

Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees
Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 29, 2022
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Whitney 210
Presiding: Trustee John Sindoni, Chair

Trustees: Jaime Alicea; Dr. Donna DeSiato; Hannah Durand; Paul Mello; Tara Owens; John Sindoni; Mark Tryniski

Staff: Dr. Agatha Awuah; Kathy D’Aprix; Dr. Karen Fabrizio; David Furney; Sarah Gaffney; Julie Hart; Dr. Warren Hilton; Linda Kelley; Kelly Larrivey; Mark Manning; Roger Mirabito; Michael O’Connor; Timothy Stedman; Nina Tamrowski; Dr. Christopher Thuot; Anastasia Urtz; Dr. Larry Weiskirch

Call to Order

At 9:53 a.m., Trustee Sindoni called the board meeting to order.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Trustee Mello, and seconded by Trustee Alicea, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Chair’s Report

***Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Darian Barber and Hannah Durand as Directors of the Onondaga Community College Housing Development Corporation**

On motion by Trustee Owens and seconded by Trustee Tryniski, the resolution to approve the appointment of Darian Barber and Hannah Durand as Directors of the Onondaga Community College Housing Development Corporation was unanimously approved.

SUNY/Aspen Board Leadership Workshop Series

Trustee Sindoni shared with Trustees an opportunity to participate in a SUNY/Aspen Leadership workshop series during the spring semester. He encouraged Trustee participation and asked that anyone interested let him know as soon as possible.

President’s Report

SUNY Updates

Dr. Hilton began his report with an update on SUNY initiatives. SUNY has embarked on several statewide new student enrollment efforts including a digital marketing campaign, several commercials, and a free application week. We were recently informed that John Dau, a 2005 OCC graduate and American Association of Community Colleges Outstanding Alumni Award winner, will be featured in a video as part of the SUNY “Great Minds, Big Hearts” campaign. The “Great Minds, Big Hearts” campaign highlights notable SUNY alumni, students and employees who have done great things with their professions and/or their passions. Additional enrollment management tactics will be rolled out by SUNY over the course of this academic year.

NY Community College Presidents worked to create an advocacy agenda for the upcoming state budget cycle. The agenda focuses on sustained workforce development funding of \$60M annually, a permanent 100% allocation (also known as the floor), and a 4% cost of living increase for next year. The advocacy agenda which is being referred to as the Floor + 4% + \$60M in workforce development funding, has been shared with the Chancellor's Office, NY Community College Trustees, the Faculty Council of Community Colleges, the CC Business Officers and CC Provosts. Together these groups will be working to promote this agenda. There is planning underway to pull together a meeting of SUNY CC Presidents to discuss workforce development related to the semiconductor industry. One purpose of the meeting is to discuss a coordinated effort to provide training and workers needed for the growing industry.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Hilton continued with an update on the Strategic Plan. He explained that a Strategic Plan taskforce co-chaired by Professor Lisa Hoff, Chair of the Library Department and Dr. Sean Vormwald from Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research, was formed and provided their charge to create a plan with the following areas: increasing new student enrollment; improving student success (retention, persistence, and graduation); social justice; and management and care of resources. Our original goal was to have a completed plan by June 2023. This has proven, as informed by feedback from several consultants, to be too aggressive of a timeline. Thus, we have adjusted our goal for a completed approved plan by October 2023 and will be seeking the help of a consultant to assist us in meeting the deadline.

Middle States

Dr. Hilton continued his report with an update on Middle States. He explained that we have begun planning for our next Middle States self-study under the leadership of our Provost. Dr. Christopher Thuot and Dr. Malkiel Chosed will be attending the Middle States Conference in early December to learn more about the new standards so that we can be sure to address them appropriately. As a reminder, our next self-study evaluation will occur during the 2025-2026 academic year and the self-study process on campus will begin in the 2023-2024 academic year with our self-study submission to Middle States in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Community Partners Update

Dr. Hilton continued his report on OCC's Community Partners. As we know, OCC was selected as an education partner for Amazon's Career Choice program, which provides hourly employees access to pre-paid tuition; and OCC was chosen as one of Micron's education partners to support their \$100B investment in Central NY. Ongoing meetings with Micron and Amazon will continue as we expand these partnerships. Both partnerships have led to increased visibility for OCC and it is expected that these partnerships will result in increased enrollment and revenue over the next several years. Related to Micron, a group of five OCC employees: Buffy Quinn, Tim Stedman, Flagan Prince, Warren Hilton and Kristen Clinch, will be visiting Virginia in two weeks. During the visit we will tour Micron's NOVA chip fab and meet with Micron employees to continue our discussion related to this partnership. We will also visit Norfolk State University to tour their cleanroom facility - which is about the size of the one we are planning to build - and discuss their experience hosting the Micron Chip Camp for youth which we plan to be hosting this coming summer. Also, our SBDC is in the beginning stages of discussions with Micron about how the SBDC can facilitate small businesses connecting with Micron. With leadership from Dr. Eunice Williams, our Chief Diversity Officer, myself, and Professional Advisor Maurice Brown, we were pleased to take six OCC students and Extraordinary Men of Distinction

members to the Micron sponsored Black Men Educator Convening in Philadelphia, PA. The Convening included over 1,000 educators focused on diverse ways of ensuring student success in K-12 and higher education. The students had many unique opportunities including meeting Kenya Barris, world famous film and television writer, producer, director, and actor, and attending a Philadelphia Sixers game. Additionally, business and community partnerships are expected as other businesses locate to CNY to support the semiconductor industry growth. To manage the growth and increased community engagement, a new role, Project Partner Director Position was created. Hiring for the position is in process.

Lastly, some of our staff are in the infancy stage of discussions with AccessCNY to expand the work that our College for Living program which offers courses and support for CNY community members with intellectual disabilities. We would like to expand the program to increase the number of students in the program and to include the students in more areas of college life. More updates will be presented as the discussions progress.

Enrollment Efforts

Dr. Hilton continued his report with an update on enrollment efforts. All of these updates point to the work of our dedicated students, faculty and staff as we strive to increase our enrollment and improve student success. With that I would like to ask Sarah Gaffney, VP for Enrollment Management to speak about a few successful enrollment management efforts related to increasing new student enrollment.

Ms. Gaffney provided an overview of enrollment initiatives currently in place. One of these is our Student Ambassador programs. They have been working with potential students and telling their stories. We have roughly 15-20 students who participate. They do college tours and interact with students whenever possible. We have a specific website for recruitment of New York City students and ask questions of them differently. We have been working on indigenous populations, specifically at the Lafayette School District and are reviewing processes and procedures to make them easier and more streamlined. Work with returning students continues, including the use of Motomatic.

Fall Athletics

Dr. Hilton continued his report with an update on fall athletics at OCC. All five of our fall teams advanced to postseason play. Both cross country teams advanced into Mid-State Athletic Conference (MSAC), Region III and NJCAA National Championship meets. We did not have any runners earn postseason awards, but the men did finish in 14th place in the country at the NJCAA Division III National Championship in Massachusetts. Volleyball returned to postseason play for the first time since 2019 by earning a berth into the Region III tournament before losing to SUNY Broome. Sierra Saggus earned All Region III 3rd team recognition, along with 1st team All MSAC team recognition. Phoebe Anderson and Brayla Bagozzi earned 3rd team All MSAC recognition. Women's Soccer earned a first round Region III bye for the playoffs but lost in the semifinals to Genesee Community College. Navaeh Christmas earned 2nd team All Region III recognition, while Madison Pelton, Liana Mostrianska, Emma Nelson, Bryn Whitman earned 3rd team All Region recognition. Naveah Christmas, Bryn Whitman and Liana Mostrianska also earned All MSAC honors too. The team briefly broke into the NJCAA top 10 rankings in the country for Division III during the season. Men's Soccer had the most successful season of our fall teams. They competed for MSAC and Region III championships but fell shy of both earning runner up status. The team advanced all the way to the Region III championship game before

falling to Herkimer College who earned the berth to the national tournament. The men's soccer team was consistently ranked in the top 15 in the country for NJCAA Division III teams during the regular season. Caio Hughes was selected Region III Player of the Year and Head Coach Mike Drake was also selected MSAC Coach of the Year. These students also earned these awards: All Region III honors: Caio Hughes, Adam Webster, Landon Hellwig all earned 1st team recognition; Salvador Gomes earned 2nd team recognition; Serhii Kravets and Ryan Lyle earned 3rd team recognition. All MSAC honors: These students were all selected for the All MSAC team for men's soccer: Caio Hughes, Adam Webster, Jack Hopson, Landon Hellwig, Sam Gregson, Serhii Kravets and Ryan Lyle.

Dr. Hilton recognized Bridget Scholl's retirement, Vice President of Human Resources. Trustee Sindoni offered his, and the Trustees, appreciation for her support of the College over the years.

Committee Reports

Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee

No additional report at this time.

Education Committee

No additional report at this time.

Student Government Update

Trustee Durand began with an update on Student Government. She mentioned a number of clubs are doing very well. Anime, Cybersecurity, and LGBTQ are very successful. Many clubs are collaborating on together on events. There is a dance club now as part of the Athletics program and they will perform at halftime of games. Syracuse University tickets are available for athletic events for OCC students and a winter formal is scheduled for December 9 in the Gordon Great Room.

OCC Foundation

Trustee Sindoni introduced Kathy D'Aprix, Director, OCC Foundation, to provide her report. Ms. D'Aprix began by introducing the newest member of the OCC Foundation team, Sarah Roberts, Director of Advancement Operations, who replaced Anne Marie Smith. Notable donations and grants that have come in recently include \$5,000 from KeyBank for student scholarships; \$10,000 from TACNY to support SURE (Science Undergraduate Research Experience); and \$60,000 from Lockheed Martin for a CNC Machine and redesign of the Cybersecurity Lab. Recent Foundation events include the October 6: Alumni Faces; November 15: Casey McQuiston, LGBTQ author and featured speaker came to speak with students in our Creative Writing program and Pride Alliance student organization. November 30: 1st small group fundraising event with new OCCF Director, Lis Fournier. December 8: 1st Alumni Affairs event for Architecture and construction alumni. April 22: Joint fundraising event for OCCF and the Girl Scouts of NYPenn Pathways. The annual appeal is in progress - thank you to those who have already donated.

There being no further business, Trustee Sindoni adjourned the board meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Prepared by:
Julie Hart
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Submitted by:
John Sindoni
Chair, Board of Trustees