



**the evergreen
state college**
olympia, washington

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

July 12 and 13, 2016

Trustees Attending:

Fred Goldberg
Irene Gonzales
Rhianna Hruska
Keith Kessler
David Nicandri
Anne Proffitt
Gretchen Sorensen

Absent: James Wigfall

Staff Present:

George Bridges, President
John Carmichael, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board
Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Director of Planning and Budget
Wendy Endress, Vice President for Student Affairs
Sharon Goodman, Director of Residential and Dining Services & Recreation
and Athletics
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Michelle Ma, Chief Communications Officer
Ken Tabbutt, Interim Provost
Jeanne Rynne, Director of Facilities
Amanda Walker, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of
The Evergreen State College Foundation

Others Present:

Brant Eddy, Staff Representative to the Board
Tom Angier, Assistant Attorney General

July 12, 2016

Ms. Sorensen called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.. A quorum was present. She announced that the Board would move into executive session to discuss the performance of a public employee and would return to an open meeting at 10:30 a.m.

The Board returned to an open meeting as announced. The Board discussed the draft strategic plan, the president's goals, and the Board's priorities. No action was taken.

July 13, 2016

Ms. Sorensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.. A quorum was present. She announced that the Board would move into executive session to discuss the performance of a public employee and would return to an open meeting at 10:30 a.m. The Board returned to an open meeting as announced.

Adoption of Minutes

Motion Mr. Nicandri moved approval of the minutes of the June meeting. The motion was
2016-17 seconded and passed on a voice vote.

President's Report

President Bridges reported on his activity since the previous meeting.

Capital Projects

Director of Facilities Jeanne Rynne reported that the final budget estimate for the previously approved pre-design for renovation of the Seminar I building exceeded the project parameters. The intent was to develop a project that would not exceed \$23.7 million. The final estimate was \$31 million. Ross Whitehead of Schreiber Starling & Lane explained that some soft costs were missing from the original cost calculation. The design previously approved included an option that would confine the project to the existing footprint of the building. This option preserves the original \$23.7 million budget.

The Board discussed the Housing Master Plan previously presented to the Board. Ms. Proffitt asked about the flexibility of the College's plans. If demand for single units is less than anticipated, will the new construction be adaptable? Director of Residential and Dining Services Sharon Goodman responded affirmatively. Mr. Nicandri said that he supported approval of the proposed master plan, but reserved the right to re-visit the proposed placement of new first-year residence halls. He asked for further discussion of this issue as the plan is executed. He also said that students have clearly expressed a desire for more community and commercial services on campus or nearby. He said that potential sites for these services should be identified in the master plan.

Motion Mr. Nicandri moved approval of the proposed residential master plan with the current
2016-18 site of Modular housing identified as a potential future site for commercial development to provide community services. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Director of Facilities Jeanne Rynne reviewed the 10-year capital plan previously presented to the Board. In response to previous Trustee comments, the text for the Geoduck House project was made more descriptive. Mr. Nicandri noted that the new 10-year capital plan showed a later date for renovation of athletic fields. Ms. Rynne said that this reflected the fact that the Costantino Recreation Center renovation would occur later than originally envisioned.

Motion Ms. Proffitt moved approval of the proposed 10-year capital plan. The motion was
2016-19 seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Operating Budget Request

Director of Planning and Budget Lisa Dawn-Fisher presented a recommended framework for the College's 2017-19 operating budget request, which must be submitted to the Governor's Office of Financial Management and to the legislature in mid-September. She said that the request would seek maintenance level funding for the state-funded portion of the operating budget and would seek enhancements representing less than a 10% increase. Enhancements would be sought in six major areas: compensation, plant maintenance and operations, STEM/high demand fields, teacher preparation, faculty/staff development, and student success.

Motion Mr. Kessler moved approval of the proposed framework for the 2017-19 operating
2016-20 budget request. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Executive Session

Ms. Sorensen announced that the Board would move into executive session to evaluate the performance of a public employee. She said the Board would return to an open meeting at 11:00 a.m. The executive session was extended by announcement from the chair to 11:05, at which point the Board returned to an open meeting.

Chair's Report

Ms. Sorensen provided a brief report on the Board's planning retreat. She said that the alignment between the Board, the President, and the College's executive leadership was good.

She invited Rhianna Hruska to report as Student Trustee. Ms. Hruska said that during her tenure, she hopes to bridge the gap between graduate and undergraduate programs and to work on issues of student safety, including improvements in campus lighting and perhaps a safety escort program.

Annual Evaluation of the President

Ms. Sorensen said that the Board had evaluated the President's performance in executive session. She said that the Board could not be more pleased with Dr. Bridges's performance in his first year. The Board sees him as a change agent, making an impact both internally and externally, and building a solid foundation for the College's future. Going forward, the Board looks forward to working with him on strategic planning, student recruitment and retention, diversity and equity, fundraising, legislative relations, and strategic communications.

Motion Ms. Proffitt made a motion to record the Board's positive evaluation of President
2016-21 Bridges's performance and express confidence in his leadership. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Ms. Sorensen proposed to amend and restate the President's employment contract, extending the term of the contract one additional year to June 30, 2021, providing a 1.8% salary increase, and changing the timeline for future evaluations.

Motion Dr. Gonzales made a motion to amend and restate the President's contract as proposed.
2016-22 The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Dr. Bridges thanked the Board for its support and credited the staff, faculty, and students with the College's success over the past year.

President's Report

Dr. Bridges invited Vice President for Advancement Amanda Walker to provide an update on fundraising. Ms. Walker congratulated the Board on achieving 100% participation in giving last year. She reported that Fiscal Year 2016 was the most successful fundraising year in the Foundation's history. The Foundation's goal of \$2.8 million in income was surpassed. Pledges payable in future years totaled \$2.4 million, the highest level in the College's history, a level 50% higher than the most successful prior year.

Dr. Bridges invited Brant Eddy to report as the staff representative to the Board. Mr. Eddy said that graduation had been successful for staff. He said that the energy and interest that Dr. Bridges brought to Evergreen has inspired many conversations across campus about how to make things work better.

Public Comment

Ms. Sorensen invited public comment. Robert Gorrill addressed the Board, reading a letter from Students for Justice In Palestine commenting on the administration's response to the student vote. He called on the College to be transparent in its bidding processes, to honor the student vote to ban Caterpillar equipment from campus, and to support student work for Palestinian sovereignty.

Richard Schwartz

Mr. Goldberg noted the passing of Richard Schwartz, who served at Evergreen from 1980 to 1985, including two years as Interim President.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Gretchen Sorensen, Chair

Dave Nicandri, Secretary