

MINUTES

COTC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 16, 2021

8:30 a.m.

Skype Meeting

Present from Fiduciary Board: Mr. Steven Cohen, Mr. Andy Crawford, Mr. Bruce Hawkins, Mr. Robert Montagnese, Mr. J. Park Shai, Ms. Cheryl Snyder, Mr. Paul Thompson, Mr. Gordy Yance, and Barry Riley, Board Emeritus

Absent: Ms. Marion Sutton

Present from the OSUN board: Mr. Chris Meyer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mr. Rob Montagnese called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and informed the board that notice of this meeting has been given in conformity with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16 board meeting. Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees approves the minutes from the February 16 board meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to accept the gifts with appreciation. Mr. Shai seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees accepts, with thanks, the following gifts as presented:

Gifts – February

The Advancement Special Projects Fund	\$ 16,108.50
The COTC Diversity Scholarship	13,406.13
The Joseph and Nelda Bernat Scholarship	7,500.00
The Community Intercultural Relations Conference	6,000.00
The Elizabeth Barnhart Award for Nursing Excellence	300.00
The Science and Technology Building Capital Campaign	249.44
The Radiologic Science Technology Alumni and Friends Scholarship	96.66
The Officer Thomas W. Cottrell, Jr. Award	90.00
The COTC Student Emergency Grant	10.00
The Laverne A. Messimer Memorial Scholarship	2.50
The Faculty and Staff Premier Scholarship	2.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OSUN BOARD REPORT

Chris Meyer, OSUN Advisory Board member provided the following report:

COVID-19 Weekly COVID-19 testing continues.

Strategic Plan Refresh - We plan to launch Ohio State Newark's refreshed strategic plan later this month.

Summer Semester - The university's current plan is to expand in-person activities where possible for summer term.

Health guidance: Summer 2021 will operate under health guidelines like those in place now. We expect that masks and physical distancing will remain in place for any in-person activities. Classroom densities for summer semester will reflect our current standards.

In-person instruction: While maintaining current safety requirements, we have asked faculty members to seek opportunities to expand in-person instruction and learning opportunities.

Calendar: The published summer calendar will remain in effect, and student registrations will take place on schedule. The registration process has already started.

Planning for Autumn Semester - Ohio State is planning a reactivation of its campuses for fall semester that will be significantly expanded from current restrictions. We anticipate that guidance will change as the conditions of the epidemic change, which is likely to be frequently over the coming months. Updates could come from the university on a week-to-week basis.

This plan will continue to follow all appropriate measures to protect the health and well-being of the community, and with the partnership and approval of local, state, and federal health authorities, the university's plans will include increasing:

- in-person teaching, learning and student activities.
- students in the residence halls
- staff working on campus.
- in-person campus services and events

At this time, the university asks that **at least 75% of autumn semester '21 course sections be scheduled for in-person instruction.** Course planning guidelines include allowing smaller classrooms to return to pre-COVID densities while applying constraints on larger classes. Given the uncertain nature of the pandemic, we will continue to develop contingency plans for course scheduling.

OLD BUSINESS

Brian Boehmer provided an update on the progress of the John and Mary Alford Center for Science and Technology Building which is 90% complete. Final structural inspections are expected around April 19. Brian covered the various work occurring on site. Trailers will begin moving off-site this week. Furniture delivery expected in about one month. The Pataskala campus renovation project is about 74% complete. Brian shared

details of ongoing projects toward completion. Furniture is scheduled for the week of April 19. We anticipate a summer move-in. Mr. Montagnese and Mr. Cohen toured this facility last week and were quite impressed.

NEW BUSINESS

Control the use of college facilities for speaking purposes.

Dr. Parrill provided some background on SB40 Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act which is a bill regulating free speech on college campuses. All outdoor areas are open to public speech zones. Dr. Parrill outlined policy procedures and reporting requirements. The college has a Freedom of Expression policy which will ensure compliance with SB40. Dr. Parrill respectfully asked for a motion to delegate its administrative authority to control the use of college facilities for speaking purposes to the Vice President and Chief of Staff, in accordance with the ORC 3345.021.

Mr. Hawkins made a motion. Mr. Shai seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees does delegate its administrative authority to control the use of college facilities for speaking purposes to the Vice President and Chief of Staff, in accordance with ORC 3345.021.

Bachelor of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology

Dr. Berry was excited to share the Bachelor of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology has been approved by the ODHE. We have unanimous support from the state. Dr. Heiser reported that we are the first two-year college in the state and in the country to offer this program. The process to this point has been smooth. The Ohio Revised Code 3333.051 was enacted pursuant to Amended Substitute HB49 which directs the Chancellor of higher education to establish a program under which community colleges and technical colleges may apply to offer applied bachelor's degrees.

Dr. Melinda Brillhart shared a short presentation on what the bachelor's degree will do for our students. This would be an accelerated 3-year Applied Bachelor's Degree. She gave a background of our current program and shared outcomes from the past 10 years. Market demands and clinical affiliates need more specialized training. We have outgrown ourselves. There are currently no pediatric cardiac programs in Ohio. Clinical sites have requested more from us. Vascular Training is needed. Ultrasound on fetal echocardiograms and breast sonography education is needed. Because of the 65-credit hour component we have not been able to do these options. There is a demand and a need. Curriculum growth has increased. There are student demands for general education requirements before they can even apply for the DMS program.

Dr. Brillhart outline the design of the accelerated 3-year applied bachelor's degree. This is still aligned with COTC's mission. This would be cost-effective as tuition will not increase. There are numerous scholarships and aid available. Hope to increase our fulltime FTE students. Dr. Brillhart shared the layers of approval received to this point.

This could be a unique niche for the college and potential growth. Question...Are there any other areas within the college to do something like help separate us out? You need to provide evidence there is nothing else like it. Dr. Heiser indicated that we are limited by HLC in the number of bachelor's degree we can offer before we have a mission change. Not having differential tuition is a benefit and cost-effective way for our students.

The three-year bachelor's degree will replace the associates degree. Salary range (associate starting is 68,000 – 78,000 thousand per year) which is equivalent to nursing. Sonographers receive salary increases based on their credentials.

Dr. Parrill discussed how we move this proposal forward. Until 2017 two-year colleges were not permitted to provide bachelor's degree programs. In order to transition our program to a bachelor's degree program, we needed to show evidence of approval from several groups (i.e., faculty, ODHE, and COTC Board of Trustees). We have submitted the application to the Higher Learning Commission in November and just learned they approved our request. The next step is to gain the COTC Board approval. Upon the board's approval, the change request application will be submitted to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). That review process can take from six to nine months. If approved early enough, we could enroll our first group of students in December 2021. If not, we would begin enrollment for Summer of 2022.

Mr. Montagnese called for a motion to authorize the transition of the college's current Associate of Applied Science Degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology to a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology and does authorize the college to submit the application to the HLC. Mr. Thompson made a motion. Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dr. Berry thanked Dr. Brillhart and Dr. Walker for bringing this to the forefront. Dr. Berry gave a state of the college report on our enrollment dip which we are managing budgetarily. CARES Act money is being used on Emergency grants for students and other supplemental areas, classroom technology remote learning, academic programs, CBE education review efforts, revenue losses, expanding our Marketing. We will be expanding our in-person offerings this fall to closer to a 50/50 modality.

Kim Manno gave a brief update on our 50th anniversary planning. Save the dates going out soon (September 17 Gala). A decision will be made by August 1 if we will cancel the in-person event. 50 notable alumni will be in a publication. Family movie night on campus, highlighting students. Signature event on each of our extended campuses and much more throughout the year.

First of our series of our Virtual Town Hall meetings Coshocton, Knox, Pataskala coming up.

OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Rob Montagnese
Chairman

Steve Cohen
Vice-Chairman

MISSION STATEMENT

To meet the technical education and training needs of students and employers in the area.