

**NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

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**A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held
on October 17, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
in the Robert Michael Sdao Memorial Board Room
at Niagara County Community College**

Board Members Present

Mr. Vincent Ginestre, Chairperson (arrived 4:45pm)
Mr. William Ross, Vice Chairperson
Ms. Gina Virtuoso, Financial Secretary
Mr. Jason Cafarella (arrived 4:55pm)
Mr. Bradley Rowles
Mr. Vincent Sandonato
Ms. Bonnie Sloma

Board Member Absent

Ms. Sheila Smith, Secretary
Ms. Katelynn DeLac, Student Trustee

Administration Present

William J. Murabito, Ph.D., Interim President
Ms. Deborah Brewer, Director of Foundation
Ms. Catherine Brown, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Luba Chliwniak, Officer in Charge
Barbara DeSimone, Acting Director of Public Relations
Mr. Michael Dombrowski, Director of Operations
Dr. Mary Jane Feldman, Director of Planning and Resources
Mr. Dennis Michaels, Chief Information Officer
Ms. Vicki Orzetti, Assistant Director of Human Resources
Mr. Robert McKeown, Interim Director of Admissions
Ms. Julia Pitman, Vice President of Student Services
Ms. Diane Roth, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs
Mr. William Schickling, Vice President of Finance/Information Technology
Mr. James Trimboli, Director of Financial Aid
Ms. Lydia Ulatowski, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs
Ms. Barbara Walck, Assistant to the President

Invited Guests Present

Ms. Cheryl Beyer, ESPA Union President
Mr. Joseph Colosi, Faculty Union President
Mr. Marc Pietrzykowski, Faculty Senate President

Chairperson Ginestre will be arriving late to the meeting, therefore, Vice Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and Trustee Rowles led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in respect for the men and women who are serving our country.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

No questions on the Consent Agenda, no quorum at this time.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Vice Chairperson Ross asked Board members if there were questions regarding the Information Items. The following items were received and filed: Grant Tracking Chart, Personnel Status Chart, Foundation Report, and Facilities Update.

Chairperson's Report

In the absence of Chairperson Ginestre, Vice Chairperson Ross stated tonight is the last night that Chairperson Ginestre will be in the role of Chairperson; he will be recognized upon his arrival tonight. Vice Chairperson Ross stated the new board member, replacing Trustee Ward has not been selected by Niagara County as of tonight. Vice Chairperson Ross stated that hopefully the officer nomination slate will take place in November. Vice Chairperson Ross introduced Interim President William J. Murabito. This being his second day at NCCC, Dr. Murabito briefly discussed several meetings he has attended. Also discussed the Middle States periodic review scheduled for early next year. He also discussed the in-state residence tuition offered to Puerto Rican and US Virgin Island students to attend NCCC. Vice Chairperson Ross thanked Dr. Luba Chliwniak for her service and work for the past six months as Officer in Charge.

Interim President Report

Acting Director Barbara DeSimone discussed the Gingerbread Wonderland for this holiday season, along with other activities in Niagara Falls offered to the public. Vice President Pitman discussed that the Admissions Office has extended their presence at Trott Center in Niagara Falls. Vice President Chliwniak stated with the change in accreditation standards, we now have to have institutional learning outcomes. Vice President Schickling discussed funding across the state and the need to develop an advocacy program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

There was no report.

Governmental Affairs

Trustee Ross stated the Niagara County Legislature will decide on a candidate as our new trustee in November.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Ginestre asked if Board members wanted any item removed from the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Trustee Sandonato and seconded by Trustee Rowles that the Board approve the Consent Agenda which included the Board Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2017, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, and Grant Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning/Facilities

Vice President Dombrowski provided an update of the Learning Commons with a Power Point presentation.

Construction seems to be on target with a completion date of June 2018.

Dr. Chliwniak provided an update on the timeline for the Middle States Review Report.

Resolution

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the extension of resident tuition rates for the 2017/18 academic year to undergraduate students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands who have been displaced by Hurricanes Maria and Irma and who are attending Niagara County Community College.

Resolution

Whereas a substantial number of students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been displaced as a consequence of Hurricanes Maria and Irma; and

Whereas the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has declared Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to be disaster areas in accordance with Major Disaster Declarations 4335, 4336, 4339 and 4340; and

Whereas the infrastructures of these island communities have been substantially undermined by these hurricanes; and

Whereas universities and higher education associations across the country are making efforts to assist students displaced by Hurricanes Maria and Irma in the most expeditious and humanitarian manner possible; and

Whereas Governor Cuomo has called upon SUNY to offer resident tuition rates to students displaced by these storms; and

Whereas the Niagara County Community College Board wishes to extend the benefit of resident tuition rates to students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands who have been displaced by Hurricanes Maria and Irma as a humanitarian response which acknowledges these students' *de facto* New York State residency status due to their inability to return home; now, therefore be it

Resolved that Niagara County Community College thus amends its guidelines governing residency for tuition purposes to make Niagara County Community College students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands who have been displaced by either Hurricane Maria or Irma eligible for resident tuition rates for the 2017/18 academic year.

Vincent R. Ginestre
Board Chairperson

It was moved by Trustee Ross and seconded by Trustee Rowles to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Sloma that the Board go into Executive Session under the provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss a previous staff member at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Rowles that the Board come out of Executive Session at 5:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel

The following Resolution was read by Trustee Cafarella:

Resolved, that, upon review during the immediately preceding executive session of the appeal from the disciplinary determination dated September 27, 2017 and the record of the hearing on that matter, the Board of Trustees of Niagara County Community College hereby accepts the September 27, 2017 disciplinary determination, which, consistent with Section VI(1)(d)(8) of the college's Conditions of Employment for Administrative Employees, constitutes the final decision in this matter.

It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Sandonato to approve the read resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

It was discussed that a survey be sent by Barb Walck pertaining to future board meeting schedules.

GOOD & WELFARE

There was no good and welfare.

It was moved by Trustee Ross and seconded by Trustee Sandonato to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Walck
Secretary