



Minutes of the October 17, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535

The 792nd meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 was conducted on October 17, 2023 at the Des Plaines campus of Oakton College, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines, Illinois.

Closed Session – Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Yanow called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. in room 1502. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Dr. Wendy Yanow	Chair	Present
Dr. Gail Bush	Vice Chair	Present
Mr. William Stafford	Secretary	Present
Ms. Theresa Bashiri-Remetio		Present
Ms. Martha Burns		Present
Mr. Benjamin Salzberg		Present
Ms. Marie Lynn Toussaint		Present
Ms. Lydia Cruz	Student Trustee	Present

Chair Yanow asked for a motion to go into closed session under the exceptions to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, with the purpose of reviewing closed session minutes of September 19, 2023; and considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; and pending litigation.

Trustee Bashiri-Remetio made the motion, seconded by Trustee Salzberg. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Bashiri-Remetio	Aye
Ms. Burns	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Ms. Cruz	Aye

Also present in room 1502 were Dr. Joianne Smith, President; Dr. Karl Brooks, CSSO/Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Judy Mitchell, Interim CFO, Dr. Ileo Lott, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Mr. Duane “Arnie” Oudenhoven, Interim CHRO.

At 5:52 p.m., Chair Yanow asked for a motion to adjourn the closed session meeting. Trustee Bashiri-Remetio made the motion which was seconded by Trustee Salzberg. A voice vote was called and the closed session was adjourned.

Open Session – Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Yanow called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:03 p.m. in room 1506.

Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Dr. Yanow	Chair	Present
Dr. Bush	Vice Chair	Present
Mr. Stafford	Secretary	Present
Ms. Bashiri-Remetio		Present
Ms. Burns		Present
Mr. Salzberg		Present
Ms. Toussaint		Present
Ms. Cruz	Student Trustee	Present

Also present in room 1506:

Leadership: Dr. Joianne Smith, President; Dr. Kelly Becker, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning; Dr. Karl Brooks, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Ileo Lott, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Judy Mitchell, Interim Vice President for Administrative Affairs; Duane “Arnie” Oudenhoven, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer; and Katherine Sawyer, Chief Advancement Officer.

Administrators: Robyn Bailey, Director of Operations and Administration/Interim Dean of Skokie Campus; Anne Brennan, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and College Transitions; Steve Butera, Director of Communications and External Relations; Dr. Sebastian Contreras Jr., Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Student Success; Leana Cuellar, Director of Student Learning and Engagement; Dr. Rick Daniels, Director of Institutional Equity and Inclusion; Al Grippe, Director of Grant Strategy and Development; Jeffrey Hoffmann, Chief of Police; Dr. Ruben Howard II, Director of Workforce Curriculum and Instruction; Jake Jeremiah, Dean of Library; David Kendrick, Director of Online Learning; Dr. Andrea Lehmacher, Director of Marketing; LeVon McAllister, Director of Campus Technologies; Jessi Moon, Director of Planned and Major Giving; Christine Paciero, Director of Oakton Athletics; Dr. Gregory Paveza, Interim Dean of Health Careers; Dr. James Rabchuk, Dean of STEM; Camesha Richardson, Director of Human Resources; Joseph Scifo, Director of Facilities; Ella Whitehead, Assistant Director of Enrollment for Equity Outreach; and Andy Williams, Controller.

Union Leaders: Jennifer Crowley, Classified Staff Association; Mary Hope Griffin, Adjunct Faculty Association; and Dr. Suzanne Ziegenhorn, Full-Time Faculty Association.

Faculty: Michael Kristiansen, Modern Languages; Anna Hammer, Mathematics; and Jhosa Pagulayan, BNAT.

Staff: Philip Cronin, Media Services; Andrea Falco, Athletics; Ernest Gest, Facilities; Kelsey Kapolnek, Marketing and Communications; Ewa Lyczewska, Marketing and Communications; Rob Peterson, Access, Equity and Diversity; Beatriz Sparks, Special Assistant to the Board; and Louis Walker, Athletics.

Students: Christopher AbiNader, Daniel Allegretti, Ryan Belz, Cole Shane, Tommy Eikosidekas, Peter Eikosidekas, Stephen Kiefer, and Matthew Smith.

Guests: Jamie Boller, Cotter Consulting

Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Yanow led the pledge.

Land Acknowledgment – Trustee Burns read the Land Acknowledgment.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Yanow asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes of the September 19, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, and the September 19 joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors. Trustee Stafford made the motion which was seconded by Trustee Bashiri-Remetio. A voice vote was called and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Statement by the President

Condolences

- To Director of Systems and Network Services, John Wade on the passing of his mother on September 20.
- To Art Museum Manager, Nathan Harpaz on the passing of his mother on October 4.
- To Assistant Professor of BNAT, Deborah Wyeth on the passing of her husband on October 5.
- To Trustee Benjamin Salzberg on the passing of his mother on October 8.

Congratulations

- Maria Ross, Interim Manager of Recruitment and Outreach on her marriage last week.
- Oakton’s Marketing & Communications team won 5 gold and 3 bronze medallions at the NCMPR (National Council for Marketing & Public Relations) Conference earlier this month. Work that was recognized with Gold include our adult student admission piece, Oakton Weekly (E-newsletter), Annual Report, PR launch campaign for the name change/brand refresh announcement, and an award for our student storytelling page.

- Congratulations to the Oakton's Men's Golf Team on winning the 2023 Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference (ISCC) Championship. They dominated the conference as four of the top five golfers. Head Coach Louis Walker was named ISCC Coach of the Year, and golfer Dan Allegretti was named Medalist of the Year. It's been 30 years since Oakton's Men's Golf Team won the ISCC, so the victory tastes even sweeter. In addition, Coach Walker is the first Black head coach in the Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference history to win a conference championship. Congratulations to the team, Dan and Coach Walker! Go Owls!

Happenings

- The Koehnline Museum of Art is hosting Oakton's Annual WGSS Art Show, "Don't 'Drag' Me Down: Today's Battle for Liberation." Opening Night took place on October 5. For this year's annual juried art exhibition, Oakton College invited professional artists of all media, including performance artists, to submit a single work that provides social commentary and inspiration on the ways that marginalized communities create courageous spaces, empower each other and change the world. This exhibition is a collaboration between Oakton's Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program and the Koehnline Museum of Art.
- As we build an inclusive community, we have programs and events throughout the month for LatinX Heritage month, LGBTQIA2+ Month, Indigenous Peoples' Day, and campus sustainability month.
- This week is National Student Transfer Week and the Career and Transfer Center is hosting a number of workshops to support students in the transfer process. Last week, the CTC hosted its Transfer Tailgate event where 255 students connected with 35 colleges and universities.
- There is still an opportunity to take part in the Jewish Studies Fall 2023 Speaker Series. This series is sponsored by a generous grant from the Oakton Educational Foundation and presented by the Oakton College Jewish Studies concentration.
- On Friday, you can join the Para Sa Kultura Filipino Night Market to celebrate Filipino American History Month, featuring Chicagoland's up-and-coming Filipinx-owned micro businesses and food vendors. There will be live performances and a lumpia eating competition.
- October 25 is College Learning Day. No daytime classes will be held, and the College will be closed to students and the public until 5 p.m. The Theme for Learning Day is "Advancing Racial Equity Through Creating a Culture of Belonging and Connecting."
- President Smith acknowledged that many of us are struggling as we witness the violence in Israel and Gaza and the significant loss of life. Dr. Smith says she hopes that we can challenge ourselves and our students to be informed - ensuring that we are obtaining information from credible news sources and taking time to learn about the deep and complex history that is the foundation of this conflict. She also expects that we will exercise our value of compassion - using a trauma informed approach in our conversations with each other and in our conversations with our students - listening with empathy and care as we navigate these challenging times and hope for peace.

Educational Foundation Liaison Report

Notable commitments since the last update to the Trustees include:

- A \$50,000 gift from the Irving M. and Sylvia Footlik Foundation to support a fund related to the expansion of our Health Career program offering in Evanston and to underwrite the cost of student experiential learning opportunities.
- A \$2,000 gift from alumnus Alejandro Roman, including a match from his employer CDW, to grow the endowment of a scholarship he began in 2020 to help students who obtain their high school equivalency degree attend college.
- An \$1,800 gift from Terese Conway to grow the endowed scholarship in her name for she and her late husband Thomas.

The Foundation elected a new Board Director, Katie Hunt, in early October. Ms. Hunt lives in Northbrook and is retired from a career in finance and management with organizations that included Oracle, the American Medical

Association, DCS Logistics, and the University of Chicago. Before her retirement, Katie served as a staff member with Oakton's foundation, leading our advancement services area (finance, accounting, database management, and general operations). Katie is a Foundation donor, having established an endowed scholarship honoring her late father, Joe Hunt, in 2021. The Board now stands at 22 voting members.

The Foundation invites Trustees to attend the annual Donor Appreciation Brunch on Saturday, November 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Renaissance Chicago Glenview Suites. Please RSVP your attendance to the President's office or the Foundation directly.

The Board's next quarterly meeting will take place on December 6.

ACCT Liaison Report

Chair Yanow shared that several trustees attended the Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress in Las Vegas. She thanked the community for supporting the Board and sending them to this professional development. She indicated that some of the things that were the most significant for her this year is that there was a very bold attention to equity, and a panel on neurodiversity where Trustee Bush participated as a panelist and a speaker. Many of the presentations focused on equity, and Oakton College is doing many of the things that trustees learned about. Chair Yanow described the congress as a very positive and powerful experience.

Student Trustee Report

Ms. Lydia Cruz acknowledged that the month of October celebrates and spreads awareness to many groups of people. This month we put the spotlight on: LGBTQIA2+ History, Filipino American Heritage, Breast Cancer Awareness, Hispanic Heritage Month, and ADHD Awareness Month. She also shared the many events that have –and are currently taken place at the College.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission meeting will be held on October 19. During the advocacy day meeting, students are hoping to touch on topics about mental health on college campuses, college affordability, and expanding access to diverse student populations, including students with disabilities.

SGA will be heading to the ASGA Chicago Conference in North Park University. The team will explore ways to develop skills as leaders, and discuss development on campuses with other student government leaders. The SGA also elected new senators Brandon Luna, Simon Charkewycz, and Michael Sobin.

Student Spotlight – None.

Comments by the Chair – No additional comments.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Burns shared that this year's ACCT Leadership Congress was a highpoint for her; she felt that people talked in ways that show action on the things that are being discussed, and shared clear outcomes. She said that she attended several sessions, and she wanted to highlight her experience attending the AANAPISI session. Her goal is to understand the diversity of the Asian population, and the session allowed her to understand many of the dynamics of Asian groups in the United States. Trustee Burns indicated that she would like to have more information and a thorough discussion about the AANAPISI community, and the work to support it at Oakton.

Trustee Toussaint said that the conversations and sessions at the congress were enlightening and direct. She indicated that her focus was on the Black learner experience, and she enjoyed the bold and honest conversations around the subject. Ms. Toussaint learned that there has been a decline of 44% in Black learners from 2010 to 2020. Many Black male students find college culturally irrelevant and have lost interest in the subjects that are taught; on the other hand, there is an increase in trades where students want to learn and be able to work to take care of their families. The discussion included identifying issues within the system and not with the students.

Trustee Bush thanked the College for allowing the Board to attend the ACCT Leadership Congress. Dr. Bush shared that the panel that she served on was organized by the Illinois Community College Trustee Association, and she gave a shout out to the neurodiversity task force who worked on preparing the Neurodiversity Statement for approval. Trustee Bush indicated that during the panel discussion she shared that the task force was highly

motivated, action-driven, and able to make things happen within the first year. Among the sessions she attended, Trustee Bush said the one that stands out was on mental health and strategies for funding mental health support hosted by a telehealth services provider that the College may want to look into.

Trustee Stafford shared that at the congress he was able to find good examples of policies that the College could implement. Trustee Salzberg also shared that the congress was a good experience, and thanked the Oakton community for the support shown after the death of his mother.

Public Participation – None

Board Report: Skokie Learning Commons

Leana Cuellar, Director of Student Learning and Engagement
Jacob Jeremiah, Dean of Library
Joseph Scifo, Director of Facilities

The learning commons, sometimes called an “information commons,” has evolved from a combination library and computer lab into a full-service learning, research, and project space. Its strength lies in the relationships it supports, whether these are student-to-student, student-to-faculty, student-to-staff, student-to-equipment, or student-to-information.

Effective learning commons are alive with the voices of students working together, establishing the kinds of connections that promote active, engaged learning.

One-Stop Service Hub

- The library, academic advising office, and tutoring or writing center are highly valued as service providers in addressing unmet needs.
- Students would highly value services to address both their curricular and non-curricular information needs.
- When asked where they would be more likely to use these services, approximately 77 percent named the library, followed closely by the tutoring/writing center (76 percent). About seven in ten respondents also indicated they would be more likely to use this service if offered at a one-stop center.

Academic Hub at Skokie

- Access and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)
- Library
- Learning Center
- Testing Center
- Media Services/Help Desk
- TRIO

Physical Space

- Innovative space that allows students to interact with peers, faculty members, and other staff to support their learning
- Hybrid technology to support student learning and engagement

Approach

- Integrated approach to providing support and services
- Welcoming, inclusive approach
- Reducing barriers to service and increase in engagement

Values: Open space for students, visibility, student success, community, student knowledge and experience, accessibility, inclusivity, collaboration, providing an informative and supportive space, DEI.

Goals: Enhanced/improved accessible services, ownership by students, collaborative space, one-stop shopping for access to all services, building student confidence, reduce run around, promote learning and student academic success, create a starting point for students, make sure students have digital literacy, build collaboration with faculty, staff and students.

Schedule

- Contractor Bids Due: October 13, 2023
- Board Preview: October 17, 2023
- Board Approval: November 14, 2023
- Construction Start: December 2023-January 2024
- Construction Substantial Completion: May 2024
- Owner Move In: July 8th, 2024
- Elevator Installation: Summer 2024 – Fall 2024
- Final Completion: November 2024

NEW BUSINESS**10/23-1a Approval of Consent Agenda**

Trustee Bush offered: "Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves adoption of the Consent Agenda."

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

10/23-1b Approval of Consent Agenda Items 10/23-2 through 10/23-7

Trustee Bush offered: "Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following items 10/23-2 through 10/23-7 as listed in the Consent Agenda."

10/23-2 Ratification of Payment of Bills for September 2023

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 hereby ratifies expenditures and release of checks by the Treasurer of Community College District 535 in the amount of \$8,701,607.89 for all check amounts as listed and for all purposes as appearing on a report dated September 2023."

10/23-3 Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for September 2023

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 receives for filing as a part of the College's official records, the report of the Treasurer for the month of September 2023."

10/23-4 Acceptance of Quarterly Report on Investments

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the acceptance of the Quarterly Report on Investments for filing."

10/23-5 Ratification of Actions of the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Executive Board

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, in its capacity as governing board of the administrative district of the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Program, ratifies and approves the actions of the Executive Board in items a to b as stipulated above, and hereby approves the expenditures in the amount not to exceed \$223,999.75 for all funds listed in item a."

10/23-6 Supplemental Payment of Professional Personnel – Fall 2023

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves an adjustment of \$685,078.69 to the total amount of part-time teaching salaries paid during the fall 2023 semester; the revised total payment amount is \$3,271,194.44."

"Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves an adjustment of \$137,736.41 to the total amount of faculty overload salaries paid during the fall 2023 semester; the revised total payment amount is \$585,889.70."

10/23-7 Approval of Clinical Practice Agreements

"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following cooperative agreements:

Health Information Technology Program (2)
 Medical Laboratory Technology Program (1)
 Nursing program (3)."

Trustee Stafford seconded the motion. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Bashiri-Remetio	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye

The motion carried. Student Trustee Cruz favored the resolution.

10/23-8 Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$15,600,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Community College Bonds, Series 2023A, of the District for the purpose of paying claims against the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on the bonds and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof

Trustee Stafford offered: "RESOLUTION providing for the issue of not to exceed \$15,600,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Community College Bonds, Series 2023A, of Community College District No. 535, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for the purpose of paying claims against said Community College District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof."

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Bashiri-Remetio	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye

The motion carried. Student Trustee Cruz favored the resolution.

10/23-9 Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$7,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2023B, of the District for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on the bonds, and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Trustee Stafford offered: "RESOLUTION providing for the issue of not to exceed \$7,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2023B, of Community College District No. 535, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of said Community College District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof."

Trustee Yanow seconded the motion. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Bashiri-Remetio	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye

Ms. Toussaint Aye
 Dr. Yanow Aye

The motion carried. Student Trustee Cruz favored the resolution.

10/23-10 Authorization to Approve October Purchases

Trustee Bashiri-Remetio offered: “Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the approval of the attached resolutions, as stipulated in the following agenda items, for the purchase of the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Vendor / Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10/23-10a	1	Baseball Field Improvements	Martam Construction, Inc Elgin, IL	\$1,864,962.00
10/23-10b	2	Partnership with 2 nd Story for Learning Day	Serendipity Theatre Company DBA 2 nd Story Chicago, IL	\$27,750.00
GRAND TOTAL				\$1,892,712.00.”

Trustee Bush seconded the motion, and asked that purchase items include information on Minority and Women-Owned businesses. Trustee Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Bashiri-Remetio Aye
 Dr. Bush Aye
 Mr. Salzberg Aye
 Mr. Stafford Aye
 Ms. Toussaint Aye
 Dr. Yanow Aye

The motion carried. Student Trustee Cruz favored the resolution.

10/23-11 Preview and Initial Discussion of Upcoming Purchases

The following purchase will be presented for approval at an upcoming Board of Trustees meeting:

- a. Continuation of Employee Medical, Dental, and Vision Insurance
- b. Document Imaging and Management System Annual Maintenance Contract and System Upgrades
- c. Skokie Library and Learning Commons
- d. Foundation Office/TenHoeve Wing Remodeling

10/23-12 Acceptance of a Full-Time Faculty Resignation

Trustee Bashiri-Remetio offered: “Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 accepts the resignation of Deborah Wyeth effective October 10, 2023, and Abigail Garcia effective May 13, 2024.”

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

10/23-13 Notification of Award of Grants

Trustee Bush listed the grants.

Funding totaling \$1,229,041.00 has been made available to Oakton College:

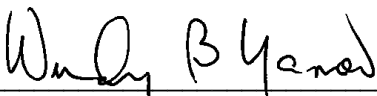
- a. Illinois Community College Board Carl D. Perkins Grant..... \$245,841.00
 (Managed by Shannon McKenzie / Administered by Marc Battista)

b.	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity SBDC Grant.....	\$110,000.00
	(Managed by Maurae Gilbert McCants / Administered by Dr. Jesse Ivory and Dr. Ileo Lott)	
c.	Illinois Department of Human Services Smart Start Transition Grant.....	\$13,200.00
	(Managed by Monique Hudson / Administered by Dr. Ileo Lott)	
d.	Illinois Community College Board Workforce Equity Initiative Grant	\$860,000.00
	(Managed by Dr. Jesse Ivory / Administered by Dr. Ileo Lott)	
	TOTAL:	\$1,229,041.00

Adjournment

Chair Yanow announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Oakton Community College, District 535, will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at the Des Plaines Campus.

Trustee Bashiri-Remetio made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Salzberg. A voice vote was called and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



 Wendy B. Yanow, Board Chair



 William Stafford, Board Secretary

Minutes recorded by:
Beatriz Sparks
10/2023