



2000 Tower Street - Everett, Washington 98201

The Board of Trustees of Everett Community College held a study session meeting in the Jackson Conference Center and through Zoom on February 21, 2023.

Board Chair Toraya Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Roll call

Present for the meeting were Trustees, Toraya Miller, Bob Bolerjack, Jerry Martin, and Dr. Betty Cobbs. Kelly Shepherd was absent from the meeting. Also present was Interim President, Dr. Darrell Cain, Sr. Executive Assistant to President Lisa Corner, staff, administrators, and community members.

Executive Session

At 5:01 Board Chair Toraya Miller shared that the Board will convene into an Executive Session for 20 minutes to hear updates from the Presidential Search Committee regarding the presidential search pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g)

Trustee Miller and the Board returned at 5:23 pm to resume the open session.

General Public Comments

- What services will be provided for persons in wheelchairs, walkers, or crutches to get to the new library?
- Packing a wheelchair down and back up again, to go to the second or third floor is a lot.
- This is the student's library and we pay the tuition and parking fees.
- The new building should be utilized for administration purposes.
- Let students use the building on campus for those that use disability services.
- Where is the safety for the people?
- If 85% of students didn't want this change, why is it happening?
- It will not be accessible.

Trustee Toraya Miller thanked the meeting attendee and appreciated her comments. She stated that we need to figure out accommodations and that the pedestrian bridge will be built for safety. She said the Mayor of Everett has been interested in enhancing the safety of the crosswalks on Tower and 10th street in Everett.

There were no other comments from the Board, in-person meeting attendees, or virtual participants.

Informational

International Education Update - Ali Soltanshahi, Executive Director of International Education

Ali stated that the International Office is centralized. The main focus is student international recruiting. He shared he has been in international education for 22 years. Ali stated IE is centered around the internationalization process of our campus. He said the study abroad program is being rebuilt. Ali shared numbers are down compared to pre-covid. There have been issues with student's

not showing. He said students are also getting visa rejections. Ali stated that some have to defer, due to visa delays. There are short programs in Aviation-English that allow students to learn English and have practical learning opportunities. He said in the Iwakuni program students visit our sister city in Japan. Ali stated the largest number of students come from Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and Indonesia. He stated the next step is to work with certified agencies and make sure EvCC has a presence in those markets. The retention data from 2020 to 2023 is 86.7%. We are currently working on a welcoming environment. This will include pre-arrival sessions, airport arrival, housing, and support. Ali said orientation has expanded from 3 days to 4. He shared that career development includes the opportunity for students to see beyond EvCC and possibly do internships in the United States. He said we are bound by Homeland Security to help students get here and support them in academics and outside of the classroom. Ali stated that rethinking and developing the way we do compliance and infrastructure in the area of recruitment must be sustainable all the way through graduation.

Trustee Miller stated that she is glad to hear that we have systems in place and support while the students are here.

Foundation Update - John Olson, Executive Director of the EvCC Foundation

John shared that the Foundation was formed with a 90% focus on scholarships to students with program support. Donations and in-kind donations support. He stated there has been a shift in the ratio of annual and endowed funds. He said there is a balance of raising money and administering money that is held in trust for scholarships. Campus accounts are growing: Athletics, Orca, and International Education. John stated there is more flexibility in Foundation funding. The Foundation supports a number of community activities that EvCC is involved in. He provided an example of school districts and non-profits. Engagements lead to further collaborations. He shared there is a welcome breakfast for new employees and the Foundation funds. Time is dedicated to donor stewardship. A reception is held to invite scholarship winners to meet donors. John states his time is split 70% on the Foundation and 30% on community work and relations. Regional engagements inform us of where we should be engaged and the gaps that exist in the city and county. He informed everyone of the upcoming Future Benefit Breakfast on April 18, at 8:00 am at the Fitness Center. The Engagement Committee holds activities throughout the year.

Brent Keck and Cassandra Denn reconciled donor and financial software for a clean audit.

Learning Resource Center Update - Erica Dias, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations with fellow presenter, Lynne Deeken, Dean of Arts, Learning Resources, and Pathways

Erica highlighted departments that are moving into the new Cascade Learning Resource Center. She stated the address is now on the building facing Broadway. She reminded attendees that this is our library replacement project. The value is around \$40,000,000.00. She stated Mortenson Construction is the general contractor and Mathune Architecture did the design construction. Substantial completion is very close. We currently have a temporary certificate of occupancy. She stated this means staff and faculty can be in the building and move in. Erica stated we can't at this time have students in until the full certificate of occupancy is completed. She stated the demolition of the Monte Cristo building is phase 2 of the project and has been pushed out to mid-August or early September of 2023.

Master Plan Update:

- The new Learning Resource Center is the highest priority.
- WSU and AMTEC will start the evolution of College Plaza.
- Moving from the Parks building: Library Media Center and Art Gallery.

- Moving from Gray Wolf Hall: The Center for Transformative Teaching, e-Learning, and the Writing Center.
- Moving from Rainier Hall: The Tutoring Center.

Erica introduced Lynn Deeken to provide the use of space information. She stated there are long lead delivery times for equipment, technology, and furniture. The final furniture delivery should be in June. Lynn shared pictures of the lobby, second-floor Media Commons, Art Gallery, Tutoring Center, Summit Room, and main service point areas. She stated the plan is to have students greet students to a welcoming space. She highlighted the Group Study Room which was designed to support students with children. She stated the furniture is of various sizes. Students need different environments and collaborative spaces. She stated the 3rd floor has individual study rooms. Lynn shared there will be 2 book drops on the north and south side of the building.

Erica shared there have been discussions regarding transitioning the building to operations. What does public accessibility, hours of operation, and safety look like for students, staff, and the community? Further updates to come.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Toraya Miller at 6:23 pm
Board of Trustees members departed after the board meeting for a tour of the LRC building.

Toraya Miller

Toraya Miller, Chair
Board of Trustees

Darrell Cain

Darrell Cain (Apr 10, 2023 13:58 PDT)

Dr. Darrell Cain, Secretary
Board of Trustees