



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

February 5, 2020

Trustees Attending:

Lucera Cox
Karen Fraser
Fred Goldberg
David Nicandri
Miguel Pérez-Gibson
Ed Zuckerman

Trustees Absent:

Monica Alexander
Irene Gonzales

Staff Present:

George Bridges, President
John Carmichael, Vice President for Finance and Operations
Jennifer Drake, Provost and Vice President for Student and Academic Life
Susan Harris, Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Sandra Kaiser, Vice President for College Relations
Tina Kuckkahn-Miller, Vice President for Indigenous Arts and Education
Therese Saliba, Interim Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and Student Success
Amanda Walker, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of The Evergreen State College Foundation

Others Present:

Melinda Bratsch-Horsager, Geoduck Student Union (GSU) Representative to the Board of Trustees
Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General
Paul Przybylowicz, Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees

Chair Karen Fraser called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. at the Coach House at the Historic Lord Mansion.

Chair Fraser noted that she attend the Association for Governing Boards for Colleges and Universities (AGB) conference and encouraged other Board members to attend the upcoming conference in Washington DC. She indicated that AGB has excellent information to help Trustees become more effective in their work as a governing board member, expressing her enthusiasm for the Board's work with a senior AGB consultant today.

Introductions and recognition

President George Bridges introduced AGB Senior Consultant and Senior Fellow Carol Cartwright. Dr. Carol Cartwright served as President of Bowling Green State University from 2008-2001 and President of Kent State University from 1991-2006. She was the first female President of a state college or university in Ohio.

Dr. Cartwright led the Board, Board Representatives, Senior Leadership, Assistant Attorney General, and other staff present through an Effective Boards Workshop which included 1) fundamentals of

trusteeship; 2) the role of organizational culture; 3) the Board-President partnership; 4) managing and supporting the work of the Board; and 5) summary and next steps.

One topic involved developing a Trustee commitment statement. A Statement of Expectations or Commitment Statement can be a guide for the individual Trustees and the Board as a whole, as well as serve as guidance for Board evaluation. The Trustees began to craft a statement of expectations/commitment statement for the Board to develop and implement. Discussion included proposed commitments to consider for a Board statement (unranked):

- Constructive engagement
- Collective commitment to ongoing board development and learning
- Openness to new trustee perspectives and a commitment to encouraging new trustee success
- Commitments may be enabled by a coordinated orientation, possibly including a trustee mentor
- Confidentiality
- Commitment to following Washington laws
- Model behavior associated with respect for other opinions and civility
- Commitment to understanding personal purpose for board service (self-reflection)
- Timely attendance
- Commitment to enabling and promoting new ideas through appropriate channels and processes
- Commitment to listening to diverse voices
- Commitment to enacting Iterative (generative) approaches

Next steps

It was agreed that the Board would follow-up on the development of a Statement of Expectations/Commitment Statement. In addition, it was suggested the Executive Committee discuss the developing a Governance Committee that would steward the work of onboarding trustees, annual board assessment, trustee recruitment, audit of Board policies, and ongoing board development.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.



Karen Fraser, Chair



Irene Gonzales, Secretary