



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Open Session Minutes | June 16, 2021 (Virtual Zoom Meeting)

**Board Members Present:** Chairman Kurt L. Schmoke, Esq., Mr. Jason Perkins-Cohen, Mr. J.C. Weiss, III, Dr. Rachel Pfeifer, Ms. Leonor Tannhauser Blum, Mr. John D. Lewis, Ms. Lelia F. Parker, Esq., Mr. Oluwafemi S. Toriola, Student Member

**Board Member Absent:** Dr. John Brothers, LPD

**Also Present:** Dr. Debra L. McCurdy, President

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Schmoke called the Open Session Board Meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

#### **A. Adoption of the June 16, 2021 Agenda**

**ACTION:** Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to adopt the June 16, 2021 Meeting Agenda. Trustee J.C. Weiss motioned for the adoption of the June 16, 2021 Agenda and Trustee Leonor Tannhauser Blum seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

### **BOARD ACTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to accept the consent agenda.

**ACTION:** Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to approve the Board Actions / Consent Agenda. Trustee Weiss motioned for approval of the Board Actions / Consent Agenda, and it was seconded by Trustee Blum. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **B. ACCUPLACER and Establishment of New Measures for Student Assessment**

Dr. Liesl Jones, Vice President of Academic Affairs provided an overview of the College's current student placement test, the ACCUPLACER. She discussed the limitations of this test and stated the College is adopting a new process for determining student placement.

Dr. Jones stated the College will partially move away from using ACCUPLACER and will instead use high school transcripts, AP courses and scores, SAT scores, honors Math/English and a 500 word essay on what students perceive as their superpower. These new measures will provide a holistic approach to student assessment versus a one moment in time snapshot that is the ACCUPLACER test. Dr. Jones further stated that other colleges in the area use similar measurements.

Drs. McCurdy and Jones met recently with Bob Embry, President of the Abell Foundation to discuss the College's new direction on placement assessment. Mr. Embry was excited to learn the College is moving away from ACCUPLACER as a singular measure for student assessment and placement.

Chairman Schmoke asked why this discussion was brought to the Board, when it appeared to be an operational change.

Dr. McCurdy stated this is a policy shift in how student assessment is executed, and therefore is included as part of the Board agenda.

Trustee Pfeifer thanked both Drs. McCurdy and Jones for their leadership.

Trustee Jason Perkins-Cohen echoed the sentiments of Trustee Pfeifer. He referenced past discussions with workforce leaders about why the College was using ACCUPLACER. He stated he was glad to see the shift to this holistic approach.

Trustee Toriola asked what happens to those students who have graduated several years ago and how will this new policy help them during matriculation? He also asked how effective will this new policy be for these students?

Trustee Parker asked if the new measures for assessment are looking at prior learning for individuals who may have longer time gaps between high school and enrollment. She stated ACCUPLACER is based on 6th and 7th grade Math, and the goal is student success.

Dr. McCurdy stated that Bob Embry objected to using ACCUPLACER based on this same reasoning.

**ACTION: Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to approve removal of the singular use of the ACCUPLACER test for new student placement measures. Trustee Weiss motioned for approval of the removal of the singular use of the ACCUPLACER test for new student placement measures, and it was seconded by Trustee Pfeifer. The Board unanimously approved the motion.**

### **C. Enrollment Report**

Vice President Becky Burrell reviewed the PowerPoint containing the enrollment data. She stated MSP summer enrollment data is not included. She referenced the report was received 18 days after the start of classes and it shows a consistent increase in students enrolling in classes. Ms. Burrell shared new strategies such as policies and placement measures to show the effectiveness with the enrollment increases. Additionally, Ms. Burrell stated the College is expanding the student demographic by targeting students such as those home from primary colleges, and students in surrounding counties as potential enrollees.

Ms. Burrell stated other contributors to the increase in enrollment trends are courses, course sections and course types being offered.

Chairman Schmoke asked if there are adequate faculty for the increase in courses. Ms. Burrell stated the College is looking at adjunct faculty to fill the gaps.

Dr. McCurdy indicated the College has expanded the summer terms, to include two 5-week and two 8-week terms to meet the needs of city school students after their school year ends. Also, the College is reviewing the summer course offerings to ensure we are meeting the needs of students.

#### **D. Cultural Diversity Report**

Ms. Burrell indicated that the Student Affairs division has primary responsibility for preparing the report. She stated the report is due by September 1 and that Board approval is needed to ensure legislative compliance. Ms. Burrell indicated the report requires a diversity definition, which the College is doing, and how the pandemic has affected diversity at the institution. Ms. Burrell stated that the strategic planning process will include the reevaluation of the goals for diversity to ensure alignment with the strategic priorities.

**ACTION:** Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to approve the Cultural Diversity Report. Trustee Pfeifer motioned for approval of the Cultural Diversity Report, and it was seconded by Trustee Weiss. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

#### **E. ERP**

CIO Stephan Byam reported the College maintains a green status from DoIT, which means the College is appropriately resourced and within budget. Mr. Byam indicated this is the last update that will be provided to the Board, as the summer months are approaching.

He stated that the project is doing well from a financial standpoint. The pandemic has cut the cost of travel, room and board for consultants as the work is being done remotely. This cost savings has allowed the College to create a cushion to handle unforeseen issues.

Mr. Byam stated that his focus is organizational readiness in terms of roles, responsibility and terminology with special emphasis on how the institution is prepared psychologically for the shift with the new ERP. He stated training will be a major component of organizational readiness, and that staff and end user training is the primary focus.

Chairman Schmoke asked who is providing the training. Mr. Byam stated Ellucian is the primary trainer and internal staff will be identified under the “train-the-trainer” model. Ellucian will provide the basic knowledge.

Mr. Byam stated infrastructure readiness is also another aspect of organizational readiness. He described that currently, the College is single point connected.

#### **F. President’s Report**

Dr. McCurdy reported she has taken temporary oversight of the Student Affairs division and that Vice President Burrell will share some of the responsibility, primarily regarding the technology transition. Dr. McCurdy indicated that Dr. Reinhart communicated that a critical medical issue with a member of her family arose and she would not be able to continue the pace needed for her role as vice president. Daily meetings are being held with the Student Affairs directors and will continue until a vice president replacement is appointed.

Dr. McCurdy stated the athletics department needed to begin recruitment to allow the program to get back on track and expected that the season would begin with mens and womens basketball.



Dr. McCurdy also stated there will be significant mental health issues with students when full time status on campus returns. She anticipates that by late July, there will be a transition to return to campus, but not to expect a full return to campus until late fall.

Dr. McCurdy stated there is policy work that needs to occur, and the Board will have this on the agenda when meetings resume in September. The President is working with the Faculty Senate and looks to work with a small faculty group over the summer on policy changes that affect the faculty handbook.

Dr. McCurdy stated there is a lot of work in the campus facility side, including physical space enhancements, for example bathrooms, the main campus entrance, the library, and PE Center. She indicated the deferred maintenance budget of \$4 million is in the final planning stage to spend on these enhancements.

Dr. McCurdy asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Chairman Schmoke asked who will be supervising the Student Affairs area.

Dr. McCurdy stated that each line area has direct supervisors who can manage the day-to-day, direct management. And, that she along with Ms. Burrell will be responsible for bringing together the appropriate teams to ensure things are working efficiently.

Trustee Weiss commented what were the other community colleges doing to return for the fall.

Chairman Schmoke stated the chancellor had a call with the USM presidents. He stated the chancellor will leave it up to each USM institution regarding masking, social distancing and vaccinations.

Trustee Toriola asked if students will be returning to campus in the fall.

Dr. McCurdy stated there will be some transitions back to campus at the beginning of the fall. Some offices will start to transition mid-summer and more will occur in the fall. She stated the College will not likely be fully returning in the fall.

Chairman Schmoke stated that his institution, UB will have only 25% classes on campus.

Dr. McCurdy stated that an expanded online status may be a new model that will allow the College to become competitive with the fully online and for-profit schools. The virtual nature of offering classes and services has opened the door to another operational opportunity.

Chairman Schmoke asked if there were any final questions for the open session. Hearing no questions, the Chairman moved to close the meeting.

**ACTION:** Chairman Schmoke requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Weiss motioned for adjournment and Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 pm.



**Attendance:**

- Dr. Debra L. McCurdy, President
- Ms. Maria Rodriguez, Esq., General Counsel
- Mr. Michael Thomas, Vice President of Workforce Development
- Dr. Liesl Jones, Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Ms. Lyllis Green, Chief Internal Auditor
- Mr. Stephan Byam, Chief Information Officer
- Ms. Channa Williams, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration
- Ms. Becky Burrell, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning

**BCCC Staff Present:**

Katherine Dixon, Sharon Stoddard, Wendy Harris, Nena Kutniewski, Stephanie Quick, Brett King, Jason Morgan, Elizabeth Purswani, Valerie Grays, Eileen Hawkins, Nicole Deutsch, Alta Cannaday, Williams Fleming, Sylvia Rochester, Patricia Mikos, Katana Hall, Denise Holland, Michael Berends, Kadeidra Thompson

**Others Present:**

Kristin McFarlane, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General