



Yakima Campus

S. 16th Avenue & Nob Hill Boulevard, PO Box 22520, Yakima, WA 98907-2520

P: 509.574.6800 • www.yvcc.edu

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING/STUDY SESSION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE

February 9, 2023 4:00 p.m.

West Campus Conference Center 038-122, Meeting Room D

1704 W. Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima WA

Chair Arteaga called the special meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Trustees present were Chair Arteaga, Vice Chair Ortega, Trustee McClure, Trustee Baldoz and Trustee Cate by phone.

A. OIE Report & Annual Student Outcome Data.

Dr. Sheila Delquadri presented the OIE Report and Annual Student Outcome Data to the Board. A copy of the report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE

February 9, 2023 4:30 p.m.

West Campus Conference Center 038-122, Meeting Room D

1704 W. Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima WA

A. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests and New Employees

Board of Trustees Present

Cus Arteaga, Chair

Bertha Ortega, Vice Chair

Patrick Baldoz, Trustee

Dr. Sara Cate, Trustee (by phone)

Neil McClure, Trustee

Others Present

YVC Students

YVC Staff & Faculty

Introduction of Guests and New Employees. Alma Ramirez, Interim Executive Director HR, introduced Raven Bolen, Human Resource Consultant Assistant 2.

B. Proposed Changes to the Agenda. There were no changes to the agenda.

C. Approval of Minutes: Vice Chair Ortega moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2023 be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Trustee McClure and passed unanimously.

D. Action Items:

1. Exceptional Faculty Awards – Winter 2023

Dr. Ernst stated that the Washington State Legislature under RCW 28B.50.835 authorized an exceptional faculty award program to “foster partnerships by creating matching grant programs to assist public community and technical colleges in creating endowments for funding exceptional faculty awards.” In 1992, Yakima Valley College and the YVC Foundation agreed to participate in the program for exceptional faculty.

In 2001, in accordance with RCW 28B.50.843, the college negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the faculty union regarding the process for determining local awards from the Exceptional Faculty Awards fund invested by the YVC Foundation. The MOU reflected the division structure in place at that time.

The faculty union executive board and the college have agreed on a Faculty Development Committee that reflects the current division structure. The committee is composed of one dean, one Arts & Sciences faculty, one Workforce Education faculty, one College and Career Readiness faculty, one faculty counselor, and one librarian. This committee has received and reviewed ten (10) faculty proposals for winter 2023. The final recommendations are provided in the document submitted today for the board’s approval.

MOTION 23-02-01: Trustee McClure moved that the Board of Trustees adopt a motion to approve the recommended award amounts to the recipients as submitted by the Faculty Development Committee. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Ortega and passed unanimously.

2. Sabbatical Leave Recommendations

Dr. Kaminski stated that in accordance with our negotiated faculty agreement, a Faculty Sabbatical Leave Committee was convened to review requests for sabbatical leave. I have met with the Sabbatical Leave Committee and the successful applicants, and I am pleased to recommend to the Board of Trustees a two-quarter sabbatical for Dr. Amon Brock Eubanks and a one-quarter sabbatical for Mr. Dan Erickson.

Dr. Eubanks’ objective is to immerse himself in the study of economics of coffee and international trade to distill teachable constructs to support and enhance his current economics courses. Mr. Eubanks’ will explore in-person, coffee farms and plantations in Costa Rica to witness first-hand their cultivation of coffee and their business models for distribution and trade.

Mr. Erickson’s objective is take courses on memoir writing with a goal to write a book that satisfies his own desire of professionalism in writing while also documenting historic events in Washington State. The sabbatical would give him more education, insight, and real-world experience to teach writing and communication courses.

MOTION 23-02-02: Trustee Baldoz moved that the Board of Trustees approves, for the 2023-2024 academic year, a two-quarter sabbatical leave for Dr. Eubanks and a one-quarter sabbatical for Mr. Dan Erickson; provided that they negotiate contracts with the college covering the time frame for the leave and the activities to be conducted during and after the sabbaticals. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Ortega and passed unanimously.

E. Communications: There were no communications.

F. Reports

1. **Board of Trustees - Vice Chair** Ortega reported that she recently returned from the National Legislative Summit in Washington DC. She and Trustee Cate were able to meet with Senators Murray and Cantwell. She received a list of grant opportunities for YVC to explore. Dr. Cate shared that while they were initially only scheduled to meet with Congressman Newhouse's assistant they were able to meet briefly with the Congressman.
2. **Students-** Jessica Rodriguez, GSC President, shared information on several past events; January 10th Club Fair and the January 17th MLK Day. Additionally she discussed a couple upcoming events; February 14th Self Love Era and the February 21st Coffee with the Deans. Chair Arteaga thanked Jessica for attending the Grandview City Council meeting. A copy of the written report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.
3. **Classified Staff** – Michelle Perry, WPEA Representative, thanked Dr. Rich and Dr. Ernst for spending time on the Grandview Campus and she thanked Jeannette Quintero for her work on DEI. She is hopeful that YVC will continue this important work. Michelle discussed the issue of the rise of minimum wage and its effect on competitive wages for classified staff. She expressed a desire that all employees be paid fairly and a concern about understaffing issues in classified positions. She reiterated that WPEA stands in solidarity with the other unions for fair and competitive compensation.
4. **Professional Staff** – Ms. Hillary Emerson, AFT-YPS Professional Representative, recognized the new building construction as a testament to the administration's efforts to make a better environment for students. She indicated she was hopeful that administration would also likewise invest in its employees. Hillary expressed concern over the college hiring an "expensive" attorney for negotiations, not getting a proposal at the last meeting, and after nearly of year of negotiations hopeful that there will be a settlement for a fair contract.
5. **Faculty** – Ms. Rachel Dorn, AFT-Y Yakima President, expressed concerns over the college's historical process of non-renewal of "temporary" Special Faculty during the March board meetings. Ms. Dorn discussed concerns over bargaining; that YVC has not held a single bargaining meeting with faculty regarding Nurse Ed, high demand, or work conditions for IT faculty. She expressed concern over YVC hiring an attorney to bargain instead of Dr. Kaminski. Ms. Dorn raised concerns regarding a recent Title IX investigations. An AFT-Y representative hand delivered a sealed letter regarding this topic to each board member. A copy of the report to the Board is filed with these minutes in the president's office.
6. **Vice President for Administrative Services** – Dr. Teresa Rich discussed ctcLink updates in Campus Solutions, Finance, Financial Aid and Human Capital Management. Dr. Rich indicated that both the accountability audit and the financial statement audit are going well. Trustee McClure inquired if the issues with ctcLink financial aid were system wide or just at YVC. Dr. Rich indicated these issues are system wide. Dr. Rich hand delivered a copy of this month's YVC fiscal report to the Board. A copy of her report and the fiscal report are filed with these minutes in the president's office.
7. **Vice President for Instruction and Student Services** – Dr. Jennifer Ernst thanked Dr. Delquadri for her study session presentation. Dr. Ernst discussed some upcoming events hosted by the Library; February 23rd a poetry presentation and on March 1st a archive librarian presentation From Pioneers to Present Day. Dr. Ernst discussed the enrollment increases during the last two quarters, upcoming in person application and financial aid assistance events on both the Yakima and Grandview Campus', the re-opening of the Toppenish Learning Center and our Navigators have been invited to share their experiences in a web

presentation on February 23rd to the Education First Consortium. A copy of her report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.

8. **President –**

Community Relations Report – A copy of the report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.

Human Resource Activity Report – A copy of the report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.

President's Report - 1) Dr. Kaminski discussed an upcoming event on February 16th, Jamie Treat will be presenting on the Job Skills Program. 2) The President discussed a town hall she attended with the 13th district legislators. 3) Dr. Kaminski discussed the Governor's preliminary budget.

G. Call to the Public - The public is welcome to make comments on issues not on the agenda after being recognized by the chair. Comments will be limited to five (5) minutes or less. Trustees may ask questions of the speaker for clarification but generally will not discuss items that are not on the agenda. If appropriate, they may refer the subject to college staff for research or request an item be placed on a subsequent agenda.

Peggy O'Neil – stated she is in her 17th year as a nursing faculty; she expressed concerns with the challenges of low application pools, increased turnover. Peggy discussed the legislative nurse wage increases/stipends and how that has evolved into a lack of communication and delays that has been very stressful. She asked that the Board help insure a resolution.

John Menard – stated he is one of two special faculty slated for non-renewal in March. He talked about his reservations on speaking out but wanted to put a face to the issue. He has been working for more than four years; his supervisors have expressed their appreciation of his work. John stated he was previously paid with running start funds but there is no money to continue. He asked, if his work is so valuable to the college why can't funding be secured to keep him. He indicated he is worried that by speaking out there may be consequences for his future as a faculty member. He indicated he loves Yakima, loves YVC, both his parents taught at YVC, he hopes to continue to teach.

H. Date of Next Meeting— The next meeting will be Thursday, March 9, 2023.

I. Executive Session – No executive session was called.

J. Action Items – N/A

K. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

CUS ARTEAGA

Cus Arteaga, Chair

LINDA KAMINSKI

Attest: Linda Kaminski, Secretary