



## BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Virtual Meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vy0IripYuel&feature=youtu.be>

Date: May 13, 2021

Time: 11:30 AM

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#### PRESENT:

David R. Breidinger, Presiding  
Richard Balukas, Ed.D.  
James Dancy  
Broadus Davis, Ed.D.  
Blake Eisenhart  
Frank Farry  
Elizabeth Fineburg  
Otto Grupp III

Thomas Jennings  
William Maeglin  
Linda Mannherz  
Carol Mignoni-Ferguson  
Carol Shelly  
Philip Wursta  
Jeffrey Garton, Esq  
Stephanie Shanblatt

Absent: Shams Huda

Trustee virtual attendance was confirmed by roll call.

Mr. Breidinger called the meeting to order at 11:40 AM. He announced that earlier in the day the Board of Trustees met in executive session to discuss real estate, labor relations and personnel matters.

Upon motion by Ms. Shelly, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the board approved the minutes of the April 2021 meetings.

Mr. Breidinger announced that the opportunity for public comment was available through email at [PublicComment@bucks.edu](mailto:PublicComment@bucks.edu) Comments will be shared at the end of the meeting.

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Breidinger remarked that the month of May is all about celebrating our students and their success during this academic year. On behalf of the entire Board, he expressed appreciation for students' perseverance and flexibility as they adapted to the new virtual learning environment necessitated by the pandemic. He added that the Trustees are looking forward to celebrating and honoring the achievements of the class of 2021 at our drive-through Commencement later this month.

To the retirees for whom, after long careers at Bucks, this is probably a bittersweet time, Mr. Breidinger expressed the thanks of the Board for their service to our students and to the college and wished them all the best in the next phase of their life.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported that the Student Research Conference was held on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and consisted of 189 students presenting on various course topics in seven panel sessions. The college-wide event was held on Zoom for the second semester and saw its numbers almost double from the fall event. Special thanks to Professors Charlie Groth and Sarah Bruck for organizing the event, along with all of the faculty and staff who volunteered to help make the Conference a success.

Dr. Shanblatt announced that the High School Poet of the Year Contest virtual Reading + Reception will take place on Sunday, May 16 1-2:30 pm on the Bucks YouTube channel. The judges reviewed over 150 entries this year with many outstanding entries. Please plan to check out the outstanding high school poets in the county. Finalist and winners will be reading from their work.

President Shanblatt shared news that the Language & Literature Department, in collaboration with the STEM Department and the Academic Success Center, is launching a new Summer Bridge Program during Summer Session III. The program is designed to support the transition to college by providing students with the academic skills and social resources needed to succeed in a college environment. The Program will allow students to get a head-start on their academic coursework in a 7-week program at the Newtown Campus. Scholarships opportunities are available, including free tuition for a limited number of rising seniors. Information can be found on the Language & Literature website – [www.bucks.edu/summer-bridge](http://www.bucks.edu/summer-bridge). Sincere thanks to the faculty and staff who worked together to provide this outstanding opportunity for our future students.

Dr. Shanblatt congratulated the Foundation for raising more than \$80,000 collectively, in supports of scholarships, student emergency grants and the adult basic education program, through its *Pour it Forward* virtual tea “room” (in lieu of the Salute to Mothers Scholarship Tea) and the Bashing Barriers campaign. Thanks to all supporters of this effort to ease the many burdens faced by our students. There is still time to support both.

The President extended congratulations to the alumni recognized this year for their professional achievements that advance the mission of the college and benefit the greater community. The four alumni recognized for their achievements with an Alumni Association Award are: Dr. Karen Holt, Steven Kaplan, Anna Payne, and Alvin Ayensu. Their bios can be viewed at [bucks.edu/alumni](http://bucks.edu/alumni) and they will be featured as part of commencement pre-show video.

Dr. Shanblatt reviewed the the Associate Degree Nursing Poster Presentation which brought a total of 73 topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic to both college and the Bucks County Community with invitation to our clinical sites. Thanks to Connie Corrigan and Jim Sell for getting the word out on the great work done by LPN students and faculty who assisted with vaccinations at Lower Bucks Hospital last month. The story was featured in Levittown Now and the Bucks contribution to the vaccination effort was publicly recognized at a recent Lower Bucks hospital board meeting. Thanks to all who facilitated this great effort which once again demonstrated that Bucks is the community's college.

In conclusion, the President noted that the college hosted the Virtual Program for Holocaust Remembrance, *The Jews of Manila* which explored the story of the program in the Philippines to find refuge for Jews oppressed by the Nazis, divert them from being sent to concentration camps in Europe and bring them to safety in Manila. On Friday May 7, 2021, Kevin Antoine CDEIO was appointed the board of directors of the United Way of Bucks County. Congratulations to Kevin for his work in the community on behalf of the college.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### ACADEMIC, STUDENT & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Carol Shelly, Chair

Lisa Angelo, Provost, presented a review of the many accomplishments of our faculty which occurred outside of the classroom. Faculty were busy writing books, articles and plays and also presented at numerous conferences. Others excelled by authoring new musical works, exhibiting art pieces and participating in artist residencies. Several faculty also received grants and awards in recognition of their work. The presentation provided a wonderful picture of the professional, discipline specific work done by our faculty which enhances their ability to provide outstanding classroom instruction.

##### CONSENT AGENDA – Linda Mannherz, Finance Committee Chair

Mr. Breidinger announced that all action items would be considered on the Consent Agenda. Trustees were advised that if discussion were requested on any item, that item would be removed from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Eisenhart indicated that he would like to remove the contract for financial auditing from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Breidinger acknowledged the request and indicated that it would be addressed.

**Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz and second by Ms. Fineburg, the Board of Trustees approved the following:**

##### **Finance Committee:**

- **Ratification of Executive Committee Actions**

- Commencement audio-visual services to IMS Technical Services for \$108,703.10.
- Hy-Flex classroom technology equipment to Delco Solutions for \$67,329.56.
- **Other Contracts:**
  - Chem Draw software maintenance and licensing agreement to Perkin Elmer Informatics for \$32,520.
  - Fiber optic cable replacement for Barn/Farmhouse/Mailroom to Assurance Media for \$40,522.35
  - Fire alarm system inspection and maintenance contract renewal to FAST for \$108,000.
  - Fire extinguisher inspection and maintenance contract renewal to Kistler O'Brien Fire Protection for \$26,043 for 3 years.
  - Fire sprinkler and suppression system inspection and maintenance contract renewal to Anaconda Protective Systems, Inc. for \$32,670 for 3 years.
  - PC equipment lease financing to HP Financial Services, Inc. for \$615,353.75 for 3 years.
  - Planning & Self-Study software maintenance and licensing agreement to Watermark Insights, LLC for \$22,485.66.
  - Wireless network equipment upgrade to PhillyCom Inc. for \$61,597.50.
  - Science Center water softener installation to Hirschberg Mechanical for \$52,700.
  - Visit Days software maintenance and licensing agreement to Visit Days Corporation for \$25,000.
- Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz and second by Mr. Grupp, the Board of Trustees approved a salary increase for administrative employees effective July 1, 2021 as follows: 1.5% cost of living increase and 1.5% merit increase.
- Upon motion by Ms. Mannherz and second by Ms. Fineburg, the Board of Trustees approved the following as signatories for banking and other financial documents effective July 1, 2021:
  - Dr. Felicia Ganther, President
  - Lisa Angelo, Provost
  - David Jerdan, Associate Vice President, Finance
- Upon motion by Mr. Eisenhart and second by Ms. Shelly, the Board of Trustees voted, 8 in favor and 6 opposed, to table the consent agenda item to approve the contract for financial auditors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following public comments were received after the April 23 special meeting.

Thank you to the Search Committee and the Board of Trustees hard, intensive work, including especially openness to perspectives of the College community. We look forward to personally welcoming and working with Dr Ganther--and we thank President Shanblatt for her leadership in her tenure here and wish her the best in her retirement.  
John Strauss, Faculty Federation President

Thank you, Dr. Shanblatt for your years of service! Best Wishes to you! Welcome and congratulations to Dr. Ganther!  
Jeanne Ridgway, Practical Nursing Program

Congratulations Dr. Ganther, we look forward to having you at Bucks.  
Tina Permar, Wellness Center

Congrats to Bucks County Community College and to Dr. Ganther! Thankful for the ground work laid by previous Presidents and excited by the next chapter of leadership that Dr. Ganther will bring to the college, students and community. Victor Scott, Cardinal Health

Welcome to Bucks Dr. Ganther, can't wait to meet you!  
Nico Albertson, Bucks student ambassador

My name is Abeer Mathur and I am a student at The Pennsylvania State University. I have been legally living in the United States for the past 8 years and have been living in Bucks county for the past 4. I was hoping to take a physics 122 class over the summer because I really liked Buck's physics 121 class last summer. However, due to the fact that I do not have a green card, I am not able to qualify for in county or even in state tuition at Bucks . Penn State, the University that I do attend, does consider me to be in state but Bucks County, the college in the County that I graduated High School from, does not. Under the current BCCC policies, immigrant children who have been living in the US legally are unable to qualify for in state tuition. I am aware this is not an issue that is widely talked about, but it is one that affects me greatly. Therefore, I would greatly appreciate it, if BCCC could recognize the hard working, legal residents of this community and provide some sort of change, so that children like me have access to more affordable education.

Abeer Mathur  
PSU & Bucks Student

Response: Mr. Mathur is an H4 visa holder, and unfortunately, that makes him a non-immigrant. Only legal permanent residents, in immigrant status, are eligible for the in-county and in-state rates.

The following public comment was received today.

That is quite an extensive list of impressive faculty accomplishments over the last year. I am honored to be a colleague. Congratulations to all of them!  
John Strauss, Faculty Federation President, BCCC

BOARD COMMENT

There were no Board comments.

ADJOURN

Upon the motion to adjourn being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 P.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held virtually June 10, 2021 at 11:30 AM.

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Carol Mignoni Ferguson, Secretary