

Trustees Attending: Allyson Brooks
Karen Fraser
Fred Goldberg
Miguel Pérez-Gibson
Kris Peters
Ed Zuckerman

Staff Presenting: Kara Briggs, Interim Vice President for Tribal Relations, Arts, and Cultures
John Carmichael, Interim President
Dexter Gordon, Executive Vice President
Susan Harris, Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Abby Kelso, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the College Foundation
John Reed, Chief Enrollment Officer

Others Presenting: Clarissa Dirks, Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees
Sharon English, Assistant Attorney General.

Chair Karen Fraser called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and Secretary Ed Zuckerman confirmed a quorum. The meeting was held at The Evergreen State College, 2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Evans Hall L3201, in Olympia, Washington. A remote Zoom option was available. All Trustees participated remotely.

Chair's opening remarks

Chair Karen Fraser welcomed Clarissa Dirks as new faculty representative to the Board of Trustees and asked her to introduce herself. Chair Fraser shared that she was on campus for the first day of the school year and noted the atmosphere felt upbeat and there were many activities for students and faculty to participate in. Chair Fraser encouraged all to attend Return to Evergreen.

Executive Leadership report

President John Carmichael thanked Chair Karen Fraser and shared that there was an abundance of news to cover. He acknowledged that three weeks into instruction it feels like we are just beginning the school year, but running on a quarter system means we are well into it. President Carmichael reviewed the agenda and highlighted the enrollment report which will show increasing enrollment numbers. President Carmichael recognized that one good year of a larger entering class will not eclipse years of smaller entering classes overnight, unless it is a very good year. And this is a very good year for enrollment. President Carmichael expressed his gratitude to Evergreen staff and faculty for the work that is being done to increase enrollment. The past year has been an "all-hands-on-deck" moment and people showed up and did their part.

President Carmichael also shared that the college has closed the sale on the Lavelle House and that the final selling price was \$915k. Profits from the sale will be placed in the Board's reserve account. He then thanked William Ward for coordinating the sale.

President Carmichael noted that Professional and Continuing Education and the Title III grant, while touched on at this meeting, will be presented on more in-depth at the November meeting. President Carmichael called attention to the fact that he and Executive Vice President Gordon are celebrating one year together. He expressed his appreciation for Executive Vice President Gordon's work and asked him to continue with the report.

Executive Vice President Dexter Gordon thanked President Carmichael, the Board, faculty, and staff and stated that the success in the growth of this incoming class comes after a year of strategic collaborative efforts across the college. Executive Vice President Gordon explained that they focused intentionally on the priority of growing enrollment and that he and his team sees growth in enrollment as the primary factor in Evergreen's resurgence. He expressed thanks again to those across campus for leaning into what we have come to call an "all-hands-on-deck" effort. Though the entire campus has accepted the challenge of growing enrollment and succeeded, it is important to note that this achievement has happened in the context of nationwide declining enrollment numbers across all college campuses. He stated that the college is keenly aware that success with one entering class will not solve all of our problems. It is important to acknowledge the success and express gratitude to all those involved, as well as focusing on the second piece of enrollment which is retention.

Approval of meeting minutes

Proposed action item: motion to approve meeting minutes for June 9, July 7, and September 16, 2022.

Motion Secretary Ed Zuckerman moved to approve the meeting minutes for June 9, July 7, and
2022-24 September 16, 2022, as written. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Miguel Pérez-Gibson and passed on a voice vote.

Public Comment

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

Open Public Meetings Act executive session

Chair Karen Fraser announced the Board would go into an Open Public Meetings Act executive session to review the performance of a public employee and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party. She stated that the Board will return to open session at 9:10 a.m., unless notified that she has extended the time. No final action will be taken in the Executive Session. Open session resumed at 9:10 a.m. as announced.

President's evaluation

Chair Karen Fraser invited the Board, starting with Vice Chair Pérez-Gibson, to offer highlights from their evaluation comments. Vice Chair Pérez-Gibson offered congratulations to President Carmichael and the college for the good news and the start of the school year and expressed his gratitude for President Carmichael's leadership.

Secretary Ed Zuckerman seconded Vice Chair Miguel Pérez-Gibson's congratulations and commented that the national environment is exceedingly challenging for four-year institutions and that Evergreen is exceeding expectations nationally. He concurred that President Carmichael's leadership style has engendered full participation from the entire leadership team and that his work with EVP Gordon shows a united front.

Trustee Fred Goldberg stated that in his seven years as Trustee he has witnessed the difficult cycle the college has gone through. He has also seen the significantly changed leadership team, and that President Carmichael has given them the opportunity to rise and perform to their best ability. There is a positive feeling throughout the community about Evergreen. There was a question whether we would survive and now we are not only surviving but on an upward trajectory.

Trustee Allyson Brooks said President Carmichael's performance was spectacular. He has done a great job at bringing Evergreen to a secure footing and calm environment. She highlighted the Tribal programs that make evergreen so unique and that have been given extra attention and support with President Carmichael's appointment. She also added that the Professional and Continuing Education program is another accomplishment, and she is optimistic about its' projected success.

Trustee Kris Peters added that President Carmichael has not only met all the goals put forward by the Board but exceeded expectations. He stated that we cannot undervalue the leadership that has been shown during this. He has seen the President's ability to connect with staff and faculty, as well as with the surrounding communities. Trustee Peters stated he was very proud not only as a Board member, but a member of the community.

President Carmichael expressed his deep appreciation for the support and kind comments. He emphasized that while he is proud of this accomplishment it is one that he shares with his team and the staff and faculty across campus. He accepts the kudos but on behalf of the tireless efforts of all those across campus.

Proposed action item: motion ot authorize the Chair to finalize the president's evaluation includeing feedback from the meeting and send to the president.

Motion 2022-25 Trustee Allyson Brooks moved to authorize Chair to finalize the President's evaluation including feedback from the meeting and send to the president. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Goldberg and passed on a voice vote.

Retreat planning

Chair Fraser confirmed the dates of the retreat as Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Some of the broad ideas the executive committee discussed including on the agenda was bringing in a speaker who has a big picture of higher education across the state and country; talking about the education programs at Evergreen, as well as our founding principles, vision, mission, social contract; the Board's upcoming role; strategies to further foster belonging across campus; and identifying the Board's priorities in the coming years.

Enrollment

Chair Karen Fraser introduced Interim Chief Enrollment Officer John Reed. Chief Reed greeted Board members and thanked President John Carmichael and Executive Vice President Gordon for their support

and expressed how much he has enjoyed his time at Evergreen so far. He stated he has been very pleased by the cooperation and teamwork shown by faculty and staff, and that the work done over the spring and summer was invaluable.

During Chief Reed's presentation he reported in-depth on the growth in enrollment. He shared that with the 17% increase in new student enrollment we are off to a great start in the college's turn around. He noted that one aspect to look at in enrollment turn-around is how the increase can be seen across diverse student groups and is seeing positive signs. He emphasized that the college is turning the focus to retention and in continuing enrollment increases in the future.

Housing

President John Carmichael began by acknowledging the passing of former Director of Resident and Dining Services Sharon Goodman. He commended the work Director Goodman has done for the college and shared that she will be deeply missed.

President Carmichael explained that housing is a significant constraint in enrollment growth going forward. The college should have enough beds for the students on campus now, but that exists in the context of a regional housing market that is broken. Students who would prefer to live off campus cannot find housing, and there may also be deferred students who opted to wait to attend until they could secure housing. The college is doing significant work now to work toward removing this barrier for students. He reported that next year staff is determined to add some capacity, and these efforts are headed by Chief Administrative Officer William Ward. A variety of options are being explored such as mobile homes, temporary trailers, tiny house solutions, and existing structures on campus. A decision on the direction the college will pursue is expected by the end of the year. Long-term, the dormant residence hall buildings would require significant investment to bring online. Chief Financial Officer David Kohler has been in contact with different parties in regard to the possibility of bringing existing housing options back up and running. In the next year or two the college will be initiating a new planning cycle for the campus, and the Housing Master Plan adopted in 2016 needs a refresh.

Update on Strategic Plan: Significantly expand support for our local community, region, state, and nation (Goal 2)

Interim Vice President for Tribal Relations, Arts, and Cultures Kara Briggs referred to a memo sent out last spring that explained the proposed name changes.

Proposed action item: motion to rename The Evergreen Longhouse to s'gwi gwi? Altxw: The House of Welcome

Motion 2022-26	Secretary Ed Zuckerman moved to make an official name change of The Evergreen Longhouse to s'gwi gwi? Altxw: The House of Welcome. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kris Peters and passed on a voice vote.
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Proposed action item: motion to rename The Longhouse Education and Cultural Center to The House of Welcome Cultural Arts Center

Motion 2022-27 Trustee Kris Peters moved to make an official name change of The Longouse Education and Cultural Center to The House of Welcome Cultural Arts Center. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Miguel Pérez-Gibson and passed on a voice vote.

Update on Strategic Plan: Strengthen our financial position (Goal 3)

Finance and Budget Committee Update

Trustee Goldberg reported that on September 30, 2022 the Finance and Budget Committee met with state auditors' office to discuss the results of the 2021 financial statements of college and residential services. The college received a clean audit and for the fourth consecutive year. He highlighted that there were no issues related to financial reporting or internal controls.

Trustee Goldberg explained that a proposed action item is coming forward for the Board to consider a motion update the Resolution Authorizing Investment of The Evergreen State College Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool, amending the authorized individual designated to act on behalf of the Board to include the "Chief Financial Officer".

Proposed action item: motion to update the "Resolution Authorizing Investment of The Evergreen State College Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool"

Motion 2022-28 Trustee Fred Goldberg moved to update the Resolution Authorizing Investment of The Evergreen State College Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool, amending the authorized individual designated to act on behalf of the Board to include the "Chief Financial Officer". The motion was seconded by Secretary Ed Zuckerman and passed on a voice vote.

Campaign update and new campaign goal

Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director Abby Kelso reported on the campaign progress and recommended increasing the campaign goal. She shared that she will be coming back to the Board with plans for the public launch of the campaign.

Motion 2022-29 Vice Chair Miguel Pérez-Gibson move to approve a campaign goal of at least 55 million dollars raised by June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Goldberg and passed on a voice vote.

Adjourn meeting

Chair Fraser adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.



Karen Fraser, Chair



Ed Zuckerman, Secretary