

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

Thursday, September 6, 1990  
Daniel J. Evans Library  
Olympia, Washington

**Trustees Attending:** Kay M. Boyd  
Herbert Gelman  
Lila S. Girvin  
Richard S. Page (by phone)  
Constance W. Rice  
Carol Vipperman  
Allan M. Weinstein (by phone)

**Others Attending:** Keith Eisner, Director of Information Services  
Mike Grant, Assistant Attorney General  
Jane Hadley, Seattle P. I.  
Patrick Neary, The Olympian  
Joseph Olander, President  
Bob Partlow, Gannett News Service  
Rita Sevcik, Administrative Assistant to the President  
and Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Brad Shannon, The Olympian  
Hal Spencer, Associated Press  
Mike Wark, Information Services Specialist  
See permanent roster for others attending

The adjourned special meeting, continued from August 29, was called to order by Chair Boyd at 7:00 PM. After establishing a quorum, Trustees immediately recessed into executive session to review the performance of public employees. Trustees Page and Weinstein joined the meeting on a speaker telephone conference call.

At 11:15 PM, Trustees reconvened in open session.

**RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT - Action**

Prior to Trustee action, President Olander made the following statement, which is reproduced in its entirety for the record.

"There is one word that pretty much describes the Board's and my discussion tonight. That word is monosyllabically, 'enough.' The madness has got to stop. Just enough. I want to thank the Board for the confidence it showed in me at the public meeting in August by extending my contract until January 14, 1994. But I also want to say that the contract is something that has not been particularly on my mind the last week. The madness at Evergreen must stop. I think I have the capacity to stop it by submitting my resignation to the Board of Trustees. I want to make very clear why I am submitting my resignation. I am submitting it to the Board in the best interests of the College, and the best interests of this Board. I am submitting my resignation, in addition, under duress, but not duress from this Board, or from my faculty, but from the

duress imposed upon my Board, my faculty, my staff, my student body, myself, and my family by the local newspaper in this community. I feel very strongly that a free press is quintessentially important to an active, healthy democracy; but I feel strongly and passionately that there can be no freedom without responsibility. And one of the things that is most injurious to an active healthy democracy is an irresponsible press. The press coverage of this College's activities and of me the last year-and-a-half have injured myself, my wife, my friends, this College, this Board. And that's why the madness has to stop. I want to thank each of you for your confidence, your cooperation, for the courage you've shown since I've been President. We've achieved a lot and could have achieved a lot more, were it not for the deflection for all of our energies on the consequences of an irresponsible, local newspaper. And so I'm very, very happy in that sense, to be the one who can stop the madness. I tender my resignation voluntarily, in the best interests of this College."

**Motion** Mrs. Girvin moved to accept Dr. Olander's resignation, and further  
**9-1-90** moved that in settlement of disputed contract claims, Dr. Olander be provided a payment amounting to \$193,000. Seconded by Dr. Rice and passed.

For the record, Trustee responses and comments are reported verbatim:

Trustee Gelman: "I was here when Dr. Olander was hired, and was here throughout his entire tenure. He's done marvelous things for this institution, and I respect the fact, as all of us do, the most important thing to be preserved is this institution and the College must go on. In light of that I respect his decision to resign. Thank you Joe."

Trustee Vipperman: "This has been a tremendously trying time for everyone and it's been particularly difficult Joe, for you and your family. You are doing what is best for the College, as has always been at your heart, is what's best for Evergreen."

Trustee Rice: "I too would like to echo the others, and would also like to say that I think that what makes this College great is the parts of it from the top down. The fact that it isn't a top down part it's a lateral part. An entire family. I also wanted to take this time to acknowledge the feeling of family on this campus that exists in this room by the presence of so many of the College family here tonight at 11:24 PM. I know we're going to go forward in a brilliant manner, and thank you for those things that you've done, and for your willingness to step aside so that we can go forward."

Chair Boyd: "I agree. Thank you Joe for all the good things that you've done for this campus, for the community, for your extraordinary vision and creativity."


#### **APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT**

As an interim measure pending Board action at its regular meeting scheduled for next Wednesday, September 12, and absent any objection from the Board,

Chair Boyd asked Dr. Purce to serve as Acting President until that time. Chair Boyd also requested that Dr. Purce use the September 12 morning study meeting (commencing at 9:00 AM), to convene the Vice-Presidents and such others as are as appropriate to discuss selection of an Interim President.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 PM.

  
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Kay M. Boyd, Chair

  
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Richard S. Page, Secretary