

**HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Minutes of February 23, 2016

The 346<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Holyoke Community College Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, in the John T. Hickey Conference Room, Chair Robert W. Gilbert, Jr. presiding.

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Lucien Dalton John Ferriter Robert Gilbert Yolanda Johnson Suzanne Parker Lucy Perez Evan Plotkin Julie Pokela John Vaccaro
<b>NOT PRESENT</b>	Ted Hebert, Steven Mitus
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Pam Baran, Louis Barry, Erica Broman, Dan Campbell, Karen Desjeans, Veena Dhankher, Mary Dixey, Steve Duffany, Clara Elliott, William Fogarty, Kathy Hankel, Jeff Hayden, Kim Hicks, Olivia Kynard, Nelson Lopez, Keith McKittrick, William Messner, Marcia Mitchell, Karin Moyano Camihort, Ed Murch, Monica Perez, Elsie Rodriguez, JoAnne Rome, Anthony Sbalbi, Michele Snizek, Linda Szalankiewicz, Renee Tastad, Yanina Vargas, Ken White, Chris Yurko, Bonnie Zima Dowd
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.  Chair Robert Gilbert reminded the Board of Commissioner of Higher Education Carlos Santiago's upcoming visit on March 22, 2016. Commissioner Santiago will be attending the Boards Annual meeting.
<b>APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES</b>	On a motion by Trustee Ferriter and seconded by Trustee Vaccaro, it was <b>VOTED</b> to approve the minutes of the January 2016 meeting as presented.
<b>APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS</b>	On a motion by Trustee Vaccaro and seconded by Trustee Ferriter, it was <b>VOTED</b> to approve the appointments and reappointments for the MCCC Unit Professional Staff and Faculty members.  On a motion by Trustee Ferriter and seconded by Trustee Vaccaro, it was <b>VOTED</b> to approve the recommendations for Change in Rank as presented.  On a motion by Trustee Vaccaro and seconded by Trustee Dalton, it was <b>VOTED</b> to empower the President of the College to approve all personnel actions prior to the next meeting.
<b>SABBATICAL LEAVE PROPOSAL</b>	A sabbatical proposal was presented to the Board of Trustees by Interim VP of Academic Affairs Monica Perez:  <u>Professor Mark S. Clinton</u> – the focus of this sabbatical is to:  a) Develop a course on the history of Holyoke that would introduce students

	<p>to methods of historical research and one or more political science courses designed as social sciences service courses in the College's ongoing project to develop a Latin@ or LatinX studies program.</p> <p>b) Continue research on two pioneering women historians of Chicopee and Holyoke who deserve to be better known, especially locally: Vera Shlakman and Constance McLaughlin Green.</p>
<b>REPORT OF THE CHAIR</b>	<p>Chair Gilbert thanked Trustee Yolanda Johnson, Chair of the Student Success &amp; Accountability Committee (SSAC), and all of the committee members for their efforts. The committee is moving in a good direction in challenging the college relative to the PACE report, compared to other colleges'.</p> <p>Chair Gilbert received a letter from Commissioner Santiago relative to President Messner's Annual Review. Based on President Messner's evaluation for the previous year, the president is eligible for a raise of up to 2%. The Board voted unanimously to approve a 2% raise retroactive to July 1st for the president.</p> <p>Chair Gilbert attended the EDA Grant Announcement that took place at the Cubit Building on Friday, January 29, 2016. He commended President Messner's work in highlighting the programs associated with the Center for Hospitality and Culinary Excellence (CHACE). The center will be an opportunity for the college to take part in the redevelopment of downtown Holyoke.</p>
<b>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</b>	<p>A letter from the college's MCCC Representative Aaron Levin, informing the Board that a tentative agreement for a new contract has been reached, was presented to the Board of Trustees by President Messner.</p> <p>Environmental Scan presentation by Eric Broman – With a focus on the following four:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Demographic Trends</i></li> <li>• <i>Public School/College Trends</i></li> <li>• <i>Economic/Employment/Workforce Trend</i></li> <li>• <i>Implications</i></li> </ul> <p>STRIVE Report was presented by the program's Director Elsie Rodriguez. STRIVE is a federally funded Student Support Services <u>TRIO</u> program for academically disadvantaged students. The program is designed to enhance enrollment and retention for students that are first-generation, low-income and/or disabled. Space is limited to 215 students per academic year. Most recently, the college's STRIVE program was funded for another five year cycle. Currently, "good academic standing" amongst STRIVE students is at 95%; the year-to-year retention rate is at 60%; "with-in 4-year" graduation rate at 25%; and a transfer rate of 15%. The following are services provided to students that participate in HCC's STRIVE program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic and transfer counseling</li> <li>• Financial literacy awareness and advising</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning coaches and math tutors</li> <li>• Dedicated developmental math and English courses</li> <li>• Monthly workshops</li> <li>• Peer mentoring</li> <li>• Cultural activities</li> </ul> <p>A key to maintaining a high retention and graduation rate is building 1 on 1 relationship's within the program between peer mentoring, faculty &amp; staff.</p> <p><i>Center for Hospitality and Culinary Excellence</i> – The goal is to move in to the Cubit building in Spring 2017.</p> <p><i>Construction Projects</i> – Campus Center renovations to begin in January 2017. The new Center for Life Sciences on the first floor of Marieb building begins construction in the Spring 2017, and will be completed in the summer.</p> <p><i>Holyoke School Department Interaction</i> – Receiver Zrike is putting together his design plan. The plan includes work w/Holyoke Community College, in the area of dual enrollment and the curriculum pathways (Dean Tech. and HCC).</p> <p>President Messner announced that he will be retiring this summer. Vice-Chair Julie Pokela was appointed Chair of the Presidential Search Committee by Board Chair Gilbert. The Board also voted unanimously to appoint Vice-President for Administration &amp; Finance Bill Fogarty as Interim President beginning Fall 2016.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lucien Dalton,  
Board of Trustees

Approved: Robert W. Gilbert, Jr., Chair, March 22, 2016