

BOARD OF TRUSTEES | MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Montgomery County Community College Board of Trustees was held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via web conference.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESENT: Frank Custer, Chairperson; Marcel Groen, Treasurer; Margot Clark, Secretary; Theresa Reilly, Assistant Secretary; Eleanor Dezzi, Varsovia Fernandez Raj Guttha, David Kraybill, Sean Kilkenny, Anisha Robinson, Ellen Toplin, and Rick Taylor.

ABSENT: Lisa Binder, David Kraybill, and Napoleon Nelson

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Victoria Bastecki-Perez, President; Marc Davis, Solicitor; Steven Ludwig, Attorney, Jay Browning, Vice President for Advancement; Therol Dix, Vice President of the West Campus; Diane O'Connor, Executive Director of Human Resources; Philip Needles, Vice President of Student Services; Dr. Gloria Oikelome, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Celeste Schwartz, Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Digital Officer; Charles Somers, Vice President of Finance and Administration; Matthew Benko, Manager of Veteran Services; Mark Bellini, Storeroom and Facilities Coordinator; Michael Bettinger, Director of Government and External Relations; Holly Ann Clayton, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications; Sam Coleman, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs; Tim Connelly, English Assistant Professor; Sarah DiSantis, Director of Development, Major Planned Giving; Alecia Fields, Communications and Training Manager; Dr. Hal Halbert, Associate Professor of English, Faculty Union Representative; Lianne Hartman, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs; Robert Heller, Advisor, College-Wide Advisor; Adriene Hobdy, Director of Leadership Development and Talent Management; Myungsoo Park, Part-Time PreK Grant Assistant Teacher, Children's Center; Eric Karol, Manager Media Services; Dr. David Kowalski, Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Innovation; Teri Kropp, Executive Assistant to Vice President of Finance and Administration; Rose Makofske, Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Title IX Coordinator; Joe Mancini, Executive Director Information Technology; Dr. Jenna Meehan, Special Assistant to the President, Dr. Mary Kate Najarian, Director of User Success and Learning Technologies; Michelle Brown Nevers, Executive Director of Enrollment Management; Linda Pileggi, Information Services Specialist; Partner, Maher Duessel, LLC.; Lisa Ritter, Deborah Rogers, Executive Assistant to the Office of the President; Bill Rosenbaum, Director of Information Technology Security; Andrew Rosner, Lead Software Developer; Dr. Keima Sheriff, Assistant Dean of Student Programs; Connie Speier, Administrative Assistant for Social Sciences and Support Staff Union Representative; Jim Stasik, Director, Enterprise Infrastructure Services; Michele Stasik, Assistant Director of Facilities Management College Wide; Diane VanDyke, Director of Strategic Communications;

WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Custer called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Dr. Harold Halbert, Professor of English led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There was no Public Testimony.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. Trustee Guttha motioned to approve the November 16, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Fernandez seconded and the Board unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

All Information Items **A** through **H** were approved as presented.

Trustee Gurttha raised a question concerning the budget and Charles Somers indicated that the spring will close the gap. The investment performance report was explained. Trustee Groen indicated the budget is in the positive because it has improved month to month and it will continued to be monitored month to month. Trustee Fernandez indicated that there was a change in the allocation. Trustee Toplin was concerned about the Workforce contract. President Dr. Bastecki - Perez indicated that the consultant for workforce is through the end of December, 2020 and indicated it was a national grant that was submitted for economic development. In addition, our institution is seeing a downturn similarly to other sister institutions in Workforce. There is great opportunity for the future since the college is in the process of hiring new leadership for Workforce.

Information Items

- A.** Budget Variance Report-October 30, 2020: Information (*)
- B.** CARES Funding Update: Information (*)
- C.** Executive Summary Treasurer's Report Ending October 31, 2020: Information (*)
- D.** Fiscal Year 2021 YTD Credit Hours Versus Budget Report: Information (*)
- E.** Investment of 2015 Bond Proceeds as of October 31, 2020: Information (*)
- F.** Treasurers Report Year to Date October 30, 2020: Information (*)
- G.** Wilmington Trust: Information (*)
- H.** Report from Ad Hoc Nomination Committee (Action) (*)
 - 1.** Recommendation of State of Officers
Trustee Dezzi reported on the Recommendation of the State of Officers and thanked all of her committee members. The voting will take place at the January 25, 2021 meeting. The officers for the Board of Trustees are as follows: Frank Custer-Chairperson, Lisa Binder – Vice Chairperson, Marcel Groen – Treasurer, Theresa Reilly- Secretary, and Varsovia Fernandez – Assistant Secretary.

President's Report

A. December 2020

President Dr. Bastecki-Perez, provided an overview of the December 2020 President's Report.

IN THE COMMUNITY**Using talk therapy to improve student mental health by Dr. Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, MCCC President**

This article about how virtual online therapy can help improve the student experience on campus appeared in eCampus News on Nov. 27 and in the PA Commission for Community Colleges e-newsletter on Dec. 8.

Montco Recovery Tuition Assistance Program

Tuition assistance waivers will help residents who qualify get back on their feet.

National non-profit organization connects students with needed public benefits

Montco is the first college in the country to partner with Benefits Data Trust to provide a student benefits pilot program where students can call a trained specialist who will connect them with the services they need for housing, health care, food and more.

Community college trustees offer best practices

Montco Board of Trustees Chair Frank X. Custer helps Pennsylvania's newest community college get started.

MCCC to host annual artist guild winter exhibition virtually

Paintings, sculptures, and photography—some of it with a keen view of the pandemic and its impact on local artists—is on display for all the world to see, as Montgomery County Community College plays virtual host to the Pottstown Area Artists Guild annual winter exhibition. The exhibit is open now through Feb. 8, 2021.

Lively Arts Series announces its 37th season

Despite the pandemic and a theater renovation, the show must go on!

SENSE OF BELONGING**Coffee & Conversation**

The College community got a head start on Thanksgiving celebrations during the most recent Coffee & Conversation Zoom meeting Nov. 23. Lisa Lindquist, director of the Children's Center, highlighted a few turkey family fun arts and crafts projects using items from around the house. Meanwhile, Culinary Arts Institute faculty members shared a few of their delicious recipes that were surefire crowd pleasers for the big feast.

Inspirational speaker asks students to think about their legacy

Frederick (Freddy) Shegog transformed his life when he started college and now he's helping others do the same.

Dance program, dual enrollment helps student overcome illness

Samantha Eames twirled her way back to health and a high school diploma. Along the way she found a community in the dance program.

MEDIA AND SOCIAL**Electronic music producer promotes exploration and collaboration**

Ryan Fougner, an electronic music producer, spoke to Computer Science Professor Kendall Martin and Sound Recording and Music Technology Instructor Jen Mitlas about collaboration and his songwriting process in the latest episode of "Montco@Home: Global Perspective on Electronic Music."

Wellness Wednesday: The JOY Edition

Finding joy! Dr. Keima Sheriff, Assistant Dean of Student Programs, and Dr. David Kowalski, Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness & Strategic Innovation discuss the importance of maintaining a balanced perspective when thinking about life.

Student spotlight: Denise Wash

Student Denise Wash produced a 56-page coffee table book on artist Jeff Koons this summer. This was done as an online independent study in graphic design with Art Associate Professor Dianne Zotter-Mill

ACCOLADES AND RECOGNITION**American Red Cross Outstanding Service award**

Montco is recognized as an extraordinary Blood Program Partner who stood with the American Red Cross during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2020-2021 Year of Learning Innovation Grant Awardees

Four projects received grants to advance ideas to promote student learning, address student equity gaps and pilot new approaches to student success:

- Local Perspectives on Electronic Music (Computer Science Professor Kendall Martin & Sound Recording & Music Technology Instructor Jen Mitlas)
- Financial Literacy Scholarship (Director of Financial Aid Christal Chatman and Associate Director of Financial Aid Ashley Smith)
- First Year Writing for First-Generation Students (English Assistant Professor Victoria Vetro)
- Creating a Sense of Belonging in Higher Education Asynchronous E-Learning (Psychology Instructor Judith Higgins)

MCCC News Brief – November 1-30, 2020

During November, MCCC had 58 hits in more than 25 media outlets for a total reach of 1,658,807.

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Gloria Oikelome, Vice President of Academic Affairs, was invited to deliver a feature presentation in November at the International Leadership Association Conference, which had a theme of "Bringing People Together for Better Leadership Now." Her presentation focused on leadership diversification in the academy and strategies for effectiveness.

English Senior Lecturer Roseann McGrath Brooks published her first Christian romance novel, "All for Good."

Exercise Science and Wellness Instructor Michelle Donovan, MS, RD, LDN, published her review of the article “Nutritional and Health Aspects of Food in Western Europe” in the “Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior.”

Geography Assistant Professor Wayne Brew published a book review of “Unnatural Resources: Energy and Environmental Politics in Appalachia after the 1973 Oil Embargo by Michael Camp” in the Fall 2020 (Volume 52, Number 2) issue of “Material Culture.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 18 – MLK Day of Service – Remote day of service will take place.

January 20-21 – American Red Cross Blood Drive – Pottstown Campus

February 8 – Pottstown Area Artist’s Guild’s Virtual Winter Exhibit

CHAIR’S REPORT

A. Board of Trustees Scholarly Series Update

Mr. Sean Hutchinson gave an update on the Board of Trustees Scholarly Series. This past semester there was a scholarly series. Equity as well as training in the Sheriff’s department in Montgomery County were presented virtually. Sean Hutchinson indicated it was a great opportunity for the Board members. There will be an E-mail that will go out early next week from Dr. Jenna Klaus for any Board members who are interested. Chair Custer encouraged anyone on the Board to take advantage of it.

B. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND PRESIDENTS CALENDAR FOR 2020-2021

Chair Custer reminded everyone to review the Trustees Calendar and try to attend as many events as possible. President Dr. Bastecki-Perez indicated that the Board Retreat will take place prior to the January Board meeting. The Mini Retreat will be forthcoming and will bring back Elizabeth Bolden from the Commission on Community Colleges. It will be a great opportunity for engagement. The exact timing of it is to be announced.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Session

NEW BUSINESS

Upon motion, the Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:45 P.M and went into Executive Session. The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Location is via web conference.

Margot Clark
Secretary