

# **Columbia-Greene Community College**

## **Board of Trustees**

### **MINUTES**

**November 21, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College Board of Trustees was held on November 21, 2016.

**ROLL CALL:**

Dr. Ned Schneier, Chairman  
Mr. William Haltermann, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Peter O'Hara, Secretary  
Mr. Bruce Bohnsack  
Ms. Rosemary Lewis  
Mr. Martin Smith  
Mr. Ken Wilber

Mr. James Campion, President;  
Ms. Carol Novack, Executive Secretary of the Board; Ms. Phyllis Carito, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs; Dr. Joseph Watson, Vice President and Dean of Students and Enrollment Management; Ms. Dianne Topple, Assistant Dean of Administration; Ms. Joan Koweek, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs; Mr. Allen Kovler, Director of Public Information and Mr. Michael Phippen, Professor of Transitional Studies.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chairman Ned Schneier opened the Board meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

A moment of silence was observed for former Academic Dean Lynn Suydam, friend and supporter of the College Grace Goldberg and Bill Richards, former President of Orange Community College.

**AGENDA:**

The Agenda for the November 21, 2016 meeting was presented. Mr. William Haltermann moved and Mr. Bruce Bohnsack seconded to approve the Agenda as printed. Voice vote – motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES:**

The Minutes from the October 17, 2016 meeting were presented. Mr. Peter O'Hara moved and Mr. Ken Wilber seconded to approve the Minutes as printed. Voice vote – motion carried with Mr. William Haltermann abstaining.

**BILLS & WARRANTS:**

Mr. William Haltermann moved and Mr. Martin Smith seconded to approve Operating Warrant #10-16 in the amount of \$2,047,750.47.

Mr. William Haltermann moved and Mr. Ken Wilber seconded to approve Capital Warrant #1 to Columbia-Greene Community College in the amount of \$30,000.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Vice President Phyllis Carito reported that on October 19 a presentation sponsored by the Science Seminar Series and supported by a project proposal grant through the C-GCC Association was held to hear about the "Liver Sisters." The sisters were on campus to share their story of one sister donating to the other a lobe of her liver.

Expanding our science related offerings outside of the classroom is a focus for the science faculty, being headed up by Dr. Rebecca Pinder. Dr. Pinder, Assistant Professor of Biology, also attended the Watershed Conference at the FDR Library in Hyde Park on November 2. Dr. Wallace Nichols was the keynote speaker, and Mr. Peter Iwanowicz from Environmental Advocates of NY also was in attendance and spoke about the importance of clean water. Dr. Pinder shared with her environmental science class some of the information from the conference.

On November 10 at the Hudson Area library about 20 attendees heard a presentation on a current student-research project examining the Gotsch Papers. In the 1970s former C-GCC Academic Dean, Charles Gotsch, ran a local history project focusing on the social and cultural history of Hudson and the surrounding area in the 1800s. Today's students have been delving into the library archives and other sources to provide an analysis of the research. Working with Assistant Professor of History, Nicole Childrose, the honor students are examining data, and conducting interviews.

In lecture series events on November 10 "Images of China" and Tibet: A Travelogue" by photographer Phyllis McCabe was presented in the Saland Forum, with about 30 attendees. McCabe shared her journey through photographs from four different trips between 1999 and 2006.

Our continued campus efforts for our alignment with Middle States Standards, SUNY and SED requirements, and our own efforts to support students from inquiry to completion, lead to a discussion at our August retreat at IAPG – our Institutional Assessment Planning Group, to create a vision statement. The majority of community colleges have vision statements. A mission statement says what you do every day, but a vision statement says what you believe is your purpose. IAPG brought forward three possible vision statements to the campus community on all-college day on August 23, and a vote was taken to choose the statement that best fit our campus. As we finalize the next 5-year Strategic Plan, and continue to monitor and work with our academic and unit assessments, we believe the Vision Statement encompasses in the broadest sense the purpose and focus of this college.

Vision Statement for Columbia-Greene Community College:  
“Inspiring our community and creating lifelong learners.”

Vice President Joseph Watson reported that the SUNY Diversity Plan for C-GCC has been received by SUNY Central and they will get back to us with feedback in January.

Applications continue to be processed for Spring 2017. Applications are up 6% and acceptances are up 16% compared to last year at this time.

College Night/Fall Open House was a success. Dean Watson thanked everyone who helped Admissions make it a successful event.

Thanksgiving dinner was held this past Thursday and was a huge success. Faculty and staff served students the dinner. Dean Watson commended Sean O'Connor and his staff for the fine job they did with preparing the food.

The Student Life Committee collected food and monetary donations during Thanksgiving dinner to help replenish the student food pantry.

Two Brown Bag Forums were led by Assistant Professor Dawn DeFino, the topics were suicide and substance abuse. Thanks to Dawn for organizing these forums. Both were well attended.

Turkey Drop being held today and tomorrow. Dawn DeFino will be available to those students identified as being in need. They will receive fixings for turkey dinner with their families.

Cross-country went all the way to nationals with Sabrina Maynard and Taylor Olmsted at Finger Lakes Community College.

Women's Basketball, Tanisha Edge was the NJCAA player of the week.

A celebration for Veteran's Day was held on campus. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed the events. Thank you to Kevin Kropp and the Veteran's Task Force.

Carol Novack, President of the C-GCC Day Care Board of Directors reported that our wreath fundraiser was a success making a profit of \$1,300. Registration for the spring semester is ongoing.

President Campion reported that a new committee comprised of members of both county legislatures and County Treasurers has been formed and will be meeting to discuss in a broad way the future of the College. He indicated that this is a really positive move for the College.

President Campion reported that he and Chairman Ned Schneier have been involved with meetings of the Regional Community College Council. The Council consists of C-GCC, Adirondack Community College, Schenectady Community College and Hudson Valley Community College. The Council will work together to try to raise state aid and on items of mutual concern about the future of community colleges.

President Campion reported that as part of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, that the faculty will be holding a Faculty Colloquium in the spring semester. Associate Professor Ted Hilscher will be working with a group of faculty and Town historians with the theme centered around "Local History."

**TRUSTEE REPORT:**

The Board agreed to hold a Retreat to discuss the College's Master Plan. It was the consensus of the

Board that we should systematically review aspects of the Master Plan at each of our future board meetings, and that Chairman Schneier will meet with President Campion to schedule these sessions.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Ken Wilber moved and Mr. Bruce Bohnsack seconded to convene to Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Voice vote – motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bruce Bohnsack moved and Mr. Ken Wilber seconded to reconvene the meeting. Voice vote – motion carried unanimously.

**FUTURE MEETING:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on December 19, 2016.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

As there was no further business, Mr. Martin Smith moved and Mr. Peter O'Hara seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote – motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY