

REGULAR MEETING
GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 17, 2023
Study Session – 1:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – 2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. Paula Akerlund, Ms. Astrid Aveledo, Dr. Harry Carthum,
Ms. Aliza Esty, Mr. Jim Sayce

Members Absent: None

Others who participated: Ms. Kristy Anderson, Mr. Kwabena Boakye, Dr. Ed Brewster,
Ms. Lori Christmas, Mr. Derek Edens, Dr. Cal Erwin Svoboda,
Mr. Darin Jones, Mr. Justin Kjolseth, Mr. Tom Kuester,
Ms. Nicole Lacroix, Mr. Aiden McMurdo, Mr. Floyd Plemmons,
Ms. Sandy Zelasko

Study Session

Student Services Update

Dr. Erwin-Svoboda , VP for Student Services, presented an overview of the Student Services Division that includes: Advising & Counseling, Admissions & Entry Services, Financial Aid, Student Life, Athletics, Workforce Funding & Support Programs, Education Centers, TRIO Services, Bishop Center for Performing Arts, Gymnasium, Fitness Lab & Weight Room, Esports Arena, Food pantry, Diversity Center, Student Leadership, Welcome Center, Student support center.

Dr. Svoboda’s presentation focused on the following:

- Understanding the concepts GHC utilizes to maintain the optimum recruitment, retention and graduation rates.
- Identifying the frameworks processes and practices that inform our approach to enhancing educational access and student success.
- Sharing accomplishments and celebrations from last year and looking ahead to what’s on the horizon in 2023.

Dr. Carthum thanked Dr. Erwin-Svoboda for the informative report.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Dr. Carthum welcomed Board members and guests to the meeting. Roll was called and all members of the Board were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Erwin-Svoboda led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Land Acknowledgement

Dr. Carthum read the Land Acknowledgement.

IV. Agenda Adoption

It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

V. Public Comments

None

VI. Celebration

Dr. Brewster reported that this month's celebration is enrollment. Fall Quarter enrollment is even with last Fall Quarter and Winter quarter enrollment is a little over 13% up over this time last year. He said this improvement is due to marketing, outreach, Take a Class of Us, Student Services personnel, faculty, etc.

VII. Action Items

1. Approval of December 20, 2022 Minutes
It was moved and seconded to approve the December 20, 2022 Board minutes. Motion carried.
2. First Reading
Copies of the revised policies listed below were included in backup materials received prior to the Board meeting. They were approved to move forward for adoption by the Board at the February 21, 2023 Board meeting.
 - OP 640 Leave Combined
 - OP 685 Emeritus Status
 - OP 641 Accommodation Leaves Combined
3. Proposed Building Name
Dr. Brewster proposed that the Board of Trustees name the Automotive/Welding Building in honor of donors Pat and Mary Ellen Hughes. Over the past eighteen years they have donated \$1,927,000.00 to the Grays Harbor College Foundation in support of the Hughes Tools Program and World Class Scholars.
It was moved and seconded to name the Automotive/Welding Building after Pat and Mary Ellen Hughes. Motion carried. The exact name of the building will be confirmed after discussion with Mr. and Mrs. Hughes.

VIII. Information

IX. Standing Reports

- 1) Student Government Report (Mr. Aidan McMurdo)
Mr. McMurdo reported on recent student government activities and future ASGHC goals.
- 2) Classified Staff (Ms. Cara Beth Stevenson)
None
- 3) Exempt Staff Report (Ms. Lori Christmas)
Ms. Christmas reported there are several position vacancies, especially in the Student Services area. Staff are hoping they will be filled soon.
Represented exempt staff met with the faculty union executive board.
- 4) Faculty Report (Mr. Tom Kuester)
Mr. Kuester said he hopes there are opportunities for faculty and staff to connect more.

- 5) Administrative Services Update (Mr. Kwabena Boakye)
Mr. Boakye's report was included in backup materials received prior to this meeting.
Highlights included:
- Review of the Administrative Services area that includes Budgets, Business Office, Campus Operations, Procurement and Auxiliary Services.
 - The FY 2023-24 budget process has begun. The template for budget requests has been sent to budget managers.
 - Requests are due January 31 and will be reviewed by the President and the Executive Team.
 - Budget Planning is ongoing.
- 6) Instruction Update (Ms. Nicole Lacroix)
Ms. Lacroix's report was included in backup materials received prior to this meeting.
Highlights included:
- The remodeling of the Learning and Tutoring Center and TRIO, located on the lower level of the Library, is completed.
 - The development of Guided Pathways maps uncovered various barriers to retention and credential completion to address through the program review process.
 - Work continues on exploring diversity requirements in the curriculum.
 - The statement of need for a computer science program is scheduled to go to the State Board for approval February 2, 2023.
 - Applications for the nursing program opened January 1. Bachelor program applications will open by the end of January.
- 7) Student Services Update (Dr. Cal Erwin-Svoboda)
Dr. Erwin-Svoboda's report included the following:
- Update on enrollment
 - Efforts to increase enrollment including offering Take a Class on Us Winter Quarter, outreach, and marketing.
 - Update on Student Services Division: Food options, Library remodel, new personnel.
 - Upcoming performances at the Bishop Center.
 - Choker athletics
- 8) Human Resources (Mr. Darin Jones)
Mr. Jones' report included a review of the Human Resources Office functions, update on monthly supervisor training, employee benefit premium changes effective January 1, 2023, and information of the college's commercial insurance participation for 2022-23 from the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services, Office of Risk Management. Mr. Sayce asked who owns the buildings on campus. Mr. Kjolseth, AAG, responded that the state owns the buildings. The college is responsible for managing them.
- Ms. Aveledo asked about employee premium rates increasing. Mr. Jones responded that the college is very limited as to what can be done about the plans offered to employees. They are decided by the Public Employees Benefit Board. .

9) President's Update (Dr. Ed Brewster)

Dr. Brewster reported the following:

We are at 60% of our state funded enrollment. We have a long way to go to reach our allocated number. Several other colleges are having the same issue.

February 3rd is All College Day. Dr. Caprice Hollins will facilitate the meeting. The meeting will focus on efforts to continue DEI Training for employees mandated by the Legislature.

GHC will host a summit of Tribal leaders from our area the first week in April. It will be an opportunity to discuss our Native Pathways program and to hear from other colleges what they are doing to serve Tribal communities. The goal is to learn what we can do to better serve the Tribal communities.

There are plans underway to meet with the 19th District and 24th District Legislators to discuss GHC and system priorities.

a. SSIB Update (Mr. Floyd Plemmons)

Mr. Plemmons reported construction of the new building is progressing in spite of weather delays. There are plans to add nine additional parking spaces for accessible parking. Completion date is scheduled for Winter Quarter, 2024. Dr. Brewster said at the March Board meeting a proposal will be brought to be Board regarding furniture for the Boardroom. Dr. Carthum announced that at the March Board meeting the process for naming the new building will begin.

10) Board Report

a. Foundation Report (Ms. Astrid Aveledo)

Ms. Aveledo reported the naming campaign for spaces in the new building has raised \$405,000.00 to date. There are still spaces available.

The Foundation's Journey Campaign is underway and to date has raised \$64,0284.00.

The goal is \$200,000.00.

There are two Foundation Board members on the Board Art Committee.

b. Board Art Committee (Ms. Astrid Aveledo and Dr. Paula Akerlund)

Dr. Akerlund reported the Board Art Committee membership is almost complete. There are representatives from the college diversity committee, Pacific County and Grays Harbor County Art communities, Tribal, GHC Foundation and the college. Work continues on requests for proposals. Three meetings will be scheduled beginning in February. The process will culminate with the Board choosing one tribal art piece and one local art piece.

c. Presidential Search Committee (Dr. Paula Akerlund)

Dr. Akerlund reported that the Presidential Search Committee has reviewed the applications for GHC President and narrowed the list down to eight to ten candidates to forward to the consultants. From this group three candidates will be recommended as finalists to be interviewed by the Board.

d. Items of Interest

X. [Executive Session](#)

Under RCW 4230.110, an executive session may be held for the purpose of receiving and evaluating complaints against or reviewing the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or reviewing the performance of a public employee; consultation with legal counsel regarding agency enforcement actions, or actual or potential agency litigation; considering the sale or acquisition of real estate; and/or reviewing professional negotiations.

There was not an executive session.

XI. [Action items as a Result of the Executive Session.](#)

None

XII. [Good of the Order](#)

Ms. Aveledo expressed concern about safety on campus, including sexual violence, and mental health support. She stated that the data she was about to share reflected national trends and was not at all a statement on our campus or students. She said the issue of safety from sexual violence on college campuses deserves attention. She shared data on studies about sexual violence, recidivism, and specifically on college campuses.

(<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1077801219833820>).

She noted that according to these studies, 53% of sexual assaults are committed by repeat offenders. In the case of college campuses, the rate is much higher where 90% of sexual assaults are committed by repeat offenders. The vast majority of these cases are committed by student athletes and fraternity members compared to the general student population. She said that she was curious to hear the College's plan to create a campus culture that kept students safe from sexual violence and to know that we have some great local resources, including Beyond Survival, that can help us on that path.

Dr. Brewster responded that those are all valid concerns for the college to consider.

Mr. Edens reported the new phone system has been installed. For security and safety reasons there is a phone in every classroom.

Ms. Anderson reported the marketing department has been working with outreach and recruitment. Materials are in English and Spanish.

Ms. Christmas reported we currently have 218 high school seniors in the Running Start program. Current projections for earning degrees this year is 97 AA degrees for 92 students. Fourteen students have a 4.0 gpa.

Dr. Brewster announced that this year's graduation speaker will be Ms. Malia Marks. She is a GHC graduate, Harvard graduate, and graduated with honors this year from Cambridge. She is applying for the PhD program at Cambridge. Her mother is the assistant in the college's automotive program.

XIII. [Adjournment](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Dr. Ed Brewster, Secretary

Dr. Harry Carthum Chair

