

HACC, CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 4, 2011

Trustees Present

Daniel P. Delaney
Randy E. Eckels
Deep C. Gupta
William M. Murray
Hector R. Ortiz
Charles R. Peguese
Robert J. Phillips
Thomas B. Richey
Nailah I. Rogers
Timothy L. Sandoe
Jeffrey A. Shaffer (phone)
Vicki R. Shannon
Peter C. Wambach
Mark A. Whitmoyer

Absent

Frank A. Conte
Sally S. Klein
Loren H. Kroh
Toni H. Sharp

Cabinet

Dr. John J. "Ski" Sygielski
Ronald Young
Dr. Larry Adams
Dr. Kathleen Kramer
Dr. Rob Steinmetz
Dr. L. Marshal Washigton
Patrick Early
David Morrison
Nancy Rockey
Jean Treuthart
Meredith Tulli

Guests

Michael Davis, Solicitor
George Werner, Solicitor
Barbara Hutchinson
Linda Mussoline, CEO
Pamela Watkins, Faculty
Bryell StClair, SGA
Robin Paulison

Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors: Mr. Sandoe called the meeting to order and acknowledged that a quorum was present. He introduced and welcomed visiting doctoral students from Penn State Adam Jenkins, Woodler Bien-Aime, and Cavil Anderson who were observing the meeting for a class. Mr. Jenkins is also an adjunct faculty member at HACC. Mr. Sandoe also introduced Ms. StClair and noted that she would be transferring to Bucknell University following her graduation from HACC.

Recommendations/Reports From The Board of Trustees:

Resolution 49.33: Conferral of Emeritus Status – Donald E. Schell

Mr. Sandoe noted that due to Mr. Schell's unavailability to attend the meeting, as he had been called away to attend a funeral, the motion in his honor would be introduced at the November Board meeting.

Dr. Ortiz reported on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's observance of Hispanic Heritage Month and encouraged the Board of Trustees to join in that observance celebrating Hispanic culture and contributions to American society.

Discussion and Action on Any Committee Report Items Removed From Consent Agenda: None

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Moved: William M. Murray
Seconded: Mark A. Whitmoyer
Motion carried

Staff Presentation: "Adult Education Pathways" by Robin S. Paulison, Instructional Program Coordinator, Transitional Studies. Dr. Ski introduced Ms. Paulison, who discussed HACC's increased efforts to provide education and training for low-skilled students who were seeking to obtain better jobs and improve their standard of living through education. In addition to English-speaking students who were pursuing their General Equivalency Diplomas or studying the curriculum in the Adult Basic Education program in preparation for college-level courses, many other students, she noted, were learning English as a second language in a third important component of the educational services offered by the Transitional Studies department. A recent innovation, the Language Institute for workplace English was proving beneficial to ESL students, she said. All programs combined, the department served approximately 2,000 students a year. The department had recently adopted a "wholistic" approach to assisting developmental students, helping them to look at their educational needs and providing increased advising to help them see their own role in society and how they might achieve their goals, both in obtaining an education and in seeking meaningful work that would provide a sustaining wage. Providing educational bridges to GED classes or to college-level work as students progressed was an important focus of the program. As the department continued developing its new counseling model to support that approach, it also sought to develop partnerships with government agencies and community organizations that could help students in setting and working toward their goals, and in helping to identify their opportunities to study for "high priority occupations." A new ex-offender program that was being developed with the encouragement and assistance of former Governor George Leader was among the initiatives. The YWCA of the Greater Harrisburg Area, CareerLink and the International House were among the partners whose experience was proving beneficial to the students.

Recommendations/Reports From The Chair: Mr. Sandoe thanked Dr. Ski for his regular communications to the Board keeping the Trustees abreast of developments at the College. Mr. Sandoe noted that as Board Chair he would be attending the upcoming HACC Foundation retreat, and he encouraged the Trustees to get to know the members of the Foundation Board. The College would be facing challenges in funding as the student population continued taking fewer credit hours, as sponsorship by the sponsoring school districts eroded and as state funding continued to decrease, he said. In light of those changes, the Foundation would play an increasingly important role as a revenue stream for the College, Mr. Sandoe said, and he had invited the Foundation Board members to attend Trustee meetings on a regular basis.

President's Report: Dr. Ski reported a modest decline of 2.5% in student enrollment from fall 2010 figures, noting that statewide community college enrollment had dropped 5% and, nationwide enrollment had declined 7%. While full-time student headcount had dropped, part-time headcount had increased. Credit hours per student at HACC for the fall term averaged 8.36.

Resolution 49.34: HACC Strategic Plan 2011-2014

Dr. Ski introduced the proposed College Strategic Plan, outlining the ways in which the three goals would help HACC move not merely from "good to great" as in the well known book by Jim Collins, but from "great to greater." The three goals were built on an "excellence model" that would concentrate on promoting the completion agenda, improving communication and providing for professional development Collegewide, and promoting sustainability for years to come.

Mr. Peguese asked the rationale for the plan's proposal to align workforce development with the HACC Foundation. Dr. Ski noted the alignment of the two was a recognized "best practice" at a number of colleges. He explained that opportunities exist for employers to become donors as they learn the College's mission, with individuals in those companies becoming donors and then the companies themselves becoming donors. Unlike a "pay to play" scenario, such a model was both synergistic and symbiotic and a "cutting edge" development for community colleges throughout the United States, he said.

Moved: Daniel P. Delaney
Seconded: Peter C. Wambach
Motion carried, with Mr. Peguese abstaining.

Dr. Ski thanked Ms. Shannon and Messrs. Sandoe, Peguese, Gupta for attending the recent statewide trustee meeting hosted by the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges. He also expressed appreciation to:

- Ms. Mussoline for engaging the Classified Employee Organization in the shared governance process
- The Facilities Maintenance staff at all campuses for their efforts, particularly during the recent floods;
- Ms. StClair and the Student Government Association for sponsoring the screening of the documentary "Gasland";
- The campus vice presidents for establishing HACC's fine reputation in their communities;
- The faculty and all employees whose "great work and tireless effort" at all of the campuses promote HACC and its ability to serve unmet needs in all of the communities.

Executive Session: At 12:52 p.m. the Board retired to executive session to discuss a pending legal issue, moved by Mr. Richey, seconded by Mr. Whitmoyer. At 1:40 p.m. the Board returned and, taking no further action, adjourned.