



Ratified at October 18, 2023 meeting

**Board of Trustees Meeting
September 20, 2023**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 3 PM in the Student Center Event Room.

Trustees Present:

Dr. LeRoy Mitchell, Chairperson, Dr. Norman Jacknis, Vice-Chairperson, Deborah Raizes Vice Chairperson, Clara Carnot, Susan Gerry, Esq., Hon. Lyndon Williams, Yolanda Howell, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Trustees Excused:

Robin Bikkal, Esq., Hon. John Nonna, Dr. Gregory Robeson Smith, Sergio Serratto.

Cabinet Members Present:

Dr. Belinda S. Miles, President, Dr. Vanessa Morest, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs, Dolores Swirin Yao, Vice President and Dean, External Affairs, Executive Director, WCC Foundation, Tere Wisell, Vice President and Dean, Community Education and Workforce Development, Anthony Scordino, Vice President, Information Technology, Dante Cantú, Vice President of Student Access, Involvement & Success.

Call to Order

Chairperson LeRoy Mitchell called the meeting to order.

Ratification of Minutes

Trustee Jacknis made a motion seconded by Trustee Gerry to ratify the minutes of the July 19, 2023, and July 31, 2023, Board meetings. The motion passed.

INFORMATION AND DECISION

A. President's Report

Dr. Belinda S. Miles reported:

Greetings

First meeting of the fall semester – Welcome – and greetings to our new Student Trustee, Clara Carnot – this is her first Board meeting – we thank her for serving the student body in this role.

Today is **Blue & Gold Day** – a day set aside each academic year to show our school spirit and to celebrate being *VikingStrong*. Activities are occurring on our main campus as well as at extension locations. Thanks to all who are supporting SUNY WCC with your blue and gold!

Another of our rituals celebrated each year occurred this morning – **Faculty Convocation**. Thanks to Presiding Faculty Senate Officer Kamil Hamaoui for setting aside this time to celebrate the start of the fall semester, acknowledge achievements of our colleagues, and to welcome our newest Viking employees to SUNY WCC. Thanks to Trustees Mitchell, Raizes, Nonna, and Robeson-Smith for being present at Convocation this morning.

Among the awards presented this morning were the prestigious SUNY **Chancellor Awards** for Excellence. Please join me in congratulating our colleagues:

- Naomi Dogani – Excellence in Classified Service
- Patrick Barrett – Excellence in Teaching
- George Keteku – Excellence in Faculty Service
- Maria Stalias-Mantzikos – Excellence in Scholarship & Creative Activities
- John Watkins – Excellence in Faculty Service

The fall semester is off to a very strong start.

Enrollment:

- Fall 2023 enrollment is 8,476, exactly the same compared to Fall 2022 during the same time. However, we see a 5.4% increase in full-time enrollment and a 1.8% increase in FTE.

SUNY News

- Chancellor Dr. John King attended our 9/11 Memorial before announcing from our campus the launch of the **SUNY Future of Healthcare Workforce Taskforce** convened to address the critical shortage of healthcare professionals. One goal is to take concerted steps to ensure the availability of a highly trained, diverse,

sustainable healthcare workforce. SWCC is a vital pipeline to closing the gap through educating or reskilling healthcare workers.

- We received a \$1.2M **SUNY Transformation grant** that will help the college expand its Viking ROADS program – which is nearly tripling graduation rates for beginning college students who participate in the program – by providing funds for an additional counselor and 3-year scholarships that provide a transportation and textbook stipends and financial gap scholarship for eligible students in need. The grant also provides extra support for students with disabilities through the hiring of a disabilities learning specialist. SUNY Westchester Community College is now nationally prominent for its successful student outcomes related to VIKING ROADS, which replicated with fidelity the only community college reform proven to double community college graduation rates (ASAP-the Accelerated Studies in Associate Degree Programs).
- As leader college, our ASAP team participated in the launch of the **ASAP|ACE National Replication Collaborative** hosted by CUNY. The Replication Collaborative work will be ongoing throughout the semester and beyond.

NSF Grant

- I am delighted to announce that the college was just awarded a \$3 million grant by the National Science Foundation to further the NSF's commitment to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and to increase the recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of students pursuing degrees in STEM at Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

Serving our community

- SUNY Westchester received designation as a NYS Department of Health approved Opioid Overdose Prevention site. This program, led by Dean Contreras, consists of in-person training with all attendees receiving a free Narcan response kit. Training is provided free of charge to all faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Year ahead

- Future is no more certain today than last year.
- MSCHE Self-Study - visits planned for this fall and next spring.
- Strategic Plan - we will be launching a new plan
- Focus on growing enrollment - strategic enrollment planning
- Focus on building partnerships and identifying new revenue streams

Dr. Miles then invited Dr. Vanessa Morest to introduce two new Deans who just joined Westchester Community College:

- Dr. Kalpana Jain – Dean, School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering
- Dr. Robert Mangione - Dean, School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

B. Board Chair's Report

Trustee Mitchell reported:

- Welcome to our new student trustee Clara Carnot.
- Congratulations to the faculty and staff who received awards this morning.
- The Board of Legislators approved the Westchester Community College budget in July.
- SUNY has also approved our budget.

C. Committees

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Carnot reported:

- Thank you for welcoming me.
- I plan to form a committee that will focus on disabilities.

Committee of the Whole

Trustee Mitchell reported:

The Committee of the Whole had discussion on the following:

- Reviewing the BOT evaluation
- Enrollment management process
- Highlights for fall
 - New scheduling
- Use of tech n enhancing enrollment for students
- Metrics for reporting to the BOT on benchmarks (student success, graduation rates)
- Succession planning
- Plaque with gavel for outgoing board chairs

Finance/Facilities

Trustee Mitchell reported:

The Finance committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Operating Forecast
- Capital Projects Update
- Contracts

Trustee Mitchell asked Dawn Gillins to go over the forecast for the month ending August 31, 2023.

Stewart Glass presented the contracts to the Board.

Resolution: Contract Ratification

WHEREAS, Westchester Community College is required to enter into agreements for the continued operation of the College; and

WHEREAS, the attached schedule represents those agreements approved by the College since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College hereby ratifies the aforementioned agreements.

<u>CONTRACT #</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR NAME</u>	<u>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
22-0240-506	Knightscope, Inc. Case Systems Inc. purchased by Knightscope, Inc. on or about 10/11/22.	Blue Phone maintenance and service.	10/1/21– 9/31/24	Case Systems Inc. Approved at BOT 9/22/21
24-0240-355	European American Decorative Painting Ltd.	Hartford Hall wallpaper and mural restoration.	9/25/23 – 12/31/23	\$8,750
24-0310-353	Angeliki Parashis	Provide Sign language interpreting service for students with hearing impairments dependent on non-verbal communication	9/1/23 – 8/31/24	NTE \$9,750 (\$65/hr) Federal mandate.
24-0310-354	Tracey D. Romanow	Provide Sign language interpreting service for students with hearing impairments dependent on non-verbal communication	9/15/23 – 8/31/24	NTE \$5,460 (\$65/hr) Federal mandate.

****Motion: Williams/Gerry – all in favor**

Resolution: Title Change for Vice President of Student Affairs

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the administration of SUNY Westchester Community College to add a professional service title to its unclassified title listing.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of SUNY Westchester Community College hereby authorizes the State University of New York to change the professional title of Vice President & Dean Student Personnel Services to Vice President of Student Affairs in the unclassified title listing for SUNY Westchester Community College.

****Motion: Williams/Gerry – all in favor**

Public Comment

Trustee Mitchell invited members of the community for public comment.

No public comment

The Chairperson convened an Executive Session under provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss personnel matters.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

****Motion: Jacknis/Gerry – all in favor**

Motion out of Executive Session

****Motion: Jacknis/Gerry – all in favor**

Adjournment

****Motion: Jacknis/Williams – all in favor**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for October 18, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda Howell

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Secretary, Board of Trustees