The 396th meeting of the Holyoke Community College Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, remotely with Chair Robert W. Gilbert, Jr. presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert W. Gilbert, Jr., Chair
Charles Epstein
Ted Hebert
Yolanda Johnson
Suzanne Parker
Ivonne Vidal
Eleanor Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lucy Perez
Evan Plotkin

ALSO PRESENT

Pesha Black, Beth Breton, Michele Cabral, Kris Ricker Choleva, Julissa Colon, Karen Desjeans, Mary Dickey, Amy Dopp, Clara Elliott, Derek Estrella, Rosemary Feldler, Curt Foster, Raul Gutiérrez, Jeffrey Hayden, Anne Herron, Kim Hicks, Walter Kerce, Olivia Kynard, Lauren LeClair, Jane Lerner, Arvand Lingham, Lea Occhialini, Michelle Robak, JoAnne Rome, Christina Royal, Narayan Sampath, Shannon Sarkisian, Amanda Sbrisicia, Laurel Schlegel, Adrienne Smith, Idelia Smith, Linda Szalankiewicz, Renee Tastad, Trudy Tynan, Lori Wayson, and Chris Yurko

CALL TO ORDER

At 8:02 am, the meeting was officially called to order by Chair Gilbert.

Roll Call Attendance:

Charles Epstein        Yes
Trustee Gi             Yes
Ted Hebert             Yes
Suzanne Parker         Yes
Ivonne Vidal           Yes
Eleanor Williams       Yes
Chair Gilbert          Yes

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Gilbert asked if any consent agenda items needed to be moved to the regular agenda.

Chair Gilbert called for a vote of the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of Minutes for Board of Trustee Meeting of March 23, 2021
- Report of Personnel Actions dated April 27, 2021
  - To approve the personnel actions listed the Non-Unit Professional and Faculty.
  - To approve the recommendations for tenure as presented.
  - To empower the President of the College to approve all
personnel actions prior to the next meeting.

- To provide annual authorization to Narayan Sampath, Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Curt Foster, Comptroller, to sign legal documents on behalf of the College.
- Committee Reports
  - Advocacy
  - Audit and Finance
  - By-Laws and Governance
  - Equity
  - Nominating
  - Presidential Evaluation
  - Strategic Planning

A motion was made by Trustee Parker and seconded by Trustee Vidal to approve the Consent Agenda.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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**AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Vice President Sampath provided an overview of the Second Quarter Statement of Revenue and Expenses.

A motion was made by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Parker to approve the Second Quarter Statement of Revenue and Expenses

**Roll Call Vote:**

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Vice President Sampath reported that after consulting a number of stakeholders across campus, including the Student Senate and the Budget Advisory Committee, the College requests a motion to keep tuition and fees, as is, and not increase them for the next academic year, starting July 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Trustee Vidal and seconded by Trustee Epstein to approve the revisions to the Student Fee Schedule for FY 2022 as presented.
Roll Call Vote:

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CHAIR’S REMARKS

Chair Gilbert shared highlights since the last Board meeting.

- Along with Dr. Christina Royal, interviewed a potential new trustee on April 1st. The Board has an opening due to Trustee Delgado leaving the Board at the end of February.
- Attended a joint meeting of the BOT Equity Committee and Student Senate Equity Committee on April 22nd. Trustee Gi will provide an update shortly.
- Reminded trustees if interested in the positions of Secretary or Vice Chair to contact the Nominating Committee. Elections will happen at the Annual Meeting in June.
- Regarding the Demand for Change letter received from the MCCC Union President, Laura Schlegel, Chair Gilbert sent a response and is now awaiting a response.
- Meeting monthly with Board Chairs of the 15 Community Colleges to provide input to the Board of Higher Education.

Trustee Gi shared an update on the progress of the student government over this semester. The Student Senate was honored to have the Board’s Equity Committee attend to hear ideas and to use the opportunity to share the student vision of equity and provide a summary of the projects.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Vice President Anne Herron introduced a new employee, Jane Lerner, who is our Title III Activity Director, and will oversee this five-year multifaceted grant.

President Royal announced that an offer has been extended to Dr. Sharale Mathis for the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, and she has accepted. She will begin on July 1, 2021.

Vice President Amanda Sbriscia provided an update on the one-day Challenge Day of Giving. We are raising funds for scholarships for the Presidents Student Emergency Fund, and for our Thrive Center and Food Pantry. The goal is focused on the number of donors and we are hoping for 150 donors. Chair Gilbert and as launched a challenge to match every trustee gift dollar for dollar up to $25,000.

President Royal discussed the Massachusetts Community College President’s statement regarding COVID-19 vaccinations and encouraging everyone to receive the vaccine. The Presidents’ will continue to monitor the landscape.
Celebrating Academic Achievements – presented by Dr. Kim Hicks, Dean of Arts and Humanities

Arts and Humanities

- Visual Art
- Communication, Media, and Theater Arts
- Deaf Studies
- English
- Academic English as a Second Language
- Language and Latinx Studies
- Music

Faculty Creativity: Naomi Lesley, Elizabeth Trobaugh

Faculty Creativity: Fred Cooksey
Faculty Creativity: Visual Art

Faculty Innovation: Funding and Articulations

- WSU articulations: Latinx Studies, Creative Writing
- GTC/TCC articulations
- DESE Acceleration to College grant: $35,000, to fund summer work in ENG, MTH, and college-readiness
- NEA Big Read
- CARES Act funding

Fine and Performing Arts: Fatal Fisticuffs, Fall 2020
Professors Tim Cochran, Matt Whilton; Technical Theater Director Steve Bailey; Cory Missildine
Fine and Performing Arts: Learning Community, “She Persisted” Professors Diane Beers and Patricia Sandoval
Artists: Carlton Solenski, Lauren Vanessa Oqundo

Artists: Cassie and Roxy Gonzalez, Azar Neamah

Student Achievements: The LEA Club Little Library
Student Achievements: Jamie Capps, Visual Art, High Honors, 2019

"I have been accepted into the MFA program at the University of Iowa, Center for the Book! Super excited and to top it I was awarded a yearly tuition stipend as well as a Fellowship for the first year with full tuition covered and a monthly stipend of $2,000!!! It's crazy where life can take you...Attending HCC truly changed my life for the better and I am forever grateful."

Student Achievements: Alexandra Santiago, our first Latinx Studies graduate, one of the “29 Who Shine”

Alexandra will be transferring to Westfield State University. She was nominated to the 29 Who Shine 2020. In May 2013, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education launched “29 Who Shine,” a commencement season awards program to recognize 29 outstanding student graduates from the Commonwealth’s public higher education system. Each honoree from a community college, state university or University of Massachusetts campus is nominated by a faculty or staff member, or by a university awards committee.

Student Achievements: Miren Neyra Alcántara

Miren Neyra Alcántara of Holyoke is the recipient of a Newman Civic Fellowship, which recognizes college leaders who demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions to challenges facing communities locally, nationally, and internationally.

Alcántara, who lives in Holyoke, will join 212 college students from 39 states, Washington, D.C., and Mexico to form the 2021 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows, a program administered by Campus Compact, a Boston-based nonprofit working to advance the public purposes of higher education.
Student Achievements: Meghan Maury

- “I’m being interviewed today by the alumni office for a 75th anniversary profile. After law school, I went on to serve as the policy director for a national LGBTQ organization, and in January I was appointed by the Biden Administration to serve as a Senior Advisor to the Director of the US Census Bureau.”
- Undergraduate Research Conference paper: “Radical Action: A Necessary Reaction

Toro and Fatale: A Virtual Hug

“Light of a Clear Blue Morning”: HCC College Chorale, Directed by Professor Ellen Cogen; video by John Mason
Celebrating Academic Achievements – presented by Dr. Adrienne Smith, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

STEM Highlights

Board of Trustees Presentation
April 27, 2021
Dr. Adrienne Y. Smith, Dean

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

[Image of STEM Highlighs content]

[Image of STEM Highlighs content]
“There’s a lot to do in here,” Malm said one April day. “Without the planning and weeding and the potting, it would just get really out of hand. And at the same time, a lot of it would be dead, and there would be lots of bugs. So we’re always trying to keep the plants that were still alive. It would be a very, very sad place, I think, if it were to worry of care.”

Microscope Demonstration
Guide to Scientific Notation

Scientific notation is a way of writing very large or very small numbers in a standard form. It's especially useful when working with very large numbers, such as those used in astronomy or very small numbers, such as those used in chemistry. Scientific notation allows for easier comparison and manipulation of numbers.

### Table of Common Prefixes and Symbols

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<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
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### Examples

1. **Science:** The mass of Earth is approximately 6.6 x 10^24 kg.
2. **Chemistry:** The Avogadro constant is approximately 6.02 x 10^23 molecules.
3. **Economics:** The national debt of the United States is approximately 2 x 10^13 dollars.

### Converting to Scientific Notation

To convert a number to scientific notation, follow these steps:

1. Move the decimal point to the right of the first non-zero digit.
2. Count the number of places you moved the decimal point. This will be the exponent of 10.
3. If you moved the decimal to the right, the exponent is positive. If you moved it to the left, the exponent is negative.
4. Write the number in the form a x 10^n, where a is a number between 1 and 10.

### Examples

- **Example 1:** Convert 0.00000123 to scientific notation.
  - Move the decimal 6 places to the right: 1.23 x 10^-6
- **Example 2:** Convert 1234567890 to scientific notation.
  - Move the decimal 8 places to the left: 1.23456789 x 10^8

### Why Use Scientific Notation?

- It simplifies the writing and comparing of large or small numbers.
- It reduces the chance of errors in calculations.
- It makes it easier to understand the magnitude of numbers.

### Conclusion

Scientific notation is a valuable tool in science and engineering, allowing for the easy manipulation and comparison of very large or very small numbers. It's a practical way to handle numbers that would otherwise be cumbersome to write and understand.
Boost for our Engineering students

The Vertebra Models

Production & Final Product
385 Bags of Bones
Printed
5 Vertebrae + 7 Bones
12 bones per package
4,620 3D Models
Engineering Students helping Science Students

Success Stories!

Kathleen Hayaka High School
2014 Student, Senior Biocybernetics
Carcinogenic Chemistry at Emory
Secondary, FT job in Chemistry

Diane Teaching from Utah
2014 Student, graduate from HCC, major in Business and Finance
FT job in Accounting at HCC Financial Company

Holyoke Community College
| Hy-Flex Demonstration (live) – Presented by the Information Technology Department | President Royal thanked the speakers today for these substantial updates. |
| ADJOURNMENT | On a motion by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Trustee Williams it was VOTED to adjourn today’s meeting. |
| Roll Call Vote: | The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 am. |
| Charles Epstein | Yes |
| Trustee Gi | Yes |
| Ted Hebert | Yes |
| Yolanda Johnson | Yes |
| Suzanne Parker | Yes |
| Ivonne Vidal | Yes |
| Eleanor Williams | Yes |
| Chair Gilbert | Yes |

Respectfully submitted,

Ivonne Vidal, Secretary 7/8/2021
Board of Trustees

Approved: Robert W. Gilbert, Jr., Chair 7/8/2021