

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE**

**January 14, 2015**

**Trustees Attending:**

Fred Goldberg  
Irene Gonzales  
Keith Kessler  
David Nicandri  
Anne Proffitt  
Gretchen Sorensen  
James Wigfall  
Nicholas Wooten

**Staff Present:**

John Carmichael, Deputy to the President and Secretary to the Board  
Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Lee Hoemann, Vice President for College Advancement  
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Thomas L. Purce, President  
Amanda Walker, Associate Vice President for Advancement and Executive  
Director of The Evergreen State College Foundation  
Michael Zimmerman, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

**Others Present:**

Andrew Beattie, Staff Representative to the Board  
Jeff Beaulac, GSU Representative to the Board  
Abir Biswas, Faculty Representative to the Board  
Chris Hellstern, ZGF  
Jonathan Lindsay, Alumni Representative to the Board  
Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Kessler called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.. A quorum was present.

**Lecture Hall Renovation**

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley noted that renovation of the Lecture Hall building is included as a priority in the college's master plan. Director of Facilities Jeanne Rynne described the Governor's capital budget proposal for 2015-17, which includes funding for the project, as well as money for minor works preservation, predesign of a Seminar I renovation, and construction funding to renovate the Lab I basement.

Ms. Rynne said that the college has proposed using a General Contractor Construction Manager (GCCM) process for the Lecture Hall project, which enables the college to engage the contractor earlier in the process, which should minimize the need for change orders later in the process.

Chris Hellstern, from ZGF, reviewed the goals of the project, which include right-sizing the teaching areas, improving accessibility, and upgrading structures and systems. Construction documents are now in development. If funding is forthcoming, construction could begin this summer and finish in the Spring of 2016. Trustees asked questions about how the new spaces and furnishings would support student life on campus.

### **Legislative Update**

Director of Government Relations reviewed the Governor's operating budget proposal. President Purce described the Council of Presidents' legislative agenda, which seeks \$198 million in new funding for the public baccalaureate institutions.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Kessler announced that the board would move into executive session to discuss collective bargaining and the qualifications of applicants for public employment. He said that the board would return to an open meeting at 1:00 p.m. The board returned to an open meeting as scheduled.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Kessler invited public comment. Anne Friedman, director of Evergreen's gallery addressed the board about funding for the gallery. She said that a group of students concerned that funding for the gallery will run out at the end of the year had collected signatures on a petition seeking the board's support to continue the gallery program. Those students had academic obligations that prevented them from addressing the board directly, so Ms. Friedman delivered the petition on their behalf.

### **Presidential Search**

Mr. Nicandri spoke as a member of the Presidential Search Disappearing Task Force, giving credit to DTF Chair Sarah Pedersen and to search consultants. He said that the DTF had done a thorough and fair job of vetting applicants for the presidency.

He moved that four candidates be advanced as finalists for the position and invited to interview on campus:

#### **Motion 2015-01**

Mr. Nicandri moved that four applicants for the presidency be advanced as finalists for the position and invited to campus interviews:

**George Bridges, PhD**, is President of Whitman College and previously served as Dean and Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education at the University of Washington. He holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania (PhD, Sociology, and MA, Criminology) and from the University of Washington (BA, Sociology).

**Rhona Free, PhD**, is Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Eastern Connecticut State University where she previously served as Director of the Center for Educational Excellence and as a Professor in the Department of Economics. She holds degrees from University of Notre Dame (PhD and MA, Economics) and Sarah Lawrence College (BA).

**Margaret Madden, PhD**, is Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at State University of New York at Potsdam, where she is also a tenured Professor of Psychology. She holds degrees from University of Massachusetts, Amherst (PhD, Psychology, and MS, Psychology) and University of Wisconsin, Madison (BA, Psychology).

**Luis Pedraja, PhD**, is Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Antioch University Los Angeles. His previous professional appointments include Vice President of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. He holds degrees from University of Virginia (PhD, Philosophical Theology and Religious Studies), The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div, Theology), and Stetson University (BA, Religion).

The motion was seconded and approved on a voice vote.

### **Strategic Planning**

Michael Zimmerman, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, distributed a draft strategic plan. He invited Trustees to read the plan and provide comments. The draft is also being distributed to the campus community for comment. Dr. Zimmerman highlighted new features in this draft of the plan, including sections on the plan's vision and commitments. After comments are received, another draft of the plan will be presented to the Board for its consideration. Trustee Sorensen invited the Board to consider whether the plan is bold enough and whether the proposed goal related to revenue and enrollment ought to be separated into two goals.

### **Collective Bargaining**

**Motion 2015-02** Dr. Gonzales moved to appoint the following staff to conduct collective bargaining with the Student Support Services Staff Union (SSSSU):

- Neil Bowerman, Director of Labor Relations
- Andy Corn, Executive Associate to the Vice President for Student Affairs
- Kelly Lundy, Assistant Director for Residential Life
- Sara Martin, Interim Director, Student & Academic Support Services (SASS).
- Sarah Mealy, HR Representative
- Sharon Storer, Assistant Director, Human Resource Services

The motion was seconded and approved on a voice vote.

### **Audit Committee Report**

Dr. Gonzales reported that the board's Audit Committee had met with the Internal Auditor earlier in the day. They discussed follow-up on previous audits, the auditor's annual risk assessment and audit plan, and the state auditor's audit plan.

**Motion 2015-03** Dr. Gonzales moved to approve the Internal Auditor's annual audit plan. The motion was seconded and approved on a voice vote.

## **Minutes**

**Motion** Ms. Proffitt made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board's November meeting.  
**2015-04** The motion was seconded and approved on a voice vote.

## **Student Trustee Report**

Mr. Wooten reported on a Martin Luther King Day conference co-sponsored by Evergreen and South Puget Sound Community College. He described the pilot phase of the clean energy initiative and efforts to direct student dollars to support academic activities. He noted that he had asked for the issue of student votes to be placed on the Board's agenda. He said that students want their votes to be taken seriously. He said that students are excited about the presidential search.

## **President's Report**

President Purce invited Abir Biswas to report as the faculty representative to the board. Dr. Biswas described two recent faculty votes. The faculty seeks paid, half-time release from teaching for the faculty member assigned each year to the Council of Faculty Representatives. Because that vote concerns matters reserved for collective bargaining, it is advisory to the administration and the United Faculty of Evergreen. The faculty is also concerned about the status of faculty searches that were suspended during last year's budget cuts. They voted to put those positions into the hiring priorities process for future hires. Finally, he noted that there is much faculty discussion about the presidential search. The faculty Agenda Committee is meeting to talk about what questions to ask candidates.

President Purce invited Jonathan Lindsay to report as the alumni representative to the board. Mr. Lindsay reported that 100 people have signed up for the newly launched Alumni and Friends of Evergreen organization. The goal is to sign up 500 people in the first year. The group is excited about engaging in some legislative advocacy and plans a reception on January 28. The group also has plans to engage in mentoring of current students and fundraising.

President Purce invited Jeff Beaulac to report as the Geoduck Student Union representative to the board. Mr. Beaulac said that the GSU revised its bylaws to create a leadership structure. The group has sponsored a "know your rights" workshop and a sexual violence policy forum. They plan to focus next quarter on tuition. He noted that the GSU has no events budget and will be working with the Services and Activities Fee Allocation Board on this issue. He said that the GSU is focused on outreach and community-building as its contribution to improving student retention.

President Purce invited Andrew Beattie to report as the staff representative to the board described a mixture of excitement, curiosity, and fear about the presidential search. He said that the staff wants to be involved in the process.

President Purce asked Lee Hoemann, Vice President for College Advancement, and Amanda Walker, Amanda Walker, Associate Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of The Evergreen State College Foundation, to provide an update. Ms. Hoemann described Advancement activities, including travel to meet alumni and supports around the country. Ms.

Walker reported that the Foundation has reached 66% of its annual fundraising goal and is \$200,000 ahead of where it was last year at this time. She noted the Art of Living dinner and auction on February 28.

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Keith Kessler, Chair

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Anne Proffitt, Secretary