result in many  
25                 recommendations coming forward. The

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2                   governance committee discussed attorneys  
3                   and some recently retired judges that  
4                   they felt might make good candidates to  
5                   fill the vacancy left by Judge Madeleine  
6                   Fitzgibbon. The committee agreed on  
7                   three possible candidates and will see if  
8                   they are interested in the vacant  
9                   position. An update on candidates will  
10                  be discussed at the next board governance  
11                  committee in October.

12                  DGC O'Connor shared with the  
13                  committee information she received from  
14                  the Ammerman campus director of campus  
15                  activities regarding the membership of  
16                  six other SUNY committee college faculty  
17                  student associations. The boards were  
18                  comprised of various individuals, which  
19                  included students, faculty,  
20                  administrators or board of trustee  
21                  members. Discussion was had on whether  
22                  or not faculty and students would want to  
23                  participate on the Association's board of  
24                  directors, whether the Association's  
25                  bylaws or the certificate of

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2                   incorporation would need to be amended,  
3                   the types of resolutions the board would  
4                   be voting on, what the composition of the  
5                   membership should be, what the next steps  
6                   would be, and setting up a step-by-step  
7                   roadmap. DGC O'Connor is going to share  
8                   with the committee the current bylaws of  
9                   the Association of the committee to  
10                  review before the next meeting, and also  
11                  locate bylaws of some other community  
12                  college associations to share with them.

13                  There were no new topics brought up  
14                  during open discussion. The agenda items  
15                  identified for the October governance  
16                  committee meeting include discussions of  
17                  the BOT self-assessment results, status  
18                  of the possible ethics board candidates  
19                  that were identified, and continued  
20                  discussion, review and analysis of the  
21                  Association governance structure. The  
22                  next governance committee meeting is  
23                  scheduled for Monday, October 17th at  
24                  4:00 via Zoom, and we adjourned that  
25                  meeting at 4:24 p.m.



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2                   So now I will read the minutes of  
3                   the Monday, October 17th meeting. But  
4                   before I do, I want to ask my fellow  
5                   trustee, Mr. Morgo, to explain why he  
6                   felt that the board needed to address the  
7                   board of directors' established setup.

8                   TRUSTEE MORGO: Thanks, Gordon.

9                   More than two and a half years ago  
10                  when I originally brought up the idea of  
11                  setting up separate governance for the  
12                  Association, and there were several  
13                  reasons that I did. Before I get into  
14                  those reasons, though, I can tell you why  
15                  nothing went forward. It was an  
16                  inappropriate time to address it.

17                  What occurred to me, number one, was  
18                  that every other community college in the  
19                  state of New York has a separate  
20                  governance for student activities, and I  
21                  wondered why we were the only one. I  
22                  still haven't found out the answer to  
23                  that. But with every other, as Gordon  
24                  mentioned, there is a co-governance among  
25                  students, administrators, faculty and

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2                   trustees. So I've always thought the  
3                   most inclusionary, the more inclusionary  
4                   you can be the better. So I wondered why  
5                   we did it differently.

6                   There was also another reason.  
7                   Being a member of the board of trustees  
8                   is challenging, frequently, and we look  
9                   at an awful lot of things. And by the  
10                  way, there's always the threat of  
11                  litigation. So I said to myself, why  
12                  have this other organization that we  
13                  answer to, and it was primarily those two  
14                  reasons.

15                  So Alicia O'Connor has done a really  
16                  exceptional job on research. This is not  
17                  going to be a snap kind of decision,  
18                  we're going to have to look at it in the  
19                  governance committee under the able  
20                  leadership of our chairman, are looking  
21                  at the pros and cons, and frankly, we're  
22                  coming up with far more pros than we are  
23                  cons. I don't think we even have a con  
24                  yet. So this will go on through 2023,  
25                  and hopefully we'll be able to act on it

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2                   in the late winter or early spring. But  
3                   I wanted to all -- I'll tell you,  
4                   perfectly honest, the reason I wanted to  
5                   mention it is Patty's predecessor, as  
6                   Vice President for Student Affairs,  
7                   thought I was being critical of the way  
8                   the Association was run, and that wasn't  
9                   true at all. It was for the two reasons  
10                  that I mentioned.

11                  Thank you, Gordon.

12                  TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, Jim, for  
13                  that clarification. And as you said,  
14                  this is an ongoing process and we are  
15                  continuing to --

16                  TRUSTEE MORGO: Because you know I'm  
17                  never critical.

18                  TRUSTEE CANARY: Who, you?

19                  Again, so this is going to be an  
20                  ongoing process of looking at other  
21                  structures and trying to see where we  
22                  want to take this and what kind of  
23                  recommendations we want to come forward  
24                  with, and see if we do, in fact, want to  
25                  restructure the board of directors.

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2                   So to continue.

3                   Okay, I will now get into the  
4                   October 17th minutes. At this meeting  
5                   myself, President Bonahue joined us for a  
6                   short while, Jim Morgo, Shirley  
7                   Coverdale, Neftali Collazo joined by  
8                   phone to discuss some of the items on the  
9                   agenda, Alicia O'Connor and Gail Kenehan.

10                  Meeting called to order at 3:45.  
11                  Discussion was had about the use of  
12                  college facilities, one of our favorite  
13                  all-time topics, the policy currently in  
14                  place, and the need for case-by-case  
15                  review of requests for fee waivers, the  
16                  staffing requirements needed for  
17                  different events and the costs associated  
18                  with each event were discussed. The  
19                  requirement of a board resolution for  
20                  consideration of a fee waiver ensures  
21                  transparency. All requests should be  
22                  brought to the governance committee's  
23                  attention, where they will be considered  
24                  and discussed.

25                  Discussion was had regarding the

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2                   request to have the membership fee waived  
3                   for the Eastern Campus health club for  
4                   seniors 65 years and older. And I think  
5                   this was the result or was predicated on  
6                   the fact that we granted the waivers to  
7                   veterans, and that word got out and a  
8                   senior who lives in the eastern portion  
9                   of Suffolk County wrote in and said hey,  
10                  guys, how about consideration of waiving  
11                  the fees for seniors as we did for the  
12                  veterans.

13                  TRUSTEE COVERDALE: Not me.

14                  TRUSTEE CANARY: Deputy General  
15                  Counsel O'Connor reminded the committee  
16                  that seniors are already getting a  
17                  discounted membership rate of \$220 per  
18                  year, which equates to less than \$20 a  
19                  month. The committee also discussed the  
20                  possibility of setting up a system to  
21                  review requests for individuals who  
22                  lacked financial means to afford a  
23                  membership. Neftali Collazo then advised  
24                  the committee that the college is looking  
25                  into starting a payment plan option for

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2                   gym memberships in addition to the  
3                   current lump sum payment requirement,  
4                   which hopefully would make it more  
5                   feasible for people to afford joining the  
6                   health club, so basically, it would be a  
7                   monthly, rather than just an annual lump  
8                   sum fee, because a lot of other gym  
9                   memberships are done on a monthly basis.  
10                  So we're looking into that.

11                  The committee asked President  
12                  Bonahue for a status update on the  
13                  Wyandanch Rising license agreement with  
14                  the Urban League. President Bonahue  
15                  explained that there were some obstacles  
16                  within the contract that are being  
17                  reviewed, such as the term length, that  
18                  the property would be received as is, and  
19                  whether the space would be exclusively  
20                  ours or would be a shared space.  
21                  Discussion was had about the possibility  
22                  of possibly using alternative sites, such  
23                  as the Wyandanch High School.

24                  Discussion was had about the board  
25                  of trustees' self-assessment and the

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2                   results. It was agreed that an e-mail  
3                   will be sent from the committee chair,  
4                   Canary, to the full board members for  
5                   their review of the Scantron report, and  
6                   that in accordance with the board of  
7                   trustees' self-assessment policy, the  
8                   trustees should be prepared to discuss  
9                   the self-assessment and make any  
10                  recommendations at the December 8th board  
11                  meeting.

12                 Discussion was had regarding ethics  
13                 board committee's candidate C. Randall  
14                 Hinrichs. The committee unanimously  
15                 recommends appointing Judge Hinrichs, and  
16                 a resolution will appear on the December  
17                 agenda for approval by the full board.  
18                 Again, Randy Hinrichs being the former  
19                 chief administrative judge of the Suffolk  
20                 County courts. He has stepped forward  
21                 and agreed, because I asked him, if he  
22                 would be a member on the board of ethics  
23                 and he agreed to that. And he's the one  
24                 and only that has stepped forward. So I  
25                 think we can't find a better candidate in

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2                   Randy Hinrichs, and that item will be on  
3                   the agenda for the December meeting.

4                   In a previous e-mail, DGC O'Connor  
5                   had shared with the committee the  
6                   Association's bylaws, the bylaws of the  
7                   faculty student association of Hudson  
8                   Valley community College, and a board of  
9                   directors' governance structure for  
10                  Cayuga Community College and Jefferson  
11                  Community College. Discussion continued  
12                  on what the composition of the Suffolk  
13                  County Community College Association  
14                  Board of Directors' membership should be.  
15                  The committee will be taking an in-depth  
16                  look at the documents e-mailed and should  
17                  be prepared to bring the recommendations  
18                  to the December 5th governance committee.  
19                  DGC O'Connor indicated that any change to  
20                  the composition of the Association's  
21                  board of directors would require a  
22                  revision to the current Association  
23                  bylaws.

24                  There were no new additional topics  
25                  brought up during open discussion.



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2                   Agenda items identified for the December  
3                   governance committee meeting will include  
4                   the continued discussion, review and  
5                   analysis of the Association's governance  
6                   structure. Next governance meeting is  
7                   scheduled for Monday, December 5th at  
8                   4 p.m. via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at  
9                   4:40 p.m.

10                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you, Gordon.

11                  Any questions? No?

12                  Then personnel committee, and I'm  
13                  pretty sure they did not meet this month.

14                  Advocacy, did they have a meeting?

15                  TRUSTEE ZARATE: Thank you, Trustee  
16                  Murray -- Chair Murray.

17                  So the advocacy committee met, it  
18                  was held on October 18, 2022 at 11 a.m.,  
19                  and present were myself, Trustee Morgo  
20                  and Trustee Pagdanganan, Drew Biondo from  
21                  college director of communications, Ben  
22                  Zwirn, college legislative affairs, Donna  
23                  Ciampa, interim executive dean in Grant  
24                  campus, Bernadette Garcia, college  
25                  coordinator of ESL, and Carmen Torres,

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2                   recording secretary.

3                   So Ben Zwirn, college legislative  
4                   affairs provided an update on the  
5                   education committee meeting held on  
6                   October 7, 2022, which focused on a  
7                   recent raise in the president's salary,  
8                   the concerns with college enrollment and  
9                   retention, and some capitol projects.  
10                  The college has two capital programs,  
11                  infrastructure and automotive programs  
12                  were discussed, voted and approved.  
13                  These projects are now on the pipeline to  
14                  be constructed and will be great for the  
15                  college.

16                  The committee agrees that the  
17                  discussion regarding Advocacy Day at this  
18                  time was also premature. It generally  
19                  takes place in early February. However,  
20                  Drew Biondo, college director of  
21                  communications, proposed that the number  
22                  of students traveling to Advocacy Day be  
23                  reduced. This would allow our students  
24                  to have a unified voice when attending  
25                  appointments with legislators as a group.

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2                   Further discussion of the Advocacy Day to  
3                   take place at a later time.

4                   I also spoke about my participation  
5                   with the New York State -- sorry -- New  
6                   York AFFIRM, fair full resources  
7                   organization, which is an organization,  
8                   or a coalition, actually, comprised of  
9                   different community-based organizations,  
10                  educators and advocacy groups in New York  
11                  State, and the conversation was focused  
12                  on teacher shortages through P through 12  
13                  enrolled, especially bilingual teacher  
14                  shortages. So the discussion with  
15                  Commissioner Lester Young from the New  
16                  York State Department of Education, it  
17                  was suggested to partner with higher  
18                  education institutions to create a  
19                  proposal to address bilingual teacher  
20                  shortages and promote bilingual students  
21                  to consider a career in education.

22                  Dr. Donna Ciampa, interim executive  
23                  dean in Grant campus, shared her  
24                  perspective and role in the leadership  
25                  and advocacy meeting. Dr. Ciampa

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discussed the importance of providing information pursuing a degree in education to our bilingual liberal arts and ESL students. Currently, there is a faculty member providing this information to our early childhood students, liberal arts, and ESL students. Dr. Ciampa discussed her conversation with some local P through 12 districts of possibly offering our courses to their faculty to expand their opportunities and give them the opportunity to receive extension certificates. Conversations with Bellmore school district have been positive and they are interested in this initiative. Dr. Ciampa also mentioned working with the Workforce Development to bring Spanish lessons for businesses.

The Alliance for Puerto Rican Education and Empowerment organization has expressed the significance of advocating to Latin studies to be included P through 12 and higher education institution curriculum. I

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2                   spoke about that I reached out to  
3                   President Bonahue to consider this  
4                   framework at Suffolk County Community  
5                   College in order to expose our students  
6                   to cultural inclusive courses. President  
7                   Bonahue has signed on as a supporter on  
8                   the advocacy letter, which was sent to  
9                   the US Department of Education.

10                  The Advocacy Committee introduced  
11                  Bernadette Garcia, college coordinator of  
12                  ESL, to speak about ESL program  
13                  accessibility and resources available to  
14                  these students. Ms. Garcia spoke about  
15                  the three separate ESL programs within  
16                  the college and current scholarship  
17                  opportunities available. I mentioned a  
18                  potential collaboration with the  
19                  Foundation and additional scholarships  
20                  for ESL programs. Trustee Pagdanganan  
21                  agreed that further conversation with the  
22                  Foundation and ESL programs would be  
23                  considered.

24                  And the meeting was adjourned at  
25                  11:42 a.m.

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2                   Thank you.

3                   CHAIR MURRAY: Any questions? No.

4                   Thank you, very much.

5                   So Facilities?

6                   TRUSTEE MORGO: No, Chris, we didn't  
7 meet, but if you notice on resolution 10,  
8 what I reported at least three meetings  
9 ago about the change orders, John DeMaio  
10 and Paul Cooper are doing a great job  
11 with those, and we are advancing as we  
12 said we were going to.

13                   Also, the capital programs are being  
14 approved. So that's my report.

15                   CHAIR MURRAY: Great. So I'll move  
16 to Foundation.

17                   Belle?

18                   TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN: Thank you,  
19 Mr. Chair.

20                   As the Foundation extends its thanks  
21 to the Guild of Administrative Officers  
22 for securing a donation for an overnight  
23 stay with breakfast for two at the  
24 Gurney's Inn in Montauk. It was used as  
25 a grand prize for its recent raffle.

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2                   Tickets were sold during the month of  
3                   September and were also distributed by  
4                   receipt of new payroll deductions made to  
5                   the annual fund.

6                   Congratulations to Allison Keibel in  
7                   the career services office on the  
8                   Ammerman campus for purchasing the  
9                   winning raffle ticket. The raffle  
10                  generated almost \$2,000 in scholarship  
11                  support.

12                 The Foundation is also partnering  
13                 with the Long Island Power Authority to  
14                 provide graduating high school students  
15                 with the opportunity to be a part of our  
16                 region's emerging clean energy economy.  
17                 To fulfill this commitment, LIPA has  
18                 created a scholarship program for diverse  
19                 income eligible candidates pursuing  
20                 education and training in careers related  
21                 to the electric industry. The LIPA  
22                 scholarship program will provide full  
23                 tuition funding for a total of ten  
24                 full-time two-year scholarships for low  
25                 to moderate income students planning to

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2                   attend Suffolk or Nassau Community  
3                   College. Eligible students, including  
4                   those studying cyber security and  
5                   information assurance, engineering  
6                   science, electrical technology, HVACR,  
7                   and information technology, including  
8                   network assignment administration. The  
9                   LIPA scholarship award at Suffolk County  
10                  Community College is valued at  
11                  approximately \$6,700 annually. LIPA will  
12                  announce its scholarship program at its  
13                  headquarters on Wednesday, November 9th.

14                  That's our report.

15                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

16                  Any questions?

17                  If not, Zach, for the student  
18                  trustee's report.

19                  TRUSTEE FROST: All right, that  
20                  works, so a few things here.

21                  I'm going to start off with in early  
22                  September we had a welcome week. Some of  
23                  the events -- that was across all three  
24                  campuses. Some of the major events that  
25                  went down were there were a wellness



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2                   event. I participated in a few of these  
3                   on Grant, there were a lot of wellness  
4                   events, and then also the 9/11 flag  
5                   placement, so students got to volunteer  
6                   and place flags in recognition of 9/11.

7                   Additionally, this is yesterday, I  
8                   think there was another one today,  
9                   actually, Student Veteran Affairs, they  
10                  hosted a boot camp and they had members  
11                  from the US Marines, they set up a tent  
12                  on campus at Ammerman, and that was a  
13                  huge success. You guys can also see that  
14                  on Facebook. Students got to participate  
15                  in various physical activities, very boot  
16                  camp style. Students got to also win  
17                  awards as well. It seemed to be very  
18                  popular and a huge success.

19                  Additionally, there is an art  
20                  gallery coming up. It is run by the  
21                  faculty. That starts on October 31st and  
22                  runs until mid November. That will be  
23                  taking place in Sagtikos, in the Sagtikos  
24                  building.

25                  Additionally, I wanted to bring up

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2                   the, just hearing from students and  
3                   myself as well, the success of  
4                   Brightspace for the first semester. I'm  
5                   using it. It seems that we fully  
6                   transitioned from Blackboard, I guess?  
7                   Brightspace has been amazing. I also  
8                   think that the, perhaps Dr. Morelli could  
9                   speak to it, but I think a lot of the  
10                  professors enjoy it as well, and when the  
11                  professors enjoy it they really utilize  
12                  it and they streamline things and it  
13                  makes things a lot easier for students.  
14                  It's very easy to use, very easy to  
15                  access. I haven't had to use tech  
16                  support myself, but a lot of students  
17                  said it was very easy, much easier to get  
18                  ahold of people.

19                  Additionally, I wanted to thank the  
20                  college for sending me to the New York  
21                  Association for Community College  
22                  Trustees. That was at the end of  
23                  September. A lot was discussed there, so  
24                  I'll get into that.

25                  There was a big push from the

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2                           president of the ACCT, Jee Hang Lee, to  
3                           talk about, he was talking about the,  
4                           there's a grant called Child Care Means  
5                           Parents in School. I actually think we  
6                           got this, it was funny, he's, President  
7                           Bonahue sent out an e-mail that we were  
8                           given this grant and the president of the  
9                           ACCT was really pushing for this, that  
10                          the state, that the community colleges  
11                          should be applying for this funding, and  
12                          I think it was, like, five hours later  
13                          President Bonahue sent out an e-mail that  
14                          we got it. So that was really cool. So  
15                          essentially, that's for Child Care Means  
16                          Parents in School, so, which is really  
17                          great.

18                         Also at this event, at the  
19                         conference, he was referred to as Dan the  
20                         trainer, he was from the New York  
21                         Comptroller's office. He was probably  
22                         one of the most interesting people there.  
23                         But he was talking about a big push with  
24                         the community colleges, there's a big  
25                         focus on data security when it comes to

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2                   audits, that was one of the major  
3                   conversations there. Additionally, there  
4                   was a lot of talk about workforce  
5                   programs and a lack of funding coming  
6                   from the state. Everyone wants workforce  
7                   but there's not a lot of money coming  
8                   towards that, so the ACCT is looking into  
9                   getting an advocate to advocate for the  
10                  community colleges to get us more funding  
11                  for these programs that everybody wants  
12                  and we all know we need them.

13                  There is also talk about, so there's  
14                  a conference coming up in February in DC,  
15                  and Mr. Jee Hang Lee was talking about  
16                  how every community college should be  
17                  sending two or three students who have  
18                  benefited from PELL grants to talk about  
19                  their stories and how they benefitted  
20                  from these PELL grants, and Mr. Lee will  
21                  be able to set them up with local  
22                  lawmakers. He was talking about how that  
23                  advocacy is a crucial tool for keeping  
24                  elected officials informed and getting  
25                  the right funding.

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2                   And I believe that's it. There's a  
3 lot more here if anyone has any other  
4 questions I'll be happy to answer.

5                   CHAIR MURRAY: Any questions?

6                   Thank you, very much, Zach.

7                   Next item on the agenda is that  
8 chair's report. I'm just going to take a  
9 couple of minutes to follow up on the  
10 self-evaluation that was done. Maybe I'm  
11 going ahead of what was planned, but I  
12 just, I believe everybody has seen the  
13 results, or gotten the results, and I  
14 think there were some very constructive  
15 suggestions or areas of concern about  
16 onboarding new board members and other  
17 particular things that we could do  
18 better, and we can always do better.

19                  But what pleased me the most was the  
20 self-assessment about the board and the  
21 board functioning and how almost  
22 uniformly, absolutely unanimously there  
23 was a feeling that this board operates  
24 very well, that it's a collegial board,  
25 that it's a board that everybody respects

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2                   each other, and it's a board where  
3                   everybody works hard. You know,  
4                   everybody has their little niche and has  
5                   kind of been, you know, Gordon does the  
6                   governance and Jim the facilities now,  
7                   and was the finance before, but everybody  
8                   plays a role, and none of us are paid.  
9                   And, but we all have gone through and  
10                  dealt with difficult situations, from  
11                  hiring a new president to the COVID  
12                  situation to financial pressures, and  
13                  we've all done it in a very respectful,  
14                  cooperative, and quite frankly very  
15                  high-functioning way. I've been on a lot  
16                  of boards and before large institutions,  
17                  and they're not always this functioning.  
18                  And I think that's a real credit. And I  
19                  know there's a saying that has been said  
20                  to me from some of the board members and  
21                  the county legislature about how  
22                  perception is reality. And I guess being  
23                  a litigator maybe there's some sense to  
24                  that, but I also think reality is  
25                  reality, and I think facts are facts, and

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2                   I think facts are important. And if you  
3                   look at what this board has overseen with  
4                   the very hard work of the members of the  
5                   college over the last few years, those  
6                   facts I think are a credit to the hard  
7                   work of the board members.

8                   As you know, fund balance, fund  
9                   balance has more, I believe more than  
10                  doubled over the last two or three years  
11                  and has given us some flexibility to  
12                  pursue programs and do things that are  
13                  for the benefit of the college. One of  
14                  those, in my mind the most important, was  
15                  it enabled us to freeze tuition, freeze  
16                  tuition for the last three years, and  
17                  maybe the last two were definitely helped  
18                  by the aid that came to the college from  
19                  the federal government, but the first  
20                  year, and I remember the discussions that  
21                  first year, everybody was petrified, the  
22                  county wasn't going to give us any more  
23                  additional money, the state was, we  
24                  didn't know what the state was going to  
25                  do, we didn't know the economy, what was

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2                   going to happen with the economy. And  
3                   this board stood up and froze tuition  
4                   that year, when almost every single other  
5                   community college was raising their  
6                   tuition, including Nassau County. And  
7                   there was two purposes. One purpose was  
8                   wanted to be competitive, we wanted to  
9                   fight to increase enrollment, and we  
10                  thought the price, maintaining tuition at  
11                  that level was a good thing in that  
12                  regard. But I think more importantly it  
13                  sent a message, that this college is  
14                  there for the students and for the people  
15                  of Suffolk County. And in a time where  
16                  everybody was very nervous, we -- maybe  
17                  it's not the most major thing in the  
18                  world, but we sent a message that we were  
19                  going to be part of the solution, not  
20                  part of the problem. And that was a very  
21                  tough decision to make, given the  
22                  financial risks that were involved, and I  
23                  really am proud of the board for making  
24                  that decision. We've also been able to  
25                  freeze it for the following two years,



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2                   and I think that is beginning to have an  
3                   effect, along with some great initiatives  
4                   by the administration to encourage  
5                   enrollment. Enrollment was down I think  
6                   3 percent this year, and it's, by the day  
7                   it's getting better. Was substantially  
8                   less than the decline of enrollment of  
9                   almost all other community colleges, and  
10                  we have so many initiatives in the, that  
11                  are being acted upon that are going to  
12                  play an important role of filling seats  
13                  in the college, and it's not just  
14                  traditional students, but it's the  
15                  certification programs, it's the  
16                  employment programs that I think are  
17                  critical, and we rolled out a number of  
18                  them this year.

19                  So, you know, that is a testament  
20                  definitely for the administration and the  
21                  people that work here, but it's also a  
22                  testament to the hard work of the people  
23                  on this board. And probably one of the  
24                  other challenges that a lot of times can  
25                  be very contentious was transition in

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2                   leadership. It was not an easy thing.  
3                   We had issues with the then current  
4                   chancellor of the school, who is no  
5                   longer there, we stuck together as a  
6                   board and I think stood up for the  
7                   independence of this institution, and for  
8                   exercising its fiduciary duties in hiring  
9                   the best candidate, not the one that  
10                  maybe some, for some political reasons  
11                  other people wanted but we hired the best  
12                  candidate based on merit. And I think  
13                  everybody showed support, everybody acted  
14                  in the best interest of the college, and  
15                  to be honest, I'm very proud of this  
16                  organization.

17                  So I agree with the self-assessment,  
18                  and that's my chairman's report.

19                  TRUSTEE SANDERS: Well said. Well  
20                  said.

21                  TRUSTEE MORGO: I want to react, I  
22                  have to disagree. As the second longest  
23                  serving trustee, I want to underline what  
24                  you've said, and some of us have a  
25                  history when we remember that the board

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2                   wasn't so collegial, as a matter of fact.  
3                   Theresa, Gordon, not too many, you and  
4                   Chris, and the key change was when  
5                   Theresa took over the chair. And I think  
6                   you said at the time to Daphne, thank you  
7                   for passing me the hand grenade.

8                   TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yeah, I did.

9                   TRUSTEE MORGO: The whole mood and  
10                  working relationship has changed, and I  
11                  have to say that my friend, Luigi, guided  
12                  us through very difficult waters when he  
13                  was the acting president and did an  
14                  incredible job keeping us together -- and  
15                  you, Chris, you made a force for cohesion  
16                  as well. So it's not all boards, as you  
17                  indicated, are this collegial, so and  
18                  it's a pleasure serving with you now. It  
19                  wasn't always.

20                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

21                  TRUSTEE SANDERS: Ditto.

22                  CHAIR MURRAY: So any other  
23                  comments, and then we'll go to the  
24                  president's report.

25                  PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,

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2                   Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Trustees,  
3                   as always, for your contribution of time  
4                   and service to the college. It does not  
5                   go unnoticed by the faculty, the staff,  
6                   the administration, and your leadership  
7                   is much appreciated, so thank you, very  
8                   much.

9                   As you came in today you may have  
10                  noticed some of the artwork that was  
11                  highlighted just yesterday in Newsday.  
12                  There's a handout at your place about the  
13                  article from yesterday's Newsday. We're  
14                  glad that we can host this kind of  
15                  exhibit here in, for the public, and  
16                  everyone is welcome, as always.

17                 Trustees, it's my pleasure to  
18                 recognize, as always, our Association and  
19                 governance leaders with us today:  
20                 Professor Tat Sang So from the Grant  
21                 campus assembly, thank you, Tat;  
22                 Professor Lizzie McCormick, who is behind  
23                 me, from Ammerman Center, thank you,  
24                 Lizzie. I saw Professor Dante Morelli,  
25                 thank you, Dante, for being here. As

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2                   well as Sean Tvelia, thank you, Sean, for  
3                   being here, and I think that's -- and I  
4                   got Tat, yes? So as always, thank you,  
5                   our Association leaders, for providing  
6                   representation for our campuses and  
7                   associations.

8                   As I trust everyone noticed when  
9                   Chris introduced her, I'm pleased to  
10                  report that since our last meeting and as  
11                  a candidate within our national search  
12                  for a Vice President for Student Affairs,  
13                  Dr. Patty Munsch has accepted the  
14                  position of permanent Vice President for  
15                  Student Affairs. Dr. Munsch earned her  
16                  Bachelor of Arts in Political Science  
17                  from Geneseo, her Master's in College  
18                  Student Personnel from Western Illinois  
19                  University, and her Doctorate in Higher  
20                  Education Administration from NYU.

21                  Patty, congratulations on the  
22                  appointment. Thank you for serving  
23                  really since the time that I've been  
24                  here, since 2020, I think, really, as the  
25                  chief student officer on an interim

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2                   basis, and well done. Thank you and  
3                   congratulations.

4                   Trustees, as of this week, as we  
5                   referred to a moment ago, we continue to  
6                   make progress in stopping the enrollment  
7                   slide and hopefully reversing it. At  
8                   your places you also have handout related  
9                   to the MicroMesters initiative, which we  
10                  have onboarded this semester. We are now  
11                  trailing, probably partly doing  
12                  MicroMesters and partly owing to the  
13                  rolling in of our Beacon students in the  
14                  high school programs, our overall  
15                  enrollment is now trailing last fall by  
16                  only 1.75 percent in head count, and just  
17                  over 2 1/2 percent in FTE. And as you  
18                  know, as we catch up in enrollment, so  
19                  too we will catch up in revenues, and  
20                  that's always good news.

21                  We see from the MicroMesters handout  
22                  that our enrollment is, our enrollment  
23                  for the second part of the semester is  
24                  now ahead of the enrollment where we were  
25                  in the first half of the semester, and we

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2                   will continue to enroll students through  
3                   next week, which is when the new  
4                   MicroMester begins, on the 26th. You'll  
5                   also see that the number of students  
6                   participating in this innovation is  
7                   higher now than it was in the first part  
8                   of the semester.

9                   In terms of next steps, we need to  
10                  review student success, to make sure that  
11                  student grades, student success in these  
12                  courses are on par with the rest of the  
13                  college's courses. We also need a  
14                  demographic analysis to test among these  
15                  students, are they new students, are they  
16                  adult students, are they working  
17                  students. So I think we can learn more  
18                  about what students are taking these  
19                  courses.

20                  In the spring we'll continue with  
21                  this project and we'll have more  
22                  sequential courses that allow students to  
23                  move through a curriculum quickly. So it  
24                  might be, for instance, English I and  
25                  English II all in one semester, or a prep

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2                   math and a college math all in one  
3                   semester. So hopefully students can meet  
4                   an educational objective more quickly and  
5                   at the same time it provides more  
6                   flexibility for students who are working.  
7                   I also acknowledge one of the audiences  
8                   that really jumped on this was our  
9                   friends at the 106 National Guard Air  
10                  Wing in Westhampton Beach, because for  
11                  their service personnel, having, being  
12                  able to focus on a course for just seven  
13                  or eight weeks is a lot easier than  
14                  having to manage it for 16 weeks.

15                  You heard Dr. Munsch mention that  
16                  about three-quarters of our student  
17                  activities is back up and running. Part  
18                  of that is, it feels like a restart, but  
19                  it also agrees with our count for how  
20                  much enrollment is back on campus. About  
21                  two-thirds of our enrollment is now back  
22                  on campus, just over a third remaining  
23                  online. We see that moving up, we see  
24                  more students coming back to campus every  
25                  semester.



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2                   In terms of new student recruitment,  
3 I shared with you previously, we hosted  
4 last month a meeting for all Suffolk  
5 County directors of guidance, and this  
6 morning Dr. Liesl Jones and Dr. Patty  
7 Munsch met with the Suffolk County  
8 Superintendent's Association, again with  
9 the message that we want to partner with  
10 our high schools, we want to be fully  
11 present in the high schools, we need  
12 their help in creating a college-going  
13 culture, not just for students who are  
14 always told they're going to college, but  
15 for every high school student, because  
16 college is for everyone.

17                  On Sunday, November 6th, we will  
18 have our Fall Open House at every campus,  
19 so whether students are looking to get a  
20 head start on enrollment for next year,  
21 or whether they want to join us in  
22 January, it will be great to welcome  
23 students to campus in November.

24                  We haven't had a chance to debrief  
25 about college-wide retention efforts, but

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2                   as you know, we had a retention workshop  
3                   in August, and then retention was the  
4                   main theme for our college planning day  
5                   that we used to open the beginning of the  
6                   fall semester. We introduced to all  
7                   faculty, all personnel in the college the  
8                   metrics that are related to retention;  
9                   course level retention, semester level  
10                  retention, how we keep students enrolled  
11                  semester after semester, and we discussed  
12                  those metrics over the summer. And it's  
13                  a job that is, it's such a big job. It's  
14                  not just for faculty, it's not just for  
15                  student affairs, just for advising,  
16                  because there's a role for everyone to  
17                  play. We emphasized, we certainly  
18                  emphasized course level retention through  
19                  active engagement of students, active  
20                  learning, hands-on activities in the  
21                  classroom. We talked about leading  
22                  students to academic supports like  
23                  tutoring, not just the students who would  
24                  ordinarily go to tutoring because they  
25                  want to do well, but we have to find ways

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2                   to encourage every student to go to  
3                   academic supports, to normalize the  
4                   experience of asking for help.

5                   We emphasized the importance of  
6                   early alerts to let students know when  
7                   they're getting off track, and we made a  
8                   special appeal to the faculty to use the  
9                   new Brightspace system, to use some of  
10                  the communication tools on there to take  
11                  part in early alerts. And then we're  
12                  also developing this semester a guide to  
13                  best practices in advising, because we  
14                  rely on faculty to do advising alongside  
15                  our student affairs professionals, and we  
16                  feel like we have an opportunity to put  
17                  some best practices in faculty's hands,  
18                  not just to assume that faculty know how  
19                  to do everything -- many of them do --  
20                  but when it comes to advising, when it  
21                  comes to helping students focus on their  
22                  educational progress, their educational  
23                  goals, we want to put those best  
24                  practices in faculty hands.

25                  Trustees, since our last meeting, as

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2                   you know, Chair Murray and I visited with  
3                   the education and labor committee, and I  
4                   presented a comprehensive update for the  
5                   fall on our ongoing enrollment and  
6                   retention and workforce development  
7                   strategies. At that meeting, the  
8                   committee also took up and approved both  
9                   \$5 million in infrastructure funding, as  
10                  well as the funds for designing the  
11                  expansion of our automotive program to  
12                  the Grant campus, and both appropriations  
13                  subsequently passed by the full  
14                  legislature.

15                  I've also mentioned, Trustees, the  
16                  supplemental allocation that Suffolk will  
17                  receive from SUNY on a competitive basis,  
18                  which was geared to support innovations  
19                  in workforce development programming with  
20                  a potential to increase enrollment. And  
21                  so we were awarded just under a half  
22                  million dollars for the updating and  
23                  expansion of our cyber security program,  
24                  again, cyber security in the news. As  
25                  you know, right now it's on the Ammerman

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2                   campus and we will be outfitting new  
3                   program to extend the program to the  
4                   Grant campus.

5                   In terms of the impact of our  
6                   full-time faculty relative to community  
7                   college peers, we did find that we have a  
8                   lower student, a lower faculty-to-student  
9                   ratio than many of our peers, and so in  
10                  this area we did receive an additional  
11                  1.7 million to support additional faculty  
12                  lines. Now, while we've been assured by  
13                  the executive vice chancellor for  
14                  community colleges that these funds will  
15                  be rolled into our base, it's not  
16                  guaranteed. So we are using these funds  
17                  certainly to pilot new, the programs that  
18                  we're expanding, including cyber  
19                  security, including surgical technology,  
20                  we're looking ahead to nursing,  
21                  automotive and other programs that we've  
22                  established as priorities and where we  
23                  were planning to make hires and that we  
24                  know we can sustain through enrollment.

25                  And finally, in the area of finance,

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2                   a few weeks ago we received some limited  
3                   information about the fact that Suffolk,  
4                   students from Suffolk County continue to  
5                   enroll at FIT, at Nassau, and of course  
6                   this constitutes a charge-back to Suffolk  
7                   County. We've asked County Comptroller  
8                   John Kennedy for more detailed  
9                   information about who those students are  
10                  so that we can follow up. We can follow  
11                  up directly with the students, we can  
12                  follow up with their high schools, and  
13                  see if we can redirect that traffic back  
14                  to Suffolk. I know this has been a  
15                  long-term project for the board that  
16                  you've focused on in previous years. I  
17                  understand it was perhaps interrupted by  
18                  COVID, but we need to refocus on that,  
19                  absolutely.

20                  In workforce and economic  
21                  development, you know that Governor  
22                  Hochul visited Suffolk County this  
23                  morning to announce that the property on  
24                  Crooked Hill Road has been transferred to  
25                  Suffolk County, where it will be

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2                   developed not only for the National  
3                   Offshore Wind Training Center, but also  
4                   for the development of additional  
5                   community-facing workforce development  
6                   and other community benefits. So that  
7                   piece is done, and we continue to  
8                   collaborate with the county, with the AFL  
9                   and with the Building Trades Council on  
10                  development of that center.

11                  You know that we are continuing to  
12                  expand our short-term and workforce  
13                  certificate programs. Since the press  
14                  conference on medical assisting, the  
15                  college has received over 60 requests for  
16                  information on the new medical assisting  
17                  certificate, and we've begun enrolling  
18                  students. We have our first enrollees.  
19                  We had scholarships in place from the  
20                  DOL, from Catholic, and I think Northwell  
21                  is now joining the party, Northwell also  
22                  wants to support its people if they come  
23                  to the medical assisting program.  
24                  Interestingly, some of the calls we got  
25                  from students who were very interested in

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2                   medical assisting, but they did not hold  
3                   a GED. And so that was a good reminder  
4                   for us that we need to think about these  
5                   training programs as part of a large  
6                   trajectory, right, that we may be talking  
7                   about adults who need very basic adult  
8                   education, including a GED, and then they  
9                   need their first steps into a workforce  
10                  certificate. The medical assisting  
11                  program is designed, is scheduled to  
12                  begin November 15th, and we are enrolling  
13                  students now. We are enrolling students.

14                  As we worked on the curriculum for  
15                  medical assisting it became clear there's  
16                  a little piece of phlebotomy built into  
17                  that, and phlebotomy is another  
18                  short-term certificate that's a specific  
19                  area of need for our hospitals and for  
20                  medical labs, and so I've asked Dr. Jones  
21                  and her staff to start looking at  
22                  phlebotomy programs, and that will be a  
23                  certificate that we can work on in the  
24                  spring.

25                  We wanted a minimum of ten students



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2                   in the new solar installation training  
3                   program. We actually enrolled 12, and  
4                   Tuesday night I welcomed our first cohort  
5                   at the Grant campus. By coincidence I  
6                   was meeting with Deputy Presiding Officer  
7                   Steve Flotteron, and he joined me in  
8                   welcoming students to this certificate  
9                   program. Again, we designed this  
10                  training in collaboration with solar  
11                  installation companies, and about a half  
12                  dozen companies have expressed interest  
13                  in interviewing completers. Once again,  
14                  for this program, tuition is free this  
15                  go-round from the DOL, and in future  
16                  programs they'll have to actually meet  
17                  the eligibility requirements for the DOL,  
18                  but we certainly plan to repeat it next  
19                  year.

20                 And then finally, following the  
21                 explosion at the Calverton food  
22                 incubator, Stony Brook University  
23                 confirmed for us last week they do indeed  
24                 want to temporarily lease some kitchen  
25                 space from us to support their food

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2                   entrepreneurs. They need access to  
3                   commercial kitchen equipment, which we  
4                   have here at the Eastern campus.

5                   I especially want to thank our host  
6                   today, Dean Mary Reese. Thank you. Mary  
7                   recently jumped on this in cooperation  
8                   with the Long Island Food Council, with  
9                   Stony Brook. I want to thank the legal  
10                  department for going over a lease  
11                  agreement that we can do with Stony  
12                  Brook, and Neftali Collazo and the  
13                  facilities use team. Stony Brook will  
14                  pay the college a modest fee for access  
15                  and they will manage which of the  
16                  incubating companies comes in and has  
17                  access to this. We're glad we can also  
18                  take part in this area of  
19                  entrepreneurship as well as the items  
20                  that you approved today for Dr. Gordon's  
21                  area.

22                  Mr. Chairman, that concludes my  
23                  report. I'll be happy to take questions.

24                  CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

25                  Any questions? Thank you so much.

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2                                   TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you,  
3                                   President.

4                                   CHAIR MURRAY: So the next is round  
5                                   table. Anybody have any items?

6                                   If not, I request a motion to enter  
7                                   into executive session to discuss the  
8                                   proposed acquisition, sale or lease of  
9                                   real property, and to discuss the terms  
10                                  and conditions of employment for senior  
11                                  officials.

12                                 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

13                                 CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

14                                 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

15                                 CHAIR MURRAY: All in favor?

16                                 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

17                                 [The motion made and seconded was  
18                                 voted on and carried.]

19                                 CHAIR MURRAY: There will be no  
20                                 business after the executive session.

21                                 (Time Noted: 5:14 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK )

I, DONNA C. GILMORE, a Shorthand Reporter  
and Notary Public within and for the State of New  
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true  
and accurate transcript of my original stenographic  
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my  
hand this 27th day of October, 2022.

*Donna C. Gilmore*

DONNA C. GILMORE

