



BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: April 10, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Present:

Thomas J. Jennings, Chair
Richard Balukas, Ed.D.
James Dancy
Broadus Davis, Ed.D., via Zoom
Tabitha Dell'Angelo, Ph.D.
Blake Eisenhart
Jamie Fazzalore
Shamsul Huda
Carol Mignoni Ferguson

Ronni Fuchs, Esq.
Adrienne King, via Zoom
Vincent Magyar, Esq.
John Murray
Ed Tokmajian
Phil Wursta
Michael Clarke, Esq., Solicitor
Patrick M. Jones, Ph.D., President & CEO

Mr. Jennings called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M. He introduced Dean Nicole Tracey, Professor Tony Rogers, Faculty Advisor for the Centurion student newspaper, Kassandra Castillo, Editor-in-Chief of the Centurion, and several of Professor Rogers' students, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Professor Rogers thanked the Board for inviting them to the meeting. He reported that the Centurion recently won 16 awards at the Keystone Media Contest for work done in the spring and fall semesters of 2024. These awards are administered by the PA News Media Association and acknowledge high school and college journalism relevance and virtue in serving their readers. Since 2010, the Centurion has won approximately 200 awards.

Following the Roll Call, Mr. Jennings noted that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the public meeting to receive information on budget and personnel matters, as well as capital projects.

Mr. Jennings asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2025 board meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Tokmajian, the Board approved the minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Jennings reported that the Newtown Open House is on Saturday, April 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and the Scholarship Tea is on Friday, May 2. He then noted that he and Dr. Jones met with Representative Joe Hogan on March 31, and that he, Vice President Timby, and Dean Luce attended a Chamber event also attended by Congressman Fitzpatrick. He noted that springtime is a very busy time around the College, with lots of opportunities for interaction with members of the extended community.

PRESIDENT & CEO'S REPORT

President Jones noted that it is National Volunteers Month, and he thanked the trustees for their dedicated service to the College. He then introduced Karen O'Donnell, Vice President of Advancement & Alumni Relations, and Executive Director of the BCCC Foundation, who started on March 24. He said she is experienced in all areas of fundraising and is a lifelong resident of Bucks County. Dr. Jones then reported that two of the three Dean searches have concluded. Dr. Carolina Blatt will begin on June 1 as the Dean of Arts & Communications, and Jackie Burger will begin on July 1 as the Dean of Learning Resources & Online Learning. The Dean of STEM search is still underway.

Dr. Jones then reported on many recent and upcoming events including:

- 4/2 - Open House at the Epstein Campus @ Lower Bucks
- 4/9 - Open House at the Upper Bucks Campus
- 4/11 - Second Annual Girls Ignite Trades Event at the Center for Advanced Technology. Approximately 60 middle school students from Bristol Twp School District will be introduced to a wide variety of construction trades, in addition to careers in firefighting. We are partnering with the Philadelphia Building & Construction Trades Council, with several of the unions supporting the event and providing the tradeswomen who will share insight. Thanks to Jim Keenan at Sheet Metal Workers Local 19 who has been the driving force in establishing and maintaining this valuable partnership. We are also thrilled to have our Public Safety Training Center and the Bristol Twp Fire Dept. participating in the event. Thanks to Vice President Timby & Executive Director Herring for their work organizing this event.
- 4/12 - Open House at the Newtown Campus
- 4/16 - Concert Choir & Madrigal Singers Performance in Zlock
- 4/28 - Culinary Arts & Hospitality Open House
- 5/2 - Student Research Conference @ Newtown Campus
- 5/4 - Student Art Awards and Open Studios
- 5/5 - Student Percussion Ensemble Concert in Zlock.
- 5/6 - Student Music Ensemble Spring Concert in Zlock
- 5/7 - Student Film Festival in Zlock
- 5/7 - Chef Graduation Dinner in Tyler Hall
- 5/9 - Student Dance Showcase Spring Recital in Zlock
- 5/22 – Commencement at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. – Dr. Jones noted that this is the highlight of the academic year.

Dr. Jones concluded by saying that the College changes the lives of students every day, and this could not be done without the leadership of those around the room.

Chair Jennings added that he and Dr. Jones will join Vice President Timby at the County Commissioners meeting on Wednesday, April 16, where the County will vote on an agreement to construct a rail spur on county-owned land in Croydon which is leased to the College. In addition, Dr. Jones will give a State of the College address at the June 4 Commissioners meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE – Ms. Fuchs & Mr. Christensen

Ms. Fuchs reported that the Finance & Audit Committee is recommending the FY2026 budget for approval on today's agenda. She noted that it was a challenging year to budget due to many changes and uncertainties. She said the developed budget is conservative on the revenue side, and we hope to do better than expected. Mr. Christensen noted that it is approximately an \$85 million balanced budget. He said \$2.4 million capital funds have been set aside for deferred maintenance and other projects, and that the budget is relatively stable year over year. Chair Jennings noted that this budget has been vetted by the Finance Committee.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – Ms. Fazzalore

Ms. Fazzalore reported that the Governance Committee will meet in person on April 29 to discuss recommendations for the Board Officers for 2025-2026. She said that anyone interested in serving as a Board Officer should let Beth Brower know by April 28. She noted that the Committee will report its recommendations at the May 8 Board meeting, for action at the June 12 meeting. Nominations from the floor are also permitted at the June 12 Board of Trustees meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Mr. Eisenhart

Mr. Eisenhart reported that the Committee met earlier in the month and discussed health and safety, human relations, administration, and oversight matters. He said the Committee is very pleased that the work of Dr. Blanco, CHRO, resulted in significant financial savings for the College.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE FY2026 BUDGET

The Chair announced that the next item would be action on the proposed FY2026 budget, and he asked for a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Dancy and seconded by Mr. Magyar. A roll call vote was then taken, and the motion was approved. The roll call vote was fifteen in favor, zero opposed, and zero abstentions.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Niels Christensen

The Chair announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda unless a Trustee requested an item be removed for specific discussion and individual action. There were no requests.

Upon motion by Ms. Fazzalore, and second by Mr. Tokmajian, the Board of Trustees approved all items as set forth on the Consent Agenda.

- *Internet Router Replacement – CNI Sales, Inc.*
- *Miller Precision Optical Instruments – Microscopes*
- *Computer Equipment Lease Financing*

BOARD COMMENT

Chair Jennings noted that Trustees have Bucks branded water bottles at their seats in recognition of National Volunteers Month. Trustee Dell'Angelo noted that she was pleased to hear there is such positive public support for events like Girls Ignite. She said, at this moment programs such as that are in jeopardy, and she hopes that such support continues. Trustee Tokmajian reported that he attended Community Day in Bensalem and was happy to see that Bucks was represented. He said the recruiters were doing an outstanding job. Chair Jennings closed by reminding trustees that, following the meeting, there would be a trustee-only discussion with President Jones and Chief Human Resources Officer Dr. Jill Blanco.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at the Newtown Campus on May 8, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.

Shamsul Huda, Secretary