



Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 8, 2023

Trustees Attending:

Karen Fraser
Miguel Pérez-Gibson
Allyson Brooks
Pam MacEwan

Remote:

Kris Peters
Ed Zuckerman
Onya Robertson
Fred Goldberg

Staff Present:

John Carmichael, President
Dexter Gordon, Executive Vice President
Jadon Berry, Executive Associate to the Executive Vice President
Andrew Beattie, Executive Associate to the President, Secretary to the Board of Trustees
John Reed, Chief Enrollment Officer
David McAvity, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Sandy Kaiser, Director of Government Relations
William Ward, Chief of Administrative Operations
Dave Kohler, Chief Financial Officer
Holly Joseph, Dean of Students
Susan Hopp, Director of Residential and Dining Services
Abby Kelso, Vice President for Advancement
Kayla Mahnke-Hargett, Director of Student Activities and New Student Programs
John Caraher, Dean of Faculty

Others Present:

Sharon English, Assistant Attorney General
Lalita Calabria, Faculty Representative

Chair Karen Fraser called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Evans Hall Boardroom 3201 on the Olympia campus located 2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, WA, 98505, and Secretary Ed Zuckerman confirmed a quorum. Four trustees participated remotely.

Chair's opening remarks

Chair Karen Fraser welcomed the Board and staff and noted there would be an optional walk to visit newly renovated A-dorm immediately following the meeting.

Executive Leadership Report

President John Carmichael expressed gratitude for the work of many Evergreen faculty and staff who have contributed to the hard work in preparing our campuses and operations to welcome new and returning students, including a significant project to renovate A-dorm on the Olympia campus, expanding capacity for housing first-year students as part of our growing enrollment.

Executive Vice President, Dexter Gordon shared about recent engagements that have inspired and informed his approach to this year's strategic planning work. These included a trip with Evergreen students, staff, and faculty to the Critical Edge Alliance International Conference in Morocco in July. The conference offered perspectives and ideas about how equity gaps are being addressed around the world. Dr. Gordon also thanked staff in the Washington Center who developed and led summer institutes on enrollment growth and diversity and equity action plans and a specific workshop on strategic planning, led by Society for College and University Planning (SCUP).

Public Comment

Chair Karen Fraser called for public comment. Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Andrew Beattie announced that there was no public comment for the meeting.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Onya Robertson shared that she began board orientation with Andrew Beattie and will be attending Tacoma new student orientation activities on the 18th and 20th of September as well as Olympia activities on the 21st and 22nd.

Representative reports

Faculty Representative Dr. Lalita Calabria noted that the recent faculty retreat was very positive with a strong collective sense of optimism about the upcoming academic year. She also noted that she is excited to be joining the PaCE faculty with a full and waitlisted certificate in program mycology. Dr. Calabria is looking forward to sharing faculty interests and concerns with the board toward the end of providing a transformational experience to current and prospective students.

Andrew Beattie confirmed we are still confirming our staff and Geoduck Student Union representatives for this year.

Enrollment Update

Chief Enrollment Officer John Reed shared data (as of August 29th) indicating significant increases in new and continuing student enrollment, which includes a 27% increase in new students. Total undergraduate enrollment has increased by 14%. Overall enrollment has increased by more than 10%. Efforts on new student enrollment will continue, while staff will also be sharing more about retention efforts throughout this year.

Trustee Pérez-Gibson, John Reed, and Chair Karen Fraser noted the new web site is a significant improvement that will certainly impact enrollment and retention for years to come.

Orientation and Housing Update

Director of Student Activities and New Student Programs Kayla Mahnke-Hargett and Dean of Faculty John Caraher joined Dean of Students Holly Joseph to share the framework for the 2023 orientation and pre-orientation programs. The theme for 2023 is Welcome and Belonging. This year's planning process was a strong partnership across Student Engagement, Equity, and Support and our Academics division leadership and staff. Ten student workers have also been coordinating event planning and logistics, while learning and developing skills in the work. Many staff and faculty have contributed to this work over the past several months.

Multicultural Scholars, Evergreen Student Civic Engagement Institute, and Biodiversity in Evergreen's backyard are three new curricular jump start programs that offer five-day intensive experiential learning with an award of two academic credits per program.

Trustee Allyson Brooks recommended staff seek opportunities to bridge opportunities for students in civic engagement, for example, with the League of Women Voters.

Dean Holly Joseph shared that we have two new acronyms, BLISS (BIPOC, LGBTQ+ and Multicultural Intersectional Support Services). As well as SEES (Student Engagement, Equity, and Support) which reflects the merging of two previously individually recognized divisions of Student Affairs and Inclusive Excellence and Student Success. Parents and families were also recipients of a handbook to help immerse students in support systems on-campus and at home, and help families of students adjust to these transitions, while informing them of available resources.

Dean Holly Joseph shared the re-opening of Building A was on schedule following a large cross-divisional project team effort. Chair Fraser reminded trustees of a walking tour of the facility to take place immediately following the meeting.

Supplemental Budget Request

Chief Financial Officer, Dave Kohler, presented a supplemental operating budget request for:

- \$90,802 ongoing to move Benefits Navigator position to full-time, increase student staffing of the Student Basic Needs Center, and increase direct housing aid for disadvantaged students.
- \$68,782 ongoing to add a student employee bargaining unit to the college's system.
- Up to \$55,563 one-time for exempt represented staff to retain high quality staff, while achieving and sustaining staff compensation consistent with other general government employees in the state as negotiated through collective bargaining.
- \$376,000 ongoing for preventative maintenance to make our campus more sustainable, accessible, safe, and technologically up to date.
- Up to \$285,000 first-year cost for tuition, fees and living allowance for Shelton School District class of 2025 and an estimated \$3.5 million for a commitment over five years to make an early offer of free tuition to two cohorts of graduates from the Shelton School District.

Chief Administrative Officer, William Ward, presented a supplemental capital budget request for:

- \$1,945,000 for infrastructure upgrades to the Lord Mansion.

Motion Vice Chair Pérez-Gibson moved to approve the supplemental budget request. The
2023-19 motion was seconded by Trustee Brooks and passed on a voice vote.

Strategic Planning

Executive Vice President, Dexter Gordon shared a 4-phased approach (assessment of our landscape, planning roadmap, creating the plan, implementation, and evaluation) to the college's next strategic plan. He shared that the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) led a 3-day institute with 40 Evergreen staff and faculty, in late August, to help build a foundation for the process ahead. By summer

of 2024, a draft proposal will be shared with the board, beginning the implementation phase in fall of 2024.

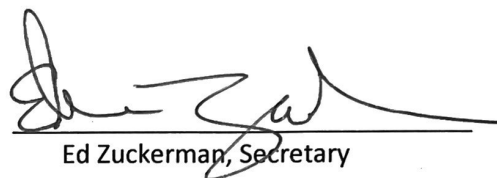
Campaign Update

Abby Kelso, Vice President for Advancement and Director of the College Foundation directed the Board to the campaign report, which laid out Advancement's recent achievements and noted the campaign has reached a new high of \$50.1 million raised towards the \$55 million campaign goal. She shared that this year's campaign endeavors will include an effort to add an additional 559 donors to our existing count of 3,441 donors. Vice President Kelso thanked all Trustees for making contributions last year and offered additional gratitude to Chair Fraser, Vice Chair Pérez-Gibson, and Trustee Goldberg for hosting a recent campaign event.

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.



Karen Fraser, Chair



Ed Zuckerman, Secretary