



the evergreen state college olympia, washington

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

March 6, 2017

Trustees Attending:

Fred Goldberg
Irene Gonzales
Rhianna Hruska
Keith Kessler
David Nicandri
Anne Proffitt
Gretchen Sorensen

Staff Present:

George Bridges, President
John Carmichael, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board
Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs
Katherine Himes, Faculty
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Olga Inglebritson, Managing Director of the Tacoma Program
Sandra Kaiser, Vice President for College Relations
Colleen Rust, Director of Government Relations
Jeanne Rynne, Director of Facilities
Tyrus Smith, Member of the Faculty
Ken Tabbutt, Interim Provost
Amanda Walker, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of
The Evergreen State College Foundation

Others Present:

Sandra Yannone, Faculty Representative to the Board
Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General
Susan Musselman, PFM
Thomas Toepfer, PFM

Trustee Gretchen Sorensen called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. in Room 104 of Evergreen's Tacoma campus. A quorum was present.

**Motion
2017-06**

Mr. Nicandri made a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote

President Bridges reviewed the agenda. Ms. Sorensen announced that the Board would move into executive session to discuss collective bargaining, real estate, and the performance of a public employee, reconvening in an open meeting at 10:30 a.m. The Board returned to an open meeting as scheduled.

Fiber Arts Studio

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley and Director of Facilities Jeanne Rynne discussed the Fiber Arts Studio Project. The initial round of construction bids had come in above budget. After additional investigation and work, a second round of bids was conducted. Those bids also came in above the original budget. Proceeding with the project will require an additional commitment of the college's reserves, along with money previously raised from donors. Vice President for Advancement Amanda Walker reported that fundraising for the project continues and additional gifts are likely, but will not cover the whole additional cost. The Board deferred action on the construction contract.

First-Year Housing

Susan Musselman and Thomas Toepfer from PFM, the college's bond counsel discussed options for financing the construction of new first-year housing. Ms. Musselman reported that her firm concluded that some of the assumptions developed as part of the Housing Master Plan should be revised. The ability of the college to raise money through the sale of housing revenue bonds constrains the budget for the project. Additional work on financing options is underway. The commitment of additional college funds at some point over the life of the bonds is likely necessary to complete the project.

Legislative Update

Director of Facilities Jeanne Rynne reviewed the Governor's proposed capital budget, released in December. Director of Government Relations Colleen Rust discussed the Governor's proposed operating budget. Budgets from the legislative chambers are expected soon.

Entrepreneurship

Faculty member Katherine Himes reported on the work of a group of faculty, staff, and students who met through Fall and Winter quarters to discuss entrepreneurship at Evergreen. She described the group's four preliminary recommendations.

Tacoma Program Update

Managing Director Olga Inglebritson and Member of the Faculty Tyrus Smith introduced two students, Robert Tacker and Rachelle Clausen, who described their experiences in the Tacoma program. Dr. Smith described this year's curriculum in Tacoma. Ms. Inglebritson noted that the MIT program will teach in Tacoma next year and that MPA electives will be offered in Tacoma.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Rhianna Hruska said that she is working to get the word out about next year's student trustee opportunity. She attended the Washington State Sustainability in Higher Education conference, where Evergreen was well represented by Director of Sustainability Scott Morgan and a large group of students. She also attended the Trustees and Regents day at the capitol and the student lobby day the following week.

Chair's report

Ms. Sorensen reported on Trustees and Regents day and on the Art of Giving event, noting the successful effort by the college's Advancement team and thanking Trustee Anne Proffitt for her work as event co-chair. Ms. Sorensen introduced Board resolution 2017-02 establishing an alternate location for Board meetings in the event of meeting disruption. Ms. Proffitt moved adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

President's report

Dr. Bridges reviewed his work since the previous board meeting, emphasizing his concern for how the college can better support its undocumented students. He invited Vice President for College Relations Sandra Kaiser to provide an update on the College's Strategic Messaging and Promotion project. Ms.

Kaiser described the project and noted that the Trustees would have an opportunity to engage directly in the project during a special phone meeting on April 13, 2017.

Dr. Bridges invited Vice President for Advancement Amanda Walker to report on fundraising. Ms. Walker reported that the Art of Giving event exceeded last year's event by 32%. She said that gifts and pledges received to date ensure that the Foundation will exceed its \$3 million annual goal. Among the recent, notable gifts to the Foundation are a \$1.5 million pledge from an alumna and her spouse to support student and faculty entrepreneurship, a \$1 million gift from the Cargill Foundation to support Indigenous Arts, and the establishment of a charitable lead annuity trust that will yield \$2.2 million over 15 years. Ms. Walker noted that the Foundation board has engaged a firm to build a campaign plan and conduct a campaign feasibility study. She also reported that the Foundation's agreement with the college will need to be renewed this spring. A draft of the agreement will be presented to the Board in May for adoption in June.

President Bridges invited Sandra Yannone to report as faculty representative. She reported that many faculty have been deeply involved in hiring work through the Provost search, the search for a Vice President for Equity and Inclusion, and multiple faculty hires. At the same time, the faculty is engaged in a discussion about curriculum reform and innovation.

Public Comment

Diems Haffner-Ratliffe reported that students have worked to identify funding from grant sources and from the student Clean Energy Committee to install a solar array at the Tacoma campus. He described his interest in sustainability and renewable energy and identified a need for more consistent academic programs that meet this interest.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Gretchen Sorensen, Chair

David Nicandri, Secretary