

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MICHEAL J. GRANT CAMPUS, BRENTWOOD, NY  
BOARD ROOM, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER  
DECEMBER 5, 2024

The meeting was held on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board room of the Learning Resource Center, in Brentwood, NY.

PRESENT:

Shirley Coverdale	Chair
Gordon Canary	Vice Chair
Gemma deLeon-Lopresti	Vice Chair
Kevin O'Connor	Secretary
E. Christopher Murray	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
John Dolan	Trustee
Dr. Edward Bonahue	President
Ashley Pope	General Counsel
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Dr. Patty Munsch	V.P. for Student Affairs
Dr. Irene Rios	Interim V.P. for Academic Affairs
Kaliah Greene	V.P. Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Angelica Rivera	V.P. for Human Resources
Sara Gorton	Interim V.P. of Business and Financial Affairs

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

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Chair Coverdale asked Carol Wickliffe-Campbell for the recognition of guests. Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell introduced Tim Freeman, representing Legislator Bontempi.

*Trustee deLeon-Lopresti joined the meeting.*

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Public comments on agenda items: none.

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Chair Coverdale requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee O'Connor so moved, Trustee Dolan seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously (7-0).

Chair Coverdale requested a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2024 Board of Trustees special meeting. Trustee O'Connor so moved, Trustee Pagdanganan seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously (7-0).

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Chair Coverdale then introduced Interim V.P. of Business and Financial Affairs, Sara Gorton, to present the College's financial reports. President Bonahue announced there would be two parts to the Financial report—in addition to the monthly update, there would be a presentation by a Research Analyst at Lightcast on the results of SUNY Community College Business Officers Association Economic Impact Study.

For FY'24 Ms. Gorton reported the College started its audit field work with the new audit firm, Clifton Larson Allen, this week. As always, there is a lot of work involved in the closeout process, but a bit more since this is the first audit with the new firm. The College is working diligently to get the audit completed on time and have the financials for the Board to review in a timely manner. Barring any adjustments that the auditors might make, the College is still looking at the same fund balance usage of \$6.5 million for FY'24.

For FY'25 budget, Ms. Gorton reported, as previously shared, that the College had flat funding from New York State and received a 2% increase from the County, which represented about \$900K. There was a 3.4% increase in tuition, which represents about \$2.5M. In addition, the College budgeted significant savings in personnel expenses and benefits, to reduce the total fund balance reserve usage by about \$8M. This was the goal. Our charge over the past several years has been to be looking forward to financial stability and a balanced budget. With two months into FY'25, the College is seeing some positive numbers as far as fall tuition revenue. Full-time revenue exceeded the budget by about 2/3 of a percent, about \$180K. The College is slightly under budget by about 3% on the part-time side. The College is still waiting for some final numbers. Total projected fall tuition revenue is under budget by about \$200K, a little less than half a percent. Non-credit ELL enrollment revenue is up \$120K over last fall. Total revenue projection is about \$2.4M over budget.

In regards to expenditures, Ms. Gorton reported the biggest item that is overarching to present this month is that when the County approved their FY'25 budget, they included \$84M (13.5%) increase in health care costs. The final rate increase she received from EMHP indicated a 12.92% increase, a little less than the 13.5%. The College is estimating the increase, based on total EMHP costs, will be about \$3.1M more than the College had originally budgeted. The College had included a 3.5%, about \$1.3M, increase in healthcare costs for FY'25. However, that still leaves an unbudgeted

increase of about \$1.8M at this point. The concern is that this increase is the second increase over 10% in the past three years. The College plans to speak with the County and discuss possible more sustainable ways to manage these increases in healthcare costs. However, with us currently projecting some increases in revenue for FY'25, the College is looking at a possible need to increase use of fund balance reserves by about \$300K. It is still early in the fiscal year, and the College is not overly concerned; however, we will monitor expenses and remain hopeful for additional revenue in the Spring semester.

Ms. Gorton then introduced Ms. Rhea Toves from Lightcast to present results of the SUNY Community College Business Officers Association (CCBOA) Economic Impact Study for Suffolk County Community College. Ms. Toves is a research analyst at Lightcast, as well as the project lead of the SUNY system-wide aggregate study. The CCBOA commissioned Lightcast to perform the economic impact studies across all of the 30 SUNY community colleges. The economic impact study is comprised of two parts. The first part is the economic impact analysis, which focuses on the data question at hand. For example, if SCCC did not exist, how would this impact the regional economy? The second part is the investment analysis, which this focuses on SCCC as an investment for three key stakeholders: students, taxpayers, and society.

Ms. Toves reviewed Suffolk County as a region, including average earnings by education level. The total gross regional product of Suffolk County is \$124.5B and there are over 970,000 jobs within the region. The College in fiscal year 2022-2023 (the fiscal year of analysis) served over 25,000 credit students, about 3,000 non-credit students, and employed 3,000 employees. Those employees were paid total payroll and benefits of \$188.8M. The College received \$62.4M in tuition revenue, and about 1% of the students are from outside of Suffolk County.

The operation spending impact looks at the impact generated from the College simply operating. It looks at initial payroll paid out to employees, day-to-day spending, operations spending, and how that is rippling throughout the County economy as the College's employees are spending their salaries on housing, food, et cetera. The analysis showed \$244M was generated in added regional income, which is equivalent to supporting 3,247 jobs within the region. For the student spending impact, the study breaks students up into two groups, the first one being relocated students and the second one being retained students. Relocated students are students who were from outside of Suffolk and then further relocated within the County to attend SCCC. The retained students are students who could have received an education elsewhere but decided to remain within the service region because they want to attend and they did attend Suffolk County Community College. The study reflects students spending money on gas, groceries, rent, and transportation. Student impact shows \$20.8M in added regional income was generated by the College's students, which is equivalent to supporting 239 jobs within the region. For the alumni impact, this study takes a look at that human capital that the College is creating within the County economy. The study looks at the alumni served over the years and who are active within the regional workforce today. The alumni impact shows an economic impact of \$1.3B in added

regional income, which is equivalent to supporting 12,269 jobs within the region. The study shows total impact of \$1.6B in total income added to the region, which is equivalent to 1.3% of the region's GRP, and is also equivalent to 15,755 jobs within the region. One out of 62 jobs within Suffolk County are impacted by the activities of the College and its students. Ms. Toves reviewed a further breakdown of the study that includes impacts by industry (jobs supported), an investment analysis, a taxpayer and social perspective. Key takeaways from the study show the College has generated a total of \$1.6B in added regional income, 1.3% of the region's GRP, and it is equivalent to supporting 15,755 jobs within Suffolk County. For every dollar that students are investing within Suffolk County Community College, they will receive \$5 back across their working lives. For every dollar that taxpayers are investing, they will receive \$2.40 across students' working lives. For every dollar that society is investing, they will see an average of \$9.30 across students' working lives.

The Board thanked Ms. Toves for the presentation, and discussion continued on using the presentation as a possible advocacy tool within the region and the State.

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President Bonahue provided an overview of College Resolutions 2024.75 to 2024.83. Chair Coverdale called for approval of College Resolutions No. 2024.75 through 2024.83. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee Murray seconded. The motion to approve College Resolutions No. 2024.75 through 2024.83 was approved unanimously (7-0).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.75 – Approving a Plan of Dissolution and Distribution of Assets for the Center for Social Justice and Human Understanding, Inc.**

**WHEREAS**, The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity, & Human Understanding, Inc. (“Center”), was incorporated as a Non-for-Profit type B corporation under Section 201 of the New York State Non-for-Profit Corporation Law (“NFP Law”) on March 21, 2003, with Suffolk County Community College (the “College”) as the sole member of the Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Corporation was formed and has been operated for the purposes of promoting and enhancing a collection of artifacts and other memorabilia owned by the College relating to diversity and historical events such as the Holocaust, slavery and genocide; teaching diversity and tolerance at the College, in the community and to secondary school students; and raising funds in furtherance of these objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 7, 2017, the Corporation filed a Certificate of Amendment with the Department of State, changing the Corporation’s name to the “Center for Social Justice and Human Understanding, Inc.,” and specifying that the Corporation is a charitable corporation as defined in Section 201 of the NFP Law; and

**WHEREAS**, upon evaluating the functions, operations and finances of the Corporation, it has been determined that a dissolution of the Corporation would be in the best interests of the Corporation and of the College; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the “Dissolution Plan and Distribution of Assets” enclosed herein as Attachment I, the College will remain the owner of artifacts, books and memorabilia comprising the collection currently managed by the Corporation; the College will take over the management and control of the collection as well as of the Center’s endeavors and activities; and the Corporation’s financial assets will be distributed to the Suffolk County Community College Foundation (the “Foundation”);

**WHEREAS**, the Center’s Board of Directors unanimously approved the Dissolution Plan and Distribution of Assets;

**WHEREAS**, the Dissolution Plan and Distribution of Assets shall not become effective unless and until the Foundation shall adopt a resolution accepting the terms of the Dissolution Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, upon dissolution of the Corporation, the College shall appoint an advisory committee to advise the College on matters relating to the Center’s endeavors and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the composition of the advisory committee will be determined by the College President, and will include representatives from the current directors of the corporation, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the College’s Board of Trustees hereby approves the dissolution of the Center, and further approves the attached “Dissolution Plan and Distribution of Assets” for filing with the Attorney General of the State of New York.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.76 – Accepting a Grant from the State University of New York (SUNY) for a Project Entitled “High Needs Nursing Funding for Campus Simulation Support”**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant in the amount of \$80,000, from The State University of New York (SUNY) for a project entitled “High Needs Nursing Funding for Campus Simulation Support,” for the period of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College will utilize High Needs Campus Simulation Support funding for the purchase of simulator equipment, medical equipment, and sensory props for four existing nursing simulation labs on its Ammerman Campus and Eastern Campus, which support lab courses for both the Registered Nursing A.S. and Practical Nursing programs, and

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

**RESOLVED**, that a grant, in the amount of \$80,000, from SUNY for a project entitled, “High Needs Nursing Funding for Campus Simulation Support,” for the period of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized to execute and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract, with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended to reflect the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Cheryl Shaffer, College Associate Dean of Nursing

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.77 – Accepting a Grant Award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a Project Entitled “Enhancing Organic Chemistry Education: Acquisition of a Desktop Mass Spectrometer and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer”**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant award in the amount of \$197,968 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a project entitled “Enhancing Organic Chemistry Education: Acquisition of a Desktop Mass Spectrometer and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer,” for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the College will use the funding for the acquisition of a desktop Mass Spectrometer and Nuclear Resonance Spectrometer, and

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

**RESOLVED**, that a grant, in the amount of \$197,968, from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled “Enhancing Organic Chemistry Education: Acquisition of a Desktop Mass Spectrometer and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer,” for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized to execute and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract, with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended to reflect the applicable portion of the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Keith Baessler, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Note: No full-time personnel

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.78 – Amending the College Budget to Reflect a Grant Award Increase for the Coordinated Library Collection Program**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024–2025 College operating budget provided \$17,241 in anticipation of an award from the New York State Education Department for a Library Collection Aid program, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the award includes an additional amount of \$343, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$17,584, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend the 2024-2025 College operating budget to reflect this increase, and

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

**RESOLVED**, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended to reflect an award increase in the amount of \$343, from the New York State Education Department, for a Library Collection Aid program, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including an agreement with an administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel.

Project Director: Rebecca Turner-Wallace, Professor of Library Services

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.79 – Amending the College Budget to Reflect a Grant Award Increase for the Entrepreneurial Assistance Center**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024–2025 College operating budget provided \$99,593 in anticipation of an award from the New York State Urban Development Corporation, d/b/a Empire State Development (ESD), for an Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the award includes an additional amount of \$73,407, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$173,000, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend the 2024–2025 College operating budget to reflect this increase, and

**WHEREAS**, matching funds, in the amount of \$17,300, are provided for in the 2024–2025 College operating budget, and an additional in-kind contribution \$17,300 will be met through space, administrative support and the associated benefits, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended to reflect an award increase in the amount of \$73,407, from the New York State Urban Development

Corporation, d/b/a Empire State Development, for an Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, and that the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including an agreement with an administering agency, in such form shall be approved by the College General Counsel.

Project Director: Daphne Gordon, Ph.D., Specialist II/Adjunct Associate Professor

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.80 – Amending the College Budget to Reflect an Award Increase for the Federal Work Study Program**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024–2025 College operating budget provided \$416,564 in anticipation of an award from the U.S. Department of Education, for a Federal Work Study Program, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the award includes an additional amount of \$48,166, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$464,730, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend the 2024–2025 College operating budget to reflect this increase, and

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

**RESOLVED**, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended to reflect an award increase in the amount of \$48,166, from the U.S. Department of Education, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including an agreement with an administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel.

Project Director: Nancy Brewer, College Director of Financial Aid

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.81 – Authorizing an Increase in the Hourly Wage Rate for Part-Time Employees at Suffolk County Community College**

**WHEREAS**, due to the increase in New York State’s minimum wage effective January 1, 2025, the hourly wage rate for part-time employees of Suffolk County Community College should, likewise, be increased, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the hourly wage rate for part-time employees of the College shall be increased as reflected on Attachment II, annexed hereto, effective December 30, 2024.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.82 – Approving Monthly Sponsor Services for Suffolk County Community College**

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

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

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

**RESOLVED**, that the health insurance payment to the County of Suffolk in the amount of \$3,309,135.45 for the month of October 2024 and \$3,279,242.87 for the month of November 2024 (*Attachment III*) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.83 – Amending the Timeframe for the Board of Trustees’ Annual Self-Assessment for 2024–2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees’ [Policy on Board of Trustees Self-Assessment](#) provides a typical timeframe for completion of an annual self-assessment from January to March, and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 2024.23, the Board of Trustees previously amended these timeframes for 2024 to provide for completion of the annual self-assessment by December 31, 2024, in order to afford new Trustees the opportunity to provide input in this process, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees desires to return to the regular cycle for completion of the annual self-assessment during the 2024–2025 academic year, be it therefore,

**RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby amends the timeframe for completion of the annual self-assessment for 2024 to provide for completion of the 2024 self-assessment survey form by December 31, 2024, with the remainder of the self-assessment process to be completed during the 2024–2025 academic year in accordance with the Board of Trustees’ [Policy on Board of Trustees Self-Assessment](#).

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Chair Coverdale called for the Committee reports.

Trustee Pagdanganan reported for the Student Success Committee. The committee met on December 2nd. The College Associate Dean of Grants Development Dr. Tucker, gave a presentation on how beneficial grant funding is for student success. In 2023/2024, the College had 32 new grant awards and 61 continuing grant awards. Out of 93 grants currently awarded to the College, 73 are geared towards student success. They support many aspects of student success, including retention, completion, career and transfer counseling, scholarships as well as basic needs such as child care, transportation, health and mental health referrals, food and housing. Future awards the College will apply for consist of the U.S. Department of Education Title V Strengthening Hispanic Serving Institutions, which helps diversify enrollment, student success, the college workforce and increase sustainability and capacity, as well as the NYS DOH Help grant which will expand and diversify the Healthcare workforce, help with wrap around supports and create a career ladder from CAN and MA to LPN and RN.

Vice Chair Canary reported for the Governance Committee. The committee met on December 2nd. General Counsel Ashley Pope advised the Committee of the extent of responses so far for the BOT Self-Assessment Questionnaire. Because of the holidays and busy schedules, the timeline for completion is being extended to December 31, 2024. A resolution has been added to the agenda for the December 5th Board meeting. GC Pope has requested that Scantron return the results report in time to review at the January 13th Governance Committee meeting.

Vice Chair Canary reported for the Facilities Committee, which did not meet this month. The annual large group meeting on the College's facilities will be taking place in January 2025, after which Vice Chair Canary will provide a report to the Board.

Trustee deLeon-Lopresti reported for the Personnel Committee. The committee met on November 7th and held a discussion regarding the one-year extension of the Scantron contract to facilitate the Presidential evaluation. Scantron agreed to hold the pricing for the one-year extension. This would be the last year an extension is permissible under the current contract, and an RFQ would be needed to be issued to resume these services. The College has engaged Gallagher consulting to complete a salary and organizational structure study and market review of its exempt employees. The study has been completed, and a recommendation is forthcoming to the College President and Board of Trustees for consideration.

VP Araneo reported for the Foundation and gave a presentation on the Education Without Limits campaign. The campaign's goal is to raise \$5M over the next three years. The soft launch took place last year in October of 2023. The actual launch for activities began this year with the kickoff of the semester. The Foundation is building options for their team in four categories that will help reach the goal. Strategic development plans are being prepared for specific tasks, such as the naming associated with the new Automotive Technology Center, priority donor prospects, as well as outreach to healthcare partners to assist with funding for the Nursing program.

The campaign has four priorities: scholarships, hardship funds, naming opportunities, and academic program enhancement. This year, the Foundation has been focusing on the development of a primary relationship manager top donor prospect list. There are three Foundation team members who are managers. They have been building their list of individuals they will be working with through a moves management review (relationship progression), which is a way to advance their relationship through contact and conversation. Through a very persistent targeted development and conversation with those individuals, we can advance a relationship from a small gift into a larger gift. VP Araneo then reviewed the handout and materials the Foundation is using to help promote the Education Without Limits Campaign. They include basic overview information, as well as more detailed information about the College and gift impact, which assists a donor in thinking about ways that they can support the College that more closely align with their association with the institution. The Foundation has also been speaking with the internal audience, staff, individuals who may be alumni, and continues to make outreach to external alumni. Another goal is to start to advance the minimum endowment range up to the \$50,000 level. With over 140,000 alumni, the Foundation has a targeted approach to reach its alumni during the course of the campaign. The first focus is on those alumni who are 60 to 70 years old, and they anticipate that they will look at alumni in 10-year increments, working backwards from there.

The Foundation team's top priority is to continue working with the top donor prospect list and have dedicated themselves to building partnerships with these corporations. A Giving Tuesday/new year-end appeal was just launched this past week. The Foundation made a heavy outreach electronically via email with over 50,000 alumni and internal employees of the College as a year-end appeal. They also have the President's holiday appeal that will be coming out in about a week and they are starting to develop those strategic plans for automotive and healthcare partners. In May, we will also celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Nursing Program.

Discussion was had regarding the Board's appreciation and support for the efforts of the Foundation and the impact gifts can have on students.

Trustee Pagdanganan reported for the Association. The Association Board of Directors meeting was held on October 22, 2024. The first financial report for the 2024–25 fiscal year was given as of Sept 30th. Lower numbers will be adjusted once the Association receives student fees. The Peconic Café is showing a gain for the first month of the semester, which is great news since they have been dealing with low sales from the previous year. New Student Government members were introduced and were briefed on the possible discussions, decisions, and responsibilities they will encounter being on this Board. Nomination and election procedures were discussed, including briefly explaining the open positions and the expectations of said positions. Deadline for nominations and the actual elections were set. The next meeting is scheduled for December 17th.

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Chair Coverdale moved to the Chair's report. Chair Coverdale gave an update on the SUNY resolution entitled Strengthening the Community College Presidential Search Process and Ensuring Transparency and Accountability. She reported that as a follow-up to the resolution the College's Board, along with many other community college boards within SUNY, adopted in September reiterating the primacy of the role of community college boards with respect to employment of community college presidents, she was disappointed to report the following. On November 12, the SUNY Board of Trustees, on the recommendation of the SUNY Chancellor, adopted a resolution updating SUNY's Guidelines for Presidential Searches for Community Colleges in several respects, including: For presidential searches, SUNY will require community college boards of trustees to forward the names of three finalists for the Chancellor to interview and provide feedback to the local board. The local board will then select a single finalist to submit for approval to the SUNY Board of Trustees after receiving the Chancellor's recommendation for presidential contracts. For presidential contracts, SUNY is requiring that the Chancellor review and approve the initial contract of employment between a community college board and its president, as well as any subsequent contract amendment or extension "in order to ensure appropriateness of terms and conditions before the contract may take effect." Chair Coverdale said these changes represent a significant departure from the long-standing local control that has appropriately rested with community college boards in accordance with New York State's Education law. The Education Law explicitly vests the power and authority to administer community colleges in a local board of trustees, such as this Board, and in the president that the local board appoints. Community colleges are funded by both the State and the local sponsor, in our case Suffolk County, with four trustees appointed by the Governor, five trustees appointed by the local sponsor and one elected student trustee. The Education Law also vests the authority to appoint a community college president and the local board of trustees, subject to the approval by the SUNY Board of Trustees. State regulations specifically state that the college trustees shall formulate and record the policies and procedures of appointment and conditions of employment of the president. Local control of community colleges is and remains essential because community colleges, unlike SUNY state-operated institutions, are designed to serve the specific needs of their local community. Local boards of trustees, with input of the president, administration, students, faculty, and local sponsor, are best positioned to understand the leadership needs of their institution when selecting, evaluating, and setting terms and conditions of employment of their president in order to best meet the needs of the institution. The New York Community College Trustees (NYCCT) and Community College Board Chairs have voiced their opposition to these changes implemented by SUNY. She trusts they will continue to advocate appropriately to ensure the interests of community college boards and their institutions remain at the forefront in this and in all other matters.

Discussion was had regarding the SUNY resolution and community college responses to this resolution.

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Chair Coverdale moved to the President's report. President Bonahue began with an update on enrollment and reviewed a handout courtesy of VP Greene and the Office of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness. The enrollment picture overall is solid for the Fall semester; however, it is essentially flat. The College had set a 2% goal for enrollment growth, but we did not hit that for this semester in our credit programs. Full-time enrollment has been stronger than part-time enrollment. Although there are a few stragglers coming in, the numbers for high school dual enrollment look to be down a bit. Non-credit enrollment continues to be strong. Revenue projections are close to budget and ahead of where the College was this time last year. Overall, as part of the revenue mix, enrollment is about where it was budgeted

The College is feeling frustrated by the news about EMHP premiums. Unlike other county agencies, the College's budget is already set for this year, and the additional cost will be a challenge. President Bonahue noted that as VP Gorton reported, the College wants to get a little further into the fiscal year to determine whether it may be necessary to take any formal action related to a projected use of reserve funds. The College will continue to look at every position that comes open and every major expenditure, both in personnel services and outside personnel services.

The College is gearing up for its Middle States reaffirmation of accreditation. The co-chairs of the College's steering committee met yesterday with its assigned VP liaison from Middle States. He will be visiting the College on March 11<sup>th</sup> to help kick off the more formal self-study work. During his visit on March 11<sup>th</sup> he would also like to meet with members of the Board. He indicated that in particular, colleges completing a self-study are always required to show evidence of three special areas for the Board of Trustees: a self-assessment, evidence of presidential evaluation, and a clear conflict of interest policy and practice. President Bonahue said he would arrange for a more general overview and briefing from the Middle States co-chairs at the February meeting.

Two weeks ago, President Bonahue and some members of administration made a half-day visit to Stony Brook Medicine, where they were able to renew and strengthen relationships with both the university and hospital leadership with our academic partners in the College of Nursing and College of Health Professions. The group also took advantage of the day to meet with personnel in the transfer admissions office to discuss the Seawolves at Suffolk program. They discussed expanding the healthcare programs and the overall quality and success of the programs. President Bonahue added that for the third quarter, the College's RN program achieved an NCLEX pass rate of 100%, and both RN and LPN programs are sitting on an aggregate pass rate for the year of 97%. This is higher than the national average, higher than the SUNY average, and much higher than the New York statewide average. They made sure that the partners at Stony Brook are aware of the level of outstanding academic quality and productivity and the College's goals for the growth of the nursing program.

In terms of advocacy, President Bonahue referred to the Economic Impact Study from Lightcast. He noted the dollar figures are amazing in terms of the overall impact, although he finds their methodology is rather conservative. The College will use these

data points as it moves into the budget season to discuss how the College delivers value to business, government, and the community. The College continues to have positive and productive discussions with the County Executive's office about having the College anchor the Brentwood workforce and community center on Crooked Hill Road., as well as the possibility of relocating some workforce or career facing programs there. He thanked members of the Cabinet for assembling a group today to look at all the moving pieces for this opportunity, from construction timeline to any required accreditation or SUNY or New York State Education Department approvals. As he mentioned previously, with the redesign of the Brentwood Center, the National Offshore Wind Training Center (NOWTC) will definitely be on campus through next year. He will bring a recommendation on extending that licensing agreement, which is due to expire in the Spring.

President Bonahue then gave an update on facilities. The funding resolution for the new Automotive Technology building at the Grant campus has been laid on the table for action at the County Legislature where it was received very positively. The next step will be a vote by the Education and Labor Committee next week on December 11th, followed by a final vote by the full Legislature on December 17th. This new project will allow the College to continue the automotive program growth beyond what the current facility at the Ammerman Campus can allow. The next facilities priority will be expansion of the workforce building. The College has the funds in-house, and it's time to move that program forward.

One additional update was provided on public safety. Four cars on the Grant campus were vandalized with spray paint sometime after dark Monday evening. These vehicles were among nine cars reported damaged between the campus, some nearby residential streets, and the Deer Park train station. The College's Public Safety Department is collaborating with the Suffolk County Police Department and the Third Precinct to investigate. The College continues to improve all of its video cameras inside our buildings. President Bonahue anticipates that in the future the College will consider adding video surveillance outside of the most highly trafficked areas.

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Chair Coverdale called for Roundtable: none.

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Public comments on matters pertaining to the College: none.

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Chair Coverdale requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, and to seek and or receive legal advice which is made confidential by law. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee Dolan seconded. The motion to enter into Executive Session was approved unanimously (7-0).

With no further business to be conducted after Executive Session, Chair Coverdale requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee O'Connor so moved, Trustee Murray seconded. The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is January 16, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Alumni Room of the Brookhaven Gymnasium on the Ammerman Campus, Selden, New York.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin O'Connor  
Secretary