

**NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OCTOBER 15, 2019**

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**A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held  
on October 15, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.  
in the Robert Michael Sdao Memorial Board Room  
at Niagara County Community College**

**Board Members Present**

Mr. William Ross, Chairperson  
Mr. Jason Cafarella, Vice Chairperson  
Ms. Bonnie Sloma, Secretary  
Ms. Gina Virtuoso, Financial Secretary  
Ms. Katherine Alexander  
Mr. Kevin Clark  
Ms. Sheila Smith  
Mr. Eric Lipps, Student Trustee

**Board Members Absent**

Mr. Jerald Wolfgang

**Administration Present**

William J. Murabito, Ph.D., Interim President  
Mr. Josh Blumberg, Interim Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs (NFCI)  
Ms. Deborah Brewer, Director of Foundation  
Ms. Catherine Brown, Director of Human Resources  
Ms. Barbara DeSimone, Director of Public Relations  
Mr. John Eichner, Director of Business Services  
Ms. Patrice Elnicki, Director of Financial Accounting and Reporting  
Mr. Terry Gill, Assistant Chief of Campus Public Safety/Peace Officer  
Mr. Wayne Lynch, Vice President of Operations  
Mr. Robert McKeown, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Management  
Mr. Brian Michel, Director of Grants  
Ms. Julia Pitman, Vice President of Student Services  
Ms. Barbara Walck, Assistant to the President  
Mr. Bradley Wingert, Interim Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs

**Invited Guests Present**

Mr. Robert McCartney, ESPA Union President  
Dr. Julie Woodworth, Faculty Senate President

Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and asked Student Trustee Lipps to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in respect for the men and women who are serving our country.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **PRESENTATION**

Chairperson Ross introduced Robert D. Gioia, President of John R. Oishei Foundation and Blythe Merrill, Senior Vice President of Programs of John R. Oishei Foundation. Chairperson Ross presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their generous grant of \$500,000 in 2016, which now has been partially contributed to the Child Development Center located in the Learning Commons.

Vice President of Student Services Julia Pitman provided a PowerPoint presentation on the SUNY Student Opinion Survey.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairperson Ross asked if Board members wanted any item removed from the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Trustee Sloma and seconded by Trustee Lipps that the Board approve the minutes from the September 17, 2019 board meeting, along with the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, and Grant Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Clark and seconded by Trustee Cafarella that the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget Transfer. Motion carried unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairperson Ross asked Board members if there were questions regarding the Information Items. Wayne Lynch, Vice President of Operations provided an update on the roadway paving project, and the interior signage project. The following items were received and filed: Grant Tracking Chart, Personnel Status Chart, Foundation Report, Facilities Update, Prospective Request for Bids, Letter from State Education Department – Public Communication curriculum title changed to Communication Studies; New Associate Degree Program – Psychology, leading to an Assoc. of Science (A.S.) State Education Department approved; New Associate Degree Program – Chemistry, leading to an Assoc. of Science (A.S.) SUNY approved; Employees to Vote on Election Day-Policy, and In Kind Donation.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Ross thanked those who attended the NYCCT Conference in Saratoga Springs. The plaques were passed around for awards received for William L. Ross, Bonnie Sloma and Gina Virtuoso.

Chairperson Ross provided board members with the updated copy of 2019-2020 Officers, Committee Appointments, and other trustee representation.

Dr. Murabito stated at Executive Council held earlier today, he assigned two people to work with each committee; Student Life will be Lydia Ulatowski and Julia Pitman to work with Chair Sheila Smith, and Victor Anaya and Catherine Brown to work with Chair Virtuoso of the Finance Committee.

Chairperson Ross was happy to announce there was 100% trustee participation to comply with the SafeColleges training courses. Thank you to all.

The February board meeting may possibly be changed to February 11.

Vice Chairperson Virtuoso provided a presidential search update. The search committee meeting has been finalized; more information will follow.

## **INTERIM PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Murabito discussed the following:

- Josh Blumberg, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs (NFCI) was introduced. He gave an overview of NFCI, and provided handouts showing pre-soft opening dates and soft opening dates at Savor Restaurant, along with fixed lunch and dinner menus.
- Congratulations to Trustee Sloma on receiving the Buffalo Business First Innovation Award.
- The annual Foundation Gala will be held on Saturday, October 19, at Niagara Falls Culinary Institute.

- On September 19, Dr. Murabito and several others attended the Statler Foundation luncheon.
- The NYCCT Conference was held in Saratoga Springs, Trustees Ross, Sloma, and Wolfgang attended.
- On September 24, Dr. Murabito toured Northland Workforce Training Center, which showcased their workforce development.
- Dr. Murabito attended the Small Business Assistance seminar held at NFI. Booths were set up to answer questions for those interested in starting their own business.
- Dr. Murabito attended the LEAP meeting on October 10; Anthony Vilaro was the speaker.
- Savor Restaurant will be opening for business soon; the dry run dates are provided on the handouts.

### **STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT**

Student Trustee Eric Lipps provided his report.

### **FACULTY OBSERVER REPORT**

Faculty Senate President Julie Woodworth provided the Faculty Observer report.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports

It was moved by Trustee Virtuoso and seconded by Trustee Clark that the Board go into Executive Session under the provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss contract negotiations at 5:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Clark and seconded by Student Trustee Lipps that the Board come out of Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

There was no good and welfare.

It was moved by Trustee Virtuoso and seconded by Student Trustee Lipps to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Bonnie R. Sloma  
Secretary