

MINUTES OF THE FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHTH
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Board of Trustees Room Z-203
The Whitman Center
6:00 p.m., October 28, 2019

Present: William T. Bruck, Florence Buchanan, Lynette M. Dowler, Steven Hill, Krista Lambrix, Aaron Mason, and Mary Kay Thayer

Also Present: Grant Brooks (SEMCOG), Jack Burns Jr., Kevin Cooper, Valerie Culler, Randy Daniels, AJ Fischer, Kelly Heinzerling, Naheed Huq (SEMCOG), Barry Kinsey, Brian Lay, Kim Lindquist, Laura Manley, Joshua Myers, Tina Pillarelli, Angela Prush, Kojo Quartey, Ryan Rafko, Evan Schendel, Linda Torbet, Joe Verkennes, Wygonik, and Penny Dorcey (recording secretary)

1. Chair Dowler called the meeting at 6:00 p.m.
2. The chair polled the audience for delegations and recognized Dr. Patrick Nedry. Dr. Nedry read the following statement to the Board:

“Madam Chair and Trustees: I attended your meeting last week where there were discussions of Robert’s Rules and Shared Governance, along with a brief discussion of General Education. Trustee Thayer commented that years ago when the Board dealt with General Education, it was ugly, or words to that effect. I am wearing a t-shirt with a copy of an editorial that ran in the Monroe Evening News taking the Board to task for their decision-making in the process. Some years later, the Board delegated that authority to the campus; however, the Board retains the overall responsibility for the institution’s General Education.

One of the events on your calendar is the visit by the Higher Learning Commission. Among the things the HLC has expected MCCC to do, is to address our General Education because we have been working on it since 1990; and that faculty need to exercise more influence over curriculum matters at MCCC.

The faculty curriculum influence issue was dealt with by changing the Curriculum Committee, so the deans no longer had a voting role. Going forward, votes about curriculum matters would be cast only by faculty representatives.

There was a years-long process to develop the broad outlines for General Education at MCCC referred to as Goals. That work was eventually approved by the faculty. Then, as in many matters, academic and otherwise, the ‘devil is in the details.’ How those broad outlines were going to be measured required even more work. The results are called the Objectives.

The Objectives were brought to the Curriculum Committee. Two of the six Objectives were NOT approved by the faculty. Just because the Board delegated General Education to the campus, did not make the process any less contentious, any less controversial, or any less acrimonious. The objectives for math and science were not approved by a majority of the faculty, so one-third of the General Education requirements that you will be affirming next week, were not approved by the faculty. Recording Secretary Dorcey mentioned last week that all committee decisions in our shared governance system are really ‘recommendations’ to the VP’s. In this case, the Vice President of Instruction overturned the majority decision of the Curriculum Committee for the math and science objectives. As is allowed, that decision

was appealed to the President, and the President affirmed the decision of his vice president.

Without getting too far into the academic weeds, the objectives for math and science that were adopted were developed by faculty who have never worked a 12-hour shift in a health care facility, never prepared a meal for 200 people, never ran an overhead weld bead, never had to make a decision on granting a mortgage, never designed and brought to market a new product, or worked for a Fortune 500 company (I have worked for three of them).

The occupational faculty representatives and others rejected the objectives as proposed for math and science. While this was occurring, two of the major universities in Michigan were re-thinking their algebra-based math requirements for universal general education. Concurrently, the science requirements at MCCC transitioned into all science courses having a lab. For 50 years students could receive an associate degree at MCCC without a science lab. No longer. By the way, you can get a BBA and an MBA from the University of Michigan—without a lab-based science course

How do you gauge the impact of these decisions? These are matters delegated to the campus while you focus on policy, strategy, and finances. The impact is too lengthy to go into detail, but I will comment on one component. While you listen to reports of double-digit declines in enrollment, there is one segment of the course offerings at MCCC that have been holding their own or growing—online instruction, something the college has been doing for over 15 years. But, it was not possible to earn a complete degree online at MCCC. Even with the full-throated support of the President, it took over four years to get to a point where a complete degree could be earned online. The holdup? That lab-based science course. There was a great deal of opposition to such a course online—never mind that other community colleges had been doing it for several years.

MCCC is chartered as a comprehensive community college—not a technical school and not a junior college. Its General Education ought to reflect that. What will you tell the HLC? Well, MCCC's internal procedures were followed; approved committee motions are really only recommendations. But, just because you can do something, does that mean you should do it? I am truncating this a bit, but the rationale for overturning the decisions of the Curriculum Committee was in two parts:

1. Very few decisions are overruled.
2. Because General Education is hard work and this had already taken a lot of time, MCCC would be better served with a flawed outcome rather than no outcome.

Professor La Clair commented last Monday night that many on the faculty are not very supportive of the HLC, as an organization and as a process. Do you suppose that a structure that the HLC asked for and the faculty approved, then saw some of the critical work rejected may have had anything to do with the enthusiasm for the HLC?

The HLC should be a —not a cudgel. What started as a comprehensive review of general education at MCCC morphed into the full-employment act for math and science professors as we drift toward becoming a de facto junior college.

As you and your administrative team and other employee groups, including faculty, look about for solutions to the enrollment decline at our college, I urge you to not only look at the external environment, like legislation and demographics, but to also examine contributions that this body—the Board of Trustees—may have made over time to the matrix. We are a comprehensive community college and everything we do, believe, and affirm should reflect that.

Thank you for your time and thank you for your service to the community and for the conscientiousness with which you are approaching your work.

Respectfully,

Patrick J. Nedry, Ed. D.
Professor of Business, Emeritus, Monroe County Citizen/Taxpayer”

For the record, Ms. Dorcey’s statement referenced above was that “all decisions from the Councils and standing committees are recommendatory to the President.” This fact is reflected in the Shared Governance Handbook and in the College Constitution.

B. 2. a. (1) 3. *It was moved by Mr. Hill and supported by Mr. Mason, that the following items on the consent agenda be approved:*

B. 2. a. (1) Approval of minutes for the regular meeting of September 23, 2019

B. 2. a. (2) Authorization for President to Execute a Third-year Probationary Faculty Contract - Prush

B. 2. a. (3) Authorization for President to Execute a Third-year Probationary Faculty Contract – Snyder

B. 2. a. (4) Authorization for President to Execute a Third-year Probationary Faculty Contract – Wozniak

The motion carried.

B. 4. a. (1) 4. *It was moved by Ms. Thayer and supported by Ms. Lambrix, that the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan be approved as presented.*

The motion carried.

B. 4. a. (2) 5. *It was moved by Mr. Hill and supported by Mrs. Buchanan that the Board approve the Student Commons expansion, located at the northwest corner of the Life Sciences building, as a naming opportunity with a required minimum philanthropic gift of \$250,000, pursuant to MCCC Policy 1.69.*

The motion carried.

C. 2. a. (1) 6. The Board received a future skills report from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

Naheed Huq, Manager of Talent and Economic Development SEMCOG, introduced the latest SEMCOG future skills report, *Future Skills: Preparing for the Changing World of Work*, regarding preparing the workforce for the future. The report contains 60 case studies, including several from Monroe County Community College (MCCC).

Mr. Granton Brooks, SEMCOG, gave an overview of SEMCOG and its services. SEMCOG serves seven counties, six intermediate school districts, and six community colleges. Member dues provide funding, which is used to match federal and state grants that pay for data acquisition, analysis, planning, and technical assistance to improve our region and to support the implementation of local plans. Each member of the community votes to join, pays membership dues and appoints delegates and alternates to SEMCOG’s General Assembly – the full membership committee. Your delegate is Mary Kay Thayer and her alternate is President Kojo Quartey. All MCCC employees are welcome to participate. President Quartey and Ms. Thayer have been big contributing members of SEMCOG and have sat on various task forces and attend General Assembly meetings, and Dr. Quartey has served as a panelist recently. Membership in SMESCOG is organizational, so all

employees are welcome to attend and participate in meetings, attend workshops and contact their Staff for data and other information.

Mr. Brooks, noted that one of the big pieces of SEMCOG for educational members is data. The guiding vision at SEMCOG is that all the people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions, and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas. High-quality data is the foundation of the work the organization does to accomplish this vision. He stated that, SEMCOG collects and analyzes data on people, the economy and jobs, housing, transportation, the environment, and land use. SEMCOG's newest mapping tool allows you to view various community data at the same time. This map shows population density in the cities of Southeast Michigan, while the chart on the upper right shows total population. SEMCOG also gathers forecast data, which projects the region's future economic and demographic outlook. If you are interested in anything data related at SEMCOG, please contact Stephanie Taylor at Taylor@semcog.org, or call her at (313) 324-3330.

Mr. Brooks relayed that education, talent, and workforce development are very important to SEMCOG, especially when it comes to developing the region's latest economic development strategy. The current chairperson of SEMCOG is, Donald Hubler, Secretary of the Macomb Intermediate School District's Board of Trustees. SEMCOG's education and economic development projects are collaborative efforts with the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) – a coalition of business, labor and government. SEMCOG's past education projects include soft skills, infrastructure jobs, STEM and skilled trades, and education reform.

Ms. Huq stated that SEMCOG has conducted work on workforce development and the area of education for several years. For this future skills report, they began by identifying the key challenges facing our system, which hold back economic prosperity for individuals and the region.

Among the key issues identified were:

- Labor shortages in almost every key industry sector
- Misalignment of skills for available jobs
- Inadequate funding and regulations limiting access to public education and training programs
- Limited emphasis on career readiness, awareness, and pathways to careers
- Populations that are disconnected from opportunities
- Lack of support services that limit individuals with one or more employment barriers from entering the workforce

The task force's goal was to respond to these challenges by identifying and helping to develop the necessary education and training infrastructure to address future workforce skills. The three defining challenges identified that impact the workforce in Southeast Michigan are:

- Technological Advances;
- Demographic and Social Changes; and
- Business Trends

Ms. Huq remarked that artificial intelligence, mobile internet, virtual reality, cloud computing, Big Data, robotics, autonomous transportation, and 3D printing are just some of the technologies that are changing the world of work. While the technology used in different industries may differ, there is general recognition that the greatest challenge is the speed of change. Additionally, many businesses are unable to adopt the latest technology because of the lack of a workforce with the necessary skills to use or maintain it. The education system needs to respond to these changes now and into the future as technology continues to evolve.

The second defining challenge is demographic and social change. Every five years, SEMCOG analyzes population and economic trends for our seven county regions. The region grew in the 1990's and declined after 2001, but has seen growth in the last seven years. In the next 30 years, Southeast Michigan will experience a modest population growth of 8%, a rate that is just one third of the national rate. Aging in the region has been dramatic. By 2026, the population will consist of more seniors than children. In 10 years, there will be more jobs than people of prime working age. Southeast Michigan needs more people willing to work. SEMCOG has forecasted that a 2 percent (about 74,000 people) increase in the workforce is needed to resolve this issue. This, however, depends on more people working beyond the typical retirement age. The number of working adults age 65-69 will increase about 13 percent. In addition, SEMCOG projects a 10 percent increase in people 75 and older remaining in the workforce.

Immigration is another important element of the labor force composition. Immigrants are a significant part of the labor force, particularly the educated labor force. Ten percent the region's population is foreign born. They make up 12% of the region's labor force. SEMCOG's 2045 forecast baseline assumes growth, but if immigration were to stop completely next year, the population would be reduced by about 10 percent, and the total population would roll back to the 1990 level. If immigration is reduced by half, the region's total population will decline by 106,000 people, more than 2 percent.

The third defining challenge is related to business trends. Businesses are changing as a result of technology and demographic trends, and customer preferences. For example, the healthcare industry is focusing more on home health as the population ages, and the retail industry is being transformed to a more on-line operations and automation. These changes require a re-thinking of our talent development systems. As a result of these trends, the composition of Southeast Michigan's economy is changing. SEMCOG forecasts total employment will increase by only 6.7 percent in the next 30 years, but the availability of the necessary workforce could change this. Economic changes in Southeast Michigan will result in:

- Fewer manufacturing and retail jobs
- And more in healthcare and knowledge economy jobs.

Manufacturing jobs will decline even as productivity increases. By 2045, manufacturing in the region will account for less than 200,000 jobs, down from a high of 400,000 in 2001. Production of manufactured goods, however, will increase over the next three decades, and the automotive industry will continue to anchor the regional economy. Retail jobs will see a decline, largely due to increased on-line sales and automation in fulfillment centers. The largest growth will be in health care, and knowledge-based services such as engineering, information technology, and other professional and technical services. Available talent is a major determinant of economic growth.

Ms. Huq announced that with this background in mind, SEMCOG has developed a number of recommendations, with the following overarching recommendation:

“Transform the Talent Development System in Southeast Michigan by building on established talent assets, and partner with education, employers, workforce development and government to develop, implement and evaluate strategies that support individual success and regional economic growth.”

The four main recommendations are:

1. Create and promote a framework for Lifelong Learning
2. Build support for multiple career pathways
3. Promote collaboration between employers, education and workforce

- development - the three legs of the Talent Development stool AND
4. Increase labor force participation by expanding the number of qualified workers

Each recommendation has a number of actions.

In terms of next steps, SEMCOG and MAC are focused on implementation. They are:

- Coordinating a public sector campaign
- Supporting school funding research collaborative
- Recognizing successful programs through their blogs, and participating in events such as Manufacturing Day and Winning Futures

They are also sponsoring several upcoming events that promote their recommendations and support its implementation. These include several outreach meetings to collect input for Southeast Michigan's next economic development strategy. On November 12th, the first event will take place here at Monroe County Community College, at 8:30 a.m., in the La-Z-Boy Center. Other events include:

- Livingston – December 4 at Genoa Township Hall – 11:30 a.m.
- St. Clair – December 5 at St. Clair County Administration Building – 9:30 a.m.
- Washtenaw – December 10 at Pittsfield Township Hall – 8:30 a.m.
- SEMCOG is also recruiting for its Economic Development Task Force, which will begin meeting in February 2020.

Ms. Huq concluded by saying that the talent development system needs to respond to three defining challenges, technological advancement, demographic and social changes and business trends. To be effective the region must act quickly; however, there is much to build on such as many talent assets and excellent efforts that can be replicated. Commitment to collaboration is key to any meaningful change. In addition, we cannot simply keep doing what we have always done. Innovation, flexibility, inclusion, lifelong learning, and culture change are key strategies. Finally, the future is still undetermined, so there is no perfect solution or strategy except to be flexible and leverage the region's collective strengths.

For more information, please visit SEMCOG.org. A copy of this presentation and the Future Skills Report, are part of the permanent Board file and can be obtained from the President's office.

- C. 3. a. (1) 7. President Quartey reported the following probationary faculty contracts:

3rd Year Probationary Faculty Contracts:

Angela Prush, Director of Clinical Education/Instructor Respiratory Therapy, effective January 2, 2020 to January 1, 2021

Trustee Thayer commended the Respiratory Therapy Program for its outstanding education. Ms. Thayer's granddaughter was hired straight out of the program and has continued to be promoted throughout her employment. When asked about the program completion rate, Ms. Prush remarked that the pass rate for MCCC respiratory therapy students is 100 percent.

Kim Lindquist, Dean of Health Sciences, commented that she could not remember how many years running MCCC's respiratory therapy program has been recognized by the accreditation agency for the Credential Academic Award for having phenomenal outcomes for their students. To give the board a little history, Ms. Lindquist mentioned that "Angie" is a clinician who has "hopped over with both feet" to the educational side of the field. She has made a great transition, and does phenomenal work in the classroom and with the assessment of student learning. Currently, she and her team have been working on a comprehensive curriculum review. She has put on the hat of

educator and has run with it. It has been a pleasure to work with her. Ms. Prush is completing her second year in this position.

Dr. Randy Daniels, Vice President of Student and Information Services, mentioned that at the last meeting the Board recognized the hiring of Ryan Rafko for the position of Director of Admissions and Guidance. Dr. Daniels took a moment to introduce Mr. Rafko to the Board. Dr. Quartey commented that Mr. Rafko comes to MCCC from the University of Michigan – Dearborn. Mr. Rafko added that he has worked in the area of Financial Aid for 16 years. Of those, four and a half years were spent working in the Financial Aid Office here at MCCC. Mr. Rafko is also an MCCC graduate.

Michael Snyder, Associate Professor of Political Science, effective January 2, 2020 to January 1, 2021

Stephanie Wozniak, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Development, effective January 2, 2020 to January 1, 2021

- C. 3. a. (2) 8. The Board received a Statement of General Fund Revenues and Expenses for the period ending September 30, 2019.

AJ Fischer, Director of Finances, reported that expenses are right in line (within \$2,000 of last year). Revenues are slightly down due to the decrease in tuition and fees. The Business office made a payment of \$718,059.26 on September 26th toward the loan payment for the HVAC project. Ms. Wetzel will bring forth a recommendation to transfer funds after the audit. The audit is in its final stages and the Board will receive an update at their November meeting.

Mr. Fischer gave the Board a three year budget forecast. The summary is a projection of what the budget would look like over the next three years if the College did nothing different financially. There were many variables and assumption that needed to be made to complete the forecast. The first two columns show the 2018-2019 approved budget and the 2019-2020 proposed budget. Some of the key assumptions were enrollment and what the percent changes would look like, tuition increases, property taxes, state aid, salary schedules, retirement rates, health care hard cap costs, and several other items. Although many assumptions are applied, the goal is to be conservative but accurate. Included in the summary is a transfer to the 80 fund for the DTE issue. There are no new updates on the DTE taxation at this time. Also considered is that the College has to make \$1,000,036 of loan payments each year. In terms of the millage, the College will collect funds for this fiscal year and next fiscal year.

The financial report is included in the packet for the Board's review and is part of the permanent Board file.

- C. 3. b. (1) 9. President Quartey summarized his reports to the Trustees, which he sends every other week.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) peer review team will be on campus next week on November 4th and 5th. They will be meeting with the Board of Trustees at 4:00 p.m. on November 4th in the Cabinet Conference Room. The Business Development Corporation's (BDC) Focus the Future event takes place tomorrow at 5:30 p.m., in the Meyer Theater. Board chair, Lynette Dowler will present the Business Supporter of the Year Award to the Monroe County Middle College. The State budget has finally passed, but there is no other news from Lansing. The College recently received a \$199,000 Native American Grant. November is Native American Heritage Month and Joe Verkennes will be submitting a press release on the activities the College is having in honor of Native Americans, This includes two displays in the Administration Building. Boot Camp graduation took place last Saturday. The

event was so well attended that additional tables and chairs had to be requested. Bill Nolan of Shunli Steel was in attendance and recruited five welders from MCCC and is looking for more. Joe Verkennes will work on a press release regarding the hiring of the MCCC welding students. The President's State of the College Address is scheduled for November 11th at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth floor of First Merchant's Bank (the former Monroe Bank and Trust). The topic is MCCC's role in the county's economic development. There will be testimonials from TWB, Shunli Steel, Siena Heights, Ventower, and other area businesses.

- C. 3. b. (2) 10. The Board received an update on The Foundation at Monroe County Community College and its Annual Report.

Dr. Joshua Myers, Executive Director of the Foundation, gave a brief report on the Foundation's October board of director's meeting. The board the new Foundation mission, vision and values statement, which they have been working on since August of 2018. They created a draft with the help of Jim Davis, a retiree from DTE. Dr. Myers will present the final draft of the statement for ratification at the November Board meeting. The board also endorsed a job description for Group Three Directors. The job description outlines the Foundation's expectation of the directors, and the directors' expectations of staff, and it better clarifies their roles. In other news, the Rotary of Monroe County has decided to endow a scholarship. This will be MCCC's 60th endowed scholarship. The organization also donated \$5,000 to allow awarding immediately. The Rotary Club is very generous and the Foundation is thrilled to have them.

Dr. Myers gave a summary of The Foundation's Annual Report, which includes strategic highlights, financial highlights and operating highlights. He stated that the recent revision of the Foundation's mission, vision and values was the platform from which they jumped into their case for support, in which they outline the things they are fundraising towards. The group is prioritizing in terms of giving options for donors and determining the things they want to do here at the college. Dr. Quartey, Victor Bellestri, Chairman of the Foundation, Dr. Myers, and several members attended the MCCA Fundraising Academy last year. Trustee and Board Chair, Lynette Dowler attended one of the academies last year as well. They have been working on this case for support for about a year and are getting ready to launch it after the first of the year. The Foundation continues to expand its traditional giving areas, scholarships, capital, program support, and cultural arts. This year, they really tried to explore new program areas where they can be helpful to the campus community, and find other areas of opportunity to free up funding to help the faculty and staff do their jobs better. They are looking for services to explore to help the modern student.

Dr. Myers noted that The Foundation had another excellent year of growth, up 6 percent over 2018, and for the first time in its history, they exceeded \$7 million in assets. They also brought on Michelle Gaynier as their operating specialist. The Foundation recently revamped its logo to tie its brand more closely with that of the College and try to blend College messages with Foundation messages. The launch of the new website by Joe Verkennes, Director of Marketing and Communication, is a compliment to that. The Foundation also has its own website that follows along with the general themes of the College website, yet has subtle changes to separate the different functions of the two.

Dr. Myers walked the Board through "a year in review" of The Foundation, noting that last year was The Foundations 20th Anniversary. The annual fund exceeded its goal of \$75,000 by raising a total of \$82,478. The #Giving Tuesday campaign enjoyed a 311 percent increase over last year, raising \$6,475 and doubling its donors. Overall, revenues exceeded \$1,000,000, net

assets were up 150 percent, and endowments totaled \$6.3 million, up from \$5.2 million last year.

The Foundation is the fiduciary for over twenty programs and raised \$105,000 and disbursed \$144,000, touching every instructional area on campus. The entity also added five new endowed scholarships this this year, including the Ray Kessler Memorial Endowed Scholarship; the Ethel K. (Rousseau) Fountain Scholarship; the Irma A. (McLaughlin) McIntyre Memorial Endowed Agriculture Scholarship; the Lela Wadlin and Roger Olson Endowed Scholarship, and the Noel H. and Elizabeth R. Dentner Scholarship.

The Enhancement grants program, another successful effort, was established in 2002. Enhancement grants are funded through restricted gifts to the Enhancement Grants program and unrestricted funds designated by the Foundation Board. To date, The Foundation has awarded over \$300,000 in Enhancement grants for 242 projects. In 2019, they awarded \$20,000.

Since its inception 20 years ago, The Foundation has increased its net position from just under \$1 million to \$7 million dollars today. It first exceeded \$4 million in 2012, topped \$5 million in 2013, and topped \$6 million after emerging from the great recession. Two years later, The Foundation's net position exceeded \$7 million. That net position directly reflects the growth in endowments, yet this has not come at the expense of ongoing support. The growth in net position is not the result of hoarding money. Over the last five years, the net position has increased over 32 percent. Over that same time period, it has awarded almost \$3 million in scholarships and mission driven programmatic support.

Dr. Myers Annual Report presentation is a part of the permanent Board file and can be obtained from the Presidents Office.

- C. 4. a. (1) 11. The Board Audit Committee scheduled their November audit meeting for Monday, November 11th at 4:30 p.m., at Trustee Mason's office, located at 11 Washington Street, Monroe, MI 48161. They will be meeting with Matt Hehl, of Cooley Hehl Sabo & Calkins.
- C. 4. a. (2) 12. The Board received and update on the MCCA 2019 Board of Directors Dinner/Meeting, in Petoskey.

Dr. Quartey remarked that quite a few institutions are using Open Educational Resources (OERs) and saving their students money. MCCC has several instructors who currently use OERs for their classes, but we would like to see more involved. This project has to be faculty led, so more conversations will need to take place. This change is not just about the money savings, it also a collaborative experience, and working with Michigan colleges online. OERs also provide opportunities for collaboration between colleges. For instance, some colleges do not have the critical mass to support a particular program, but through collaboration, they combine with classes elsewhere to create a cohort and offer the program.

Trustee Thayer reported that Kerry Ebersole Singh addressed the census coming up. At this point, it looks Michigan will lose one congressional seat, which will impact Medicaid, Medicare SCHIP, Section 8 housing, rural rental assistance payments, Head Start, child care mandatory & matching funds, special education, child and adult care food Programs, and Block grants for prevention & treatment of substance abuse. One big impact for community colleges and k-12 is funding for programs like Pell Grants and healthcare services.

The 2020 Census presentation can be downloaded from <https://www.mcca.org/2019-Autumn-Board-of-Directors>.

- C. 4. a. (3) 13. The Board received an update on the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) 2019 Leadership Congress in San Francisco.

Trustee, Mary Kay Thayer gave an update on the ACCT 2019 Leadership Congress in San Francisco. The conference began with a Board of Directors meeting, in which various subcommittees reported out on their activities. The ACCT members are extremely interested in all aspects of community college education. The Diversity Committee has been renamed to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to better reflect the complex issues that community colleges experience. Ms. Thayer met with a group to discuss the changes to Michigan Community College dual enrollment issues. Michigan is not the only state to allow k-12 students to cross state lines. Open Education Resources (OERs) were also discussed along with loss of revenue.

Ms. Thayer also attended the ACCT Regional and Network meeting and the ACCT State, Provincial and Territory Coordinators meeting, where she reported on the challenges for community colleges in the state of Michigan: lack of a state budget due to a divided government and growing competition for dual credit students. Discounted tuition seems to be a double edged sword.

During the ACCT Opening General Session, there was talk about the irony of the nation's legislators pledging their commitment to education, but then not supporting the additional funding needed.

Dr. Pamela Fisher facilitated a session called *Building a Strong Team through Retreats and Evaluation*. Dr. Fisher supports an off campus retreat with no technology and plenty of time for team building. Ms. Thayer would like to bring Dr. Fisher, who has already facilitated two sessions at MCCC, back for a winter retreat in 2020. The retreat the Board had recently is considered an administrative retreat.

The ACCT is urging all colleges to write to their legislators and encouraging them to pass the Higher Education Bill. CLARUS led a great session on implementing strategic enrollment management on campus. The “funnel approach” no longer works. Due to declining birth rates, K-12 and community college have lost 30 percent of their total enrollment over the last several years. OER were also discussed. Colleges need to help faculty become more comfortable with the needed changes. The technology necessary to implement the classes can be difficult; however OERs can save students' educational costs.

- C. 4. b. (4) 14. Chair Dowler reported that on Monday October 21st, the Board held a retreat. The agenda included sessions on Robert's Rules of Order, The Open Meetings Act, academic freedom, shared governance, and the upcoming HLC visit. Chair Dowler stated that “Trustee education is important, we owe the public, faculty and staff, everyone.” The Board will try to schedule a Saturday morning retreat after the beginning of the new year.
- C. 4. b. (5) 15. Chair Dowler noted the upcoming events.
16. *It was moved by Ms. Thayer and supported by Mr. Hill that the meeting be adjourned.*

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette M. Dowler
Chair

Aaron N. Mason
Secretary

/prd

These minutes were approved at the November 25, 2019 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.