

**League of Women Voters COD  
Observers Report**

**Board meeting attended:** Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

**Date and Location of meeting:** Thursday, March 21, 2019, ROOM SSC-2200

**Meeting started: 6:00 pm** – Pledge of Allegiance led by Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts from Bloomington

**Heidi Holen sworn in as appointed Trustee**

**Closed session:** 6:09 pm

**Open session resumed:** 7:06 pm

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:32 pm

**League Observer(s):** Di Niesman by A/V

**Board Members/Trustees present (P) not present (NP) tardy (T):**

P\_\_\_ Frank Napolitano, Chairman

P\_\_\_ Christine Fenne, Board Secretary

P\_\_\_ Alan Bennett

P\_\_\_ Charles Bernstein

P\_\_\_ Heidi Holen

P\_\_\_ Daniel Markwell

NP\_\_\_ Joseph C. Wozniak (P when Open Session Resumed)

P\_\_\_ Sonia Paul, Student Trustee

**Estimated Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff):** Not able to estimate by A/V.

**Meetings are Streamed and Archived at:**

[http://www.cod.edu/multimedia\\_services/botmedia.aspx](http://www.cod.edu/multimedia_services/botmedia.aspx)

**Agenda can be found at:**

[http://www.cod.edu/about/board\\_of\\_trustees/pdf/agendas/2019/2019march21\\_agenda.pdf](http://www.cod.edu/about/board_of_trustees/pdf/agendas/2019/2019march21_agenda.pdf)

**PUBLIC COMMENT(4):**

1) Sharon Toller\*: Talked about luck and responsibility, referencing the passing of Eric Martinson, an English professor at, and alumnus of, COD after a battle with leukemia. She thanked people by name at COD who helped him during his illness, what a strong culture COD had as demonstrated by how Eric was helped. She announced that the COD Foundation was setting up a scholarship in his name. She was pleased that the Board was finally approving curriculum software they have needed. She said they all had a responsibility to the college and each other and needed to confront their fears and ask tough questions and challenge each other.

2) Jackie McGrath, VP of CODFA, congratulated retiring teachers. She also asked the Board to consider increasing property tax levy. They had raised tuition \$1 for two consecutive budgets, and had kept taxes the same. She said “raising tuition only is not fair and balanced public policy.”

3) Bob Hazard, faculty member, before his remarks, asked that 100 staff and faculty donate \$10 per paycheck to Eric Martinson Scholarship Fund. He was asked by Maureen Dunne, candidate for COD trustee and distinguished COD alumna, to ask the Board to make a statement condemning the harassment which she was receiving during her campaign. She was receiving intimidating phone calls, a note threatening her children, the spread of lies and disinformation, an attack by the Edgar County Watchdogs that was totally without merit, etc.\*\*

**REPORTS (board members, staff, administrators)(5)****a. Chairman’s Report**

Napolitano reported on the ACCT Conference in D.C. attended with Dr. Caputo. During leadership meetings, they discussed COD hosting an off-site event during conference in 2020. Spoke with Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, who encouraged dual credits and Rep. Bill Foster who was interested in STEM, and in a group meeting with staff from Sen. Durbin and Sen. Duckworth, and Reps. Casten, Quigley, Lipinski, and Underwood. All were very interested in and excited about Frida Kahlo exhibit. Discussed Innovation DuPage.

**b. Student Trustee Report**

Sonia Paul and the Student Council President Yasmin attended a CC student leadership conference; they won an award for the binder they submitted. They will attend Advocacy Day in Springfield in April to advocate for COD funding and MAP grants. It makes students feel like they do have a voice. Will also interact with students from other schools. Introduced Jacob who talked about Feminist Alliance on campus. The group started in 2014, has over 20 members, celebrated International Women’s Day, distributed literature on consent and healthy relationships, and collaborated with DuPage County STD Clinic to distribute literature on health. Lots of activities are planned for future.

**c. President’s Report**

Dr. Caputo announced several awards in the area of health sciences. He announced exceptionally successful refunding of college's bonds. Robotics team competed with over 40 schools and came in first among community colleges (only one in Springfield) and 10<sup>th</sup> over all. The robot was demonstrated at the meeting.

Wendy Parks, Senior Director of Public Relations announced that COD received a Marketing & Communications Award from the Glenbard Parent Series for the college's assistance.

**d. Budget Committee Report**

Trustee Markwell announced meeting was rescheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**e. Presidential Search Committee**

Chairman Napolitano announce that two meetings had been conducted, discussions about what kind of president they were looking for, going to have 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>, had received several applications. Committee members could go to secure site to read the applications.

**PRESENTATIONS(6)**

**· Enrollment Update**

○ **Dr. Mark Curtis-Chavéz, Provost**

Very detailed report with these highlights: Spring Enrollment - FTE -5.2%, Head count -3.5%. Over the past five years there has been a steady decline with FTE -15% and Head count -18%. Still, COD performs significantly better in both categories that state as whole. General Education (transfer) courses, like English, are declining while Continuing Education courses, like Cosmetology, are increasing. The number of high school students earning dual credits is growing and these students tend to come to COD, earn a certificate and four year degree within 5 years. The biggest battle is with outmigration. Almost 50% of graduates are going out of state for higher education. It will take a year to develop a comprehensive Strategic Enrollment Management plan that goes from elementary school to employment. Some ideas- increase credit hours per semester; Hispanic student recruitment initiatives. Questions/Comments: Napolitano wants it emphasized that students who WORK for company 'in district' can pay in district tuition, no matter where they live, because employer pays property taxes. Bennett asked about Hispanics outreach. Bernstein asked about FTE decline.

**· Project Hire-Ed Update**

○ **Linda Sands-Vankerk, Vice President Project Hire-Ed**

Project Hire-Ed asks the question, "How can schools and business leaders work together to prepare the current and future workforce?" The national conversation is among employers is the inability to grow their businesses for lack of qualified workforce. They think the employees should have college degrees, but are finding college degrees are no guarantee that the employee will be able to do the job. On the flip side, potential employees (aka h.s. graduates) either can't or won't take on the student debt, aren't interested or don't think they're interested in a college degree. COD is developing an Earn and Learn Model (Apprenticeship). The ultimate goal is student success (Guided Pathways). Most of employer discussions have been with manufacturing sector. First model is called Addison model. Everything will be paid for by the employers. It will be on the job training with college courses simultaneously. Questions: Bennett asked about whether COD has contacted IDES. Answer: will be contacting. Fenne asked about if there was a limit...six slots initially...need more employers. Will have a plan B for students

who go through seminar class, but aren't hired or there aren't enough slots. Many employers want to see how it works. Reason for 'soft' roll out.

· **Innovation DuPage Update**

○ **Joseph Cassidy, Assistant Vice President Economic Development/Dean Continuing Education & Extended Learning**

Started with a look back at history of Innovation DuPage. Grand opening will be May 22<sup>th</sup>. A non-profit organization located on second floor of G.E. Civic Center. G.E. donating 10 years free rent (\$4M). First cohort was very successful for the companies that participated. Incubation-Acceleration-Collaboration.

**INFORMATION ITEMS(7)**

**a. Personnel Items**

**b. Financial Statements c. Gifts & Grants Report**

**d. Construction Change Orders**

**e. Monthly Construction Update**

**f. In-Kind Donations Report**

**g. Sabbatical and One Semester Non-Teaching Assignment Leaves for the 2019-2020 Academic Year**

**h. Affirmative Action Plan**

**i. Official Statement Associated with the Sale of the Series 2019 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source)**

**j. Student Election Results**

No discussion

**CONSENT AGENDA (8)**

**a. Engineering Services for Emergency Generator**

**b. Administrator Renewals**

**c. Pathways Program Furniture for SRC 1140-1144**

**d. Civil Engineering Design Services for Roadway & Sidewalk Maintenance and Improvements Project**

**e. Comprehensive Campus-Wide Facilities Condition Assessment**

**f. Ellucian Software Maintenance Agreement**

**g. General Contractor for Pathways SRC 1144**

**h. Blackboard Outcomes Assessment**

**i. Video Content Management System**

**j. Fall 2019 Tuition Increase**

**k. Culinary Linen – Bid Rejection**

**l. Culinary Linen – Aggregate Spend Increase**

**m. Bond Refunding Board Resolution**

**n. Reimbursement to Interim President Dr. Brian Caputo**

**o. Reimbursement to Chairman Frank Napolitano**

**p. Minutes of the February 1, 2019 Special Board Meeting**

**q. Minutes of the February 21, 2019 Regular Board Meeting**

**r. Closed Session Minutes – CONFIDENTIAL – for Board only:**

**(a) February 1, 2019**

**(b) February 21, 2019**

**s. Personnel Action Items**

#### **t. Financial Reports**

Trustee Markwell asked that 8h and 8i be pulled, Trustee Bennett pulled item 8j. Bennett moved that Items 8a-8g and 8k-8t be approved. Fenne seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

8h. Trustee Holen asked if student's privacy is protected with the Blackboard Outcomes Assessment? Answer: system is different than familiar learning system...individual student information is not gathered or shared. Markwell asked if it would be a primarily faculty tool? Answer: Yes. Asked if information begins now? Yes, not historical. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

8i. Markwell asked if there was an immediate need for the video content management, if Board wanted more bids. Only one bid came in on time, and they thought it was outstanding. There would not be any harm in waiting, but a different result was not expected. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

8j. Trustee Bennett wanted Fall 2019 Tuition Increase to be **tabled**. Bob Haley, Budget Manager, said the decision is based on a 10 year projection, inflation, the fact that tuition is still lower than it was years ago. Trying not to overreact; trying to move needle just a little bit rather than a lot later. Expect inflationary increases. Bernstein asked what date the decision had to be made. Dr. Caputo answered "tonight." Trustee Markwell protested last year's \$1 increase, but after working on Budget Committee and with Bob Haley, he favors the increase. Bennett wanted it tabled for new Board to decide. Bernstein didn't it wanted tabled. Student Paul feels the increase was necessary. Trustee Holen asked if there were areas to cut expenses rather than increase revenue? Dr. Caputo said they had already done a lot of shaving, but they didn't want to cut any programs. We are below the state average tuition of \$144. The first vote was to table the item. Trustee Bennett and Trustee Holen voted to table. The motion did not pass. Markwell moved and Fenne seconded to approve the increase. Trustee Bennett and Trustee Fenne voted no. Motion passed.

#### **FOR APPROVAL: AlphaGraphics Wheaton Financial Report**

Bennett moved, Markwell seconded. Approved with Fenne abstaining

#### **TRUSTEE DISCUSSION**

Bernstein pointed out that Sonia Paul was ending her term as Student Trustee, Trustee Bennett's two year term, and Trustee Wozniak's 12 years were also ending. Thanked Bennett for wit and wisdom and Wozniak for his historical knowledge.

**Comments/Concerns:** \*Sharon Toller is President of CODFA (College of DuPage Faculty Association) and a faculty representative on the 16 member Presidential Search Committee. \*\*The public comment about candidate harassment was chilling, considering this is a 'nonpartisan' election. The Clean Slate/Tea Party cabal that appeared in 2015 is alive and well, and apparently determined to control the COD Board of Trustees from the shadows.

## General Features

	Yes	No	Comments
Did the meeting start on time?	x		
Were members attentive and prepared?	x		
Were members courteous to each other?	x		
Were members attentive to the publics' comments?	x		Unable to determine do to not being present at meeting
Was the facility adequate?	x		
Could the audience see and hear?	x		
Were visual aids easily visible to the audience	x		
Were the meeting facilities handicapped accessible	x		

**FOIA (Complete once, unless information changes.**

## Illinois Open Meetings Act requirements

	Yes	No	Comments
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If yes, note where	x		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed?	x		

Were background materials made available to the public?	x		
Was there adequate discussion of the issues?	x		
Was there a closed session before, during or after the meeting?	x		Before
If there was a closed meeting, was any action taken after the closed session? If so, what action?	x		Consent agenda items voted on after closed session

**Calendar Dates**

Thursday, April 25, 2019: Organizational & Regular Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. – SSC-2200

**Date Submitted: May 11, 2019**

**By: Di Niesman**