

The Board of Trustees of Everett Community College held a regular meeting on November 12, 2019 in the Jackson Conference Center Senate Room at Everett Community College.

Board Chair Betty Cobbs called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Briefing by the President

Dr. Willis gave a fall enrollment update. July 1, 2019 the college's FTE was down 10% in state enrollments compared to 2018, and as of today the college is up 3%. The college was down 5% in all enrollments and today the college is up 2%. Dr. Willis gave credit to the entire college for the enrollment increases; especially the entry advisors who were calling students and the new CRM texting function that sent out over 5,000 texts.

Roll call

Present for the meeting were Trustees Bob Bolerjack, Betty Cobbs, Toraya Miller, Vickie Norris and Mike Deller via phone. Also present: President Daria Willis, Recording Secretary and Senior Executive Assistant to the President Jeri Pourchot, Assistant Attorney General Scott Wessel-Estes, Student Representative Araceli Daza, Exempt Union Representative Derek Jorgenson, Faculty Representative Mike VanQuickenborne, Faculty Senate Representative Karen Linton, and faculty, staff, students, administrators, and community members.

Reports from the Board

Trustee Toraya Miller thanked Dr. Willis for the updates she has been sending out to trustees about the college and enrollment. The extra touch like calling students is appreciated.

Trustee Bob Bolerjack congratulated the whole team on the enrollment numbers. He stated with the economy being great right now, the increase in enrollment numbers is very good news. Transportation funding will be cut with Initiative 976 passing in the last election. This will make the pedestrian bridge a little more challenging, but we will get funding from other sources.

Trustee Mike Deller reported (via phone) that he would like for a report out from the Audit Committee meeting on future Board agendas.

Chair Betty Cobbs reported that she attended the Economic Alliance networking event with Daria. It was a great opportunity for Daria to continue to meet new people. Betty gave kudos to the fine people at EvCC; the extra touches with increasing enrollment numbers made a difference. She also attended the ACCT Leadership Congress in San Francisco and the professional development for Board Chair session.

Trustee Vickie Norris reported that she really enjoyed the ACCT Leadership Congress, it was her first conference. Vickie spoke to the different sessions she attended and how impressed she was to see EvCC's Financial Report displayed for all to see as a representation on how things should be done. Vickie inquired into when was the last time the Board has reviewed the college's policies? Vickie announced that tonight would be her last Board meeting as she is moving out of the area. She thanked everyone for their support.

Consent Agenda

MOTION 01-11-2019 Trustee Vickie Norris moved for approval of the September 17, 2019 minutes. Trustee Bob Bolerjack second the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 02-11-2019 Trustee Mike Deller moved for approval of the October 22, 2019 minutes. Trustee Bob Bolerjack second the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Review and Take Action on Nomination for the 2019/20 Transforming Lives ACT Award

John Olson, vice president of college advancement, recommended Melisa Suljic as the EvCC student nominee for the 2019/20 Transforming Lives ACT award. Each Washington State community and technical college's board of trustees will nominate a student. Six awards are given statewide. Melisa was selected as one of three winners last year in the Governor's Civic Leadership Award.

MOTION 03-11-2019 Trustee Toraya Miller moved that the Board of Trustees approve Melisa Suljic as the nominee for the 2019/20 Transforming Lives ACT Award. Trustee Bob Bolerjack second the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Review and Take Action on Change to EvCC Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

John Bonner, interim executive vice president of instruction and student services, presented the EvCC Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Policy with changes. The change will allow funding for an unlimited number of degrees and/or certificates, providing the student remains eligible per federal and state regulation. Currently, students are denied financial aid if they earned a previous two-year degree at any other college or from EvCC, and must appeal to get approved for a second two-year degree. Over the last two academic years we have denied financial aid to 1,017 students due to this policy. Most students receive the denial letter and do not appeal, instead transferring to another institution that will fund their degree; amounting to a loss for EvCC. This change will align our policy with federal and state policies and will increase tuition revenue.

MOTION 04-11-2019 Trustee Mike Deller moved that the Board of Trustees approve the change to the EvCC Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Trustee Vickie Norris second the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Review and Take Action on probationary contract for third year tenure-track faculty

John Bonner, interim vice president of instruction and student services, presented the request for approval tenure recommendations for third year tenure-track faculty that are off-cycle. The appointing authority shall provide for the award of faculty tenure following a probationary period not to exceed nine consecutive quarters, excluding summer quarters and approved leaves of absence. The probationers who are being recommended for tenure by appointment review committees are Greg Crowther, Biology and Tracy Schuetze, Cosmetology.

MOTION 05-06-2019

Trustee Vickie Norris moved that the Board of Trustees approve the probationary contract for the off-track, third year tenure track faculty who are mentioned. Trustee Bob Bolerjack second the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports to the Board

Student Representative

Araceli Daza shared that the ASB Executive Committee went to Washington D.C. for a networking conference with different schools around the country. They learned about more effective ways to do surveys, take minutes and other useful things. WSU student government president reached out asking for examples of our student government policies. The ASB held the “Nightmare on Tower Street” costume party in October. Some students are looking at more sustainable ways to do things such as eating utensils on campus. Araceli also reported that the students are not taking sides in the LRC issue, and are looking at how the process works and how to work together.

Classified Representative

Melissa Hart was absent.

Exempt Union Representative

Derek Jorgenson wished Vickie well. Derek reported that the Exempt Union is the smallest with only 30 members. They will be setting priorities for upcoming negotiations on November 20th. There are two ad hoc committees working on best practices and language. Derek also shared that the Exempt Union is very appreciative of the continued open communications with Dr. Willis. It is affirming to be invited into conversations. They are supportive of the shared governance endeavor.

Faculty Representative

Mike VanQuickenborne wished Vickie the best, and on behalf of the Faculty Union, she will be missed. Mike shared that the faculty appreciates Dr. Willis’ openness and her effort with the new shared governance. The union is in negotiations due to the passing of HB 2158 that increases salaries for the nurse educator positions. The first of the year they will begin negotiations for faculty positions in high demand disciplines. Mike brought up the City’s budgetary financial difficulties and how the passing of I-976 will affect the building of the pedestrian bridge. He asked the Board again to reconsider the location of the LRC when there is a perfect spot here where Index used to be. He stated that over 80% of faculty feel it will be detrimental to our students’ ability to succeed and their safety. He referred to the Delta community’s attendance last year at the board of trustee meeting and their impression that they would have access to the new center. Mike recommended that the greenspace that is planned at the old Index site be relocated to the east side where the Delta community could utilize it.

Faculty Senate Representative

Karen Linton reported her concerns with elevators in the new LRC building. Many of the buildings on campus have elevator issues and break down frequently causing problems for people who are handicapped. She asked that the college provide better elevator services in the new LRC building. She also asked that the college consider a cutting-edge, energy efficient system for the new LRC building. She stated that many employees would be willing to give up having a bigger space to make it happen if it is a cost issue. Karen also mentioned concerns in regards to associate faculty not being compensated adequately. Many of them participate on committees with out any compensation. She

also shared how the faculty appreciated the Trojan Talk and Dr. Willis' creation of a shared governance task force.

Informational

LRC Planning Update

Pat Sisneros, vice president of college services and John Olson, vice president of college advancement gave an LRC planning update in regards to mitigation issues. The update focused on four areas previously identified by the Board as areas to consider while planning the LRC.

*The board previously interested in looking at the enhancement of funding and services for students with disabilities to address needs associated with campus mobility and the location of instructional support services. It is now time to form a task force to address not only the issues relative to the LRC, but also to look campus-wide at issues and concerns that students with disabilities experience. Membership should include representatives from the Center for Disability Services, Student LIFE, Facilities, Instruction, and Administrative Services.

*College employees continue to work on the design and funding phases of a pedestrian bridge. The college has collaborated with the City of Everett, Washington State University, members of the state legislature, including the chair of the Senate Transportation committee and members of the House Capital Budget committee. The project was not funded in the latest round of capital project requests. Continued advocacy will take place in collaboration with the City of Everett during the short session beginning in January. Much of the discussion about capital projects has been on hold until after the November elections. Project architects for the LRC have incorporated into the LRC planning ideas and preliminary designs for integration of the bridge and the project site.

*Campus Safety has been engaged in planning for the expansion of facilities, including consideration of increased student and employee population and impact of vehicle traffic in and around campus. Preliminary indication is that existing staffing levels will be sufficient to continue active security monitoring in and around the new buildings east of North Broadway. Architects have incorporated a traffic flow plan into the design of the facility and have also planned for the eventual traffic flow once Baker Replacement is sited adjacent to the LRC.

*Plans for additional campus parking and green space are of interest to the board. The Index site has been converted into green space, and once Baker Hall is replaced there's a strong likelihood that demolition of that building will result in more green space on the northwest side of campus. Architects will plan for parking as part of both projects (LRC and Baker replacement) and the college will continue to look for opportunities to acquire more property for future use including parking, facilities, and other long-term considerations. These discussions are part of the master planning activity led by College Services.

Pat gave a tour of the LRC page on the college's website. This site will be updated periodically to share the progress of the project.

General Public Comments

Four faculty and one student addressed the board. The topic for all five were in regards to the location of the LRC on the east side of Broadway.

Executive Session

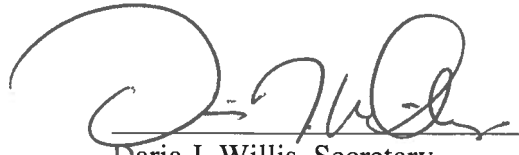
At 6:35 p.m., Chair Betty Cobbs thanked everyone for coming and shared that the Board will convene into an Executive Session to review personnel and no action will be taken. She shared the Executive Session will conclude at 6:55 p.m. and the Board will adjourn immediately after.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:55 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Betty Cobbs at 6:56 p.m.


Betty Cobbs, Chair
Board of Trustees


Daria J. Willis, Secretary
Board of Trustees

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