

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

**June 11, 2009**

**Trustees attending:**

Carver Gayton  
Kristin Hayden  
Denny Heck  
Keith Kessler  
Brittany Newhouse  
Anne Proffitt  
Paul Winters

**Representatives to the Board:**

Alexandre Chateaubriand, Geoduck Student Union Representative  
Jennifer Commodore, Alumni Association Representative  
John McLain, Staff Representative

**Staff present:**

John Carmichael, Executive Assistant to the President  
Andy Corn, Assistant Director of Student Activities  
Art Costantino, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Lee Hoemann, Vice President for College Advancement  
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Tom Mercado, Director of Student Activities  
Hudson Muñoz, S&A Board Coordinator  
Collin Orr, Director of Business Services  
Thomas L. Purce, President  
Paul Smith, Director of Facilities  
Steve Trotter, Executive Director of Operational Planning and Budget

**Others present:**

Colleen Warren, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Trustee Paul Winters called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. in the Library Building, Room 3201, of The Evergreen State College. A quorum was present with Trustees Gayton, Hayden, Heck, Kessler, Newhouse, Proffitt and Winters attending.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Winters announced that the Board would move to executive session to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease as allowed by the Open Public Meetings law. He said that the Board would return to open public meeting at 10:00. The executive session was twice extended by the announcement of the chair, and the Board returned to open public meeting at 10:20.

**Capital Update**

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley introduced Director of Business Services Collin Orr. Mr. Orr provided an update on the sale of bonds to finance the renovation of the College Activities Building. Mr. Orr said that the bond sale achieved the college's goals. The state Treasurer sold bonds at a rate of 5.15 percent, and the college will realize net proceeds of \$12,800,000 for the project.

**Services and Activities Fee Allocation Recommendations**

Vice President for Student Affairs Art Costantino introduced Director of Student Activities Tom Mercado, Assistant Director Andy Corn and Services and Activities (S&A) Fee Allocation Board Coordinator Hudson Muñoz.

Mr. Muñoz described the proposed S&A fee increase: a 3% increase in 2009-10 and a 2% increase in 2010-11. Vice President Art Costantino said that he supported the recommendation. Mr. Mercado noted that the proposed budget includes \$465,000 reserved for next year's S&A board to allocate to Tier II student organizations for the second year of the biennium.

Vice President Costantino also noted the recent student elections. The election selected representatives for next year's Geoduck Student Union (GSU). The election also included several referendums and amendments to the GSU constitution. Referendums passed calling for divestment from Bank of America, the legalization of marijuana, and the creation of a student transportation board to oversee student transportation fees. Students also voted in favor of reinstating the WashPIRG fee. Under GSU rules, a referendum passes if 25% of eligible students vote on an referendum and a majority of those voting support the referendum. A proposed new GSU constitution was also on the ballot and failed by that standard. Several amendments to the current constitution passed.

### **Operating and Capital Budget Recommendation**

President Purce said that the college faces a 7% reduction in state support, which will return the college to 1999 funding levels. Without the proposed tuition increases, cuts would be considerably worse without a tuition increase. The college is taking steps to strengthen financial aid programs, reserving 20% of the additional tuition revenue to offset increases for needy students. President Purce said that after the Board approves a budget, the college would need approximately 45 days to carry out the layoffs included in the proposal.

Executive Director of Operational Planning and Budget Steve Trotter recalled that the Board had a daylong work session in May to review the draft budget proposals. He said that the recommendation before the Board includes all operating funds, including tuition, Services and Activities fees, Housing and Dining fees, and Health and Counseling Fees. He noted the college faces the largest fiscal reduction in its history.

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley described the recommended capital budget for the 2009-11 biennium, which includes a \$17,920,000 spending plan and \$6,790,000 in reappropriations from the current biennium. Director of Facilities Paul Smith described plans to implement the proposed budget.

Geoduck Student Union Representative to the Board, Alexandre Chateaubriand, distributed information from the Washington Student Lobby regarding the pitfalls of "high-tuition/high aid" systems for higher education.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Winters invited public comment. Seven people signed in for public comment and spoke to the Board: Stephanie Hurlburt, Ben Anderson, Kate Savkovich, Anna Simonton, Christopher Rotondo, Ciatlin McNulty and Bruce Wilkinson. Bonnie Kramer and Tez Stair also spoke during the Public Comment period. All those speaking opposed the proposed tuition increase. Additional comments included:

- It is unreasonable in a contracting economy to ask students to pay more and provide fewer services.
- The Board should consider ratifying only the tuition increase for the first year of the biennium.
- The college should provide a more explicit line item explanation of the budget.
- The Board should commit to re-funding programs that are cut as soon as possible.
- The college should lobby for a corporate and personal income tax.
- The college should begin working actively toward self-operated food service.

- The college should study the feasibility of decommissioning the police force.
- The Board should include three more student members.
- The proposed tuition increase will reduce the diversity of students.
- The proposed increases place an unacceptable burden on students and their families.
- The transparency of the budget process and opportunities for student involvement have been inadequate.
- The proposed budget fails to live up to the state's commitment to subsidize the education of resident students.

### **Tour of the Center for Creative and Applied Media**

Peter Randlette, Head of Electronic media, led the Trustees on a tour of the newly renovated Center for Creative and Applied Media. The meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

### **The Evergreen State College Foundation**

Vice President for College Advancement Lee Hoemann introduced the Vice Chair of The Evergreen State College Foundation Board of Governors, Craig Chance. Mr. Chance reported on the Foundation's activities over the past year. He noted that the Foundation's assets decreased 27% due to falling investments. He gave credit to the staff for working to protect assets where possible and for redoubling efforts to get contributions. The Foundation Board looked closely at its investment strategy and exercised frugality in spending money. Mr. Chance highlighted several accomplishments: the publication of the Evergreen magazine, a check for \$10,000 from the Cargill Foundation, and an increase in giving from faculty and staff. He noted the importance of giving by the college's Board members and urged Trustees to attend the planned October 11 auction.

### **Services and Activities Fee Budget for 2009-11**

Tom Mercado, Director of Student Activities summarized the staff recommendation discussed earlier in the day.

#### **Motion 2009-12**

Mr. Kessler made a motion to:

- a) Approve the 2009-2011 Services and Activities Fee biennial budget as developed by the Services and Activities Fee Allocation Board, totaling \$5,558,306.
- b) Approve an increase in the Services and Activities Fee of three percent for 2009-2010.
- c) Approve an increase in the Services and Activities Fees of two percent for 2010-2011.

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Operating Budget for 2009-11**

Executive Director for Operational Planning and Budget Steve Trotter summarized the budget recommendations previously presented to the Board.

The Board discussed the recommendation. Ms. Newhouse said that, although she was impressed by the collaborative work done in developing the recommendation, she would not support it. She said that the proposed tuition increase was too much and expressed concern for the ability of future students to afford tuition and for the effect on the college's diversity. The other Trustees each spoke about the proposal, each indicating in turn that they intended to support the recommendation. Trustees noted that the economic situation is very difficult, that the budget reduction given to the college is potentially harmful in

many ways, that additional harmful cuts would be necessary if tuition were not increased, and that the decision to increase tuition is painful.

**Motion  
2009-13**

Mr. Heck made a motion to approve the proposed 2009-11 operating budget, including:

1. Implement a \$158,219,000 operating budget spending plan for all areas of the college; and
2. Increase resident undergraduate tuition levels by 14% per year; and
3. Increase non-resident undergraduate and resident graduate tuition levels 5% per year (non-resident graduate tuition levels will remain un-changed); and
4. Utilize 20% of the net revenue from tuition increases to increase the size of the Evergreen's student aid program; and
5. Increase the Student and Activities fee by 3% in 2009-10 and by 2% in 2010-11; and
6. Increase Housing Rates by an average of 5% per year; and
7. Increase Dining Plans by an average of 7% per year; and
8. Increase the Community Health and Counseling Fee by 25% in 2009-10 and by 14% in 2010-11; and
9. Charge a \$2 fee to participate in the Washington Student Lobby; and
10. Implement a \$4,188,450 (7.9%) college wide budget reduction plan (see attached); and
11. Apply \$1,185,719 of college one-time reserves to bridge the larger cut levels in the first year of that biennium over the second year; and
12. Create a \$586,926 Hold-back Reserve for 2010-11; and
13. Allocate resources sufficient to annualize the exempt compensation plan implemented part way through the current year; and
14. Allocate resources sufficient to increase Faculty compensation levels by 1% per year as previously collectively bargained

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Capital Budget for 2009-11**

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley recommended approval of the proposed 2009-11 capital budget. He thanked Director of Facilities Paul Smith and Director of Government Relations Julie Suchanek for their work to obtain funding for the college's capital programs.

**Motion  
2009-14**

Ms. Proffitt made a motion to approve the proposed 2009-11 capital budget spending plan, including \$17,920,001 for 2009-11 and reappropriations from 2007-09 of \$6,790,000. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Delegation for Tacoma Lease**

**Motion  
2009-15**

Mr. Kessler made a motion to

- a) Approve the lease extension for the Tacoma Campus, 1210 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tacoma, Washington 98405 for the period December 1, 2010 to November 30, 2015, at a rate of \$25.00 per square foot per year (\$816,298.65 per year).
- b) Authorize the Director, Department of General Administration (or designee) to execute the lease extension on behalf of the College as per paragraph 8 of the existing lease. Delegate authority to the President (or his designee) to sign and approve the terms of the Lease Extension for the Tacoma Campus.

The motion was seconded. During discussion of the motion, Mr. Heck expressed concern about the cost of the lease and said that the lease would be made more palatable if the college began working to find a permanent location for the Tacoma program. Mr. Kessler made a motion (2009-16) to amend the motion to:

- c) Direct staff to look for a permanent home for the Tacoma program before the end of the 5-year lease period.

The amendment was seconded and passed on a voice vote. The amended motion passed on a voice vote.

### **Minutes**

#### **Motion 2009-17**

Ms. Newhouse made a motion to adopt the minutes of the May meeting with corrections. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Nominations Committee**

#### **Motion 2009-18**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ms. Proffitt moved to appoint Paul Winters as Chair, Keith Kessler as Vice Chair, and Anne Proffitt as Secretary for the 2009-10 year. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Chair's Report**

Mr. Winters reported that he had individual discussions with several Trustees about the agenda for the Board's annual retreat. He distributed a potential list of topics that emerged from those phone conversations. He said that he hoped that as an outcome of the retreat, a Board member would take leadership responsibility for each topic identified. Mr. Winters said that he would be forced to miss the July meeting and asked Vice Chair Kessler to chair the meeting. The Board discussed postponing the retreat until Mr. Winters is able to attend.

Ms. Hayden reported as Trustee Representative to the Board of Governors. She encouraged Trustees to plan to attend the October 11 fundraising event and to sponsor tables or encourage others to attend. She also urged the Board to ensure that all Trustees contribute to the college before the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

### **Report from the Student Trustee**

Ms. Newhouse said that she had no report to add to her comments earlier in the meeting. Mr. Winters thanked Ms. Newhouse for her service to the college, and President Purce presented her with a gift on behalf of the Board.

### **President's Report**

President Purce invited Jennifer Commodore to report as Alumni Representative to the Board. Ms. Commodore said that the Alumni Association would be involved in all the graduation events in Olympia and Tacoma. She displayed the new design for Evergreen license plates. She reported that the Alumni Board has 85% participation in annual giving and plans to reach 100% participation by June 15. She said that Alumni night at Safeco Field will coincide with the Jackie Robinson Scholarship ceremony on August 7.

President Purce invited John McLain to report as Staff Representative to the Board. Mr. McLain said that the staff mood is somber given the difficult budget year, but that graduation is also a time of collective pride. He presented a list of statistics illustrating the many staff contributions to the life of the college, and noted the retirement of several long-serving members of the staff, including Sue Bruner; Fred Swift, Dale Baird, Alley Hinkle, Jane Pooley, Robert Payne, Betty McGovern and Wendy Sorrell.

President Purce invited Alexandre Chateaubriand to report as Geoduck Student Union Representative to the Board. Mr. Chateaubriand said that this would be his last meeting. He noted that the year has been extraordinarily challenging for the college, and expressed pride in the student government, noting that it will continue to face challenges in the next year. He thanked the Board and the Geoduck Student Union for the opportunity to serve.

President Purce said that his self-evaluation was published on the Web and distributed by e-mail on June 10. The Board's policy is to judge the President by the performance of the college as a whole. He invited input and responses to his self-evaluation. He also summarized recent events and future plans on his calendar.

### **Appointment of Emeritus Faculty**

Academic Dean Eddy Brown on behalf of the faculty recommended that the Board confer the title of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on Joe Feddersen, Russell Fox, Joye Hardiman and David Marr.

**Motion 2009-19** Ms. Hayden made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-02 appointing Joe Feddersen Faculty Emeritus. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion 2009-20** Mr. Heck made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-04 appointing Joye Hardiman Faculty Emeritus. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion 2009-21** Mr. Gayton made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-05 appointing David Marr Faculty Emeritus. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion 2009-22** Ms. Newhouse made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-03 appointing Russell Fox Faculty Emeritus. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

The Academic Deans presented a gift to each of the new Emeritus Faculty members and Mr. Winters invited the recipients to say a few words.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Winters adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

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Paul Winters, Chair

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Anne Proffitt, Secretary

attachments: Resolution 2009-02  
Resolution 2009-03  
Resolution 2009-04  
Resolution 2009-05