



**State Board of Community Colleges**

Caswell Building, 200 West Jones Street

Raleigh, North Carolina

March 18, 2022

9:00 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Following proper public notification, Chairman Burr Sullivan called the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) Meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in the Dr. W. Dallas Herring State Board Room of the Caswell Building. Chairman Sullivan welcomed the Board.

**MOMENT OF REFLECTION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Irwin led the Board in the pledge of allegiance. Following Chairman Sullivan call for a moment of reflection.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Artis called the roll, and the following members were present:

Dr. Lee Barnes

Dr. Shirley Carraway

Ms. Lisa Estep\*

Treasurer Dale Folwell\*

Mr. Jonathan Harris (Lt. Gov.

Mark Robinson designee)

Mr. William Holder

Mr. Bobby Irwin

Mr. Tom Looney

Mr. Bill McBrayer

Mr. Mark Merritt

Mr. Hari Nath

Mr. Andy Penry

The Hon. Ray Russell

Ms. Julie Ryan (Comm. Josh

Dobson designee)

The Hon. Sam Searcy

Mr. Burr Sullivan

Mr. Ray Trapp

The Hon. Terry Van Duyn\*

Mr. Nathan Vasquez

Mr. Jerry Vaughan

Ms. Sarah West

Ms. Ann Whitford

\* Attended via Zoom

**ETHICS AWARENESS AND IDENTIFICATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Ms. Artis reminded members of the Board of the ethics requirements and requested members identify any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest.

No actual or potential conflicts of interest were noted by the Board.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Holder made a motion to approve the February 18, 2022 minutes and January 21, 2022 closed session minutes. Hon. Searcy seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA, AND CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no changes to the Consent Agenda as presented. The following changes were requested to the agenda.

- PLAN – Ms. Whitford stated the committee has no changes.
- PER – Mr. McBrayer stated the committee has no changes.
- FC – Dr. Barnes stated the committee has no changes.
- PROG – Mr. Irwin stated the committee has no changes.
- SBPG – Chairman Sullivan stated the committee moved Attachments SBPG 01 and SBPG 02 from For Future Action to For Action.

Chairman Sullivan asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2022 agenda with amendments, Treasurer Folwell made a motion to approve. Mr. Merritt seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Chairman Sullivan asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2022 consent agenda, Mr. Trapp made a motion to approve. Mr. Holder seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

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**Items approved on the Consent Agenda were as follows:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE, Dr. Lee Barnes, Chair**

- FY 2022-23 NC Community College Grant Program Payment Schedule (Attachment FC 02)
- Targeted Assistance and Less Than Half Time Grant Program (Attachment FC 03)
- Budget Allocations for 2-1 Summary (Attachment FC 05)
- Construction and Property – March 2022 (Attachment FC 06)

**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, Mr. Bobby Irwin, Chair**

- Curriculum Program Applications – Fast Track for Action (FTFA) (Attachment PROG 03)
- Curriculum Program Application – Combined Course Library (Attachment PROG 04)
- Courses of Instruction – Captive/Co-Opted Groups (Attachment PROG 05)

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**Introduction of Guests**

Ms. Elizabeth Grovenstein introduced staff member Ms. Brandy Andrews, newly approved Chief Finance Officer and Vice President, who has 16 years of service at the System Office. Ms. Grovenstein

introduced the head of College Finance Operations, Ms. Stephanie Fisher, who began March 1, 2022. Ms. Grovenstein introduced staff member Ms. Amy Bowman, Associate Vice President of State Level Accounting and Operations, Ms. Bowman began mid December 2021.

Mr. Patrick Fleming introduced staff member Mr. Deante Tyler, Associate Vice President and Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Tyler joined the System Office in January of 2022. Mr. Fleming introduced staff member, Ms. Kathy Davis, who began at the System Office in June of 2006; Ms. Davis was promoted to Associate Vice President of Distant Learning Technologies.

Dr. Gold introduced Mr. Brett Altman who began in February 2022 as the Director of State Board Relations and Compliance Services. Dr. Gold acknowledged Dr. Bill Schneider who recently defended his dissertation as a doctoral student. Dr. Gold introduced President Amanda Lee, President Liaison to Programs Committee; Dr. Gold stated President Lee is mentoring three doctoral students. Dr. Gold introduced the doctoral students who are observing the Board at work as a part of their studies.

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## **REPORTS:**

### **Dr. Mark Poarch, President of North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP)**

Dr. Poarch greeted the Board, President Stith and System Office. Dr. Poarch presented the following:

- Dr. Poarch recognized presidents present at the Board meeting
- Dr. Poarch shared twelve (12) presidents participated in a new president's orientation meeting who were new to their position since 2019. Dr. Poarch thanked Dr. John Enamait for facilitating and organizing the orientation. Dr. Poarch shared each of the new presidents have been paired with a president of longer tenure, to serve as a mentor.
- Dr. Poarch shared the presidents met with superintendents across North Carolina on March 4, 2022. The meeting held over 162 participants, including 52 presidents. The meeting shared topics such as student engagement, community-based work force, and a system wide database.
- Dr. Poarch stated the presidents are prepared to attend the NCACCT Law Legislative Seminar and upcoming NCACCP meeting.
- Dr. Poarch stated the presidents are engaged with legislator visits on their campus in response to the approved three (3) year legislative plan.
- Dr. Poarch stated Dr. Tim Wright, President of Wilson Community College, announced his retirement on June 1, 2023.

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### **Ms. Julie Woodson, President of North Carolina Association of Community College Trustees (NCACCT)**

Ms. Woodson greeted Chairman Sullivan, the State Board, and President Stith.

Ms. Woodson discussed the following:

- Ms. Woodson stated NCACCT is preparing for the 2022 Law Legislative Seminar. Ms. Woodson stated there are 302 participants registered. Ms. Woodson acknowledged Board members, Ms. Whitford, Mr. McBrayer, and Chairman Sullivan, who will present at the seminar. She also acknowledged President Stith who is a speaker at the general session lunch and System Office members who will lead conversations in System governance, efficacy, and legislative strategy.
- Ms. Woodson shared the NCACCT is assisting Board of Trustees at the local level with their planned retreats.
- Ms. Woodson stated NCACCT is assisting colleges that are undergoing the process of identifying their next president. Ms. Woodson stated the Board chairs also appreciated the assistance from the System Office as they are working to hire their next college president.

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**Mr. Nathan Vasquez, President of North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (N4CSGA)**

Mr. Vasquez greeted the Board and discussed the following:

- Mr. Vasquez introduced the Executive Board of N4CSGA.
- Ms. Vasquez stated there are fourteen (14) available positions on the N4CSGA Executive Board, he stated although there are vacancies the N4CSGA Board has been able to work together to produce results and move forward to benefit the students.
- Mr. Vasquez stated the N4CSGA conference will be held April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.
- Mr. Vasquez asked his Vice President Joseph Witmer to discuss the conference. Mr. Witmer shared the conference will be held in Durham, he stated President Stith will join as a keynote speaker during the conference. Mr. Witmer stated the conference will inform student of the Roberts Rules and teach them how to make “smart” motions; he stated the Board will enact the Rules and allow for motions during the business meeting. He stated breakout sessions and workshops will also occur to during the meeting.
  - Mr. Vasquez stated the conference was designed to maximize motions and formulated for the division meeting.
- Mr. Vasquez provided a point of feedback from the Student Survey which included the need for easier communication with the N4CSGA Executive Board; Mr. Vasquez shared the Executive Board has implemented a website for N4CSGA to allow for ease of communication. Mr. Vasquez also shared student would like to provide direct feedback and comments to the System Office and Board, Mr. Vasquez stated he would like to address the student comments and identify a way for students to communicate with each.

Ms. Whitford shared acknowledgement to Mr. Vasquez for his leadership skill and to his Board for also participating in N4CSGA to develop the leadership skills.

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**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Stith greeted the Board and presented the following:

- President Stith shared System Highlights including Fall Instructional FTE spikes, he stated the enrollment has increased by two (2) percent. He compared enrollment to the two (2) prior years. President Sith also presented demographic trends.
- President Stith stated the System Advisory Council met. He stated during the meeting the Council reviewed the Career and College Promise Report, DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Report, and the strategic plan.
- President Stith stated he met with Fayetteville Technical Community College and Halifax Community College regarding their presidential search to provide resources and support. He stated the colleges are moving forward with their search process to identify the next president. He stated General Counsel Artis presented to each college and provide guidance for their search.
- President Stith stated Alamance Community College placed the final beam on the Biotechnology Center of Excellence at their college. He stated this center will be a resource for the county and region.
- President Stith stated Central Piedmont Community College announced the new Longleaf Commitment Funds, he reminded the Board the Legislature provided an investment of about twenty-five million dollars. He stated this commitment will cover many tuitions and fees to student who qualify. He shared Governor Cooper attended this event.
- President Stith highlighted Davidson-Davie Community College basketball team (Storm) for being in the final four of the national tournament.
- President Sith shared highlights from the news and media in the recent few weeks, including a highlight from a Gaston Community College student who was elected to participate in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars program.
- President Stith highlighted annual conference regarding Small Business Center Network held in Hickory, North Carolina and the ApprenticeshipNC conference.
- President Sith shared an announcement for Carolina Across 100, he stated it is an effort to serve as a collaborative effort to utilize community colleges to connect with disconnected youth.
- President Sith shared an announcement about an upcoming webinar featuring Brian Hamilton, he stated the webinar will highlight entrepreneurs from community colleges.

Mr. Looney shared he attended the ApprenticeshipNC conference, he stated the conference was impressive to see the dedication and commitment from employers and shared a highlight that the program has double in the last year.

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## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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### **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, Ms. Ann Whitford, Chair**

#### **For Information**

**EMSI Economic Impact Study (Attachment PLAN 01)**

Ms. Whitford reviewed Attachment PLAN 01 and discussed the presentation provided to the Committee on Thursday. Ms. Whitford stated of the research findings on the economic impact study the Committee will assist in the development of the legislative ask and strategic plan. She stated the initiative was a joint venture from the Legislature and Belk Endowment.

Dr. Crane reviewed the presentation and provided highlights in reference to the financial investment and return on investment that community colleges provided.

The Board briefly reviewed the materials and discussed the relevance of the results to the Legislative Plan and investment for students. The Board also discussed the impacts of enrollment based on the findings.

Synthesized Input, Proposed Planning Themes (Attachment PLAN 02)

Ms. Whitford provided an update on the progression of the strategic plan. Ms. Whitford stated they are currently designing a four-year strategic plan. Ms. Whitford stated since September 2021 the System Office and Committee have reviewed the enrollment data and metrics, engaged with internal and external stakeholders, held regional listening sessions to hear from the community and System. Ms. Whitford shared based on the assessments the Committee has developed a listed of point to address in the Strategic Plan. Ms. Whitford shared the next steps is to assign planning teams for each of the topics.

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**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE, Mr. Bill McBrayer, Chair**

**For Action**

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Mr. McBrayer recommended and moved approval of the following actions:

- New hire of Mr. Brennan Rufa to the position of Information Security Officer effective April 4, 2022.

Following a motion by Mr. McBrayer, the items above were approved via voice vote.

**Climate Survey**

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Mr. McBrayer recommended and moved approval of the financial approval of payment to implement a System Office survey by Taylor Train. Mr. McBrayer stated the scope of work includes creation of the survey, administration, response, tabulation of response and synthesis of findings. The cost of \$6,000 of State Funds will be covered from lapse salary.

Following a motion by Mr. McBrayer, the items above were approved via voice vote.

The following items were presented as for information:

- System Office Vacancy Report – March 2022 (Attachment PER 01)
  - College Presidential Status Report – March 2022 (Attachment PER 02)
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**FINANCE COMMITTEE, Dr. Lee Barnes, Chair**

**For Action**

**Authorize Oversight of Certain Capital Projects (Attachment FC 01)**

Dr. Barnes reviewed the approval of two actions to provide oversight of construction projects from July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2022 for 54 community colleges that do not have State Board delegation of construction authority under G.S. 11D-9(c). Dr. Barnes reviewed the changes this action will implement, and the delegation amount covered by this action.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Dr. Barnes recommended and moved for approval of Attachment FC 01. The item was approved by voice vote.

**Extension of Waiver 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9) (Attachment FC 04)**

Dr. Barnes reviewed the extension and history of the extension, he stated this request will continue to assist colleges during the ongoing recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Dr. Barnes recommended and moved for approval of Attachment FC 04. The item was approved by voice vote.

**The following item were approved as a Consent Agenda items:**

FY 2022-23 NC Community College Grant Program Payment Schedule (Attachment FC 02)

Targeted Assistance and Less Than Half Time Grant Program (Attachment FC 03)

Budget Allocations for 2-1 Summary (Attachment FC 05)

Construction and Property – March 2022 (Attachment FC 06)

**For Information**

Dr. Barnes briefly reviewed the following for information items.

- Connect NC Bond Report – February 2022 (Attachment FC 07)
  - Estimated Receipts – February 2022 (Attachment FC 08)
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**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, Mr. Bobby Irwin, Chair**

**For Action**

**Review of Public Comments for Proposed Amendment of 1B SBCCC 100.1 - Definitions (Attachment PROG 01)**

Dr. Brown reviewed PROG 01, he stated the Board has recognized the hybrid and online instruction during the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Brown stated the changes will update the definition for the hybrid-

flex model to provide the opportunity to meet students to where they are as it relates to online learning.

Dr. Brown stated the code item has been out for thirty (30) days of comment; Dr. Brown stated comments were received, which resulted in additional amendments that require an additional five (5) day comment period. He stated this approval will allow the item to go back out for public comments.

On behalf of the Programs Committee, Mr. Irwin recommended and moved for approval of Attachment PROG 01. The item was approved by voice vote.

Review of Public Comments for Proposed Amendment of 1G SBCCC 200.93 - Reporting of Student Hours in Membership for Curriculum Classes (Attachment PROG 02)

Dr. Brown shared this item will add a definition to the online instruction reporting hours. Dr. Brown stated previously the reporting did not allow students who were attending classes online to be counted for attendance and credited for instruction time. Dr. Brown stated temporary rules were implemented to address this concern, he continued by stating the new language would permanently allow students to be captured for attendance via electronic attendance.

On behalf of the Programs Committee, Mr. Irwin recommended and moved for approval of Attachment PROG 02. The item was approved by voice vote.

**For Information**

Dr. Brown reviewed the following items of For Information:

- Curriculum Standard Revisions as Approved by the System President (Attachment PROG 06)
- Curriculum Program Terminations as Approved by the System President (Attachment PROG 07)

**The following items were approved as Consent Agenda items:**

Dr. Brown reviewed the following items of For Information:

- Curriculum Program Applications – Fast Track for Action (FTFA) (Attachment PROG 03) [CA]
- Curriculum Program Application – Combined Course Library (Attachment PROG 04) [CA]
- Courses of Instruction – Captive/Co-Opted Groups (Attachment PROG 05) [CA]

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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, Mr. Bill McBrayer, Chair**

**For Information**

**Legislative Update**

Mr. McBrayer state the General Assembly is preparing for the upcoming short session in May. He stated the colleges are beginning to meet with their local delegates. He stated it is important to continue to share the appreciation of the previous support from the last Legislative Budget. Mr. McBrayer stated he visited the Legislative Building and met impromptu with members of the Legislature and provided copies of the three (3) year request.



Mr. McBrayer encouraged the members of the Board to attend the upcoming NCACCT Law Legislative Seminar.

Mr. Looney shared data to include in the Legislative request.

Ms. West visited Piedmont Community College and had conversation where she heard from the stakeholders with regard to the need to increase the Legislative request to properly align with the needs and she share the feedback she received was the request was not enough. Ms. West also stated that partnering with the business community is critical during this time.

The Board continued discussion regarding the community college needs.

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**STATE BOARD POLICY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, Mr. Jerry Vaughan, Chair**

Attachments SBPG 01 and SBPG 02 were moved from For Future Action to For Action during the State Board Policy and Governance Committee Meeting on March 17, 2022.

**For Action**

**Proposed Repeal of 1B SBCCC 400.4 – Provision of Information to the System Office (Attachment SBPG 01)**

Ms. Artis stated SBPG 01 is a repeal of 1B SBCCC 400.4, she stated this provision covers information reports sent to the System Office. She stated this repeal will be recodified by the following SBPG 02 item.

On behalf of the State Board Policy and Governance Committee, Mr. Vaughan recommended and moved for approval of Attachment SBPG 01. The item was approved by voice vote.

**Proposed Adoption of 1B SBCCC Subchapter 700 –Information Security Program (Attachment SBPG 02)**

Ms. Artis state this is a request to amend and add a new subchapter, titled Subchapter 700 – Information Security Program. She stated the subchapter will add new information security information for colleges and provide governance for colleges. She stated this subchapter will also codify the Information Technology committees that are currently engaged and working on current projects for the System Office.

On behalf of the State Board Policy and Governance Committee, Mr. Vaughan recommended and moved for approval of Attachment SBPG 02. The item was approved by voice vote.

**Board Self Evaluation: Presidential-Board Partnership (Board Survey, Section 4)\***

Mr. Vaughan move to go into closed session pursuant to the following North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-318.11(a)(6) to prevent the disclosure of information that is confidential or privileged pursuant to and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, and fitness of individual prospective public employees pursuant to section 126-22. The motion was seconded by Mr. Folwell and the Board approved by voice vote.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business noted.

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**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next State Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2022 and Friday, April 22, 2022 in the Dr. W. Dallas Herring State Board Room located in the Caswell Building in Raleigh, NC. More information regarding this meeting will be communicated.

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**EXPIRING TERMS AND VACANCIES**

There are currently zero (0) terms expiring and zero (0) vacancy for the membership of the State Board.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:  
*Secretary*

APPROVED BY:

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Mr. Thomas Stith III, System President

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Mr. Burr Sullivan, Chair