

**South Puget Sound Community College  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
South Puget Sound Community College  
2011 Mottman Road, S.W.  
Olympia, WA 98512-6292**

The meeting took place in a virtual space to comply with government restrictions on public gathering due to COVID-19 health risks.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Jeff Davis called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Attending by Zoom conferencing: Trustee Jeff Davis, Trustee Doug Mah, Trustee Steven Drew, Trustee Judy Hartmann, and Trustee Rozanne Garman attended virtually. Elizabeth McAmis, Assistant Attorney General (AAG), Education Division, attended virtually.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Trustee Drew, seconded by Trustee Mah, and carried **THAT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BE APPROVED:**

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- January 11, 2022 regular board meeting
- January 25, 2022, virtual, (ACT Conference)

**B. MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES**

**C. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**D. DATE OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Regular Meeting

March 8, 2022

2:30-4:30 p.m.

South Puget Sound Community College

2011 Mottman Road, S.W.

Olympia, WA 98512-6292

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

- Due to the changing information related to COVID-19 and the board meeting being a virtual meeting, public comments by email were solicited in advance of the Board meeting. The Board Chair noted that there were no public comments received by email. There were no comments from the audience as well.

**BOARD SPECIAL COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS**

- ACT Legislative Action Committee (LAC): Steven Drew, Jeff Davis
  - Trustee Drew reported:
    - February 15 marked the cutoff for bills to pass out of their chamber of origin. The Bills that are still alive will be advancing through committees in the opposite chamber.
  - Trustee Mah reported:
    - He attended the ACCT National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. on February 6-9 (as ACT President and SPSCC Trustee).
    - The highlight was an address by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden to the delegations. It is very exciting to know that we have a very strong advocate in the White House.
    - They had an opportunity to meet with Sen. Patty Murray, who is a strong advocate for community colleges; and with Rep. Marilyn Strickland, Congressional District 10 and Rep. Pramila Jayapal, Congressional District 7.
    - There were presentations by the Labor Secretary and Transportation Secretary, who were very well-informed and understood the value that community colleges play in the economy and the role that they have in our society. It was good to see the excitement, enthusiasm and level of support from the administration.
    - There is information in our board packet about declining enrollment. We have a fair amount of work in continuing to address declining enrollment in the state and across the country.
    - He noted that most impactful was that Tacoma Community College brought four of their Student Government students with them. The students expressed appreciation and thanks for all the support from all advocates and recognized the work of trustees in advocating for students. They represented Washington State very well.
- Board Finance Committee: Rozanne Garman
  - Trustee Garman reported:
    - There was no Board Finance Committee meeting.
- Foundation Board: Judy Hartmann
  - Trustee Hartmann reported:
    - They wanted to raise \$11.2M when the Student Success Campaign began. They have exceeded that in January, but within the grand total of the Campaign, the one bucket that is not yet full, is the bucket for student success. Students can request \$500 maximum grant. Students have requested grant funds for: tuition, rent/housing, books, power/utilities, childcare, tools/supplies, car repair, transportation assistance, and grocery cards. The Campaign is pushing to raise \$1.4M to go in that particular bucket. Trustee Hartmann, as Campaign Chair, invites

the trustees, if interested, in hosting small events and house parties to help raise funds. The idea is to complete this in August when they plan to have a community event to celebrate the end of the Campaign, 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Foundation, and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College.

- Major gifts (over \$10,000)—in 2019 they had 23, and in 2021 they had 79. This is what helps them reach their fundraising goals. In terms of individuals/families/companies, in 2018 pledges amounted to \$60,800 and in 2021 pledges amounted to \$1.1M.

## REPORT FROM THE COLLEGE PRESIDENT

- Dr. Stokes reported the following:
  - There were no reports from the Student Senate and Faculty Union.
  - The enrollment in Washington State is very challenging, as described in the Tab 2 article, “Postsecondary Enrollment in Washington: The Crisis Intensifies”. Student Services and the Public Relations office are working on a marketing and recruitment plan to help with enrollment.
  - Aspen Interview: We were selected to participate in an interview with the Aspen Selection Committee on Feb. 16. Dr. Stokes, Dr. Andreas, Dr. Pelkey, and Kelly Green will participate in the interview.
  - Operational Planning and budget allocation and development work for 2022-23 academic year has started. Kickoff for Core Theme 1 strategy session was yesterday.
  - He noted the Capital Facilities Update and the President’s Outreach/Professional Development/Advocacy List that were mailed to the trustees.

**POLICY** No Report.

**BUDGET & FINANCE** No Report.

## STUDY SESSION

### Diversifying Our History Courses

Dr. Stokes reviewed that this came out of the summer retreat work the Board wanted to do—to find out more diversity and equity work that we are doing in the disciplines of the college. This is also timely because it connects to the societal debate about critical race theory. The work that our professors do in integrating critical race theory into our various courses is very good work.

History Professors Eric Chase and Dr. Laura Martin, presented a review of our History curriculum in their PowerPoint presentation, “Diversifying Our History Courses.”

Prior to their updates:

- The curriculum was a very Euro-centric narrative in our history program. There was reliance on the ‘master narrative’--“winners write the history.”

- The emphasis was on memorization.
- Based on outdated pedagogical strategies.

Current Pedagogical Approach:

- Critical thinking over memorization—big-picture questions, how/why, making history relevant to students' lives
- Validate student experiences, connect students to resources
- “Two-Eyed Seeing”, which embraces “learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous knowledges and ways of knowing, and the other eye with the strengths of mainstream knowledges and ways of knowing, and to use both these eyes together, for the benefit of all”.
  - Indigenous ways of knowing: interconnected, holistic, non-hierarchical, traditional, experiential and revealed
  - Western ways of knowing: individualistic, compartmentalized, hierarchical, objective and scientific

Changes Taken:

- Shifted from Western Civilization to World History
- Expanded U.S. Women's History
- Introduced History of Fermentation (co-taught with Brewing & Distilling program, also a diversity course)
- New assignments: include oral histories, recorded data, documentaries, pop music video; explore notion of historical memory and how past events impact people today; history of confederate statues, listen to podcasts and read articles from multiple points of view
- Moved away from overreliance on multiple choice quizzes
- Emphasized critical thinking assessment over memorization: critical analysis essays and position piece papers; class debates, seminar discussions, role plays
- New textbook and reading materials, including primary sources that bring in diverse perspectives

The overall success rates of underrepresented students by race/ethnicity for U.S. History is not as dramatic, but trending upward: 2013-14: 79.7%; 2019-20: 82.9%.

Where to go from here:

- Thematic world history
- Native American history
- Develop OER for all courses
- Continue to improve student success rates for all courses

The Trustees thanked both professors for their very creative and significant step and direction in diversifying our history courses. They also talked about ways of presenting history differently at the local level for a different perspective and to reengage our own community.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 3:27 p.m. Chair Davis announced that the Board was going into executive session to review the performance of public employees. The executive session would take approximately 30 minutes and no action would be taken by the Board during the executive session.

The executive session concluded at 3:54 p.m. with no Board action.

**RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING** The regular meeting reconvened at 3:56 p.m.

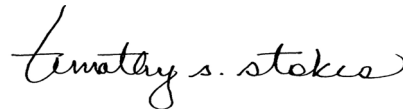
**ACTION ITEM FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION** None.

**ADJOURNMENT** 3:59 P.M.



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JEFF DAVIS, BOARD CHAIR  
SOUTH PUGET SOUND COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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TIMOTHY STOKES, SECRETARY  
SOUTH PUGET SOUND COMMUNITY COLLEGE