

**SUNY BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 16, 2025@5:00 p.m.
Wales Building, Conference Room 203B**

College Vision: Transforming futures, creating opportunity: Be Your Best at Broome.

SUNY Broome Mission: As the community's college, we create an environment of inclusive excellence that aligns with each learner's educational, career, and personal goals, serving as a catalyst for local and global economic advancement.

Institutional Values: COMMUNITY, EQUITY, INTEGRITY, LEARNING

Board Members Present: Chair Barbara Fiala, Vice Chair James Testani, Anthony Paniccia, Tina Fernandez, Hiba Khan, Kathy Connerton

Board Members Excused: Jim Orband, Jason Andrews, Margaret Coffey

SUNY Broome Admin Present: Dr. Tony Hawkins, Laura Hodel, Dr. Penny Kelly, Michael Sullivan, Dr. Carol Ross-Scott, Jesse Wells

Other Attendees: Larry Allen, Nick Brey, Evan Bigam, Colleen Cashman, Dave Ligeikis, Dr. Scott Kane, Dr. Stephanie Malmberg, Dr. Christine Martey-Ochola, Melissa Martin, Dr. Kim McLain, Barb Munger, Howard Streby, Venessa Rodriguez, Joshua Terrell, Esq.

Chair Barbara Fiala called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

1.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

1.1 President's Report – Dr. Tony D. Hawkins

Dr. Hawkins opened the meeting by informing attendees that board meetings will be held in Wales 203B for the remainder of the spring semester due to construction in the Decker Health Science Building. He highlighted that next week marks the final week before the start of the Spring 2025 semester. The College is actively engaging with prospective and continuing students who have yet to register. Dr. Hawkins also announced that the Spring 2025 Faculty Staff Assembly is scheduled for Thursday, January 23, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Baldwin Gymnasium. The event will launch the Kindness Campaign, an initiative in response to the campus climate survey aimed at improving employee morale. The keynote speaker will be Jon Rice, Director of EAB Research Advisory Services, who will address the perception of higher education, Generation Z students, and effective engagement strategies. Dr. Hawkins updated the board on the Governor's State of the State Address held on January 14, where the Governor announced a new initiative providing free community college for adults aged 25-55. This initiative will cover tuition, books, and fees for adults pursuing associate degrees in high-demand fields such as nursing, teaching, technology, and engineering. The College will be advocating for funding in Albany this spring, focusing on securing support from the legislature. NYCCT and NYCCAP remain hopeful about the \$30 million allocated for community colleges to support workforce programs but will continue to push for \$100 million in broader funding for community colleges. Dr. Hawkins introduced the implementation by Barnes & Noble of the Buzz Bundle, a new course material model designed to reduce costs for students while ensuring they have access to required materials by the first day of class. The Buzz Bundle provides physical books on a rental basis and digital materials through BrightSpace. The cost is \$25 per credit hour for the 2024-2025 academic year, and charges will be applied to the student's account. Dr. Hawkins announced that SUNY Broome is considering rejoining the Achieving the Dream (ATD) network. ATD offers holistic support to institutions, covering areas such as leadership, data, equity, and student support strategies. Broome is one of five SUNY colleges expressing interest in joining the ATD network. A group of faculty and staff will attend the ATD DREAM conference in Philadelphia this February. Dr. Hawkins highlighted the SPARK Career Exploration Event for local 8th-grade students, which will be held on January 22, 2025, at SUNY Broome. This event, focused on immersive career exploration, is a collaboration between SUNY Broome, the Greater Binghamton Education Outreach Program (GBEOP), Broome-Tioga BOCES, Broome-Tioga Workforce, and Leadership Alliance. Finally, Dr. Hawkins reminded the Trustees of the upcoming retreat on February 7, which will include a budget presentation and professional development opportunities. Further details will be shared in the near future.

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1.2 Student Affairs Report - Dr. Carol Ross-Scott

Dr. Ross-Scott prepared the Division of Student Development and Diversity report, which was included in the pre-board packet. She highlighted the following key points: the SUNY Broome Hope Center had 5,000 visits this fall and Athletics launched a new website.

Melissa Martin, Counselor/Chairperson of Counseling Services, provided an overview of the Counseling Services Department. The department is staffed with 2.5 New York State Licensed counselors, each with over 20 years of experience. Counseling Services offers a range of support, including: short-term, one-on-one counseling sessions, crisis intervention support, group counseling and workshops, and wellness programming. Students are eligible for up to six sessions per semester, reducing wait times and allowing for more timely access to care. Those requiring more intensive psychiatric support are referred to community providers. Additional support services include 24/7 texting support via Togetherall and phone support through Protocol when the office is closed. Common concerns among students include anxiety, depression, relationship issues, and identity challenges. To determine the level of support needed, all students complete a crisis counseling intake form. Recently, Counseling Services shifted from traditional group therapy sessions to a program called Wellness Wednesdays, which includes activities such as therapy dogs and painting. These events are typically attended by 8-15 students each week. Typically, Counseling Services served between 80-120 students. Of those seen in fall 2024, 52 students identified as White, 48 as Black or Hispanic, and 7 as Other Race. Gender identification included 31 male, 67 female, and 9 students identifying as neither. The Counseling Services Department has made concerted efforts to increase outreach to underrepresented minority groups and has seen a rise in utilization from these populations. Campus-wide events and initiatives have included: World Mental Health Day, Dorm Storm Drag Show, and the establishment of a Mental Wellness Taskforce, which recently launched a new website for students, faculty, and staff.

1.3 Student Assembly Update – Hiba Khan

Ms. Hiba Khan reported that the Student Assembly office will open during the first week of the semester. She also shared that Welcome Week events have been planned in collaboration with Student Activities. Move-in weekend for the Student Village is scheduled for Saturday, January 25, 2025, and Ms. Khan will be participating as a Residential Assistant. Ms. Khan informed the board that the January 16, 2025, meeting would be her final board meeting as the Student Trustee, as she is stepping down. She took a moment to reflect on her time as Student Trustee, expressing gratitude to the board for their support and for the experiences they helped provide.

1.4 BCC Foundation Report

Mrs. Cathy Williams prepared the BCC Foundation report, which was included in the pre-board packet.

1.5 Facilities Update – Dave Ligeikis

Mr. Dave Ligeikis prepared the Facilities report, which was included in the pre-board packet. He highlighted that the relocation of the photography lab to the Commons is nearly complete, with the new lab set to open at the start of the spring 2025 semester. Construction of the sound studio in Titchener Hall is 75% complete, this space will serve as a podcasting and video production lab. A “Kick-Off/Get Started” meeting was held on January 6, 2025, for the project to upgrade the Nursing spaces, labs, classrooms, equipment, and furniture in the Decker Health Science Building. The meeting, led by the project’s Construction Manager (LeChase Construction), was attended by both SUNY Broome staff and the prime contractors. Construction officially began on January 13, 2025, with the project expected to be completed before the start of the fall 2025 semester. Mr. Ligeikis met with the architect for phase 1 of the signage project. The next step is to open bids, which will occur soon. Finally, SUNY Broome is awaiting cost estimates from the Department of Defense for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program, which was presented at the December board meeting.

1.6 Budget and Finance Update – Michael Sullivan

Mr. Michael Sullivan reported that the budget for the current fiscal year is forecasted to balance. The \$955,000.00 of fund balance is being allocated from unrestricted funds. Other revenue sources remain stable. Payroll and benefits account for 85% of expenses, which are currently lower than projected. A Budget and Finance presentation will be at the February board meeting, focusing on a

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multiyear sustainability plan and the proposed budget for 2026. The proposed budget will be submitted to the County Executive on or about May 1, 2025.

1.6.1 FY 2024-25 Budget Forecast

This report is the first forecast for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. It reflects a balanced budget.

1.6.2 Human Resources

This report reflects standard activity for December 2024. It is for information purposes and was included in the packet.

1.6.3 Grant Awards

This report reflects standard activity for December 2024. It is for informational purposes and was included in the packet.

1.6.4 Investment Report

This report reflects standard activity for December 2024. It is for information purposes and was included in the packet.

1.7 Media Report – Jesse Wells

This report reflects standard activity for December 2024. This report is for information purposes and was included in the packet.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 December 12, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee Connerton motioned to approve the December 12, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting minutes. Trustee Paniccia seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

3.0 FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

3.1 No meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee

4.0 PREFERRED AGENDA ACTION ITEMS — No Preferred Items from Finance and Facilities

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Recommend Approval of Payroll Certification

Trustee Testani moved to approve Payroll Certification. Trustee Connerton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved

5.2 Recommend Approval of Unpaid Leave of Absence for L. Kenney

Trustee Paniccia moved to approve Unpaid Leave of Absence for L. Kenney. Trustee Connerton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

5.3 Recommend Approval of Policy AA4020 Academic Fresh Start Program

Trustee Khan moved to approve Policy AA4023 Student Withdrawal from the College Policy. Trustee Testani seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

6.0 PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION, UPON APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

No Executive Session was proposed.

Trustee Connerton moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Paniccia seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Approved:

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The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Thursday, February 20, 2025 in Wales Building, Conference Room 203B.

If you need accommodations to participate in this event, please contact the Accessibility Resources Office at aro@sunybroom.edu or 607-778-5150 to discuss your needs ASAP.