



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Minutes
September 17, 2024

The Clark State College Board of Trustees met in regular session in the LRC Boardroom with the majority of guests attending virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, September 17, 2024. Board Chair David Ball presided and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present in Person: Mike McDorman, Vice Chair Sharon Evans, Board Chair David Ball and President Jo Alice Blondin

Present Virtually: Andy Bell, Kyle Hall, Mitchell Hurst, Peggy Noonan, Becka Rowland-Buckley, and Ben Vollrath

Others Present in Person: Dr. Matt Franz, Senior Vice President of Technology, Safety and Strategic Initiatives and Mellanie Toles, Executive Assistant to the President and Coordinator of Special Projects

Others Present Virtually: Toni Abernathy-Landrum, Director of Donor Development/SOAR participant; Jessica Adams, Associate Professor, Arts and Sciences/SOAR participant; Dan Ayars, Director, Facilities, Operations and Maintenance; Kristen Bancroft, Assistant Professor, Health, Human and Public Services/SOAR participant; Karen Benton, Assistant Dean of Health, Human and Public Services; Dr. Travis Binkley, Dean of Enrollment Services; Kierre Brown, Assistant Dean of Business and Applied Technologies; Callie Cary-Devine, Project Director, Student Support Services; Lori Common, Communications Coordinator; Dr. Terri Dinsmore, Professor, Health, Human and Public Services; Erika Daggett, Director of Marketing; Sean Dodge, Institutional Research Analyst/Staff Senate President; Dr. Scott Dolan, Dean of Health, Human and Public Services; David Farrell, Senior Staff Accountant; Garrett Fisher, Director of Nursing Programs; Dr. Adrienne Forgette, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Janie Harkins, Payroll Assistant; Natalie Johnson, Associate Dean, Regional Locations; Tina Jones, Staff Accountant; Valerie Kemmer, Student; Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Senior Vice President of Student Affairs, Enrollment Management and Regional Locations; Jeremy Linn, Fire Training Coordinator; Naomi Louis, Dean of Arts and Sciences; Kathy Nelson, Controller; Kelly Neriani, Director of Institutional Research and Planning; Dr. Patience Olajide, Assistant Professor, Health, Human and Public Services; Toni Overholser, Vice President of Advancement and Outreach; Dr. Adam Parrillo, Dean of Business and Applied Technologies; Leslie Ray, Coordinator, Communication Management; Jessica Salyers, Student Senate President; Doug Schantz, Executive Vice President for Finance, Facilities and Operations; Dr. Mark Schmidt, Professor, Health, Human and Public Services/Faculty Senate President; Khalil Scott, Academic Advisor/SOAR participant; Caitly Sellers, Assistant Director, Early College Programs/SOAR participant; Elecia Spain, Assistant Dean, Access and Retention Services; Amy Sues, Dean, Institutional Effectiveness, Planning and Assessment; Dr. Jamie Teeple, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences; Beth Tremains, Content Manager; Trish Voisard, Staff Accountant; Stephanie Weippert, Office Services/Bookstore Coordinator; Laura Whetstone, Director of Human Resources; Nina Wiley, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs; April Williams, Student; and Mia Yaniko, Education Section Chief, Ohio Attorney General's Office

Recognition of Guests

Chair Ball welcomed guests and asked members of the media to identify themselves.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were reported.

Student Success Story

Nina Wiley, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, introduced Student Speaker Valerie Kemmer, who is in our Social Services Technology program, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has a very uplifting journey of persistence.

Ms. Kemmer shared that growing up she had her fair share of challenges, including a myriad of mental health issues in her family, which led to chaos and dysfunction. Her family moved often, and she felt lost and began struggling with anxiety and uncertainty, among other things. She had no idea what she wanted to do in college but felt pressured by her parents to succeed. Ms. Kemmer was eager to carve out her own path as an adult but struggled to find motivation and support. She began college full of optimism, but balancing full-time work to support herself and her family with full-time classes left her burned out and frustrated. It was a very challenging time, and she felt lost and confused not knowing who she was or where she was going. Ms. Kemmer started out at Wright State, but when she found they did not have a degree related to webpage designing, she gave up and later enrolled at Sinclair, much to the chagrin of her parents who thought the only path to success was going directly for a bachelor's degree. She liked the program, but the lack of online class options proved to be a barrier, so she enrolled at the Art Institute of Pittsburg Online. She loved it, but her financial aid was not enough to cover the cost, and she was unable to continue. Eventually Ms. Kemmer landed at Full Sail; her courses were online and financial aid covered everything, but working over 50 hours at a grocery store third shift made it hard to keep up the academic pace, and her advisors made her feel like a failure. She felt that her fate was to be stuck in dead-end jobs the rest of her life until she found her way to Clark State, learned about becoming a social worker, and everything started to change. She found the support she needed academically as well as personally, and the faculty, staff and community believed in her in a way that she had never experienced before. They helped her see her potential and gave her the tools to succeed. Ms. Kemmer proudly announced that she has worked with Project Jericho, Phi Theta Kappa, TRIO, the Green Bandana Project, is working her way through the Honors Program, and has earned several academic achievements. She feels more accomplished than ever before and is now planning to continue her education at Ohio State for their bachelor's and master's social work programs. She has been healing herself and breaking her cycle, and she aspires to become a mental health therapist to help others do the same.

Ms. Kemmer expressed appreciation to Clark State and Project Jericho for the incredible support she received here, especially from Tammy Watt, Melinda Van Noord, Nina Wiley, Kristi Limes, and so many others who have believed in her and are helping her along her journey. She noted that she would not be here today without all of them.

Chair Ball thanked Ms. Kemmer for sharing her story, noting that it means so much for all of us to hear it, and wished her continued success on her educational journey.

Report of the Board Chair

Chair Ball:

- Indicated that it was wonderful to have Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) CEO and President Avi Zaffini with us tonight during the Work Session and to have the organization back on track with new leadership since it is very important to us.
- Noted the challenges in Springfield at this time and stated that the Board is fully behind administration, faculty and staff. He expressed appreciation for our dedication to safety and security on campus.

Report of the President

President Blondin recognized SOAR members Toni Abernathy-Landrum, Jessica Adams, Kristen Bancroft, Sarah Hagenbuch, Khalil Scott, and Caity Sellers and thanked them for being here. She thanked Chair Ball for meeting with the group and providing inspirational remarks during their recent onboarding session.

President Blondin deferred to the Staff, Faculty and Student Senates for updates.

Staff Senate President Sean Dodge reported that the Senators have been discussing things they want to accomplish this year including setting up ad hoc committees to review the Staff Constitution and bylaws, establish regular informal meetings with employees during the lunch period, develop a shared governance primer, and establish a handbook for employees to serve as a one-stop quick resource online. All-College Committees are being established, and some have already met and begun work on developing their charges.

Faculty Senate President Dr. Mark Schmidt thanked the Board for their support of the work and completion of the faculty compensation package with Dr. Forgette, noting that it has left us on very solid footing, and the faculty is very appreciative of that. Dr. Schmidt noted that the next phase of work will focus on defining lead faculty members and coordinators. He expressed pride in the faculty's response to the pivot to a virtual environment this week, which was done with total focus on student success and retention, and gave them kudos. Dr. Schmidt reported that ad hoc committees have been formed to develop a comprehensive artificial intelligence (AI) statement, to review our general education requirements as compared to other Ohio colleges, and to continue to review faculty compensation.

Student Senate President Jess Salyers reported that Senators recently served in the Welcome Back Resources Fair as well as during Welcome Week. They completed one of several professional development meetings regarding appropriate attire, scheduling meetings, and restructuring bylaws, and they had a shared governance meeting with the All-College Committee Co-Chairs so they can build connections with them and stay informed about their work. Their work aligns with Goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan.

President Blondin reported the following:

- Senator Cirino's visit to campus two week ago went very well with Vice Chair Evans and Trustees Hall and Hurst representing the Board.
- The College is applying for Achieving the Dream Leader College status.
- The College also recently became a Caring Campus; the Board will hear more about this during a presentation in the next six months.

- Representatives from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education are currently in town for our accreditation visit for the Physical Therapy Assistant program, and the results will be shared with the Board soon. Terry Dinsmore and Dana Matt were thanked for their leadership.
- Trustee Vollrath, Vice President Overholser, and President Blondin attended the Japan Midwest Conference last week. They enjoyed good conversations with the Governor and colleagues at other colleges and businesses, particularly Toyota.
- A Town Hall meeting was held today just prior to the Board meeting. It is hoped that we can all return to campus Monday.
- Articles regarding workforce and presidential searches in preparation of Dr. Kim Bobby's work with the Board in October and November were distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Ball asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 25, 2024. Trustee McDorman made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Vice Chair Evans seconded, and the motion passed unanimously via a roll call vote.

Board Finance and Facilities Committee Report

The Board Finance and Facilities Committee met on September 12, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the Sara T. Landess Technology and Learning Center Boardroom (TLC 113) and virtually via Zoom. Those present included: Mitch Hurst, Committee Chair; Board Chair Dave Ball; Trustee members Andy Bell, Sharon Evans, Peg Noonan, and Becka Rowland-Buckley; Dr. Blondin, President; Dr. Matt Franz, Senior Vice President, Technology, Safety and Strategic Initiatives; Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Senior Vice President, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management and Regional Locations; Doug Schantz, Executive Vice President for Finance, Facilities and Operations; Dr. Adrienne Forgette, Vice President, Academic Affairs; Toni Overholser, Vice President, Advancement and Outreach; Kathy Nelson, Controller; and Susan Kelly, Recorder

- Call to Order – Committee Chair Hurst
- Roll Call
- Approval of June 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes - ACTION
- August Financial Report – Schantz
- Greene Center/REACH/Ohio Hi-Point/HBC/PAC Quarterly Financials – Schantz
- June Financials/Reserves Estimate/Audit Status – Update – Schantz
- Capital and Community Projects Update – Schantz
 - GISA Expansion
 - Applied Science Center – Timeline
 - Transportation Coordinating Committee – HBC Crosswalk/Downtown Traffic Study
 - One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund (OTSCIF)
 - Champion City Sports and Wellness Center
- Legislative Update – Dr. Blondin
- Restricted Budget Adoption – ACTION
- Board Authorization to Locally Administer Applied Science Center Capital Renovation – ACTION
- Open Discussion/Other Business
- Next Meeting – October 11, 2024, 8:00 a.m. Virtually via Zoom

Financial Report through August 31, 2024

A report reflecting Revenues and Expenses through August 31, 2024, was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting. The following was noted:

State Share of Instruction (SSI) – The FY 2025 budget is based on course completion (50%), success points (25%) and completion milestones (25%).

Student tuition and fees revenue represents Fall semester activity through August 31. Fall revenue is down slightly in comparison to budget but we will have a better sense of where we are landing for Fall semester after the start of B and D Terms in the months of September and October. In addition, College Credit Plus enrollment rosters from a few partner school districts are still in process and not fully represented in these numbers. Enrollment initiatives persist in an effort to have a positive impact on final Fall numbers.

Workforce Non-Credit Training revenue is currently below budget but actuals are trending higher this time of year when compared to the previous year. There are a number of training contracts in the pipeline with various organizations throughout the region that will positively impact the revenue number as the year progresses.

Performing Arts Center (PAC) ticket revenue and PAC/HBC Rental revenue is currently below budget but should reflect more traction in these revenue lines as the performance/event season progresses.

Overall expenses are tracking below budget in most categories and serves as an offset to the reduced revenue.

Bookstore operations are reflecting revenue below budget for the year but reduced expenses help to mitigate that loss. Commercial Transportation Training Center (CTTC) continues to garner interest in its program with grant support from the State that funds training for qualified students. The program is currently running a deficit in the first two months of the fiscal year but is anticipating that revenue will outpace expenses as training and testing continues throughout the year. Parking expenses are within budget at this time. In addition to partnership with Fresh Abilities at the Eagles Nest, food service at Clark State is supplemented by expanded vending options provided by Sheehan Brothers Vending. Any revenue reflected in the Food Service budget is provided by a cooperative commission agreement with Sheehan Brothers Vending.

Greene Center/REACH Center/Ohio Hi-Point/Hollenbeck Bayley Center/Performing Arts Center Quarterly Financials

Greene Center, REACH and Ohio Hi-Point

The Greene Center, REACH and Ohio Hi-Point reports were originally created to show the revenue and expenses related to their respective location. Most expenses are tracked separately, but the revenue is not. Reports reflect financials through June 30, 2024.

Revenue:

Budget for State Share of Instruction, in conjunction with Student Tuition, for each location has been calculated based on needed revenue for each location to cover expenses for fiscal year 2024. State Share

of Instruction (SSI) and enrollment are calculated based on the actual distribution of revenue from fiscal year (FY) 2023. In FY23, for every \$1 Clark State received in tuition, we received \$1.29 in SSI payments. This equates to percentage split in total revenue of 56% SSI and 44% credit hours.

The actuals for State Share of Instruction are calculated at 1.29 times the amount of student tuition received for each location. Actual Student Tuition is based on actual in-person credit hours reported from Institutional Research and multiplied by \$175.33 per credit hour for traditional students and \$41.67 per credit hour for high school students.

Expenditures:

Expenditures were rolled-up to match categories currently used for financial reporting.

Performing Arts Center and Hollenbeck Bayley Center

In an effort to raise awareness on the financial operations of the Performing Arts Center (PAC) and the Hollenbeck Bayley Conference Center (HBC), quarterly financial reports will be provided to the Finance and Facilities Committee of the Board. In addition, the leadership team at the PAC/HBC has implemented a multi-year plan to better align program revenue with operating expenses. Progress on that endeavor will be reflected in the quarterly reports.

Performing Arts Center (PAC) and Hollenbeck Bayley Conference Center (HBC) Updates

General Manager's Update - Dan Hunt

- The 2024-2025 PAC Season includes:
 - TINA, The Tina Turner Musical, September 21, 2024, at 8:00 p.m.
 - Manheim Steamroller Christmas, December 12, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.
 - Dirty Dancing, the concert, March 14, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.
 - Fraggie Rock Live, March 23, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.
- The PAC is also presenting four smaller shows as part of our re-established Club Kuss:
 - Vienna Teng, September 19, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. – Singer songwriter
 - Reggie Conquest, October 17, 2024, 7:30 p.m. – Comedian
 - Molly Kearney, January 9, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. – Saturday Night Live cast member/comedian
 - Gina Chavez, April 10, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. – Latin acclaimed recording artistOur goal is to sell the orchestra section of the Kuss for these shows (500 seats).
- The Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the Performing Arts Center tickets are all on sale at <https://pac.clarkstate.edu/shows/2024-2025/> (The Springfield Arts Council tickets will be on sale soon.)
- TINA, The Tina Turner Musical will arrive September 8, 2024, for a two-week rehearsal/technical rehearsal period before they launch their national tour. The September 21 performance in the Kuss Auditorium will be their opening night performance.
- The Clark State Theatre Arts Program will present “Macbeth” in the fall and “Steel Magnolias” in the spring. Both shows will be in the Turner Studio Theatre.
 - Macbeth auditions will be held September 3 and 4. They will hold rehearsals on Mondays through Thursdays each week.
- The PAC dressing rooms, back hallway, and hallway outside the community rooms have been painted and re-carpeted. Thank you to the Clark State facility team.

- The Project Jericho Bucket Band is rehearsing every Thursday in the Community Rooms.

Ticket Sales and Events Summary:

Upcoming Events Ticket Sales (as of 9/3/2024):

- Vienna Teng (9/19) – 35
- TINA, The Tina Turner Musical (9/21) – 77
- Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Miriam K. Smith (9/28) – 251
- Reggie Conquest (10/17) – 10
- MacBeth (11/1-10) – 2
- Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Heritage and Harmony (11/9) – 236
- Brit Beat, Springfield Arts Council, (11/23) - tickets not on sale yet
- Manheim Steamroller Christmas (12/12) – 443

HBC Venue Rental Events:

September

- Rotary on Mondays (9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30) – 75 people
- Adjunct Appreciation Dinner (9/5) – 75 people
- Second Harvest Breakfast (9/13) – 350 people
- Project Jericho Scarecrows (9/19) – 40 people
- Clark Soil and Water (9/24) – 150 people
- Clark County College Night (9/25) – 800 people
- President's Awards Banquet (9/26) – 300 people
- Christian Ministry (9/27) – 400 people

October

- Rotary on Mondays (10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28) – 75 people
- Springfield Foundation 76th Gala (10/1) – 300 people
- OACC Annual Meeting (10/2-10/3) – 150 people
- CHF Health Expo (10/9) – 400 people
- Best of Springfield (10/10) – 450 people
- SOCHE Career Services Conference (10/11) – 150 people
- The Gathering (10/16) – 400 people
- Social Services 101 (10/18) – 200 people
- NAACP (10/19) – 300 people

November

- Rotary on Mondays (11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 11/25) – 75 people
- PRC Banquet (11/1) – 300 people
- Harlem Nights (11/9) – 300 people
- Project Jericho Workshop (11/13) – 40 people
- Police Ball (11/15) – 300 people
- PTK Induction (11/20) – 150 people
- Mayor's Breakfast (11/21) – 400 people

Campus Master Plan and Capital Update

In January of 2023, Clark State College concluded its Comprehensive Campus Master Plan engagement with Woolpert. The information included in the final 192-page assessment will serve the College well for years to come. This was an important undertaking by the College that helps to maximize our resources and better align our space utilization needs, facility condition needs, and programmatic needs in support of our mission and strategic plan.

STAKEHOLDERS:

In an effort to garner feedback from across campus in a comprehensive manner, there were multiple divisions, departments, and constituencies involved in the stakeholder meetings/charrettes. They included College and Foundation Board Members, Community Members, Students, Faculty and Staff. Participation also included a good cross-segment of faculty/staff representation from Academic Affairs, Facilities/Grounds, PAC/HBC, Workforce Development, Foundation, Business Services, and Student Affairs.

PARTNERS:

Woolpert – Bruce Rankin and Frank Monastra were the primary representatives from Woolpert and, given their extensive experience with campus master planning projects, they served as the lead coordinating partner on this assessment.

Comprehensive Facilities Planning (CFP) – The CFP representative on this project was Brian Bell. While CFP is a nationally known firm, we had benefit of Mr. Bell being a long-standing member of the Springfield community and residing only minutes away from our campus facilities. CFP conducted a space utilization and needs assessment of Clark State’s campuses. In addition to analyzing our usage data, he visited campus and wandered the halls frequently over the course of this initiative to fully absorb and digest how our facilities are being utilized.

Gordian – Gabby Rosas was the lead representative for Gordian on this project. Gordian conducted a comprehensive facilities condition assessment that helps to inform a strategic capital investment plan moving forward. This assessment dovetails nicely with the full MEP (mechanical, electrical, plumbing) assessment that we did in 2021 that supported our prioritization of HVAC improvements with HEERF.

Kolar Design – John Kennedy was the primary representative from Kolar (Cincinnati). They were charged by Woolpert as a sub-consultant to provide a wayfinding analysis of Clark State’s campus (from highway to hallways) and make recommendations for enhancement.

PROGRESS ON THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN:

- Completed installation of external wayfinding signage for the Leffel Lane campus that has a similar look and feel to what is located at the downtown campus and reflects best practices in helping new and returning visitors navigate campus.
- Incorporated in the Rhodes Hall Phase 4 renovation the addition of a new parking lot that is located just south of Rhodes Hall and serves to promote better usage of the student center entrance that leads to the bookstore and Eagles Nest.
- Established more functional student-centric outdoor gathering space as part of the Rhodes Hall Phase 4 renovation (Wiley Plaza)
- Worked with the Global Impact Stem Academy’s leadership team to facilitate their 30,000 sq. ft. facility expansion to Clark State’s campus – groundbreaking was December 14, 2023
- Better leveraging and/or condensing the footprint of Clark State’s facility usage in the Brinkman Educational Center
 - Fire Safety Training Program moved to the new South Limestone Fire Academy/Fire Station facility
 - Working with campus stakeholders to research use of the first floor to support ESL training occurring through Workforce and ASPIRE

- Identifying underutilized space including classrooms and offices that can be taken offline until a better use is identified. This space can also be leveraged to generate additional lease revenue for the college as tenants are secured.
- Condensing the academic footprint in the building allows the college to better leverage its resources to make necessary improvements to the learning environment. For example, we were able to identify the most heavily utilized training/instructional classrooms and prioritize them for led lighting upgrades in the summer of 2023.
- As of Fall of 2023, moved the academic curriculum for Graphic Design and New Media occurring downtown at Hollenbeck Bayley Conference Center (HBC) to the Leffel Lane campus to better support participating students and provide room for programmatic growth for Project Jericho within the HBC.
- Leveraging a donor gift to establish an Agricultural Pavilion near the land lab that will serve as not only a home to the Ag department’s equipment but also provide faculty/students with an additional learning/instructional environment
- Researching cost and scope of initiative to extend concrete walks in a loop just south of Clark State’s pond and establish an enhanced seating/gathering space adjacent to the water feature
- Discussions underway to discern the necessary resources required to establish a baseball/softball field on Clark State’s campus

Clark State Organizational Chart, Employee Attrition/Turnover Rates and Diversity Report

The updated data below represents turnover and diversity data for faculty and staff for fiscal year 2024. The College’s Organizational Chart, effective August 9, 2024, was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting.

Turnover	FY 23	FY 24
Staff with Retirements	14.29%	15.98%
Staff without Retirements	13.77%	13.41%
Faculty with Retirements	12.64%	12.36%
Faculty without Retirements	11.63%	11.36%

Diversity

Faculty		
	9/2023	9/2024
	N=86	N=88
2+	0.00%	0.00%
Am. Indian	0.00%	1.14%
Asian	3.49%	3.41%
Black	5.81%	5.68%
Hispanic	1.16%	1.14%
White	89.53%	88.64%
Unknown	0.00%	0.00%

Staff		
	9/2023	9/2024
	N=163	N=168
2+	1.84%	1.19%
Am. Indian	0.00%	0.00%
Asian	0.00%	0.00%
Black	19.02%	18.45%
Hispanic	0.61%	0.60%
White	77.91%	79.76%
Unknown	0.61%	0.00%

Faculty		
	9/2023	9/2024
Female	73.26%	73.86%
Male	26.74%	26.14%

Staff		
	9/2023	9/2024
Female	59.51%	58.93%
Male	40.49%	41.07%

Board Human Resources Committee Report

The Board Human Resources Committee met virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, September 4, at 3:00 p.m. with Committee Chair Sharon Evans and Committee Members Kyle Hall, Mike McDorman, and Ben Vollrath in attendance.

The Committee discussed President Blondin’s 2024-2025 goals.

Board Advocacy, Student Success, and Programs Committee Report

The Board of Trustees’ Advocacy, Student Success, and Programs Committee met virtually on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 1:45 p.m. Those present included: Committee Chair Mike McDorman; Board members Kyle Hall, Becka Rowland-Buckley, and Ben Vollrath; President Dr. Jo Alice Blondin; Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Adrienne Forgette; Senior Vice President of Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Regional Locations Dr. Dawayne Kirkman; Vice President of Advancement and Outreach Toni Overholser; and Sean P. Dunn Associates’ Lobbyist Allison Lawlor.

The agenda included the following items:

- Legislative Update
- OACC Updates
- Status: Modeling and Simulation and BSN Proposals
- Academic Affairs Focus Areas AY25
- Strategic Plan and Caring Campus Efforts
- Meeting with AGB Consultant Dr. Kim Bobby
- Article on Future of Higher Education - Discussion
- Open Forum

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Update

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) convened fifteen primary and fifteen alternate negotiators for three months (January 2024-March 2024) of Negotiated Rulemaking regarding Program Integrity and Institutional Quality. Dr. Blondin was honored to have been selected as the Primary Negotiator for Community Colleges. The following topics were the focus of the negotiations:

- Return of Title IV Funds (No Consensus)
- Cash Management (No Consensus)
- State Authorization (No Consensus)
- Distance Education (No Consensus)
- Accreditation (No Consensus)
- TRIO Programs (Consensus)

On July 24, 2024, the USDOE issued its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register, to which interested parties could respond to the proposed regulations for Distance Education and Return to Title IV. Other topics and their proposed rule changes, such as State Authorization, Accreditation, and Cash Management, are expected to be released during late Fall of 2024.

A letter sent by Dr. Walter Bumphus, President and CEO of AACC, in which he responds to the regulations in support of our position as community college leaders was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting. The salient points of his letter include the following position on the issues, as well as compromises to USDOE's positions:

1. Opposition to USDOE's vague call for and justification of attendance-taking in every online class v. using a student's last day of log-in for withdrawal;
2. Opposition to the Elimination of Title IV Eligibility for asynchronous clock hour programs;
3. Support for the "additional location" for distance education programs;
4. Concerns about cost burdens in implemented these regulations, particularly the attendance-taking regulation.

Dr. Blondin is presenting on the topic of Community Colleges' Investment in the Negotiated Rulemaking Process at the upcoming Council on Accreditation for Two-Year Colleges annual meeting at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan on Monday, September 23, 2024.

Center for Education and the Workforce 2024 Findings

The Center for Education and the Workforce issues annual reports that focus on major workforce issues, such as wage gains, credentials needed, and the skills gap. Their latest report is a fascinating look at fifty-five major metropolitan areas (only Cincinnati and Cleveland are considered in Ohio), and how many credentialed individuals will be needed to fill future positions due to retirements and growth in employment in the following areas:

- Blue Collar Jobs (trades)
- Protective Services (Police, Fire, Paramedic)
- Management
- STEM
- Healthcare

These areas are deemed "high-wage" and "middle-skilled" jobs, a reference to the credentials needed (sometimes less than a Bachelor's degree). A press release and article that sum up the report, which is a helpful tool as Clark State faculty continues to refine and reflect on the value to learners regarding the curriculum we offer, was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting. (The full report is available in the President's Office.) The findings in this report include:

1. Nearly all major metropolitan areas will face a severe shortage of locally produced credentials aligned with high-paying middle-skills represented by blue-collar occupations, as will the nation at large.
2. Most major metro areas will experience moderate to severe shortages of credentials aligned with high-paying middle-skills management occupations, although some major metropolitan areas are producing far more of these credentials than are needed locally.
3. Protective services is the only occupational group for which most major metropolitan areas will experience credential shortages but the rest of the country will not.

4. Most major metropolitan areas are producing enough credentials aligned with high-paying middle-skills STEM occupations to fill projected local needs, although there is an expected shortage of these credentials nationwide.
5. Healthcare is the only occupational group with a projected nationwide oversupply of credentials aligned with high-paying middle-skills jobs.
6. To avoid local shortages, many providers would need to more than double the number of credentials they award in programs aligned with high-paying middle-skills occupations.

Marketing Updates

Strategy and Research

- Based on research and meetings with teams and departments across campus over three months, the overall goals of marketing to support enrollment and communication in 2024-25 are:
 - Expand, refine, and maintain communication with a variety of stakeholders
 - Communicate the value Clark State brings to student, parent, and partner investments
 - Identify and implement new processes and procedures that support cost-savings and efficiency
 - Show the return-on-investment of the College restructuring the marketing department

These goals will be met through focused actions such as:

- increased strategy, research, and analyzation to ensure targets are met and actions have an identifiable return on investment
- rejuvenate brand to increase brand awareness
- overhaul the Clark State website with a new navigation, new content, and new design to increase and simplify user experience
- focus marketing on key areas: Business and Applied Technologies programs, CDL program, nursing program, high school pathways, military offerings, and regional campuses (NOTE: ALL areas and programs of Clark State will be publicized, but these are the focused areas for 2024-25)

The goals will be met via usage of marketing vehicles such as video, social media, publications, sponsorships, advertising, marketing materials, templates, emergency communication, events, press releases and website, as well as increased department collaboration.

- The survey and focus groups originally intended for June were delayed until students and staff returned to increase likelihood of participation. This work is now resuming to collect qualitative and quantitative from all stakeholders to help determine marketing focus, needs, brand aesthetic, and messaging. The survey will be available on our website and shared via press releases, email, and social media.

Advertising

- Marketing has now met with approximately 27 advertisers to learn about advertising options and opportunities, as well as audience reach, from billboards and print ads to golf courses and movie theatres to streaming and search engine marketing. The location focus of campaigns is to dominate the Springfield market, expand heavily into Dayton, and have representation within a 30-mile radius of all campuses. Advertisers and locations are chosen by message and target audience reach. Marketing has either run, or is currently running, paid advertising campaigns for brand awareness, enrollment, regional campuses, CDL, agriculture, Performing Arts Center, engineering, military awards and offerings, and our community Trick-or-Treat event. These campaigns will continue throughout the academic year, and we will also add in paid advertising campaigns for diesel, graphic design, nursing, cyber security, electric vehicles, and graduation. Some campaigns include more than one topic.

Data is collected from every campaign to measure effectiveness, target audience reach, and overall return on investment. This allows tweaks and changes to constantly be made to advertising campaigns

to ensure we are meeting goals and creating cost savings by laser focusing on audiences when necessary (i.e., ensuring the correct messages are being delivered to the correct and valid audience). For example, the analyzation of the \$3,000 brand awareness campaign we ran on 13 billboards throughout Dayton, Beavercreek, and Xenia from July 23 to August 11 resulted in reaching: 949,353 people age 18+; 92,662 people who have shown interests in the past 12 months to continue their education/go back to college; 71,364 people currently enrolled in a college or university; 86,867 people currently enlisted in the military or who are veterans; and 47,781 people who personally plan to enroll in a college within the next twelve months.

Web

- The website overhaul is nearing the end of phase one (research, concept designs, decision-making) and has started phase two (rewriting, renavigating). On September 10, the marketing department and DMA will share updates with Executive Council including design concepts, section rewrites, and programming options.

General Project Overviews

- Since the summer, the marketing team has assisted in 12 events, created 62 flyers, designed and sent 4 postcards, produced 12 videos, consolidated 13 social media channels, redesigned 70 business cards, wrote 13 press releases, and made 182 website updates.

President Blondin gave Erika Daggett kudos on the great job she has been doing during this crisis situation, noting that her instincts are awesome related to this. We have deliberately lowered our profile during this time and referred everyone to our statement on our website to avoid Clark State becoming the focus of what is happening locally. We have declined over fifty interviews and have stayed focused on our mission. A crisis communication coordinator has been secured, in case they are needed, but at this point, Ms. Daggett is doing a wonderful job handling the situation.

Enrollment Report by Category 2023 - 2024

Charts reflecting 2023-2024 student enrollment data broken down by several categories were distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting. The following was noted:

Race/Ethnicity, Age, Gender, and Military Status: Twenty-one percent of our students were minority (African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American), and students who indicated two or more races was 5.5 percent. We saw an increase in our Black students (+29) and Hispanic students (+19). Just over 62 percent of our students were under the age of 25. We continue to serve a high number of female students, which was 65 percent in 2023-2024. Our total Military Population is 417 unduplicated students—we saw an increase in our Veteran students. Recently, Clark State was ranked as a Top Ten (#1) Military Friendly and as a Top Ten (#1) Military Spouse Friendly School, which will help us recruit this special population!

Full-time/Part-time Status, Financial Aid Data, and Location: Almost eighty-four percent of our students were enrolled part-time in Fall 2023. From a financial aid standpoint, 79 percent of undergraduate students completed a FAFSA and 58 percent were awarded Pell/Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity. Also, in Fall 2023, 41 percent of our students were first-generation, 34 percent had dependent children, and 15 percent were married. Online enrollment continues to be strong and represents the largest “location” for headcount. In Fall 2023, 59 percent of enrolled students registered for at least one class online and 36 percent of students took all of their classes online.

College Credit Plus and Top Feeder High Schools: The high schools with the largest numbers of participants offer multiple courses at their facility. The Global Impact Stem Academy (GISA) is our largest high school partner. GISA students begin taking college courses at the high school in their sophomore year, and many of them take almost all of their classes on the Clark State campus by their senior year. Bellefontaine, Kenton Ridge, Miami East, London, Shawnee, Jonathan Alder, Ohio Hi-Point Career Center, Miami Valley CTC, Springfield Clark CTC, Cedarville, West Carrollton, Urbana, Northeastern, and Greene County Career Center also have strong participation. Forty-nine college credit plus students graduated in 2023-2024 with 50 degrees and certificates. Our top feeder high schools with 2023 high school graduates attending Clark State in 2023-2024 were Springfield, Springfield Clark CTC, Kenton Ridge, Northeastern, Northwestern, Beavercreek, Greenon, Cliff Park, Global Impact Stem Academy, Shawnee, Tecumseh, Greene County Career Center, Ohio Hi-Point Career Center, Graham, and Urbana.

Programs: Health, Human and Public Services majors (Registered Nursing, Licensed Practical Nursing, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, LPN to RN Transition, Social Services, Addiction and Recovery Services, and Physical Therapist Assistant) and General Transfer majors (Associate of Science, Associate of Arts) continue to be our most popular programs. Enrollment is also strong in Management, Cybersecurity, Accounting, Teacher Education Transfer Concentration, and Computer Software Development. Please see attachments for Enrollment Statistics.

Chair Ball stated that the Board is really proud of all of the work put into realizing our enrollment increase and gave kudos to everyone involved.

Technology, Safety and Strategic Initiatives

Technology

- Transitioning from a 24x7 help desk over the summer, the biggest concerns were phone call volume and the number of password/multi-factor authentication (MFA) resets. In preparation for the change, we hired two people and custom developed an online system for people to reset their MFA devices. This set of online tools has been used successfully over 300 times reducing the number of calls and tickets created.
- We experienced one of the highest volumes of calls, visits, and tickets created during the first few days of classes. This was expected since our enrollment has been very positively trending for some time now. During the first three days we received:
 - More than 300 calls
 - 265 new tickets
 - Median time to respond to a ticket – 4 minutes
 - Median time to resolve – 17 minutes
 - 63% of tickets entered in this critical timeframe for students and employees resolved within 60 minutes
 - Satisfaction rating on tickets/support quality – 9.6 out of 10 (.3% better than when the Help Desk was outsourced)
 - Fastest transition from volume rush to stability in my career
- Student laptop loans continue to be very popular. With strategic investments from both the Foundation and the Business Office at the end of FY24, we purchased additional devices to ensure students experiencing issues with technology at home have the resources they need to be successful. Currently almost 40% of our inventory is out with students who have requested assistance through us, Nina Willey's office, TRIO, and the Office of Student Support.

Safety

- This past month, we moved college phones over to a service called FirstNet. This is managed by AT&T and is a prioritized cellular band for first responders and critical infrastructure providers. In the event of a critical incident, cellular towers can become overwhelmed. In this scenario, FirstNet connections will be prioritized over everything except 911 calls allowing us to maintain communication.
- Johnny Lemen, Director of Risk and Emergency Management was recognized by the Ohio School Safety Center with a “Stand Out” staff award. It was the first award for to someone in higher education and one of six awards statewide. There were over 100 nominations for this recognition.

Strategic Initiatives

- Dr. Forgette and I continue to collaborate on Artificial Intelligence (AI) best practices, policy, and guidance for Clark State. She engaged a national speaker on the topic of AI in the classroom for faculty development early this semester. More information will come soon as we coalesce information into a more formal proposal for procedures, guidelines and a recommended policy. This is a rapidly evolving space with a growing body of knowledge. Developing a plan for AI will encompass safeguarding data, academic integrity, use in and out of the classroom, and best practices for leveraging these tools for innovation.

The group congratulated Johnny Lemen on his prestigious award.

Advancement and Outreach Updates

Foundation

- The 2024 Presidential Awards Banquet will continue as planned on September 26th at the Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center. Award recipients include Jim and Nike Lagos (Richard O. Brinkman Award), Dale Henry (Distinguished Alumnus Award), Ryan Mundy (Emerging Leader Award). The deadline to register is Thursday, September 19th.
- Fiscal Year 2024 fundraising totaled \$595,323, which was an increase of 72% over the previous year.

Outreach

- Fourteen Project Jericho youth worked with four music mentors to write and record original music at the Clark State Performing Arts Center in late July and early August. Their songs were celebrated at a Building the Band song premiere on August 22 in the Turner Studio Theater. You can listen to their songs and catch a glimpse of the program here:
<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/p1LCUYxTM9CaMv8Z/>
- Chalkfest returns on October 5th! Spend the afternoon listening to live music by Larry Humphrey and Friends while watching professional and amateur chalk artists chalk the streets in downtown Springfield. Attendees can create their own chalk art masterpiece, enjoy offerings from food trucks, and engage in other free, fun activities.
- September 12 is our annual NestFest celebration for Scholars and their families. We are expecting over 240 attendees.
- Sixty-one college-level Scholars have registered for Fall classes. Mary and Bre are supporting these students and meeting with them regularly.
- High School Scholar mentor meetings will begin in October, and we have a record number of mentors supporting our students.

Grant Development

- Clark State has received a grant from Clark County in the amount of \$240,000 to support English for Speakers of Other Languages. The grant will allow us to conduct workforce training and language

courses for our immigrant population and allow us to purchase computers and technology for translation services. We will also be developing basic language resources for local employers. We anticipate serving 400 individuals in the next calendar year.

- Clark State received a \$126,000 grant from the Department of Transportation to support commercial motor vehicle operator safety training.

Workforce Development

- Clark State hosted the Champaign County Workforce Summit on August 16. The event was attended by approximately 50 people. Trustee Hall was one of our panelists for the event. Participant feedback was excellent. We look forward to our Logan County event, which is currently in the planning stages.
- Workforce training activity has increased with expanded open enrollment and contract training courses being offered. Although we are below budget for revenue, we are profitable and have decreased expenses.
- Clark State has developed a partnership with Springfield Masonic Home to support State Tested Nursing Aid Training. The partnership will allow us an additional site for training and expand our number of instructors.

Action Items

The following items were presented for Board approval:

Personnel Recommendations – Exempt/Non-Exempt Employees

In accordance with established hiring procedures and after approval by President Blondin, the following recommendations for exempt and non-exempt employees are being presented to the Board of Trustees for formal approval:

New Hires:

- Alex Blazer, Groundskeeper, Business Affairs, effective 8/5/24
- Kogi Daniels, Helpdesk Technician, Information Technology, effective 7/1/24
- Joy Hill, Administrative Assistant to Director of Nursing, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 9/3/24
- Christopher Landrum, Strategic Coordinator, Laser Material Processing Programs, Academic Affairs, effective 9/30/24
- Sophia Stevens, Helpdesk Support Specialist, Information Technology, effective 9/3/24

Personnel Changes:

- Sean Dodge, from Institutional Research Analyst, Academic Affairs to Senior Institutional Research Analyst, Academic Affairs, effective 7/1/24
- Zuzana Fowler, from Institutional Support Specialist, Academic Affairs to Coordinator, Educational Technologies, Academic Affairs, effective 9/2/24
- Kristi Limes, from Project Jericho Success Coordinator to Assistant Director, Project Jericho, Advancement, effective 7/8/24
- Kyle Thullen, from Groundskeeper, Business Affairs to Director, Grounds and Fleet, Business Affairs, effective 8/1/24

Retirements/Resignations/Departures:

- Abby Hunt, Admissions and Career Services Specialist, Student Affairs, effective 7/24/24
- Mackenzie Wade, Academic Progress Coordinator, Student Affairs, effective 8/26/24

Open/Advertised Positions:

- Admissions and Career Services Specialist
- Coordinator, Learning Services
- Executive Director, National Advanced Mobility Center of Excellence
- Program Coordinator, Advancement
- Project Director, Modeling and Simulation Program

Impact on students and/or student learning: All staff positions are vital to students by ensuring the efficient operation of all areas of the College.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Hiring qualified talent and recognizing promotional opportunities aligns with both the Strategic Plan Mission and Vision by providing high quality educational services and highlighting personal growth, respectively.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Funding for the above personnel actions is in the 2024-2025 budget.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel recommendations as presented.

Personnel Recommendations for Instructional Faculty

In accordance with established hiring procedures and after approval by President Blondin, the following recommendations for instructional faculty are being presented to the Board of Trustees for formal approval:

New Hires:

- Morgan Bowman, Instructor (12-month), Licensed Practical Nursing, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 8/9/24
- Elizabeth Calhoun, Instructor (9-month), Licensed Practical Nursing, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 8/9/24
- Kelly Lore, Instructor (9-month), Registered Nursing, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 8/26/24
- Shawna Shankle, Assistant Professor (9-month), Registered Nursing, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 8/12/24
- Phillip Sharpe, Instructor (9-month), Biology, Academic Affairs, effective 8/9/24

Retirements/Resignations/Departures:

- Michael Cogdill, Instructor, Emergency Services, Health, Human and Public Services, effective 7/22/24

Open/Advertised Positions:

- Instructional Faculty, Anatomy and Physiology
- Instructional Faculty, Modeling and Simulation

Impact on students and/or student learning: All Instructor positions are vital to students and student learning by providing the necessary instruction and support in the various disciplines.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Hiring qualified talent and recognizing promotional opportunities aligns with both the Strategic Plan Mission and Vision by providing high quality educational services and highlighting personal growth, respectively.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Funding for the above personnel action is in the 2024-2025 budget.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel recommendations as presented.

Trustee Hall made a motion to approve the personnel recommendations for exempt and non-exempt employees and instructional faculty as presented; Trustee Vollrath seconded, and the motion passed unanimously via a roll call vote.

Restricted Budget Adoption

A document reflecting the restricted budgets for fiscal year 2024-2025 was distributed to Trustees prior to the meeting, and descriptions of each of the projects funded by these various restricted sources were included. The total represents a \$3.6M (27.0%) increase from the restricted budget adopted in Fall 2023.

The following are new grants and contracts from budgets adopted this year:

- U.S. Department of Education-Modeling and Simulation
- Super Rapids
- Community Development Block Grant-ESL Programming

The following budgets adopted a year ago were fully spent down during the year:

- Arts Alive Programming

Other projects listed represent either carry-forward balances from past years or continuing projects with new funding.

Impact on students and/or student learning: These projects impact various initiatives in the College's Strategic Plan.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Restricted fund budgets meet Goal 1 to develop and strengthen quality, innovative academic programs and Goal 2 to improve enrollment, student success, retention and completion.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Up to \$17,053,019 will be received by the College and disbursed for the projects listed in accordance with stipulations of the grantors.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees move to accept the restricted funds as presented. By accepting these restricted funds, Trustees also accept the restrictions imposed by grantors.

Authorization to Locally Administer Applied Science Center Renovation Capital Project

The State, per Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.50, allows the local administration of state capital funds for projects of less than \$4 million under certain conditions. The primary condition is the agreement by the state institution to comply with State rules and regulations of Section 153.16 of the Revised Code. The Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) must be notified of our request to self-administer any state capital funds. Clark State received a capital appropriation of \$3,387,460 for the Applied Science Center Renovation in House Bill 2 of the 135th General Assembly. Passing of this resolution provides for local administration, in full or in part, of this capital project.

Impact on students and/or student learning: The renovation and enhancement of facilities promotes stronger academic programs and positively impacts the educational environment in which students succeed.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: The investment in capital projects at Clark State College support strategic plan goals 1 and 2. The renovation and enhancement of facilities promotes stronger academic programs and positively impacts the educational environment in which students succeed.

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: Local administration of a capital project has the potential to save funds and possibly encourage more participation by local contractors.

It was requested that the Board of Trustees of Clark State College agree to the institution's intent to comply with the guidelines established in accordance with Section 153.16 of the Revised Code as it relates to local administration of capital funds for the Applied Science Center Renovation project.

Vice Chair Evans made a motion to accept the restricted funds as presented, thereby accepting the restrictions imposed by grantors, and to agree to the institution's intent to comply with the guidelines established in accordance with Section 153.16 of the Revised Code as it relates to local administration of capital funds for the Applied Science Center Renovation project. Trustee Hurst seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Appointment of ACCT Delegate and Alternate

Clark State College is a member of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). ACCT is governed by a Senate, which has the full authority of the membership, and is composed of the voting delegates of the Voting Members of the Association.

Governing and advisory boards of accredited not-for-profit community-based postsecondary educational institutions that primarily offer programs other than baccalaureate, graduate and professional degrees, including boards of state systems that include such institutions, are eligible to become Voting Members of the Association.

According to ACCT bylaws, Voting Members shall be represented at Senate meetings only by voting delegates, and each institution receives one voting delegate for each 20,000 of headcount enrollment. Voting Members may designate for each voting delegate an alternate who may serve as the voting delegate in the absence of any voting delegate from the same Voting Member.

The Senate shall hold at least one meeting annually. Such annual meeting of the Senate shall be the Annual Meeting of the Association (i.e., the annual Leadership Congress).

In accordance with ACCT bylaws, Voting Members shall certify to the president of the Association the names of their voting delegates and alternates before the designated deadline for such certification.

It is recommended that Sharon Evans be appointed as the college delegate and Kyle Hall be appointed as the alternate delegate.

Impact on students and/or student learning: None

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Goal 5: Promote and support collaboration with diverse communities, businesses, and industry partners

Implications for budget, personnel, or other resources: None

It was requested that the Board of Trustees affirm the appointment of Sharon Evans as the college delegate and Kyle Hall as the alternate delegate to the ACCT governing board.

Trustee McDorman made a motion to affirm the appointment of Sharon Evans as the college delegate and Kyle Hall as the alternate delegate to the ACCT governing Board. Trustee Noonan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Board Members' Open Forum

Trustee McDorman encouraged everyone to read the Chronicle of Higher Education article regarding the future of higher education that President Blondin distributed.

Executive Session – Compensation and Performance of a Public Employee, Security Arrangements, and Emergency Response Protocols

Trustee McDorman made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of considering compensation and performance of a public employee and security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body. Vice Chair Evans seconded, and the motion passed 9-0 by a roll call vote. Executive Session commenced at 7:05 p.m.

Trustee Hurst made a motion to exit Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 7:55 p.m. Trustee Rowland-Buckley seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

President's Incentive Plan for 2024-2025

Trustee McDorman made a motion to accept President Blondin's incentive program for 2024-2025 as presented by Vice Chair Evans. The motion was seconded by Trustee Noonan, and it passed 8-0 via a roll call vote. (Trustee Bell had already exited the meeting.)

Adjournment

Vice Chair Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Trustee Noonan seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.