



# the evergreen state college olympia, washington

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE

September 19-20, 2017

**Trustees Attending:**

Fred Goldberg  
Keith Kessler  
David Nicandri  
Anne Proffitt  
Justin Puckett (Sept. 20)  
Gretchen Sorensen (Sept. 19)

**Absent:** Irene Gonzales

**Staff Present:**

George Bridges, President  
John Carmichael, President's Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board  
Jennifer Drake, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Sharon Goodman, Director of Residential and Dining Services  
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Sandra Kaiser, Vice President for College Relations  
Eric Pedersen, Interim Chief Enrollment Officer  
Colleen Rust, Director of Government Relations  
Jeanne Rynne, Director of Facilities  
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  
Liza Rognas, Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees  
Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General

September 19, 2017

Mr. Kessler called the special meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.. A quorum was present.

**Adoption of Minutes**

**Motion** Mr. Nicandri moved approval of the minutes of the July and August meetings. The  
**2017-19** motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Kessler and President Bridges expressed appreciation for Trustee Sorensen's leadership as Chair over the past year.

### **New Student Orientation**

Director of New Student Programs Jadon Berry provided an overview of new student orientation.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Kessler announced that the Board would move into executive session to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation and to discuss collective bargaining. He said that the Board would return to an open meeting at 2:30 p.m. The Board returned to an open meeting as announced.

### **Update on Summer Work**

President Bridges described some of the work that faculty, staff, and students had done over the summer. He said that eight students, working with faculty and staff and supported by Assistant Attorney Generals, had been tasked with developing plans for a new Equity Center, reviewing the Student Conduct Code and proposing revisions, and making other recommendations. Student Priscila Desiderio presented the students' recommendations.

Associate Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Jaime Cooper provided an overview of the student work. Vice President for Student Affairs Wendy Endress thanked the students, faculty, and staff involved in summer work. She noted several areas of the Student Conduct Code that were identified for revision in the course of the summer: addition of student rights as well as responsibilities; tightening timelines; allowing a brief adjudicative hearing for appeals in certain cases; adding language about what happens if adjudicative procedures are not followed; providing more transparency regarding interim measures that may be taken during adjudication; improving compliance with Title IX, and improving definitions. She said that an Assistant Attorney General would review draft language with the college's senior leadership before bringing a preliminary draft to the Board. Following Board input, a proposal will be developed and published for broad community input. The earliest date by which a new Student Conduct Code can be adopted would be early in 2018.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Kessler announced that the Board would move into executive session to discuss collective bargaining. He said that the Board would return to an open meeting briefly at 3:30 p.m. before adjourning for the day. The Board returned to an open meeting as announced and adjourned.

## **September 20, 2017**

Mr. Kessler called the regular meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.. A quorum was present.

### **Strategic Messaging and Promotion**

Vice President for College Relations Sandra Kaiser described the work of GMMB and Simpson Scarborough to develop a messaging platform for the college. The work, which is grounded in extensive research, will be shared with the Board in November. Ms. Kaiser described the promotional activities currently underway.

### **First Year Housing Project**

Susan Musselman, bond counsel with PFM, reviewed the financing plan for the First Year Housing project. Mahlum Architects presented preliminary designs for the project. Trustees inquired about the state of the college's reserve accounts and offered comments on maintenance costs, the desirability of

having a fireplace in a commons area, the availability of laundry facilities, and the selection of materials and design appropriate for a rainy climate.

### Enrollment update

Interim Chief Enrollment Officer Eric Pedersen presented a preliminary report on fall enrollment. He noted that official enrollment numbers will be based on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the academic quarter and presented at the Board's November meeting. He said that the college has not experienced the "Mizzou effect," a sharp decline in enrollment following a year of campus unrest. However, the trend of generally declining enrollment remains in effect, with an estimated drop of less than five percent compared to last fall. Enrollment of Washington state residents appears to be steady or increasing. Non-resident enrollment has declined. This decline is probably partly the effect of changes in admissions policies in California, which make California schools relatively more attractive to California students.

### Budget Updates

Vice President for Finance and Administration said that the absence of a state capital budget presents serious challenges to the college. He said that 60 percent of facilities staff salaries are paid from the capital budget. The college has laid off some project manager positions and is spending down carry forward funds to support continued operations in the absence of a capital budget.

Director of Jeanne Rynne presented the proposed 2018 supplemental capital request. Following instructions from the Governor's office, the supplemental request is mostly a re-statement of the 2017-19 biennial request. Director of Government Relations Colleen Rust said that action on the 2017-19 biennial capital budget is not expected until January 2018 at the earliest.

Dr. Hurley presented the proposed operating budget supplemental request, which seeks additional funding for compensation, police services, computer science, and the policy institute. He also presented an operating budget spending plan for the 2018 fiscal year, which implements a 4.7% reduction. The details of how that cut will be made are under discussion by senior leadership.

### Approval of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Faculty of Evergreen

**Motion 2017-20** Mr. Goldberg moved to approve the negotiated collective bargaining agreement between the college and the United Faculty of Evergreen. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Kessler invited representatives of the United Faculty of Evergreen to address the Board. Jon Davies, UFE Bargaining Chair, expressed the union's desire to work collaboratively with the college and the new Provost to address challenges facing the college.

### Authorization of Supplemental Capital Budget Request

**Motion 2017-21** Ms. Proffitt moved approval of the college's supplemental capital budget request:

2018 TESC Proposed Supplemental Request	Amount
<b>Minor Works</b>	
Facilities Preservation	11,430,000
Minor Works - Program	1,420,000
Preventative Facility Maintenance & Building System Repairs	830,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>13,680,000</b>

<b>Intermediate/Major Capital Projects</b>	
Critical Safety, Security, and Power System Upgrades	11,876,000
Seminar I Renovation Design	-
Health & Counseling Center Replacement	5,868,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>17,744,000</b>
	<b>31,424,000</b>

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Authorization of Supplemental Operating Budget Request**

**Motion 2017-22** Mr. Goldberg moved to authorize college staff to submit a supplemental operating budget request comprised of:

- A request for full funding of the operating budget compensation increases authorized by the 2017 legislature.
- A request for \$425,000 in additional annual funding for Evergreen’s Police Services.

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Approval of College-wide Spending Levels**

**Motion 2017-23** Ms. Proffitt moved to approve the \$166,918,364 operating budget spending plan for all areas of the college for the 2017-19 biennium as outlined below.

<b>College Spending Plan by Fund Type</b>	<b>2015-17 Budget</b>	<b>2017-19 Proposed Spending Plan</b>
State General Fund	\$ 47,329,000	\$ 53,769,000
Education Legacy Trust Fund	5,450,000	5,450,000
Tuition Revenue	60,196,232	55,002,364
Local Dedicated Funds	15,238,400	14,718,000
Grants & Contracts	9,850,000	9,819,000
Non-Budgeted Service/Auxiliary	28,227,000	28,160,000
<b>TOTAL SPENDING PLANS</b>	<b>\$ 166,290,632</b>	<b>\$ 166,918,364</b>

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Chair’s Report**

**Motion 2017-24** Mr. Nicandri moved adoption of the 2018 meeting schedule. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Student Trustee Report**

Trustee Puckett reported that new student move-in day had gone well. He reported some student frustration with the college’s settlement of claims with departed faculty members. He expressed enthusiasm for the construction of new residence halls, and especially for improvements in accessibility over existing residence halls.

**President's Report**

President Bridges invited Vice President for Advancement Amanda Walker to provide an update on fundraising. Ms. Walker said that the Foundation has received \$1.2 million in gifts and pledges payable in the current year. The overall goal for the year ending June 30, 2018 is \$3 million.

President Bridges invited Member of the Faculty Liza Rognas to report. She said that the academic retreat had gone well. She conveyed faculty concern and support for holding more community conversations. She expressed excitement that Dr. Joye Hardiman would be leading the Washington Center on an interim basis.

Dr. Bridges invited Ignacio "Nacho" Alarcón to report as Staff Representative to the Board. He described staff and faculty work to support restorative justice on campus.

Dr. Bridges asked Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jennifer Drake to address the Board. She described the academic retreat and the opening session of the new student orientation. She described the priorities of the Academics division this year, which center on enrollment recovery, equity, and morale. She provided a brief description of the enrollment recovery initiative, which initially consists of a series of conversations grounded in data to help faculty understand the enrollment challenge. Faculty are thinking creatively about how to build on the college's strengths, provide what students and families are seeking, and size the curriculum appropriately.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Kessler called for public comment. One student addressed the board to say that housing is challenging for older students with families who are drawn to the college's emphasis on interdisciplinary studies.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

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Keith Kessler, Chair

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Anne Proffitt, Secretary