

MINUTES
District Board of Trustees
Tallahassee Community College
Hinson Administration Building
Tallahassee, FL 32304
October 21, 2013
Board Meeting – 2:30 pm
Business Workshop – Immediately Following

The October 2013 District Board of Trustee meeting was called to order by Chair Lamb at approximately 2:37 pm.

Members Present: Chair Lamb, Trustees Callen, Callaway, DeFoor, Messersmith and Moore

Absent: None

Via phone: None

Others Present: President Jim Murdaugh, Calandra Stringer, Alice Nied, Mike Robeck, Teresa Smith, Bill Spiers, Lance Kerwin, Robin Johnston, Bobby Hinson, Cephas Kaburu, David Hendry, Karinda Barrett, Sharisse Turner, Martin Balinsky, Bill Bierbaum, Renae Tolson, Gloria Mitchell, Lei Wang, Debbie Robinson, Marge Banocy-Payne, Ginny Wagner, Lourena Maxwell, Joe Neeley, Henry Thomas, Otto Ray Pierce, Anthony Jones, Ed Stringer, Marilyn Dickey, David Wildes, Sally Search, Patricia Manning, Gareth Euridge, Dave DelRossi, Barbara Sloan, Kimberly Moore, Carolyn King, Stephen Abel, Bill Milford, Donald Parks, Monte Finkelstein, Katrina Alexander, Matt Hollern, Dianne Speake, Barbara Alford, Mark O'Bryant, Ann Landis, Sue Otto, Maggie Bowden, E.E. Eunice, Kate Stewart, Marissa Mainwood, Vanessa Lawrence, Matt Littlefield, Brian Kupfer, Alice Maxwell, Rick Frazier, Sandy Sampson, Neisa Logman and Lenda Kling.

COMMENTS

Board Chair – Chair Lamb welcomed everyone, asking all to stand for a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members – Trustee Callaway stated she loved the Veteran's Center expressing she wanted to go back and roam through it more. She said it was impressive, beautiful, stunning and reverent; indicating you could tell a lot of time was spent on it.

Trustee Moore said she appreciated Chair Lamb representing them at the conference in Seattle and looked forward to hearing his update.

Trustee Messersmith said it seemed that almost every day they receive a message from TCC that is reflective of the things and energy going on here.

Chair Lamb said it was an honor to go to Seattle and the meetings went well, indicating he would share more during the Workshop. He shared the speaker, Bill Gates, said some good things about community colleges, how things are changing and we have to be receptive. He stated he had provided each of the Trustees a copy of a slide show from the conference, which had been provided by President Law at St. Petersburg College, thanking the Board for their support of his trip to Seattle.

President – President Murdaugh thanked the Board Members for their involvement in things, indicating we appreciated the energy and effort they put into becoming knowledgeable and working in a way that provides the kind of governance the college needs.

Trustee Messersmith inquired about the recent Auditor General's report, specifically when the Trustees could discuss. President Murdaugh indicated VP Smith would have a meeting with the Auditor General, sharing we would be challenging some of the findings and responding to others. He said finding number one (1), which states the Board should approve procedures, was problematic since the Board has never approved procedures, only policies. He indicated we would provide information item by item when we have an understanding of how each finding will be handled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Lamb asked if there were any comments and requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2013 Board Meeting.

Trustee Callaway stated page 5 of the minutes should reflect that Trustee Callaway was appointed to the TCC Foundation Board, not Trustee Callen.

MOTION: Trustee Moore
SECOND: Trustee Messersmith
Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS

Director Alice Maxwell shared news clips about the TCC College Fair, with approximately forty-five (45) colleges from across the country in attendance, and the faculty/staff TCC Foundation Campaign for TCC. She also introduced a video clip of Freda King, one of our alumni and a recipient of an Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) award.

President Murdaugh thanked Ms. King for being here. He stated Ms. King won the LeRoy Collins Distinguished Alumni Award in the Against the Odds category from the AFC and next month will be presented with the award at the AFC annual convention. He shared she earned her GED and associate's degree at TCC, later graduating from FSU. He said her job as a certified addiction specialist at Disc Village in an educational and service program for inmates at the Leon County Jail allows her to keep giving back, expressing his appreciation.

President Murdaugh recognized TCC student Cephas Kaburu, sharing Mr. Kaburu was one of the Chancellor's Students of the Month. He stated Mr. Kaburu is an international student from Kenya, who experienced financial challenges his first semester and was unsure he could remain at TCC. He indicated with help from the TCC Foundation and other supporters Mr. Kaburu was able to remain at TCC, indicating he was grateful Cephus chose TCC.

Ms. King said this was amazing and the journey keeps getting better and better. She indicated she was excited and honored. She stated her oldest son, Steven, will be discharged from the Marines and home in November to accompany her and her husband when she receives the award. She shared when her son, Brandon, was killed they wanted to do something to honor his name and in 2010 they started a scholarship at TCC with \$20,000, which is now nearing \$40,000. She expressed her appreciation for the award nomination.

Mr. Kaburu said since he is the only Kenyan international student, he expressed his thanks on behalf of the Kenyan people. He stated he grew up with hard work and sweat, which in Kenya is the colloquialism for success and no one has ever drowned in their own sweat.

President Murdaugh stated the Communications Department recently received six (6) gold, three (3) silver and five (5) bronze awards. He expressed his thanks to everyone in the Communications Department for what they do, indicating it is a remarkable achievement.

VP Search stated she has the honor of providing the international calendars to the Trustees. She said as we try to increase our global education for students on campus, we also want to try to attract more international students from all over the world. She introduced Director Lourena Maxwell to demonstrate our International Student website.

Director Maxwell said upon accepting her current position, one of her goals was to increase our recruitment of International Students. She stated they contracted with Hot Courses Abroad for language translation of our information into Vietnamese, Portuguese and Spanish, displaying a page in each of the languages. She shared this is one of the ways we can communicate with our students anywhere, indicating they are able to apply online through our website.

President Murdaugh stated the Trustees should have at their place the 5th Annual Instructor Training Seminar brochure and challenge coin. He asked Dean Banocy-Payne to provide further information on the TCC Theatre Brochure and the art exhibit piece he was providing to the Trustees.

Dean Banocy-Payne said the art exhibit is pictures of Seoul, Korea by Josh Hobson, a former TCC student. She indicated the Theatre TCC brochure included all the upcoming shows for the year. She shared that the student newspaper and literary art magazine individuals won awards at the Florida College System Publications Association Banquet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT OR PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Lamb asked if there were any comments or requests for the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: Trustee DeFoor

SECOND: Trustee Moore

Motion passed unanimously.

Academic Affairs

Academic Programs and Course Changes (Action)

President Murdaugh said Provost Sloan and VP Moore would answer any questions.

This request is that the Board approves the recommendation for academic course and program changes for the 2013-2014 academic year as attached.

MOTION: Trustee Messersmith

SECOND: Trustee Moore
Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Services

Amendment #3 – Preferred Customer Electric Service Agreement with City of Tallahassee (Action)

President Murdaugh shared this item requires Board approval.

This request is that the Board approve Amendment #3 of the Preferred Customer Service Agreement with the City of Tallahassee.

MOTION: Trustee Moore
SECOND: Trustee DeFoor
Motion passed unanimously.

Construction Status Report (Information)

Director Wildes shared the primary project is the Organic Chemistry Lab remodel, which is on track for completion in December 2013 with full operation in the spring term. He stated he has no additional information on the Quincy project at this time, although it has been narrowed down to two additional sites and the city has indicated they wish to move quickly.

He said there is a signed agreement with the architects approved at the last meeting for the Wakulla Environmental Institute, indicating we are reviewing information to ensure we start at the correct baseline. He stated they also have contracts for the environmental engineering, etc.

Fund Analysis – September 2013 (Information)

President Murdaugh shared this is a summary and information only, however VP Smith would address any questions.

Budget Amendment No. 1 (Action)

President Murdaugh said this is to address items that have occurred subsequent to the approval of the original budget and requires Board approval. VP Smith indicated each year we review the approved budget after fall enrollment, looking for any anomalies. She stated at this time she does not see a need for a revenue adjustment, contrary to last year.

She shared that every year after the books are closed for the fiscal year; there are needed audit adjustments for the expense category. She reported adjustments are being requested for the General Ledger (GL) categories six (6) & seven (7), estimated encumbrances, state support and insurance cost. She stated we are just moving money internally within our various funds via General Ledger (GL) codes, not requesting any additional funds.

President Murdaugh asked her to explain General Ledger codes. VP Smith said there are primarily three categories we use. She indicated GL code five (5) is for personnel services, GL six (6) is for supplies and contractual services and GL seven (7) is for capital expenditures. She said personnel services account for about seventy percent (70%) of our budget and we generally move funds between GL five (5) and GL six (6).

This request is that the Board approve the amendment as presented.

MOTION: Trustee Moore
SECOND: Trustee Callaway
Motion passed unanimously.

Proposed fee increase in Professional Services Contract for Legal Services for Andrews, Crabtree, Knox and Andrews, LLP (Action)

President Murdaugh said this is for a proposed fee increase, effective November 1, 2013 through October 31, 2014, indicating the attorney had spoken with the Chair. He stated this requires Board approval and will entertain any questions.

Chair Lamb shared he had spoken with the attorney and the President, indicating he had no issues with this. Trustee DeFoor stated, as the attorney on the Board, he thinks we are extremely well represented and these are very reasonable rates.

This request is that the Board approve the fee increase from \$160,000 to \$175,000 per year.

MOTION: Trustee DeFoor

SECOND: Trustee Moore

Motion passed unanimously.

Accreditation of the Tallahassee Community College Police Department (Information)

President Murdaugh shared this is a wonderful news item, with a bittersweet attachment to it. He stated we are now the first college in Florida to receive accreditation for our police department. He said Chief Hendry has done such a wonderful job that the Chief has now been hired by the University of South Florida, St. Pete Campus.

VP Smith said she was so proud, especially since Chief Hendry approached her about this. She indicated Chief Hendry stated Campus Police could do this, sharing the accreditation was accomplished in under three (3) years. Trustee DeFoor said accreditation is extremely complex and he was stunned a department of this size could get accredited this quickly.

Chief Hendry said they are excited to be the first college recognized by the Commission, stating it is a team effort. He said they started this project about eighteen (18) months ago, mapping out a solution for the accreditation and Bill Tanner volunteered to manage the project – with Lt. Rabon leading the operational side. He thanked various internal departments for their assistance during this process.

He shared there are about two hundred fifty (250) standards for police accreditation and we had to comply with about one hundred ninety (190) of those. He stated we had a fantastic onsite team and complied with about ninety-seven percent (97%) of the non-mandatory standards, which is a really high rate

Chief Hendry recognized Bill Tanner for the management of this project. Chief Hendry said on Thursday there will be a recognition ceremony at the Police Department, inviting everyone to attend. He shared one of his family goals was to get back home to St. Petersburg and he was excited about the opportunity to go back home.

President Murdaugh expressed his thanks for the leadership and everything Chief Hendry has done. Trustee Messersmith shared that through his work with the Sheriff's Department he knew just how extremely difficult it is for a small department to get the accreditation, expressing his congratulations.

TCC Foundation

TCC Foundation Update (Information)

VP Johnston shared the Campaign for TCC donations are currently at \$241,560. He said they have many events occurring over the next few weeks, highlighting TCC from the Inside Out. He said TCC from the Inside Out is a monthly event and an opportunity for people to come to campus, meet the President and learn about the college. He encourages everyone to refer others to the Foundation for a schedule of these events.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Murdaugh shared the Strategic Plan event would occur after the Board Meeting and asked that we reconvene at 3:45 pm.

Chair Lamb resumed the meeting at 3:48 pm.

BOARD WORKSHOP

Chair Lamb stated since Trustee Callen was not available at the beginning of the business meeting; he was giving her an opportunity to make remarks. Trustee Callen indicated she had been to several evening events and it is always a pleasure to represent TCC. She stated one of those was the Leon County School (LCS) Foundation event, where she saw many prior friends and colleagues – reporting they are very proud of the work between TCC and LCS.

President Murdaugh clarified the format this month is a little different than normal, stating we are still in the business meeting, which will conclude after the workshop and we address the final item before the Board. He said today we have a component that addresses the issue of consideration of a Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.

Provost Sloan introduced Diane Speake, Interim Dean, School of Nursing at Florida State University (FSU); Barbara Alford, Chief Nursing Officer, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH); Mark O'Bryant, Chief Executive Officer, TMH; Maggie Bowden of Barry University; Matt Hollern of St. Leo University; Katrina Alexandra of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU); Donald Parks of Flagler University; Bill Milford, Social Work Program, Thomas University at TCC; Ann Landis, Provost and Academic Officer, Thomas University; and Sue Otto, Nursing Program, Thomas University. She shared FAMU was not able to make it, but we had some very good conversation with them.

President Murdaugh stated when he applied for President; he was asked if the college should entertain a baccalaureate. He said at that time he asked the same questions we should ask today. He stated we should look at offering a baccalaureate if it is good for our students, good for our community and good for our college. He indicated we have structured the meeting today to answer those questions, using a number of different criteria.

Provost Sloan said today we want to look at offering the BSN at TCC. She indicated we are looking at two criteria to determine if this is good for our students – affordability and outcomes. She stated we will consider – how the costs compare among choices, how the time to degree impacts cost, and how retention and licensure rates compare among the choices.

She said to start you first have to be a registered nurse, indicating in this community there are two pathways – a seventy-two (72) hour Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) or a one hundred (120) hour BSN. She provided information on costs, indicating this is not the full cost of attending – only the tuition.

President Murdaugh inquired if the cost for FAMU and FSU was for the registered nurse (RN) portion or the entire four year program. Provost Sloan indicated the cost was for the entire four year program, since the RN is earned during the junior and senior year of study.

Provost Sloan provided information on student retention in these programs, indicating the slide reflects that students in nursing really want to stay and complete the program. She shared 2012 information on the percentage of students who actually receive their license on the first attempt, stating TCC had one percent (1%) that did not receive their license. She disclosed that Keiser University only had eleven (11) students attend and take the test that year, with nine percent (9%) or one (1) student not receiving their license on the first attempt.

She said after becoming an RN, the student can move on to get their BSN at Keiser University with an additional sixty (60) hours, at Thomas University in the hospital with an additional forty-eight (48) hours and the proposed TCC program with an additional forty-eight (48) hours at a very reduced cost. She said over eighty (80%) of our students are being hired and staying locally, with Capital Regional Medical Center (CRMC) hiring more than forty-eight (48) of our graduates in the last two years. Provost Sloan said the conclusion is the BSN program would be good for our students, by giving another alternative to the programs offered at Thomas University.

She said the next consideration is how this would impact relationships with our partners, sharing all our partners are present to discuss what they offer and the current employer demand. She stated our State University partners are focused on research and increasing enrollment in their graduate programs. She indicated that although they have active RN to BSN programs on the book, the programs are very limited.

Ms. Speake said FSU had a RN to BSN program until about five (5) years ago with about one hundred (100) students (only about three (3) from Tallahassee) that was totally online and had a foreign language requirement. She said with budget cutbacks and other factors, they decided to move to a BS to BSN program that could be completed in about twelve (12) months. She said it was a conscious decision of theirs not to continue enrollment in their RN to BSN program at FSU and they have no objection to the state colleges offering the program. She said research shows we can offer better patient care in Florida by having the RN to BSN program.

Provost Sloan said, other than Thomas University, our other University partners do not have an RN to BSN. She shared Barry University has a strong program in Miami, but they have chosen not to expand to this area.

Ms. Otto said about the time FSU decided not to offer, Thomas University decided to offer the RN to BSN. She shared the students take classes right in the hospitals and more than half of their faculty live in Tallahassee. She indicated it is a thirty-six (36) hour program that can be completed in fifteen (15) months. She stated they have a program designed for nurses with Associate degrees to obtain a Master's Degree in one hundred thirty-four (134) hours. She imparted their Master's program is two tracks – in nursing administration targeted for the need in health care and nursing education targeted for community need. She disclosed that something unique to their program is if you have an AS in nursing and a BS in another field, you do not have to get a RN to go into the Master's program.

Mr. Milford said the provided brochure included all the majors offered at TCC by the university partners here today. He indicated the Thomas University newest art program has about twenty (20) students in it right now; sharing it is an additional bonus that students are in the same place where they got their AA, which an easy transition for them.

Ms. Landis stated Thomas University is aware of the shortage of nurses and has agreed to give a tuition scholarship of twenty percent (20%) to any student who enrolls every semester in their BSN and RN to MSN programs. She shared as a private institution, with no state funding; they have to recover their cost – stating the scholarship is their commitment to the health care community, which makes the program a little more affordable.

Trustee Messersmith asked of those not currently offering the program, if they would be interested in providing the program. Dean Parks said Flagler College currently offers four (4) baccalaureate programs and are typically interested in strategic expansion in majors offered on their main campus. He said for about \$7,900, they can provide a BS to a TCC graduate. He said the BSN is not offered in St. Augustine, so they would need to hire nursing faculty.

Provost Sloan said Flagler College wanted to offer the communications program, which has just been approved. She stated the education programs offered by Flagler have been important to us, especially a few years ago when teaching shortages occurred. She shared this is an area where it would not make sense for us to offer a baccalaureate.

Maggie Bowden said she was happy to be a part of the conversation and indicated Barry University partnered in 2003, with a BS in Information Technology – one of their most important programs, with about ninety percent (90%) of those students coming from TCC. She indicated their BA and Master's in Public Information is their second most important. She stated they have a portfolio program, for which they are recognized nationally, that allows up to thirty (30) hours of credit to students for what they have learned while working. Provost Sloan said Barry University students are not primarily from TCC, but from individuals in the workforce.

Ms. Alexander said Embry Riddle is not currently offering a flight nurse program, although they offer aviation related courses. She said they are big with the Veterans Administration – offering current baccalaureates in Aeronautics, Technical Management specializing in Logistics Supply Chain Management and Business Aviation Administration. Provost Sloan indicated they can also offer Associate Degrees in programs we do not offer. Ms. Alexander shared they could also offer graduate degrees, which are mostly online.

Mr. Hollern said St Leo University offers baccalaureates in Criminal Justice, Psychology and Sports Management. He shared they are not interested in offering any nursing programs, although they are interested in Human Services Administration for the future. Provost Sloan said St. Leo University will take our AS degree in criminal justice, allowing some of those classes to count toward the higher level degree.

President Murdaugh said our focus is on degrees and programs, specifically meeting the regional workforce needs. He indicated our sincerest hope is that each of our partners have the opportunity to grow, not to squelch anyone's growth. He stated this is about identifying the opportunities that each of us has, with nursing being a real opportunity for TCC to meet a workforce need in the community.

Mr. O'Bryant said this is the most important meeting he has today, because it speaks to the future of health care and the platform of delivery across our region. He stated there is a huge shortage of nursing degreed individuals in our region and across our country, but the good news is – there is not a shortage of qualified applicants. He indicated there are many excellent programs available in our region, but they are not enough – although FSU and FAMU provide large BSN programs. He shared the individuals in the FSU and FAMU programs recruit students from many areas, most of whom return to their communities.

He stated TCC, however, recruits a high volume of students from the local area and the rates of retention for TCC students is very strong. He said not to take away from the other programs; he does not believe they are sufficient to meet the long term needs of our community. He shared TMH has a desire to become a magnet hospital, which is a status that really takes nursing professionalism to a higher level and has requirements for baccalaureate degreed nurses. He indicated looking at TCC as a resource for BSN is related to increasing the number of BSN staff and changing how we deliver care.

Mr. O'Bryant said we currently focus on episodic care instead of managing care, which results in lower health care results. He stated to manage care; we must change the platform to manage the health of individuals. He indicated to broaden the management of care; we must focus more on nurses with baccalaureates and above. He feels they have a great resource in our area, but they must have more BSN nurses.

He said they have great partnerships and allied health programs in the area, referencing the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education. He believes they have the platform to become a center of transition across the nation. He stated this conversation is important, since it will enable them to build the platform needed in the area. He stated there are plenty of people interested in these roles and it is not a new journey – many, many of the colleges have engaged in the baccalaureate program and strongly encouraged us to look at it.

Ms. Alford said they hire about two hundred fifty (250) registered nurses each year, with fifty-eight percent (58%) currently having a BSN or higher. She indicated the RN to BSN program is very important to TMH, with an expectation of eighty percent (80%) of their nurses having a BSN or higher by 2020 – as recommended by the Institute of Medicine. She shared that statistics show patients who receive care by BSN nurses in acute care hospitals have better patient outcomes, with shorter stays and fewer complications.

She stated the nursing graduates from FSU typically stay one to two years and then move to other areas; however TCC Graduates usually stay with them long-term. She imparted they made a commitment that all their nurse managers would have a BSN and as LPN positions leave the hospital, they would be replaced with RN positions.

Provost Sloan said the Institute of Medicine goal of eighty percent (80%) set in 2010 states: *The BSN is needed in the acute care center because of the competencies they will bring. They include leadership, health policy, system improvement, research and evidence based practice, teamwork, collaboration and competency in specific areas such as community and public health and geriatrics.* She stated nobody thinks the BSN is the panacea, but it does introduce students to a wider range of competencies and makes them better equipped to meet the demands of an evolving health care system. She indicated this really is about the future of health care and the national movement toward changing the way we look at the role of the nurse in the acute care situation.

President Murdaugh said this conversation began with Mark O'Bryant, who indicated they would appreciate the college offering the program. He shared while looking at whether this is good for the community; we want all our partners to grow and do well and to meet the needs of major employers in our community, who are forecasting needs for years to come. He stated we believe this is good for the community.

He said we looked at fiscal stewardship and relevance to determine if this would be good for our college. Provost Sloan stated we looked at start-up costs of \$50,000 – which is probably very generous, because we have doctorate prepared nursing staff and no major equipment to buy or changes to the facility. She said if we hired one full-time faculty and some adjuncts with two cohorts of thirty-five (35) students each, we are looking at another \$110,000 – with total start-up expenses estimated at \$160,000. She indicated ongoing expense estimates would be approximately \$125,000.

She stated revenue for the two cohorts at current undergraduate tuition rates of \$98 a credit hour, two years of upper division tuition rates of \$120 a credit hour and with the state support, we would bring in about \$600,000. She shared this should result in approximately \$440,000 in net revenue to the college.

Trustee DeFoor asked why we would use adjuncts, since we would have such a healthy profit margin. Provost Sloan said we might switch it around, with adjuncts being utilized in the two year program and bring full-time faculty into the baccalaureate program, although sometimes it is good to bring people with different experiences and backgrounds for a different perspective.

Trustee DeFoor stated he understood using adjuncts for experience, but asked that we not let cost be the deciding factor. Provost Sloan said she had not done this for financial reasons, but because it made sense in terms of who we have and what they are doing now. She shared that finding doctoral prepared people to teach is always a struggle.

She said in reference to our capacity for growth, the program would primarily be offered on nights and weekends, with possibly some online components. She shared they would be discussing the varying shifts and days, since most would be working students. Dean Nied stated that although we have adequate resources, there may be a need for some extended staffing hours. Provost Sloan said she had not added this into the estimates.

Trustee DeFoor asked what the teacher to student ratio would be for this program. Provost Sloan stated they were using thirty-five (35) per class maximum, although we can do it as small as fifteen (15) – indicating she had made it thirty-five (35) looking at the number of people needing the degree locally. Trustee DeFoor asked if this would give us our student/faculty ratio and if it should be that high. Dean Nied stated we wanted the number that high for good student conversation. Provost Sloan said we could reduce it to thirty (30), which is a standard class size for us, which would reduce our revenue and add about \$8,000 more per year in expenses.

President Murdaugh said last year the Legislature set aside \$15 million for incentive funding and are scheduled to set aside another \$15 million this year for the college system to expand its baccalaureate efforts to meet an estimated undersupply of four thousand (4,000) graduates statewide. He stated we cannot compete for a dollar of this money with our current programs – sharing that troubles him greatly.

He said when we talk about whether this is good for the college from a fiscal stewardship standpoint, we are absolutely confident the program will generate revenue. He stated although that is not the primary reason to do a program, this means we are missing the opportunity to access funds to meet needs. He shared twenty-three (23) out of the twenty-eight (28) colleges have moved forward, with the twenty-fourth (24th) on the way. He said from a staff perspective; we feel it is good for our students, our community and our college.

Baccalaureate Degree (Action)

President Murdaugh said this would require Board action.

This request is that the Board approve development of a full proposal for the Bachelors of Science in Nursing, including the preliminary letter of intent followed by the full proposal.

MOTION: Trustee Moore

SECOND: Trustee Callaway

Motion passed, with Trustee Messersmith opposing.

Trustee Callen said generally speaking organizations that move ahead think futuristically; they don't keep talking about it. She shared in talking with students; they are passionate about the idea of the school moving ahead. She indicated it is a reinvention for everyone, by adding on to make yourself more viable. She stated it is important to make a change, which does not mean what we are doing now is not good enough, but this would bring adventure and a new energy. She said she wanted to be here when we do this and expressed her support.

Trustee Moore said she hoped all of us five years from now say we were in the room when this conversation took place. She stated we are at a rare opportunity right now, sharing she appreciates and wants a healthy discussion of this issue. She indicated we have a CEO of one of the largest, private employers in our region asking us to provide a service that will be good for his organization and the community as a whole – with Provost Sloan showing it will be good for our students and the college.

She said when we hired our President one of the things discussed was that one of the visions of the college was to serve the needs of the community. She indicated if that involves moving into a four year program to support a specific need, not a duplication of services among our higher education partners, we said we needed Dr. Murdaugh as the leader to take us in that direction. She stated she wanted us to seize on the fact that we have the need being shown, the numbers are making sense and the right person at the helm to help us do that. She shared a hope to move in that direction and her support.

Trustee Messersmith thanked all the partners for participating, indicating he had a different take on this. He indicated it might be different if it were just about nursing – but it is not. He said this is a major change in the structure of the college. He expressed concern about the financials, indicating the State of Florida cannot possibly fund twenty-four (24) or twenty-five (25) new four year colleges – saying this will become a real problem.

He said he understood about the funds available this year and next, but this is a whole new process and that system is in transition, which will create conflict fiscally down the road. He stated he does not think the Legislature will decrease funds for the k12 system or the university side. He indicated since baccalaureate degrees cost more, that will create an increase to the college and we do not need to take that risk, if we have partners who will provide the baccalaureate degrees.

He said he is also concerned about the culture of TCC, sharing this is a wonderful place right now. He indicated the other colleges also had one four-year degree they used to leverage themselves into the program, but now there are thirty (30) or more applications pending for baccalaureate programs. He stated their focus has changed to the higher levels of education, with pressure to add more programs, and they are in a whole new level of competition. He is worried this takes us away from our wonderful ability to serve the community and is against us providing the BSN. He believes we should offer the BSN with our current and new partners.

Trustee Callaway said she was on the state board when this model was originated, saying there was certain criteria set. She indicated it is interesting being a Board Member, since they cannot discuss until they get into this meeting. She shared she had four criteria, starting with – that the research be done, confirming with the university partners that they meet monthly. She stated the research has been done and she appreciates it.

She stated her second criteria was – is there a need and there is no question that there is a need. For the third criteria she asked if this came from the college as the originator or from the community, sharing the State Board criteria was from the community, and indicated it is clear this request is from the community. She said the last of the criteria was -- is there opposition from any major group in town, stating we have the major groups sitting here and she shares some of the same concerns.

She said she does not believe this will be the last one, that it will open the door to the next one. She asked how many people went to a junior high school, indicating it is now middle school – sharing the change was made to meet the needs of the students. She said our students need this and we can provide it, so she puts her reservations to rest and supports the whole concept.

Trustee DeFoor said he understands this is an application for intent to move forward and he will support. He indicated his caution is our system has worked well for a long time, but the case put forward is compelling and we are the logical people to meet the need. He said he feels it is appropriate for us to go forward, while keeping in mind the intimacy of our programs.

He conveyed he feels we should keep the teacher to student ratio at a level that continues the intimacy – we cannot lose this. He said our number of adjuncts is currently too high and we need to bring down that number. He stated the tendency to decentralize can keep the subordinate colleges very small and quite intimate. He shared that he hopes in the evaluation process we can determine how to structurally build the intimacy into the process going forward.

President Murdaugh said we share the same interest in making sure we do not lose the character. He indicated this is not the only way to maintain this, but all the discussions and decisions we are making with the new technology systems is how to personalize what we are doing. He stated if we are going to be successful, we need to become increasingly personalized with each of the students and will also do it in ways other than technology. He shared we do care, this is part of the discussions and we are of like mind.

Trustee Callen said we are in favor and passionate about doing this. She said others have spoken eloquently from the heart, but questions have been answered that make it compelling to go to the next step. She indicated the people in the classroom are good and the student is the most important person.

Trustee DeFoor asked how we would build the personalization into this process. President Murdaugh said he would put together a more detailed presentation to bring back to the Board. Trustee DeFoor asked that he include growth, since growth itself is the enemy of the thing we are seeking here.

Chair Lamb stated he had talked to many people (TMH, Capital Health Plan, Capital Regional Medical Center, Presidents and Trustees at other colleges, and Bill Gates). He said there is a need and our administration has done what we asked them to do. He indicated he heard Trustee Messersmith, but doesn't want to assume what will happen tomorrow if we go forward. He indicated he is concerned about the need today and we should support our healthcare system here. He said he had no hesitation about supporting this proposal and we need to go forward with support.

President Murdaugh thanked everyone for their engagement in the process.

NEXT MEETING DATE

November 18, 2013

Location: Main Campus

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:23 pm.

Minutes approved at regular meeting of the District Board of Trustees on November 18, 2013.

Eugene Lamb, Jr.
Chair

Jim Murdaugh, Ph.D.
President