PIEDMONT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

Board Meeting No. 243

September 4, 2013

Meeting number two hundred forty-three of the Piedmont Virginia Community College Board was held Wednesday, September 4, 2013, in the W. A. Pace Jr. Board Room.

Present

Laila Bare
Vera Cooke-Merritt
Stephen Davis
Bruce Dotson
Leonard Gardner
Debbi Goodman

Robert Hodous
Peter Kleeman
Sean Michael McCord
Sean Moynihan
Ava Pippin

Absent

Alvin Edwards
Russell Otis

Others

Frank Friedman, President
Pat Buck, Assistant to the President & Special Projects Coordinator
John Donnelly, Vice President for Instruction & Student Services
Connie Jorgensen, College Senate
Marie Melton, Business Manager
Jeannie Perutelli, Professional Association of Support Staff
Nathaniel Ricca, Student Government Association
James Ross, Vice President for Institutional Advancement & Development
Shivaji Samanta, Chief Information Officer
Anita Showers, Manager of Marketing & Media Relations
Kris Swanson, Chancellor’s Faculty Advisory Committee
Media

New Faculty: Zachary Beamer (economics), Eric Breckoff (culinary arts), Adria Clarke (radiography), Lorraine Collins (nursing), Renee Eves (mathematics), William Pratt (finance), Jennifer Tomas (history) and Nicole Winkler (radiography).

Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Bare welcomed those present and called the first meeting of the academic year to order at 4 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The proceedings of the May 1, 2013, meeting and August 6, 2013, retreat were approved.
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Public Comment  
None

Introduction of New Faculty  
Dr. Donnelly introduced and welcomed new faculty. Fourteen new faculty have been hired, most of whom are filling vacant positions. Attending the meeting and providing brief comments were: Zachary Beamer, Eric Breckoff, Adria Clarke, Lorraine Collins, Renee Eves, William Pratt, Jennifer Tomas and Nicole Winkler. Not able to attend were Anne Allison (biology), Hunter Moore (engineering/electronics), Jeremy Taylor (art), Lawrence Tiezzi (geology), James True (ems) and Grace Vierc (psychology). Expanding the number of full-time faculty is a strategic priority.

Introduction of New Vice President for Institutional Advancement & Development  
Dr. Friedman introduced Dr. James Ross, the new vice president for institutional advancement and development, who has an extensive background in advancement, development and fund raising in both public and private sectors. Dr. Ross said he has fallen in love with the College and the Charlottesville area in the short time he’s been here and is looking forward to making PVCC an even greater college.

Dr. Friedman noted that Mary Jane King is enjoying her retirement. She was surprised with the announcement of the scholarship named in her honor when she was recently presented with her retirement gifts. To date, $13,000 has been raised for the Mary Jane King Scholarship.

Presentation of Pins to New Board Members  
Dr. Bare presented college lapel pins to new board members Bruce Dotson (Albemarle County) and Robert Hodous (Charlottesville). Alvin Edwards will receive his pin at the next meeting. Both spoke briefly about their education, careers and community involvement.

President’s Report  
Introduction of College Representatives. Dr. Friedman introduced and welcomed the shared governance representatives for 2013-14: Connie Jorgensen, College Senate; Jeannie Perutelli, Professional Association of Support Staff; Nathaniel Ricca, Student Government Association; and Kris Swanson, Chancellor’s Faculty Advisory Committee. Bruce Glassco, Faculty Senate, was not in attendance.

Also introduced was Derek Quizon, the new higher education reporter for The Daily Progress.

Budget/VCCS/PVCC Updates. Dr. Atkins-Brady was hired earlier this summer as a vice president at Paul D. Camp Community College and the position has been filled by Dr. Jolene Hamm who will start on September 23. Dr. Hamm is a Fluvanna County High School graduate and was a dual-enrolled student at PVCC. She received her doctorate from Virginia Tech, and has most recently been at Ferrum College in a similar position.

Enrollment as of today is down 1.5% from last fall at 5,564 students. All of the community colleges have experienced an enrollment decrease with only one other college down less than PVCC and some as much as 5%. With an improving economy colleges nationwide experience the plateau effect or see declines. The College budget was built on a 2% projected enrollment decline which means there will be no budget reductions. The
Giuseppe Center has enrolled 190 individuals and 126 have enrolled at the Jefferson Center. Dual enrollment is about even so far.

The upcoming General Assembly session means planning at both the VCCS level and at the College. Three major priorities are expected to be advocated as we move forward: 1) salary increases, 2) base adequacy funding and 3) investment in construction. The student success center project is ranked 16 in the VCCS, higher than expected. Only 3 projects ranked ahead of the student center are new construction which puts ours at fourth in terms of campus expansion. Space at the Jefferson Center provides some relief in terms of classroom space. The student success center will address activity and gathering space, a much-needed commodity. As soon as the VCCS develops the legislative agenda it will be shared with the Board.

College Updates

Dr. Donnelly

- One of the student success initiatives was rolled out this summer to help students prepare for the placement test—a pilot orientation to testing. Students are provided a 15-minute orientation to the testing and allowed to decide if they want to proceed or seek preparatory assistance in the writing or math centers. The results of this pilot will be monitored.
- Forty students are enrolled in the culinary arts program, a great start for a new program.
- A new faculty evaluation plan has been developed, a by-product of VCCS reengineering efforts. The plan has been approved by the VCCS, with only minor modifications, for implementation. A faculty committee worked diligently to develop the plan and was the first in the system to be approved.
- A new administrative assistant, Patty DeCourcy, has been hired for the Giuseppe Center; Lisa Shifflett is now Dr. Donnelly’s assistant.
- Summer career academies offered through Workforce Services saw a dramatic growth this summer, serving over 375 rising third- through ninth-graders. The academies are STEM focused.
- Embargoed until September 17, the College received 2014 designation as a military friendly college.
- The winter enrichment voyage and semester-at-sea program takes place December 18-January 3. Jorge Grajales-Díaz, Assistant Professor of Spanish, will be involved in onboard class instruction. Information will be sent as more details become available.

Dr. Ross

- He is looking at the Educational Foundation as a way to increasingly help students in different times. New members will be added to the board’s membership. He hopes to work with the College Board and members of the greater Charlottesville community regarding the student success center and in other ways.

Mr. Santana

- Classrooms and computers were updated as necessary for the start of the semester; one classroom has been converted for virtual functionality.

Ms. Melton for Mr. Parker

- Three projects have been funded by VCCS maintenance reserves and include the replacement of exterior windows and doors in the main building, repair of the 800 wing and the VCCS is in the process of project management for the dam repairs.
- Landscaping along the median of College Drive will take place this fall as will planting of perennials and ground covering plants on banks to prevent future erosion.
The sustainability committee, consisting of faculty and students, is leading a project to convert part of a campus field to a short grass wildflower meadow. This initiative promotes environmental activities at the College and will somewhat reduce mowing. A grant application has been submitted to the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District and other funding will be pursued.

Jennifer Atkins, a Louisa resident and PVCC alumnus, has been hired as the College’s new Human Resources Director.

Academic Activities Audit, Follow-Up Review

Dr. Donnelly provided a report on the VCCS Internal Audit Department’s follow-up review of the April 2012 Academic Activities Audit Report; he previously reported on the audit last fall. The purpose of the review was to determine if colleges implemented appropriate corrective actions to address recommendations and responses contained in the audit report. Of the eight VCCS findings, all management responses had been implemented; PVCC had one issue regarding disbursement of overload pay for faculty at appropriate time periods and two minor findings. Our plan of action was approved and all aspects were completed by July.

Campus Police Conversion

On behalf of Mr. Parker, Ms. Melton recommended College Board approval to convert PVCC’s security department to a police department, utilizing a hybrid model to include a combination of police officers and security officers. The majority of college campuses are converting to sworn officers; encouraged by the VCCS, 12 of the 23 community colleges have done it and others are taking steps to convert. There are a number of benefits which would be realized from conversion to a police department, among these are: better qualified and highly trained commissioned officers, promotes a greater sense of safety and security on campus, facilitates more effective collaboration/communication with local law enforcement agencies, and provides the College with greater flexibility and a wider range of options in developing and implementing campus safety programs. In April, a formal recommendation for a hybrid model was made by the four college governance organizations and was followed by two public hearings that offered the PVCC community the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

Dr. Friedman provided some background on the initiative. Due to the world we live in and the tragedies recently experienced, the issue arose of whether the College campus should have armed certified police with arresting duties or a security force. It was important that the issue be raised to gauge the desires of the faculty, staff and students to ensure they felt safe and are able to work and learn. Several options were laid out for review by the shared governance organizations to consider, discuss, and submit a formal recommendation; all four submitted their recommendations, with a tallied vote, for the hybrid model. President’s Staff reviewed all feedback from the organizations and the public hearings and the recommendation is now presented for Board action.

Dr. Hodous moved that the Board approve the recommendation which was seconded by Dr. Dotson. In depth discussion and questions followed related to campus gun policy, funding implications, off-site locations, implementation and possible cultural changes. A voice vote was taken with a vote of 7 to 3 for approval. The proposal will be submitted to the State Board for Community Colleges for approval.
Chair's Report

Nominating Committee: Dr. Bare thanked the nominating committee for their work in presenting a slate for College Board Vice Chair (Ava Pippin), Educational Foundation Liaison (Stephen Davis) and Real Estate Foundation Liaison (Russell Otis). There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was unanimously approved.

2012-13 Performance Report: A summary of activities for the previous year was reviewed. Dr. Bare commented that the Board is doing well and the College continues to move in the right direction.

2013-14 Committee Assignments: The revised committee membership was reviewed and Dr. Bare thanked those who will chair committees (Dr. Kleeman, Community Relations; Mr. Gardner, Curriculum; and Mr. Otis, Finance and Building). The committees typically meet prior to Board meetings when needed and are contacted by the staff liaisons.

Next College Board Meeting. The next meeting of the College Board is scheduled for 4 p.m. on November 6 at the College.

VCCS Annual Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for November 19-20 at the Richmond Marriott. Details will be disseminated once received from VCCS.

Information Items

The following items were provided for information: Board Membership, Terms of Office, College Board Calendar, State Board Membership and Summer Media Highlights.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Friedman
President and Secretary to the Board

APPROVAL

Laila B. Bare
Chair