



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
May 8 and 9, 2018

Trustees Attending: Monica Alexander
Fred Goldberg
Irene Gonzales
Keith Kessler
David Nicandri
Justin Puckett

Absent: Anne Proffitt

Staff Present: Jadon Berry, Director of New Student Programs
George Bridges, President
John Carmichael, President's Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board
Andy Corn, Executive Associate to the Vice President for Student Affairs
Jennifer Drake, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs
Chassity Holliman-Douglas, Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Holly Joseph, Chief Budget Officer
Sandra Kaiser, Vice President for College Relations
Dave Kohler, Associate Vice President for Business Services
Tina Kuckkahn-Miller, Vice President for Indigenous Arts & Education
Elizabeth McHugh, Director of Student Wellness Services
Emily Pieper, Assistant Director of Student Activities
Colleen Rust, Director of Government Relations
Jeanne Rynne, Associate Vice President for Facilities
Janette Smith, Director of Student Activities
Amanda Walker, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of The Evergreen State College Foundation

Others Present: Ignacio "Nacho" Alarcón, Staff Representative to the Board of Trustees
Brandon Ellington Geoduck Student Union Representative
Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General
Liza Rognas, Faculty Representative

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

A quorum was present and the meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m..

Adoption of Minutes

Motion Mr. Goldberg moved approval of the minutes of the March meetings. The
2018-07 motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

President Bridges reviewed the agenda and described his schedule since the previous regular meeting.

Committee Reports

Trustees Monica Alexander and David Nicandri reported on a meeting of the Board's Academics Committee, which had included discussion of the Paths of Study initiative. Mr. Nicandri noted that 70% of Evergreen's coursework is team-taught and asked whether that proportion was sufficient given the college's mission. He asked what the college was learning through its continuous experimentation with curriculum. He suggested closer examination of areas of the curriculum where the college's offerings are declining even as student interest is increasing.

Trustee Goldberg reported that he and Trustees Gonzales and Kessler had met as a Budget committee. They met with staff from the Office of the State Auditor. The college received a clean financial audit with one finding. The committee looked at options that the college's senior leadership was considering for balancing the operating budget.

Executive Session

Mr. Kessler announced that the Board would meet in executive session "to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee." He said that the Board would return to an open meeting at 2:30 p.m.. The Board returned to an open meeting as scheduled.

Discussion of External Review

The President's Chief of Staff John Carmichael said that an external review of the college prompted by the events of last spring had been concluded. The report's recommendations are being incorporated into the college's revitalization plan, which has three parts: achieving financial stability, enhancing marketing and branding, and revitalizing the college's curriculum and culture. Sandra Kaiser, Vice President for College Relations discussed how the external review's recommendations are informing the college's work on marketing and branding. Jennifer Drake, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs; and Chassity Holliman-Douglas, Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion, discussed how the report's recommendations are informing work on curriculum and culture.

Tour of the former State Capital Museum

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. so that Trustees and others could tour the former State Capital Museum

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Operating Budget Discussion

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley introduced Chief Budget Officer Holly Joseph and Associate Vice President for Business Services Dave Kohler, who discussed planning for an operating budget reduction. Ms. Joseph said that staff are building a budget for Fiscal Year 2019 based on full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of 3,000. This will require an operating budget reduction of \$5.9 million or 10.6%. The reduction will require elimination of filled and vacant staff positions and a reduction in adjunct faculty.

Some expenses may be moved out of the operating budget. Now that the state's capital budget has been passed, some Facilities positions carried on the operating budget can be appropriately moved to the capital budget.

Ms. Joseph said that increases to the New Student Orientation fee, the Wellness fee, and the Services and Activities (S&A) fee were also under consideration. Vice President for Student Affairs Wendy Endress introduced Executive Associate Andy Corn and Director of New Student Programs Jadon Berry. Mr. Corn compared Evergreen's New Student Orientation fee to similar fees at other institutions. Mr. Berry described the programs supported by the fee. Director of Student Wellness Services Elizabeth McHugh described services supported by the Wellness fee. Mr. Corn compared the Wellness fee at Evergreen to similar fees at other Washington state institutions.

Director of Student Activities Janette Smith, Assistant Director Emily Pieper, and students Brandon Ellington and Justin Puckett described the Services and Activities (S&A) fee proposal. Ms. Pieper noted that S&A fees and the S&A Tier I budget, which support professional staff positions in Student Activities, are usually set on a biennial basis. A drop in enrollment and unfunded, mandated increases in wages require a mid-biennium adjustment. Mr. Corn noted that the legislature set the maximum rate of increase in S&A fees next year at 4%.

Legislative Budget Requests

Associate Vice President for Facilities Jeanne Rynne presented a draft capital budget request for 2019-21. In addition to funding for minor works, the request would seek funding for the construction of a new Health Center, seismic upgrades, design for the renovation of the Seminar I building, and pre-design for an infrastructure master plan. Ms. Joseph described a proposal for an operating budget request that would support enhancement of the college's first-year student programs.

Wellness Center

Ms. Rynne described bids received from architectural firms for the design of a new Wellness Center.

Motion 2018-08

Dr. Gonzales made a motion to authorize the award of an architecture and engineering contract for the design of the new Student Wellness Services Center to NAC Architecture of Seattle, Washington for an amount not to exceed \$473,493. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Former State Capital Museum

Motion 2018-09

Mr. Goldberg moved approval of Resolution 2018-03 accepting the responsibility for the maintenance, operation, and any subsequent leasing of the historic Lord Mansion pursuant to Senate Bill 6095 of the 2017-18 legislature. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Academic Presentations

Faculty members Dharshi Bopegedera, Lalita Calabria, and Carri Margolin and their students spoke to the Trustees about student engagement in academic and professional conferences. Dr. Bopegedera and her students spoke about the recent Undergraduate Research Symposium of the American Chemical Society, which was held at Evergreen. Dr. Calabria and her student discussed the Northwest Scientific Association's annual meeting, which was held at Evergreen. Dr. Margolin described the record-setting participation of Evergreen students at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association.

Chair's Report

Mr. Kessler invited Student Trustee Justin Puckett to report. Mr. Puckett commented on the importance of enhancing campus life for students living in residence. He noted that other

institutions often host family weekends. He asked about the fiscal impact of keeping food service options open later. He expressed student interest in having more involvement in the hiring of a new police chief. He said that the Geoduck Student Union is piloting a program to pay students to do internships and committee work.

Mr. Kessler asked Trustees Alexander, Gonzales, and Nicandri to serve on the Board's Nominating Committee.

President's Report

Dr. Bridges invited Vice President Amanda Walker to report on fundraising. Ms. Walker said that the Foundation is on track to achieve its major fundraising goals this year. She said that the Foundation is preparing for its first comprehensive capital campaign with the help of Campbell and Company. The initial preparations require a strong vision and case statement. Finally, she noted that the Foundation had reached a milestone with \$20 million in net assets. She credited matching grants from the Gates Foundation for a large part of the growth, and noted that the college has documented increased retention among students receiving support from the scholarships created through the Gates match.

Dr. Bridges invited Liza Rognas to report as Faculty Representative to the Board. She described faculty work on the student first-year experience and said that people are on pins and needles about the upcoming budget reduction.

Dr. Bridges invited Ignacio "Nacho" Alarcón to report as Staff Representative to the Board. He said that the impending budget cuts are a broad source of tension, affecting morale. He described the recent, two-day residency of Dr. Damon Williams as an opportunity for the community to come together. He also described events focused on immigrant resilience and on organizational trauma. Finally, he noted the passing of Raquel Salinas, a staff member in First Peoples Multicultural Advising Services, who had worked at the college for more than 30 years.

Dr. Bridges invited Brandon Ellington to report as Geoduck Student Union (GSU) Representative to the Board. Mr. Ellington discussed the importance of communication and partnerships between faculty, administration, and students and discussed the GSU's work in this area.

Meeting with the Geoduck Student Union

The meeting moved to CAB 301, where the Trustees had lunch with members of the Geoduck Student Union. Members of the GSU described their work this year and their efforts to improve communication and partnerships among students, faculty, and the administration.

Public Comment

The Board returned to the Board Room, where Mr. Kessler called for public comment. Nate Lewis of the Olympia Community School spoke about the school's interest in being a tenant at the Historic Lord Mansion. Student Steve Coffman addressed communications issues between the administration and students and between the college and the general public.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Keith Kessler, Chair

Anne Proffitt, Secretary