

BOARD MEETING

*For the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College was held on **Monday, January 24, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.** or thereafter via Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86769992553> OR Call 1-646 876-9923/Meeting ID: 867 6999 2553. The following matters were submitted for consideration and action.*

Present: Ned Schneier, Chairman; Bruce Bohnsack, Doreen Davis, Kelly Konsul, Maryanne Lee, Peter O’Hara and Laura Best-Macia, Student Trustee

Excused: Peter Markou and Barbara Slutzky

Others Present: Carlee Drummer, President; George Timmons, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs; Dianne Topple, Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer; and Mary Garafalo, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

1. Call to Order, 4:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call, quorum present

3. Request for Approval of Agenda

Motion: Ms. Lee; **Seconded:** Ms. Davis

Vote: Yes - 7; No - 0; Abstention(s) – 0

Resolution: Accepted

4. Request for Approval of the Items in the Consent Agenda

Motion: Mr. O’Hara; **Seconded:** Mr. Bohnsack

Vote: Yes - 7; No - 0; Abstention(s) – 0

Resolution: Accepted

5. Introduction of Guests and Items from the Floor

Catherine Carlson, Director of Accessibility Services; Racheal Chubb, Director of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness; Geralyn Demarest, Professor and Co-Chair of Strategic Planning; Matt Green, Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management; Amanda Karch, Director of Community Engagement and Professional Development; Joan Koweek, Executive Director of Columbia-Greene Community Foundation; Andrew Ledoux, Dean of Student Development; Krista Nevil, Technical Assistant for Records and Registration and Chair of CGCC College Senate; Casey O’Brien, Dean of Academic Affairs; Michael Phippen, Professor of Transitional Studies; Nancy Rudberg, Director of Accounting; Barbie Shaffer, Associate Professor of Psychology/Sociology; and Christy Ward, Bursar

6. Moment of Silence

Joni Groll

Jack Keller

Bernardine LaMantia

7. Resolution No. 1121-2202 Designating Trustee Emeritus Status

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College at its meeting on May 27, 1986 authorized the granting of Emeritus status to Trustees who have served complete terms and whose service had been judged exemplary, and

WHEREAS, Philip Abitabile served as Trustee of Columbia-Greene Community College until November 1, 2021 for 12 years and

WHEREAS, Philip Abitabile served collegially, thoughtfully and with a student-centered perspective as a member of the Columbia-Greene Community College Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, Philip Abitabile has made significant contributions to the educational and cultural well-being of the citizens of Columbia and Greene counties

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College hereby bestows upon Philip Abitabile the designation of Trustee Emeritus effective upon passage of this resolution with all the rights, privileges, and honors thereto pertaining, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College directs that Philip Abitabile's name with the designation Trustee Emeritus be so noted in appropriate publications of the College henceforth.

Motion: Mr. Bohnsack; Seconded: Mr. O'Hara

Vote: Yes - 7; No - 0; Abstention(s) – 0

Resolution: Accepted

8. President's Report

Personnel

President Drummer introduced Racheal Chubb, Director of Institutional Research, Effectiveness, and Planning. Also, she acknowledged Laura Best-Macia for being named to the President's List for her outstanding academic achievement in the fall semester. A special thank you to Drew Ledoux for his willingness, with the absence of a Director of Marketing and Communications, to curate the College's social media platforms Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

On Friday, the College extended an offer to one of the finalists for the Director of Marketing and Communications position with a start date of February 14, 2022. Also, a search is just underway for Director of College in the High School.

Operations Updates

Spring 2022 is off to a good start – enrollment is up slightly.

COVID continues to dominate the news, in spite of the decline of cases in New York. Acting SUNY Chancellor Deborah Stanley issued a mandate that for the spring semester, all on-campus students must be vaccinated and obtain a booster when eligible. Unvaccinated on-campus students with an approved exemption must be tested every week. Unvaccinated employees are strongly encouraged to be tested weekly. Vaccinated individuals must test monthly.

On January 6, 2022, the College said “Goodbye” to an antiquated telephone system and “Hello” to a state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure that will improve service for our community. One of the features is that each staff member now has a private line that may be accessed without calling the College’s switchboard.

Governor Hochul’s “State of the State” delivered the first week in January promises good news for the community colleges in general and Columbia-Greene in particular. Specific focuses will be:

- Offering TAP support to part-time students and incarcerated individuals
- Building “Labs for the Future” to expand laboratory space for the sciences
- Investing in diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives
- Offering a single consolidated application for financial aid
- Expanding workforce development in high-demand fields such as healthcare and cybersecurity
- Enhancing partnerships between the State-operated universities and community colleges

Foundation

The Foundation ended 2021 on a very high note! Between gifts received and pledges made, the Foundation has crested the \$1 million mark – the first time in its history!

9. **Trustee Report**

Chairman Schneier, announced to the Board of the cancelling of the retreat for the CGCC BOT and the Foundation Board, which was scheduled in January 2022. The main concern was of the uprising of COVID cases and the need to be aware of recent cases in Columbia and Greene counties. Chairman Schneier suggested possibly having the retreat re-scheduled to sometime in March.

He wanted the board to think of how we can get more hands-on opportunities for our students. This is a conversation to be further discussed at the retreat.

Laura Best-Macia, Student Trustee reported:

Athletics

- **The baseball field fence is completed just in time for the spring season. New fencing will enhance the athletes and spectators' experience while also providing an opportunity for C-GCC branding.**
- **The Athletics Department takes pride in its efforts to prioritize students' academic success. As we enter the Spring 2022 semester, we are pleased to announce that 16 of our athletes have been inducted into the 3.0 Club and 5 of our athletes have been inducted into the 4.0 Club.**

Student Activities

Political Science Club

The Political Science club was established and became active in 2017 to increase awareness of human rights issues and influence the students at C-GCC to be socially conscious, politically aware, and civically involved. At the time, a diverse group of students came together to form the club who had a strong interest in providing an open forum to discuss civics, participation in politics, and issues affecting all college students. The core group of club founders, now well into their careers are working in various fields such as public policy, mentoring urban youth, law, and education. Since its founding, the club has arranged fundraisers in response to hurricanes and natural disasters, set up tables at campus events to register voters and provide information pertaining to political party platforms, hosted annual guest speakers such as the SUNY Student Assembly Presidents, and met to discuss issues that are at the forefront including social injustices, local political concerns, rural and urban issues relevant to our area, and explored how students can mobilize to lobby for improved support and funding for community colleges.

The club remains informed through the American Political Science Association. The Political Science club plans to meet monthly via Zoom and currently has about a dozen active members. The club advisor, Dr. Nicole Childrose, is exploring the possibility of inviting a guest speaker to present at a zoom webinar in the Spring building from topics presented in the Revisiting Civil Rights class that is going on now and considering opportunities to share information pertaining to digital civics.

10. Vice Presidents' Reports

- a. Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Dianne Topple reported:
- Governor Hochul outlined her fiscal year 2023 budget on January 18th. In the words of our new Chancellor Deborah Stanley, “this proposal marks the most significant investment in SUNY – and postsecondary education – in over two decades...” This proposal includes full support of all funding provided in the 21/22 Enacted Budget with no reductions.
 - In addition, proposes expanding the Tuition Assistance Program to part-time students, restore TAP awards for incarcerated individuals, streamlining new education program approval, and expanding income eligibility for childcare subsidies.
 - We look forward now to the Senate and Assembly response to the Executive budget, with a final budget due by April 1st.

- b. Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, George Timmons reported:

Academic Affairs

- We currently have three faculty job postings in development. All are full-time, tenure-track positions; the discipline areas include Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, and Chemistry. We will begin accepting applications in the coming weeks.
- Our College-in-the-Prison programs at Greene Correctional and Green Haven facilities are currently on hold for the Spring semester due to DOCCS' pause on educational programming. We may need to start these programs later in the term once the pause is lifted, but we're working closely with our contacts at each facility to best prepare.
- Several students recently earned their certificates of completion from the Career Institute, which is a 12-hour comprehensive conference for students who've been nominated by faculty or staff; Delivered both in-person and virtually, the program is designed to help students find jobs in their chosen career fields. Students who complete the conference are well on their way to achieving a micro-credential in Workplace Professionalism. We'd like to thank Kelly Ann Radzik for coordinating this program and all who contributed to the success of this year's institute.
- Nursing Grant Proposal. The College recently submitted a grant proposal utilizing nursing emergency training funds. Within the grant, the College has requested funds to support the hiring of a new nursing faculty member as well as training on simulator technology. Expanding the Nursing program also will align with Governor Hochul's plan to expand the healthcare workforce in New York through a "\$10 billion, multi-year investment" announced in her "State of the State" address on January 5, 2022.
- Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Steve Gavlik, and Maya Greene, Associate Professor of Communication and English, were invited to speak with a Chronicle of Higher Education reporter to discuss academic rigor. Due to the pandemic, changes in the delivery of higher education have reopened the debate regarding how colleges should define academic rigor and how we maintain quality and flexibility. We want to thank Maya and Steve for exploring this important topic.

- The College was selected to be in Cohort 1 to transition from Blackboard to D2L/Brightspace. The College will switch over to Brightspace officially in the Fall 2022 semester. We're in the beginning stages of the process, but we're actively planning while awaiting SUNY's further guidance.
- Finally, work on our Middle States self-study resumed after the break, and we're now in the process of bringing various pieces of the document together. This will begin the editing phase, and we expect to have a draft ready for campus and community review and feedback by the end of the Spring semester.

Student Services Update

- *Health Services*

All on-campus students, regardless of vaccination status, were required to submit proof of a negative COVID-19 test prior to beginning the Spring semester. The Office of Health Services hosted two testing opportunities, January 18th and 19th, 7 am-7 pm, to help meet this need. 296 tests were administered in total. Fortunately, only three students tested positive from the pool. Six students in total have tested positive since the start of the new year, which we are aware of. We are continuing to track students' vaccination and booster verification. Early conversations have transpired with SUNY New Paltz about the potential for developing a partnership to bolster C-GCC's mental health services provided to students. The College is exploring the possibility of hosting graduate interns enrolled in New Paltz's MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program to be on campus next academic year to provide in-person support to those in need.
- *Ruffalo Noel Levitz Opportunity Analysis*

Ruffalo Noel Levitz, a leading enrollment management and student success firm, conducted an enrollment opportunity analysis on January 19th and 20th. The analysis provided an in-depth look into enrollment trends and practices, and recommendations have been made in the areas of admissions, marketing, student success, and academics. Overall, findings were positive, and RNL will be generating a report for the consideration of the executive leadership team.
- *Student Activities and Leadership Development*

Two finalists have been identified for the Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development position. Final-round interviews will be conducted this week, and we intend to bring this important search to a close in the coming days.
- *Student Success*

We will soon be posting a Director of Student Success to manage the day-to-day operations of the Student Success Center and facilitate a supportive environment for students' academic success. This role will be responsible for tutoring services, supplemental instruction, initiatives to support academically at-risk students, and providing success coaching for individuals across disciplines.

11. Announcement of the February Meeting

Monday, February 28, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

12. Executive Session

To discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Motion: Mr. O’Hara; Seconded: Ms. Lee

Vote: Yes - 7; No - 0; Abstention(s) – 0

Resolution: Accepted

Entered Executive Session at: 4:42 p.m.

Motion: Ms. Davis; Seconded: Mr. Bohnsack

Vote: Yes – 7; No - 0; Abstention(s) – 0

Resolution: Accepted

Exited Executive Sessions at: 5:44 p.m.

13. Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. O’Hara; Seconded: Ms. Lee

Vote: Yes -7; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

Resolution Accepted

Adjournment at: 5:45 p.m.

Edward Schneier

Edward Schneier
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Mary E. Garafalo

Mary E. Garafalo
Executive Secretary to the Board

CONSENT AGENDA

January 24, 2022

Approval of the Minutes from December 20, 2021 Board Meeting

Capital Fund Expenditures

- a. Warrant No. 41, Renovations and Improvements C06138

Operating Warrant Approval

- a. Warrant No. 12-21, Operating Warrant