

Summary of Proceedings
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, March 15, 2022
5:00 p.m., via Zoom

Trustees Present: Karen Fahrenholz (Secretary/Treasurer); Pamela Gardner; Roberta Kenny; Bakari Lee (Vice Chair); William Netchert (Chair); Jasmine Ngin (Student Alumni Representative); Jeannette Peña; Christopher Reber; Silvia Rodriguez; Harold Stahl

Trustees Absent: Joseph Doria and Adamarys Galvin

Comments from the Public: There were no comments from the public.

Reports:

1. *Student Government Association President's Report*

Student Government Association President, Angel Beebe, offered the following report.

Good evening, Trustees.

On March 7 and 8, SGA hosted a Spring Mixer focused on students meeting their deans, advisors, and professors from all the different divisions as part of our return-to-campus efforts and celebration. This event was hosted at both North Hudson and Journal Square campuses. There was a raffle for printers and Flik bucks, food and drinks, and even fun activities for students, faculty, and staff to enjoy. The event was a huge success with a great turnout on both campuses.

During our weekly SGA meeting yesterday, we reviewed verbiage about course modality. We thank Dr. Alison Wakefield and Irma Williams for allowing us to provide our input.

SGA has the pleasure of welcoming new Senators to the team. All are eager to learn and see how and where they can help. We are happy to say that there is student representation on most College committees. SGA members are on committees such as the All College Council Student Affairs, Academic Senate, Space and Facilities, Technology, and College Life committees; the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; the Return to Campus Task Force; and the newly formed Transfer Pathways Council.

We look forward to having our new Senators participate on one or more committees.

SGA's next event will be a spring carnival/fair. We plan to hold this event on Saturday, May 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Students may bring friends and family with them to celebrate the end of the

academic year. As this year's Executive Board prepares for graduation, our new senators will organize this event, providing them a head start in knowing what it takes to put together and host an event.

Lastly, HCCC still serves as the hosting school for regular collective meetings of the SGAs from all 18 New Jersey Community Colleges. Over the past two meetings this semester, the groups reviewed plans to engage student leadership this semester, SGA structures, the ACCT NLS, joining the Student Advisory Trustee Council, and more. These meetings help us foster new ideas for our campuses while opening cross-college collaboration and support opportunities.

Thank you for listening, and I am open to answering any questions.

2. *All College Council Chair's Report*

All College Council Chair, Dr. Peter Cronrath, offered the following report.

Good evening, Trustees, Dr. Reber, and the HCCC community.

At this midpoint in the Spring semester, the All College Council is looking forward to continual updates and improvements at HCCC.

At next week's ACC general meeting, we will be conducting three votes:

1. Charter Revision to add DEI Representatives to the ACC Standing Committees
2. Adding a Financial Aid Statement to the Syllabus
3. Reimagining Convocation

All three will have a long-term impact on student success, faculty, and student best practices, and furthering the mission of HCCC.

Standing Committee reports:

The College Life Committee started their Steps for Wellness on Monday, March 14, continuing through May 8, 2022. All mileage reports can be submitted to Kyle Woolley at kwoolley@hccc.edu.

The Paint & Sip for faculty and staff is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 14th, time to be announced.

The Technology Committee has been collecting information from select divisions regarding the needs of faculty and students. The Technology Survey results are final and will be presented at next week's ACC general meeting.

The Development and Planning Committee has been working on the Dollars for Scholars event planned to be held in April, and the North Hudson Campus 10-year celebration to be held on April 25th and April 27th.

The Space and Facilities Committee is working on adding appropriate language regarding the process of allocating office space to update the recommended policy. The recommendation will be voted on at the April meeting.

The Student Affairs Committee sent letters to local childcare centers inquiring about partnering with HCCC for student discounts or a potential voucher system. They await responses. The

committee is also actively seeking students, especially veterans and student parents, to join the Student Affairs Committee and capture their perspectives and experiences at HCCC. There are two open spots available for students.

The Academic Senate continued work on best practices for remote classes, as well as reviewing and updating the Academic Integrity Policy as the main focus. However, they are also working with a subcommittee reviewing Add/Drop period dates for students to promote student success.

Thank you.

Trustee Lee asked a question.

I want to follow up, Peter. First, I would like to understand a little more about how the additional representatives to the All College Council are going to be added to ensure appropriate DEI representation. Next, whether the action is taken with the advice or consideration of PACDEI and our Vice President for DEI so that it's a collaborative thought process and approached cohesively throughout the institution.

Peter Cronrath responded.

There are no listed DEI representatives in the charter. Within this charter revision, we're naming a DEI representative for each standing committee. Those DEI representatives will also be on PACDEI as their mainstay and later participate in the All College Council.

Trustee Lee responded.

Are they considered DEI representatives simply by virtue of being PACDEI members, or is there a requirement that they should be persons of color, LGBTQ, or any of the various components of DEI?

Peter referred the question to Yeury's Pujols. Yeury's offered the following remarks.

Thank you, Peter and Trustee Lee, for the question. They will be PACDEI members as we continue to roll out the program with eCornell. As you may be aware, we have the first eCornell cohort with 25 members participating from the College community and another 25 starting at the end of this month. The goal is for the PACDEI members to have DEI training. But this was, as you mentioned, Trustee Lee, a collaborative effort. We brought the proposal to PACDEI, and we had a discussion. Then, we agreed to make sure that there's greater cohesiveness and collaboration between the two councils to ensure that we're not duplicating efforts and moving forward together.

3. President's Report

President Reber offered the following remarks.

Good evening, Trustees and colleagues. It's great to be together again, and I hope you all are doing well.

Please join me in a moment of silence for the brave Ukrainian people in this time of great challenge for Ukraine and the world community.

Moment of silence.

Thank you.

Angel and Peter, thank you as always for your reports and leadership.

Angel, congratulations for having been named a semi-finalist for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, which provides full funding for high-achieving community college students to pursue and complete baccalaureate and graduate studies. We're all rooting for you to be named a 2022 Jack Kent Cooke Scholar! We celebrate the significant honor of your having been identified as a semi-finalist! You make us all proud!

As I shared recently with the College community, we've confirmed plans to hold our May Commencement Ceremony at Red Bull Arena in Harrison on Thursday, May 26, 2022, beginning at noon. This year's Ceremony will celebrate current graduates and previous graduates since the beginning of the pandemic. All of these Hudson County Community College graduates and alumni are invited to participate in the Ceremony, process in caps and gowns, and receive their diplomas. Further, alumni and graduates may invite an unlimited number of family members and guests to attend Commencement as we will have plenty of seating and parking available.

At the Ceremony, we will present the College's Heritage Award to Dr. Joseph Sirangelo, Director of Planning, Research, and Evaluation at Hudson County Schools of Technology. Dr. Sirangelo is retiring at the end of this school year.

The Heritage Award recognizes individuals and organizations that have made a significant impact on the College and the lives of the students and families we serve in Hudson County. Over many years, Joe's contributions to public education have had a lasting impact on the College and thousands of high school and other students in Hudson County and beyond. His leadership was instrumental in establishing the successful and growing HCCC Secaucus Center at the Frank Gargiulo Campus of the Hudson County Schools of Technology.

We are also thrilled that HCCC alumnus, Pedro Moranchel, has agreed to speak at this year's Commencement. Pedro is finishing his first and junior year at Princeton University as one of only a few community college students nationally to have been admitted to Princeton last year. As you will recall, Pedro was one of two HCCC students to have been awarded a Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship last year. Very fittingly, he will speak about his experience at Princeton and how HCCC was instrumental to that experience.

This evening, you will act upon a resolution to name the Entrance Atrium at the North Hudson Campus in Honor of Congressman Albio Sires. As you are well aware, Congressman Sires has been a strong partner and valued supporter of the College and is held in high esteem and affection by the Trustees, his faculty and staff colleagues, the College's students, and the community he has served with distinction for so many years. Congressman Sires has announced his planned retirement from public service at the conclusion of his current term in office. With your approval, we will honor Congressman Sires and announce the naming at the celebration of the North Hudson Campus' tenth anniversary on Monday, April 25.

Today's agenda includes the approval of tenure for three outstanding and valued faculty colleagues. We congratulate Instructor of Academic Foundations Math, Bernard Adamitey; Instructor of Physics, Mohammad Qasem; and Instructor of Speech, Gilda Reyes. With your approval, these colleagues will be promoted to Assistant Professor effective next fall.

I have asked Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Darryl Jones, to introduce each of our colleagues and invite them to say a few words.

Darryl Jones introduced the faculty recommended for Tenure.

Thank you, Chris. Good afternoon, Trustees, Dr. Reber, and colleagues.

Each year at this time, it brings me great honor to introduce our tenure recipients. Bernard Adamitey is an Instructor of Academic Foundations Mathematics. He started his career with Hudson County Community College as a full-time tenure-track instructor in 2018. He holds a master's degree in applied mathematics from CUNY College of Staten Island and a bachelor of science degree in computer science and mathematics from CUNY Hunter College. Bernard is known for actively engaging his students and making them feel comfortable in the learning process. He is an active member of many HCCC committees, has attended numerous professional development activities, and is a member of the Mathematics Association of Two-year Colleges in New Jersey.

Thank you, Bernard, for everything you do on behalf of our students.

Our next recipient is Mohammed Qasem, Instructor of Physics. Mohammed came to Hudson County Community College as an adjunct instructor of mathematics and computer science in 2012. In 2017, he was hired as a full-time, tenure-track instructor in the STEM division. He teaches physics, chemistry, and mathematics courses. Mohammed holds a master of science degree in physics from the University of Alabama, and his bachelor's in physics and economics from the University of Jordan. He plays an active role in the modification and continuous improvement of our physics program. He is an active member of the All College Council, General Education Committee, and the student success action plan for Achieving the Dream.

Thank you, Mohammed, for all of your contributions.

Gilda Reyes began her career at Hudson County Community College as an adjunct Instructor of Speech in 2002. After serving several semesters as a temporary full-time instructor, she was hired as a tenure track instructor in 2018. She also coordinates speech in modern languages and communication studies. Gilda is passionate about the Hudson County community as she was born and raised in Jersey City, and she is the daughter of immigrant parents from the Dominican Republic. Gilda holds a master of arts and TESOL from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a bachelor's degree in psychology in Latin American Studies from Fordham University. She is an active member of College committees and is currently a member of the National Communication Association.

Thank you, Gilda, for your many contributions to HCCC.

I now invite Bernard, Mohammed and Gilda to offer brief remarks to the College community.

Bernard Adamitey offered remarks.

Thank you very much, Dr. Jones. Good evening, everyone, Board of Trustees, Dr. Reber, and all members of the College.

I appreciate the opportunity to address the Board. As a proud member of the HCCC family, I am glad you plan to endorse my recommendation for tenure. It feels good, and, truthfully, I love what I do. Teaching has been my passion for a while, and I am delighted for the extended privilege to do so at Hudson County Community College.

I look forward to our continued collaboration to ensure the success of our students. Once again, thank you very much. I greatly appreciate the opportunity.

Mohammad Qasem offered remarks.

Good evening, Mr. Chairman, Trustees, Dr. Reber, Dr. Jones, and the community.

As the saying goes, "it takes a village to raise somebody," and that's the feeling with Hudson County Community College. We truly have a strong sense of community. It's our family away from family when we travel in the morning and leave in the evening, whether students, administration, or other colleagues. Congratulations to my two colleagues, Bernard and Gilda, for their achievements. Thank you all for supporting our tenure and giving us this opportunity to continue supporting our students' success and the entire community.

Thank you, everybody, and have a good evening.

Gilda Reyes offered remarks.

Good evening, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reber, Board of Trustees, colleagues, and friends.

I am honored and happy to be part of the Hudson County Community College family. I have been here for 20 years, without giving my age away. My mother first came here in the early 1970s, and she used to drag me along to her ESL classes.

I look forward to continuing to serve our students and our community. Thank you for providing me this opportunity and granting me tenure, because ever since I was seven years old, it has always been my passion and lifelong dream to teach here at HCCC. Also, HCCC gave my mother a starting point in her career and set an example for my entire family, so thank you all.

Darryl offered concluding remarks.

Thank you, Bernard, Mohammed, and Gilda.

Chris, if I may take another moment, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Heather DeVries, who chaired the Review Board, and all of those who serve on it. It is a particularly important assignment, and I greatly appreciate the hard work and the time the board members contributed. Those who participated were Anna Krupitskiy, Yeury Pujols, Faisal Aljamal, Dr. Christopher Conzen, Dr. Shannonine Caruana, Salvador Cuellar, Kewal Krishan, Dr. Abdallah Matari, and Elana Winslow.

We wish Bernard, Mohammad, and Gilda congratulations and much continued success in their journeys at Hudson County Community College as tenured faculty members. We especially thank them for their dedication to our students.

Thank you, Trustees, and Dr. Reber.

President Reber resumed his remarks.

Thanks so much, Dr. Jones, and congratulations again, Professors Adamitey, Qasem, and Reyes. We're very proud of you.

Chairman Netchert and Trustees, this concludes my report.

As always, I would be happy to entertain any questions or comments you might have.

Chairman Netchert offered remarks.

Thank you, Dr. Reber. As Chair of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express our congratulations and thanks to Bernard, Mohammed, and Gilda. They are three more reasons why the future of HCCC is promising and bright.

Regular Monthly Reports and Recommendations

1. **The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2022, were approved.**

2. **Gifts, Grants, and Contracts Report**

Hudson County Community College has received the following grant:

Title: New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities (Planning Phase)

Agency: New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development

Purpose of Grant: The NJ Pathways to Career Opportunities is an unprecedented education and training pathways initiative that will innovate the state's workforce for residents, businesses, and the state economy for years to come.

College administrator: Lori Margolin

College contribution: \$0

Award amount: \$30,000.00

The following actions were taken concerning **Fiscal, Administrative, Lease, and Capital Recommendations** brought forward by the Administration and endorsed by the Finance Committee.

1. Resolution Seeking Approval to Develop Property in the Journal Square Area for Permanent Use by Hudson County Community College, through the Chapter 12 Program, totaling \$4,028,000, was approved.
2. Resolution Approving 2023 Operating Budget in the amount of \$68,259,427 was approved.
3. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Identity Verification and Access Management Software, to be funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant at a cost not to exceed \$230,178, was approved.
4. Resolution Authorizing Wi-Fi Upgrades, to be funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant at a cost not to exceed \$85,530, was approved.
5. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Interactive Projector Systems, to be funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant at a cost not to exceed \$112,445, was approved.
6. Resolution Authorizing Purchase and Installation of ITV Equipment, to be funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant at a cost not to exceed \$64,683, was approved.
7. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Furniture for Training Room in the Gabert Library, at a cost not to exceed \$10,058, was approved.

8. Resolution Authorizing Annual Commencement Formal Dinner for Graduates, at a cost not to exceed \$38,017, was approved.
9. Resolution Authorizing Funds for Scholarships from Sale of Personal Property, totaling \$2,279, was approved.
10. Resolution Authorizing Additional Sale of Personal Property was approved.
11. Resolution Authorizing Naming of the Atrium at the North Hudson Campus in Honor of Congressman Albio Sires was approved.

The following actions were taken regarding **Personnel Recommendations** brought forward by the Administration and endorsed by the Personnel Committee.

1. The retirements of a Professor of English and an Accounts Payable Officer were accepted.
2. The resignations of a CTE Academic Mentor; Reentry Student Success Coordinator; and Incarcerated Student Success Coordinator were accepted.
3. Staff appointments to the following full-time positions were approved: Assistant Director of Early College Programs; Grant Project Director (Grant-funded); Student Success Coordinator, Reentry Students (Grant-funded); Business Developer (Grant-funded); Healthcare Coordinator (Grant-funded); Secretary; CTE Academic Mentor (Grant-funded); Student Success Coordinator, Operating Engineers Dual Education Program (Grant-funded); Instructional Technologist, Multimedia Specialist; Student Success Coordinator, Incarcerated Students (Grant-funded); Alumni Manager (Grant-funded); Custodial Supervisor; and CTE Career Coach (Grant-funded).
4. Appointments of Temporary Full-time Staff were approved.
5. Approvals of Faculty Tenure were approved.
6. Authorization of Part-time Staff through March 2023, as needed, was approved.
7. Appointments of New Hire Adjunct Instructors were approved.
8. The following Modification to the Staffing Table was approved:

<i>Current Approved Title</i>	<i>New Title/ Deleted Title (if applicable)</i>	<i>Incumbent (If applicable)</i>	<i>Salary Adjustment (If applicable)</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
N/A	Development Assistant	Natalia Da Silva (Temporary Full-time)	\$40,000	March 16, 2022

The following actions were taken regarding **Academic and Student Affairs** as brought forward by the Administration and endorsed by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

1. Resolution Authorizing Amended Agreement Between Hudson County Community College and West New York Board of Education for the Delivery of Dual Credit Instruction was approved.
2. Resolution Approving Option in Social Justice Advocacy in the Associate of Science in Human Services Degree Program (60 credits) was approved.

The following comments were made under **New Business**:

Chairman Netchert offered the following remarks.

We have an update. We have received notification from Jersey City Redevelopment Agency that they are prepared to close on the sale and purchase of our buildings on Sip Avenue. We will be looking forward to getting a lease in place that permits us to remain in the buildings for three more years as we previously negotiated. Closing on the property will provide us funding needed to eventually build the new academic tower.

The **meeting was adjourned** at 5:37 p.m.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting, upon approval, are available in the College Library, the President's Office, and on the College website.