

**MINUTES**  
**State Board of Community Colleges**  
**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, January 14, 2021 – 12:30 p.m.**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. Burr Sullivan, Chair	Dr. Samuel Powell
Mr. Bobby Irwin, Vice Chair	Mr. Jesse Watts
Mr. Hari Nath	
Members Absent: Mr. Bob Stephens	

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

Dr. John Hauser, NCACCP Liaison  
Dr. Maria Pharr, NCACCP Liaison

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE\***

Mr. Thomas Stith, NCCCS President	Ms. Andrea Poole
Dr. Bill Carver, NCCCS Interim President	Mr. Jon Harris
Ms. Maureen Little	Mr. Bryan Jenkins
Mr. Jim Parker	Mr. Bill Schneider
Ms. Elizabeth Grovenstein	Ms. Anne Bacon
Ms. Mary Shuping	Ms. Sondra Jarvis
Dr. Kimberly Gold	Ms. Kelly Barretto

\*Additional individuals watched on the System Office YouTube channel

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Barretto took the roll of the Strategic Planning Committee members. With five members in attendance, a quorum was present.

**ETHICS STATEMENT**

Ms. Poole read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any known conflicts. None were noted.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Mr. Sullivan asked for a motion to jointly approve the agenda for today's meeting and the October 15, 2020 minutes. Mr. Irwin made the motion to approve the agenda and November 19, 2020 minutes, Dr. Powell seconded, and the Committee approved the agenda and November 19, 2020 minutes unanimously without change.

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Continued Exploration of New Focus Areas: Leaders in Flexible Learning**

### Presentation on Implementation of Flexible Learning Recommendations

Andrea Poole briefly recapped the subject of rural broadband that was presented to the Committee in October before introducing Dr. Kimberly Gold. Dr. Gold discussed the ways the pandemic has shifted how colleges think about providing learning in a flexible format to provide continuity of service and options for students. Dr. Gold highlighted statistics that show percentages of courses that were delivered in an online format for CTE and curriculum instruction over the past several years. She discussed recommendations that include hiring a director of online learning, a position that would be housed in the Programs Division. The new director and the System Office would have five goals, paramount of which is “ensure that NC Community Colleges are positioned as a leader in high quality content delivery.”

### Presentation on Long-term IT Strategy

Jim Parker discussed the challenges of higher education IT and the NCCCS infrastructure, noting that technology in higher education tends to be about 10-15 years behind the industry standard. Currently, we have 59 systems (one for each college and the System Office) rather than one – which is costly and inefficient. Mr. Parker reviewed System accomplishments in IT that were made possible by the State Board and what we are working on and need to do next.

### Potential Changes to Strategic Plan and Strategic Plan Tactics

Anne Bacon previewed six proposed, substantive changes to our System strategic plan, as follows:

- Specifically reference “**robust and inclusive online learning**” in strategy 1.3.2 on flexible learning.
- Add strategy 2.4.2 to “**identify and remove systemic challenges to students of color and offer them targeted supports.**”
- Add an objective (3.4) and strategy (3.4.1) to emphasize the importance of **counseling for small business owners** through the Small Business Centers.
- Add an objective (3.5) on “**Developing a workforce pipeline for emergency response, pandemic-proof, and high-demand industries.**”
  - Under the goal of “Economic and Workforce Impact,” this would include strategies to support the NC Workforce Credentials framework (3.5.1); expand teacher preparation through the community colleges through articulation agreements (3.5.2); and provide enhanced training for law enforcement officers (3.5.3).
- Add a new strategy to “**Expand broadband access at North Carolina community colleges**” (4.1.3).
- Add a new strategy to “**identify and apply lessons learned from the pandemic based on best practices, System needs, and gaps in strategies**” (4.4.3).

Ms. Bacon invited suggestions for wording changes over the next two weeks.

### ADJOURN

There being no other business, Chairman Sullivan adjourned the Committee at 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barretto  
Recording Secretary