

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Cascadia College Board of Trustees
October 20, 2021**

**Cascadia College
18345 Campus Way N.E.
Bothell, WA 98011**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair Mike Kelly, Vice Chair Dr. Colleen Ponto, and Janet McDaniel present. Trustee Meghan Quint absent.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Chari Davenport, Dr. Kerry Levett, Martin Logan, and Dr. Eric Murray present. Alan Smith

(AAG) present.

Donna Sullivan (recorder) present.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

CCCFT Representative – David Shapiro, Senior 2 Tenured Founding Faculty present.

Student Representative – Tamara Wood, EAB Advocacy Chair present.

WPEA Representative – WPEA Representative absent.

AUDIENCE

David Berner, Erin Blakeney, Mark Collins, Ketra Embleton, Sara Gómez Taylor, Haley Green, Shyla Hansen, Tinia Hansen, Michael Horn, Kari McGie, Noah Overby Becky Riopel, Madelynn Sakay, Bill Sarceno, Erik Tingelstad, Amy Walesby, Kristina Young.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board began the meeting in a thirty (30) minute Executive Session to discuss number 2 below and/or any of the issues listed below:

1. to receive and evaluate complaints against a public officer or employee;
2. **to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee;**
3. to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation to which the college is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge of the discussion would likely result in adverse consequences to the college;
4. to consider, as a quasi-judicial body, a quasi-judicial matter, between named parties;
5. to consider matters governed by the administrative process act, chapter 34.05 RCW; and/or
6. to plan or adopt the strategy or position to be taken during collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or to review proposal made in on-going negotiations or proceedings.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Mike Kelly called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM

3. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board Chair asked for approval of the consent agenda. Trustee Janet McDaniel made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Colleen seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the consent agenda was approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. INTRODUCTIONS OF NEW EMPLOYEES/PROMOTIONS:

Becky Riopel, Director of Student Life, introduced the following new Events & Advocacy Board (EAB) members:

- Tamara Wood, new EAB Chair
- Nika Salimi, new EAB Coordinator
- Amy Walesby, new EAB Coordinator
- Madelynn Sakay, new EAB Coordinator

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Faculty Sabbatical Focus

Board members received a link to a podcast by Marc Hyman, Senior 2 Tenured Faculty in Business & Accounting, created through the Teaching and Learning Academic podcast series. This is the first in a series of asynchronous and in person synchronous reports and demonstrates how the college is sharing information via multiple platforms. The next sabbatical report will also be asynchronous.

Student Focus

Finance Specialist, Shyla Hansen and Tinia Hansen, who teaches math at Cascadia, shared their experiences. Tinia came to work at Cascadia part-time while raising family. All six of her children participated in the Running Start program at Cascadia, and two of them worked at Cascadia. Shyla thinks her position in Finance is a great fit. She feels at home on campus since she has come there since childhood.

Comments/Questions:

President Murray reported that Shyla will serve as a facilitator of Classified Assembly, and by that position she will also serve as a Cascadia Navigator.

Tinia represents part-time faculty. Shyla will also serve on the search committee for the Vice President of Administrative Services.

Trustee Mike Kelly commented that he could relate to a family working together, that he found Tinia and Shyla's story heartwarming, and he encouraged them to keep up their good work.

Trustee Colleen Ponto expressed her thanks and appreciation. She agreed that the story of the family's support for each other was heartwarming.

Policy Review

President Murray is coordinating the review of the final third of Cascadia's Board policies and will provide those to the Board via email. The goal is to complete the review and discuss the results at the next meeting, November 17, 2021.

7. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS

Strategic Plan Byte

Five-year enrollment trends and the college's position for fall were presented.

Key points:

- Cascadia is still experiencing a downward trend in overall enrollment.
- Contracted enrollment is down 28.4 percent, while state supported enrollment is down 17.8 percent.
- The focus for fall is accessible education. Outcomes for students and employees will be reviewed in winter. An equity analysis is planned for spring.
- College and Career Foundations is a new unit in Student Learning that includes Adult Basic Education and English Language Programs combined.
- International student enrollment is down.
- The Running Start five-year delta is still positive. As more classes are added, Running Start will likely be more robust.
- The coronavirus pandemic is a complicating factor for students in the state supported

categories.

Five-year recovery plan and tenth day enrollment were reviewed.

- FTE for 2021 is down 22.9 percent.
- Fall enrollment is down 34.2 percent compared to pre-pandemic 2019.
- Students of color are mostly impacted as Cascadia has lost five years of enrollment growth with students of color over the last two years.
- Native American/Alaska Indigenous student enrollments have increased slightly and there are opportunities to explore with this community.
- Black and Hispanic and Asian Pacific Islander enrollments have reduced dramatically. Recruiting should involve families, mentors and community leaders.

Comments/Questions:

Dr. Levett clarified that the 21+ high school completion program is under College and Career Foundations.

How does Cascadia compare to other colleges in the Community and Technical College system?

Cascadia falls somewhere in the middle comparatively, with Bellevue College at the top. President Murray explained that middle is a good position because the state allocation likely will not change proportions.

Is it possible that some students who are in the “non-reporting” category for race/ethnic diversity could represent diverse populations?

Yes, it is possible.

Monthly Finance Report

The college’s financial picture was presented.

Key points:

- Expenses are down due to lower facilities costs, turnover savings, and lower numbers of sections offered.
- Winter quarter was first quarter data was available for the College in the High School program.
- Running start remains strong and the Bachelor of Arts programs are consistent.
- International student enrollment continues to trend down.
- \$21.5 million tuition revenue.
- It is unlikely the college will reach projected numbers at beginning of the year.

Comments/Questions:

It is likely that expenses will be greater than expected; however, even with decreased revenue, stimulus funds and the college’s reserves put the college in a stable position.

Cascadia College Foundation has authorized more money for enrollment incentive scholarships. One donor is helping with \$100 thousand. President Murray is pleased with the Foundation on these enrollment initiatives.

Student Learning has developed many enrollment initiatives and the Board will see a snapshot at the next meeting.

6. RECOMMENDED ACTION ITEMS

Transforming Lives Nomination

After careful consideration and review of all applicants, the Board has chosen to nominate Matt Wilson to represent Cascadia College for the Transforming Lives Award for 2021. The winning essay is included in the minutes for this meeting. Thank you to all the applicants who took the time to apply for this award. For those

students who were not chosen to represent Cascadia, the Board would like to extend a \$50 award to support your future higher education endeavors.

Discussion:

Trustee Janet McDaniel chose Matt Wilson's essay and remarked that all the stories are rich in content, and some are heart-wrenching. She appreciates the students sharing their stories and expressed her gratitude for the team who helps make them comfortable in the process.

Mike Kelly noted the tenacity and commitment to pursuit of higher ed in Matt Wilson's submission; he feels it fits in well with Cascadia's commitment to student success.

Vote/Adoption:

Chair Mike Kelly requested a motion. Trustee Colleen Ponto made a motion to approve the nomination of Matt Wilson. Trustee Janet McDaniel seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

7. REPORTS

Cascadia Events & Advocacy Board (EAB): Tamara Wood, Advocacy Board Chair was present and gave a brief report:

- The Jump Start event went well with 150 students participating.
- The ARC carnival also went well. This was the first big partnership with UWB.
- The students are eager to engage with each other and EAB is working to meet students where they are. Discord is a social media tool that EAB is utilizing and building a following.
- Discussion topics include the importance of voting in local elections ("Be vocal, vote local!" is the motto), mental health, and what it's like being on campus again.
- For information about upcoming events, please contact Tamara.

Cascadia Community College Federation of Teachers (CCCFT): Tenured Founding Faculty, David Shapiro was present and added a few comments to his written report:

- All three issues noted in the CCCFT written report have been resolved well.
- David has spoken to COVID-19 Response Manager, Shawna Pitts, to develop a better understanding of how COVID reporting works.
- All faculty this quarter submitted their vaccination verification or requested exemptions. David thanked the staff in Human Resources for following up diligently.

Comments/Questions:

David asked AAG Alan Smith to clarify for the record what would have happened had a faculty member missed the deadline. Alan affirmed that the faculty member would not have been immediately terminated but would have been placed on administrative leave without pay while the contractually agreed dismissal procedures were carried out.

Cascadia College Classified Union Washington Public Employees Association (WPEA) Report: No WPEA representative was present and there was no report.

Chair and Individual Board Members Reports:

No report.

President's Report:

The Board will have four trustees for a time, as Minerva Butler decided not to accept the appointment. This is also the final year for Trustee Janet McDaniel, which means the search will be for two trustees

- A decision about the modality for the Board's meetings through winter needs to be made at next month's meeting.
- Policy review homework will be sent to the Board tomorrow, for discussion at the next meeting.

- Hiring searches are underway, including the Vice President for Administrative Services. President Murray introduced Bill Sarceno, who has been hired to fill the role in the interim. He will overlap with Martin Logan to provide leadership for Finance, then take over the full portfolio in December. There should be some positive news to share by the end of this week about the staffing in Finance. Interviews were conducted to hire temporary Executive Assistants to help out over the next six months.
- City of Bothell approved an addendum to the agreement about a campus safety officer.
- Tomorrow, President Murray will host UWB Chancellor Kristin Esterberg, along with members of the five-star consortium and Bellevue College. President Murray reported that the relationship with newly appointed Chancellor Esterberg is going great and he will have more to share about that in upcoming meetings.

8. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

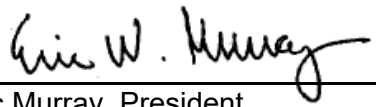
Chair Mike Kelly adjourned the regular meeting at 6:02 PM.

10. Minutes Approved and Adopted on November 17, 2021.



Mike Kelly, Board Chair

Attest:



Dr. Eric Murray, President
Bdminutes10202021

Transforming Lives Essay by Matt Wilson

I never did that well in school and was very anxious to get out. My experience in school was a struggle to say the least. College was something I tried and failed my first quarter when I was 18 and told myself I was never going back. I found quite a bit of success in the construction industry and was happy with the life it provided me. It was hard but rewarding.

In 2019 my wife and I had our Gracie, our second daughter and then surprise, in 2020 we had our 3rd daughter Abbey. Just before Gracie was born I suffered a pretty severe back injury that made any type of physical labor impossible and threatened the future security of my young family. I also just lost my dad to cancer and in June of 2019 and then in September of 2019 my older brother lost his battle with PTSD and took his own life.

Out of all this loss, chaos and uncertainty I decided I would face my fears and go back to school for computer networking in hopes of finding a new rewarding way to give my family the security they deserve. I wasn't sure if I could be successful in college as I mentioned I always struggled in school and am diagnosed ADHD. However, I learned to manage that the best I could over the years and thought if I ever have a chance at transitioning into a less labor-intensive career it's now.

I started at Cascadia in winter quarter of 2020 and I finish my AA at the end of winter quarter 2022. It has been quite an exciting journey. Through Cascadia's Computer Networking and Infrastructure AAS degree I have found a rewarding career path that has captured my intrigue and therefore has me looking forward to the challenges of the days to come. I'm currently employed part time while I finish school and plan to start my BS degree in d cybersecurity in the spring.

For 20 years I told myself that I could not be successful in college due to my ADHD and that I am very much a hands on learner and not much else sticks. I wish I would have done this when I was 18 instead of waiting for my life to catch fire as a 37-year-old grown man. It was necessary for me to overcome my fears and my long-reinforced beliefs about myself so I could see my true potential and find the motivation to make it a reality. The obstacles of education that I overcame were ADHD, low self-esteem, emotional loss and grief, dramatic life events like 2 babies back-to-back, 2 spine surgeries, the death of loved ones and a long deeply engrained track record of poor performance in school.

Now, I love the work that I do, I'm excited about pursuing a bachelors degree, I'll make more money that I used to and I have an increased sense of self worth due to almost completing my AAS. I am very pleased with the education I got and it turns out I have natural gifting that compliment this career choice. Which I just take as more confirmation I'm on the right track.