



State Board of Community Colleges

Wake Technical Community College, 9101 Fayetteville Rd,

Raleigh, NC 27603

October 15, 2021

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 9:01 a.m. in the Dr. W. Dallas Herring State Board Room of the Caswell Building. Chairman Sullivan welcomed the Board and introduced new Board members Mr. Nathan Vasquez and Mr. Tom Looney. Chairman Sullivan took a few moments to share his thoughts of focus as the new Chairman of the Board.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mr. Bobby Irwin and Chairman Sullivan asked for a moment of reflection.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Bryan Jenkins called the roll, and the following members were present:

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| Dr. Lee Barnes | Mr. Tom Looney | Mr. Burr Sullivan |
| Dr. Shirley Carraway | Mr. Bill McBrayer* | Mr. Ray Trapp |
| Ms. Lisa Estep | Mr. Mark Merritt* | Mr. Jerry Vaughan* |
| Ms. Jena Gallagher* | Mr. Hari Nath | Ms. Sarah West |
| Mr. Jonathan Harris (Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson designee) | Mr. Andy Penry | Ms. Ann Whitford |
| Mr. William Holder | Ms. Julie Ryan (Comm. Josh Dobson designee) | |
| Mr. Bobby Irwin | The Hon. Sam Searcy* | |

* Attended via telephone
Absent: Treasurer Dale Folwell

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.

Ms. Artis reviewed the requirements to record actual or potential conflicts of interest as noted in NC General Statute 138(a)(15) . Ms. Artis read and noted the following actual or potential conflicts of interest, identified by the State Ethics Commission, for the following members:

Ms. Lisa Estep:

The State Ethics Commission did not find an actual conflict of interest for Ms. Lisa Estep, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity. Ms. Estep is the Finance Director for Griffin-Estep Benefit Group Inc. Because the company could seek to provide services for the community college system, she has the potential for a conflict of interest. Therefore, Ms. Estep should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of her public duties should issues involving Griffin-Estep Benefit Group Inc. come before the Board for official action.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Holder made a motion to approve the September 17, 2021 minutes. Mr. Trapp seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

PER – Mr. McBrayer stated the committee has one (1) item for closed session.

PLAN – Ms. Whitford stated the committee has no changes.

FC – Dr. Barnes stated the committee has no changes.

PROG – Mr. Irwin stated the committee changed Attachment PROG 01 from For Future Action to For Action.

LEG – Mr. McBrayer stated the committee has no changes.

AUD – Mr. Holder stated the committee has no changes

Dr. Carraway made a motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Holder seconded the motion; approved by voice vote. Mr. Trapp made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Mr. Holder seconded the motion; approved by voice vote.

Items approved on the Consent Agenda were as follows:

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, Mr. Bobby Irwin, Chair

Curriculum Program Applications – Fast Track for Action (FTFA) (Attachment PROG 05)

Curriculum Program Application – Captive/Co-Opted (Attachment PROG 06)

Combined Course Library – Continuing Education (Attachment PROG 07)

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Dr. Lee Barnes, Chair

Allocation for Pamlico Community College Recidivism Pilot Project (Attachment FC 01)

Service Agreement for Residency Determination Service (Attachment FC 02)

Improving Career and Technical Education with Perkins Carry Over Funds FY 2021-22 (Attachment FC 03)

Outreach and Marketing Contract Amendment for Longleaf Commitment (Attachment FC 04)

Construction and Property – October 2021 (Attachment FC 05)

ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE, Mr. William Holder, Chair

Internal Audit Plan FY 2020-21 (Attachment AUD 01)

REPORTS:

Dr. Mark Poarch, President of North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents

President Poarch recognized his fellow president, President Rusty Hunt, and thank him for his attendance. President Poarch took a moment to congratulate Mr. Jenkins on his new employment opportunity.

President Poarch discussed the follow:

- The President’s Association meeting in September at the NCACCT meeting in Wilmington.
 - Updates from myFutureNC about North Carolina’s attainment goal of having two (2) million North Carolinians ages 25-44 with a post-secondary credential by 2030.
 - Economic Impact Study – stated he is looking forward to having the Economic Impact Reports, as a tool to use going into the next legislative session.
 - Stated the NCACCP approved the 3-year legislative concept and strategy.
 - Stated the State Budget is pending the budget approval to determine the numbers for the legislative request.
 - Planning to finalize legislative request to the State Board in December 2021 or January 2022.
 - Stated the Presidents Association met Wednesday in the Caswell Building with a virtual option.
 - President Poarch stated the Association had a great conversation with President and the Association heard from committees who have been very active and share a lot of information and updates.
 - President Poarch discussed a concern that was presented during the NCACCP Meeting regarding the mental health impacts of COVID and the recent suicides at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He stated anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues are “real” challenges on our campuses and continued by sharing the colleges are looking for ways to promote emotional well-being and self-care for students and employees.
 - Importance of counselors; challenges with salaries
 - The Mental Health Committee will be taking up some of these challenges.
 - President Poarch briefly provided updates on the following
 - The Personnel and Professional Development Committee
 - New President’s Orientation
 - Casual Conversations
 - President’s Academy with the Belk Center
 - Programs Committee, Legislative, and Finance Committees
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Ms. Julie Woodson, President of North Carolina Association of Community College Trustees

- Ms. Woodson greeted Chairman Sullivan, State Board, and President Stith – stating it is great to be back at the System Office and that she is thank you to the Board for including the trustees on the State Board agenda.
- Ms. Woodson discussed the 2021 Trustees Leadership Seminar in Wilmington, sharing it was a great success. She thanked Chairman Sullivan for attending the entire seminar, stating it meant a lot to the Trustees to see him participating so actively. Ms. Woodson also acknowledged her appreciation to Ms. Ann Whitford, Ms. Lisa Estep, Sen. Sam Searcy, and Mr. Tom Looney for also being there. She stated her appreciation to President Stith and his team – including Ms. Elizabeth Grovenstein and Mr. Bill Schneider – for leading sessions on important topics such as how the community colleges are funded and how Trustees can understand Performance Measures and the right questions to ask to make sure they understand how their colleges are really doing. She shared there was also a session focused on diversity, equity and inclusion and the Adult Learners Initiative that is being supported by MyFutureNC and includes several of the community colleges already.
- Ms. Woodson shared the NCACCT meeting also had a session for Board Chairs only where President Stith spoke to the leaders of the local boards and discussed his goals for the System and emphasized the critical role they serve at their college. She shared the Board Chairs really appreciated that time to meet and have asked for additional opportunities to do that.
- She shared plans to schedule another meeting through Zoom this winter for a chance to meet again as a group the Law-Legislative Seminar next spring. Ms. Woodson shared the event will be held March 30-April 1 at the Marriott City Center, located in downtown Raleigh. She stated it will be a perfect time to discuss the collaborative legislative strategy for the systemwide priorities as we get ready for the legislative short session, which will begin in May of next year.
- Ms. Woodson took a moment to acknowledge Mr. Jenkins – who she stated rebuilt many bridges between the Associations and Board. She thanked Mr. Jenkins and stated he will be missed.
- Dr. Lyn Austin took a moment to recognize Mr. Jenkins and acknowledge his work at the College System.

Mr. Nathan Vasquez, President of North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association

Mr. Vasquez greeted the Board and introduced himself as the new President of N4CSGA and shared a with the Board his background as a dual-enrollment student at Gaston Community College and an early college high school. He shared his intent as President and his goals to foster communication and serve as a bridge to the colleges.

- Mr. Vasquez stated since July of 2021 the Association has been working with advisors to get new members for the Executive Board of N4CSGA. He highlighted the pandemic has decreased the response rate for new members.
- Mr. Vasquez stated the Association currently has seven (7) members on Executive team with representation from South Piedmont, Forsyth Technical, Gaston, Roanoke-Chowan, and Piedmont Colleges.

- Mr. Vasquez stated during the Fall Semester N4CSGA had their first division conference, which began with a speech from Dr. Spriggs, who is the liaison of the Association. He stated the remainder of the agenda consisted of regional division meetings, student workshops led by student leadership alumni and student advisors.
 - October 22-23, 2021 N4CSGA will host another virtual conference on the theme of Leading for Advocacy Creating a Movement consisting of student leadership workshops, speaker engaging dialogue. The Association will decide at this meeting whether to return to in-person meetings or continue virtually for Spring Semester.
 - Mr. Vaughan welcomed Mr. Vasquez and thanked him for stepping up. He acknowledged the importance of his role as the N4CSGA President and asked him to share any needs with the Board.
 - Chairman Sullivan stated his acknowledgments to Mr. Vasquez for his role.
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE, Mr. Bill McBrayer, Chair

Mr. McBrayer shared his thoughts and acknowledgments to Mr. Jenkins as he departs the System Office.

Mr. McBrayer stated there are one (1) action items.

Mr. McBrayer moved to enter closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute section 143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is confidential or privileged pursuant to North Carolina General Statute sections 115D-27 and 126-22. Additionally, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute section 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, and fitness of individual prospective public employees and to consider the conditions of appointment for an individual public employee. Ms. Estep seconded, and the Board entered closed session via voice vote.

Mr. McBrayer made a motion to move to open session, seconded by Dr. Barnes, and the Board moved to open session via voice vote.

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

- Conversion of position # 60087991, Director of Compliance Services from SHRA (SPA) to EHRA (EPA) effective November 1, 2021
- Conversion of position #65009703, Assistant State Director, Adult Education from SHRA (SPA) to EHRA (EPA) effective November 1, 2021
- Mr. Joshua McKinney to the position of Communications Specialist, effective November 1, 2021
- Mr. Patrick Fleming to the position of Chief Information Officer, effective October 15, 2021

Following a motion by Mr. Looney, seconded by Dr. Barnes, the item above were approved via voice vote.

The following items were presented as for information:

- System Office Vacancy Report – October 2021 (Attachment PER 01)
- College Presidential Status Report – October 2021 (Attachment PER 02)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, Ms. Ann Whitford, Chair

For Action

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Recommendations (Attachment PLAN 01)

Ms. Whitford briefly review the item and Dr. Gold discussed the three (3) recommendations.

Dr. Gold gave a brief history of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force Committee and the charge of the Taskforce Committee. She highlighted the recommendation process through the System Advisory Council.

Dr. Gold reviewed the three (3) recommendations.

Ms. Estep stated her concern is not seeing North Carolina Education Assistance Authority (NCEAA) consulted in report and her concern about the recommendation to eliminate RDS without additional input from NCEAA. President Stith clarified the recommendations to eliminate RDS was from the independent DEI report, which was received by the System Advisory Council (SAC). President Stith stated the recommendation before the Board are recommendation brought by SAC and are not to eliminate the RDS. The recommendation the Board is voting on is for the System Office to review the RDS process in more detail and move forward with discussions to the college presidents.

Ms. Whitford stated the NCEAA would like to come present to the Board about statistics and data about RDS.

On behalf of the Strategic Planning Committee, Ms. Whitford recommended and moved for approval of Attachment PLAN 01. The item was approved by voice vote.

The following items were presented as For Information:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force Report (Attachment PLAN 02)
 - Dr. Crane Reviewed the report in detail.
- Planning Meeting Input and Strategic Planning Process (Attachment PLAN 03)

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Dr. Lee Barnes, Chair

For Action

Dr. Barnes stated the Committee voted during Thursday's Committee meeting to approve the following consent agenda items via a combined vote.

- Allocation for Pamlico Community College Recidivism Pilot Project (Attachment FC 01) [CA]
 - Dr. Barnes briefly discussed.
- Service Agreement for Residency Determination Service (Attachment FC 02) [CA]
 - Dr. Barnes briefly discussed.
- Improving Career and Technical Education with Perkins Carry Over Funds FY 2021-22 Attachment FC 03) [CA]
 - Dr. Barnes briefly discussed.
- Outreach and Marketing Contract Amendment for Longleaf Commitment (Attachment FC 04) [CA]
 - Dr. Barnes briefly discussed.
- Construction and Property – October 2021 (Attachment FC 05) [CA]
 - Dr. Barnes briefly discussed.

For Information

Dr. Barnes briefly reviewed the following for information items.

- Specialized Public Safety Waiver List (Attachment FC 06)
- Estimated Receipts – September 2021 (Attachment FC 07)
- Connect NC Bond Status Report (Attachment FC 08)

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, Mr. Bobby Irwin, Chair

For Action

Curriculum Program Application – New to the System (Attachment PROG 01)

Mr. Irwin stated on Thursday, the Programs Committee voted to move the above For Future Action item to For Action. Dr. Gold and Mr. Irwin presented and reviewed the item.

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 Comments for Proposed Amendment 1D SBCCC 800.2 - General Provisions (Attachment PROG 02)

Mr. Irwin reviewed Attachment PROG 02.

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

Review of Comments for Proposed Amendment 1D SBCCC 800.4 - State or Industry Recognized Credentials/Continuing Education to Curriculum Credit (Attachment PROG 03)

Mr. Irwin reviewed Attachment PROG 03.

On behalf of the Programs Committee, Mr. Irwin recommended and moved for approval of Attachment PROG 03. The item was approved by voice vote.

Review of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement That Exists Between Constituent Institutions of the North Carolina Community College System and Constituent Institutions of the University of North Carolina System (Attachment PROG 04)

Mr. Irwin reviewed Attachment PROG 04.

On behalf of the Programs Committee, Mr. Irwin recommended and moved for approval of Attachment PROG 04. The item was approved by voice vote.

The following items were approved via the Consent Agenda:

- Curriculum Program Applications – Fast Track for Action (FTFA) (Attachment PROG 05) [CA]
- Curriculum Program Application – Captive/Co-Opted (Attachment PROG 06) [CA]
- Combined Course Library – Continuing Education (Attachment PROG 07) [CA]

For Information

Mr. Irwin asked the Board to review the following For Information items below:

- Curriculum Program Terminations as Approved by the System President (Attachment 08)
- Curriculum Standard Revision as Approved by the System President (Attachment PROG 09)

Mr. Looney shared comments regarding computer science standard that was approved by the Board of Education last year. Mr. Looney stated he would like to review how we can lead North Carolina by bringing forward with the Board of Education, professional development (related to computer science standards) in a fixed scale within Wayne County, to use as a model through the State. Chairman Sullivan stated his support for the thoughts Mr. Looney shared.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, Mr. Bill McBrayer, Chair

Mr. McBrayer stated the Legislative Committee did not meet on Thursday and provided a brief update on the legislative budget process. Mr. Fagg shared comments and updates regarding the legislative budget, including the usual process this year to present a comprised budget proposal involving the Governor's upfront in negotiations with hopes to come to an agreeable budget that can become law. He stated discussion are ongoing and there is a expectation to see updates towards the end of October. He also stated there is still strong support in the Legislature for the Community College System.

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE, Mr. William Holder, Chair

Mr. Holder briefly shared comments and acknowledgement regarding returning to the System Office, President Stith continuous improvements to the System Office and leadership, and congratulatory comments to Mr. Jenkins on his transition into another employment opportunity.

For Action

Internal Audit Plan FY 2020-21 (Attachment AUD 01) [CA]

Mr. Holder briefly reviewed Attachment SBPG 01 as a Consent Agenda item approved during Thursday's Committee meeting.

Mr. Jenkins shared details regarding Attachment AUD 01.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stith spoke about the following:

- Highlight the successful NCACCT event in Wilmington
- Congratulated Mr. Jenkins as he transitions into his new employment opportunity
- Discussed transitions at the System Office and reminded the Board of the strong support within the Community College System and System Office
- Discussed Growing Enrollment and shared statistical data and trends of current instructional FTE and student headcount
- Discussed vision and plans to improve and expand student enrollment including:
 - Accelerating Student Readiness
 - Adult Learner Pilot (Blue Ridge, Durham Tech, Fayetteville Tech, Pitt, Vance-Granville)
 - Apprenticeship expansion
 - Basic Skills Plus
 - Career and College Readiness
 - Diversity, equity, and inclusion
 - Racial Equity for Adult Credentials in Higher Ed (REACH)
 - Scholarships (GEER, GoldenLeaf, Longleaf Commitment)
 - Strategic Enrollment Teams (SEMs)
 - Statewide outreach campaigns
- Grant Award to Support Career Coaching – GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
- Discussed Student Retention
- Discussed College System's focus on Business and Industry, including corporate partnerships with Red Hat, SAS, and NC Association for County Commissioners
- Provided updates on his college visits, he has met with 33 of the 58 colleges to discuss and access each college's capacities, initiatives, programs, and meet with college stakeholders
- President Stith shared some headline news highlight related to the North Carolina Community College System
- Presented and invited the Board to the Apprentice NC booth space at the North Carolina State Fair to visit students who will participate in contest and receive awards on October 18th, for the following areas:
 - Electrical
 - Carpentry
 - HVAC
 - Masonry
 - Plumber / Pipefitter

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Vaughan shared an article he read from the Wall Street Journal about the scope and scale of the workforce shortage, he stated it highlights the opportunity before the Community College System to be a part of the solution.

Chairman Sullivan announced the Issues Luncheon will begin again during the November Board Meeting. The topic will be on Adult Learning by the JM Belk Endowment.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next State Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2021, and Friday, November 19, 2021, 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.

EXPIRING TERMS AND VACANCIES

There are currently zero (0) terms expiring and one (1) vacancy for the membership of the State Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Mr. Thomas Stith III, System President

Mr. Burr Sullivan, Chair