

**HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 9  
Des Moines, WA**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING**

April 9, 2009

**STUDY SESSION**

*The Study Session was called to order at 8:05 a.m.*

*The following topics were discussed:*

*Budget Update*

*Legislative Issues*

*Strategic Initiatives*

*International Initiatives*

**MEETING**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

**Roll Call**

Members Present:                      Mike Regeimbal  
   Elizabeth Chen  
   Barbara Reid  
   Dan Altmayer

Attorney General Representative:    Kristen Byrd

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Dr. Elizabeth Chen and seconded by Dan Altmayer to approve the minutes for the regularly scheduled meeting of March 5, 2009. The motion passed.

***Correspondence***

Dr. Bermingham presented the plaque which was awarded to Highline Community College in recognition as the 2009 Best Educational Facility as rated by the readers of the *Federal Way Mirror*. He thanked Dan Altmayer for attending the ceremonies and accepting the plaque on behalf of the College. Dr. Bermingham also showed photographs of the All Washington Ceremony at South Puget Sound Community College of Highline's *All Washington Academic Scholar*, Tierney Kuhn, with Governor Chris Gregoire, and Dan Altmayer, who represented Highline at the ceremonies as well. Both Tierney Kuhn and Lance Frank were All USA Academic Team members.

## ***Standing Reports***

### **Associated Students of Highline Community College**

Lance Frank, President, Associated Students reported.

- Lance opened his report with an update of the “student letters to Legislators” initiative. He said that Student Government had encouraged students to write letters to their respective Legislators on their perspectives regarding the current budget situation. They were encouraged to share the main message of “Don’t starve the solution.” The letters were expected to be forwarded to Legislators during the second week of April.
- Lance reported that the Student Voice Academy will be held May 1 and 2. After the student caucuses are held, the top five initiatives will be developed into a *white paper* which will be forwarded to the State Board. He added that last year, four of the top five initiatives were incorporated into the State’s Legislative Agenda. Five students from Highline will participate.
- The budget process for the Student and Activities Fee Budgets deliberation process will begin very soon. This year is expected to be a more difficult process due to the economic situation and budget reductions.
- Lance encouraged everyone to attend Global Fest 2009 on April 18. A number of exhibit booths from different countries will be on display and traditional foods and student performances can be enjoyed by all.
- Lance also reminded everyone that Unity Week will take place on campus this year from April 27<sup>th</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup> which will have several lectures, panel discussions, and student caucuses on multiculturalism, diversity issues, and immigration laws.

Dan Altmayer offered his congratulations to Lance, not only for his academic success at Highline, but also for his performance as the President of Associated Students. He expressed that Lance’s leadership style and abilities were exemplary and it had been a great pleasure to become acquainted with him.

### **Washington Public Employees Association**

Jeff Grogan was unable to attend this meeting and will present his report at the meeting in May.

### **Highline College Education Association**

Ruth Windhover reported.

- Ruth Windhover noted that HCEA and the Highline administration were continuing the bargaining sessions with their traditional collaborative spirit. She said that Larry Yok will also be co-presenting next week with a representative from WEA.
- Ruth said that a number of cyber messages were being sent to Legislators from the WEA and HCEA addressing the budget cuts and the effect of these cuts on educational institutions. She mentioned that some individuals felt that the topic of compensation at this time was not appropriate as many part-time faculty do not have any security in their jobs. However, Ruth added that there is also the perspective that it is important to look toward the future and she said that without a diligent effort to improve faculty salaries (the average faculty salary in the community college system is \$50,000 per year), that good faculty members would be difficult to recruit. She said that a key to holding pride at Highline was in its reputation for good faculty members.

- Ruth further encouraged the Board to speak to Legislators about the necessity for resources for education, and faculty salaries and to remind them that the community colleges need to remain at the forefront in these economic times.

Dan Altmayer responded that Ruth should be reassured that HCEA has the support of the Board of Trustees for the issue of faculty salary increments.

### **Faculty Senate**

Ruth Frickle explained that there would be a report from the Faculty Senate during the May meeting.

## **Board Report**

### ***Campus-wide Multicultural Programs and Initiatives***

Toni Castro expressed her pleasure in introducing Yoshiko Harden to present the report to the Board of Trustees on *Campus-wide Multicultural Programs and Initiatives*. She said that Ms. Harden had begun her relationship with Highline as a graduate intern in 2001 and is now the Director of Multicultural Services and Student Programs.

Ms. Harden explained that Multicultural Services and Student Programs at Highline Community College is responsible for the coordination of many events, partnerships, and programs that support one of Highline's Strategic Initiatives: "*Enhance a college climate that values diversity and global perspectives*". She highlighted a number of national trends and statistics explaining that by 2011, a new population of immigrants, women, and persons of color will outpace the white population. She also cited the International Labor Organization report which describes the new labor demographics which will require that students be prepared to work in a multicultural environment. She added that as a practitioner, students more often gain success at an institution where they feel engaged, rather than marginalized and the components for student success include a campus culture which promotes a multicultural curriculum, and student involvement. Additionally, Ms. Harden is a member of the Recruitment and Retention of Faculty and Staff of Color Council, chaired by Vice President, Toni Castro, which has now been active for several years. The most recent report from the Council was prepared this winter, and was distributed to the Board members.

Ms. Harden discussed a number of statistics that were noted in the Council's recent report. Highline now has the most diverse student body among community colleges in Washington State and the highest percentage of immigrant, refugee, and temporary legal resident students among all community and technical colleges in the state at 27%. She added that there are a number of positive trends in retaining faculty and staff of color, but that a lot of work remains to be done. She noted that one area that the Council would be reviewing would be to refine the diversity question which is currently a part of the interview process.

Ms. Harden then introduced Natasha Burrowes. Ms. Burrowes said she had been working at Highline for seven years and is now the Assistant Director for Student Programs and Diversity. She felt that Highline has been unique in that the college strives to do more than just to talk about diversity. She said it is always evolving and that there must be an investment in these programs. Ms Burrowes underscored the necessity of attempting to infuse diversity concepts into the curriculum and through all departments. She added that it was important to provide access points for students of color such as ethnic clubs that are student-led, encouraging participation at the Washington State Students of Color conference, promoting the Intercultural Center, and continuing to provide opportunities for students through events such as the Leadership Council. She further said the Students of

Color Reaching for Excellence conference was a very powerful event this year. She had just finished reading the student evaluations and said that they were very positive in their comments.

Mike Regeimbal asked if Highline was expanding programs in trying to reach students of color to come to the College. Ms. Harden mentioned that Rashad Norris has made several changes to how the outreach activities are being conducted in order to reach more students of color. As an example, she said that instead of leaving brochures and other informational materials on tables in school lunchrooms, Mr. Norris feels it is more effective to participate in interactive exchanges with students directly in classrooms in order to talk about opportunities for attending Highline.

## **AREA REPORTS**

### **General Administration**

Larry Yok reported.

- Larry discussed the current status of recycling efforts. He said the dumpster is now in place through the assistance of student funding which has allowed for a metallic device that will correct the platform issues which formerly prevented it from being used.
- Larry described that as we approach the summer break, a number of other maintenance issues will also be able to be addressed.

### **Instruction**

Jeff Wagnitz reported.

- Jeff offered a follow up to the engineering challenges of Administration, by announcing the Spring Quarter competitions for the Paper Vehicle contest. He said that Highline had come back with half of the awards that were presented to student entries. He also noted that Rich Bankhead had also spearheaded a Pine Derby competition this quarter. The vehicles for the Paper Vehicle contest will be shown at the May Board meeting.
- Jeff Ward, who was one of the Board Report presenters at the March meeting on Technology, participated in another presentation recently in Federal Way, and Michael Girvin and his cyber nemesis who also holds cyber instruction in excel, are working together in what they have termed, "Dueling Excel."
- A Cyber Defense competition was recently held, and students in Amelia Phillips' computer science classes participated in the completion winning second place.
- Jeff encouraged the Board members to attend Global Fest on April 18.

### **Institutional Advancement**

Lisa Skari reported.

- Lisa discussed the process of determination for a change in mailing student quarterly class schedules. A committee was formed last fall to address the issue of what changes could be made to provide the information students require, and at the same time to reduce the amount of paper copies to be mailed and to reduce the number of hours required for production. The committee suggested that more and more students were obtaining the information through online methods and that with reduced content; more emphasis should be placed on the programs rather than

classes. The online version also represents real time information, whereas the print version often requires numerous changes.

- The Quarterly will hold more of a marketing focus in the future. Some print copies will always be available.

### **Student Services**

Toni Castro reported.

- Toni reported that the March 20<sup>th</sup> workshop, “Expanding Your Horizons” had over 400 participants from 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades which was held to encourage interest in math and science.
- Toni explained there had been a dramatic increase in student enrollment services, and in March alone, more than 1700 students were seen. Over 7000 financial aid applications have been processed this year. At the same time last year, roughly 5000 had been processed.
- Congratulations were offered to Yuliya Stetsyak, Highline student, and a student employee in Admissions. Her logo design was accepted by the WaACRAO organization.
- The student success story of the month is Naiomi Etienne. She is an international student with a background in event planning. She expressed an interest in Student Programs and has applied for the event consultant position with CORE services. She was hired and has been a great role model and is enjoying mentoring other students.

### **President’s Remarks**

Dr. Bermingham mentioned that there is a great deal of sobering news in the papers and he feels that it is important to also focus on the good news. He suggested that in listening to Ms. Harden and Ms. Burrowes today, it was difficult not to feel that there is a great of positive work going on at Highline. The abilities of these skilled leaders and others are part of the reason that there is real significance at the College in promoting growth and success at this institution. The reflective nature of education and the ability to make adjustments to become more successful is perhaps even more important during these economic times, as it creates an environment that does allow for real change. In spite of the current budget, colleagues at Highline continue to find ways to keep the energy going, to encourage others, and every day, we have the opportunity to see remarkable results. Dr. Bermingham offered a special thank you to all the Trustees for their continued efforts and support of the College.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

### **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on May 7, 2009.

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Mike Regeimbal, Chair

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Jack Bermingham, Secretary