

**HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Regular Meeting – April 26, 2021

Chairwoman Crandall called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

**Trustees Attending Virtually:** Dr. Ainsworth; Mrs. Crandall; Mr. Gregory; Miss Listovitch; Ms. Prymas; Mr. Reardon; Mr. Russell; Mr. Stalteri; Mr. Testa

**In Attendance Virtually:** Dr. McColgin; Mr. Dutcher; Mr. Laino; Mr. Oriolo; Ms. Ruffing; Dr. Stickrod

**Also Present Via Conference Phone or Microsoft Teams:** Mr. Robert Batson, President, Poland CSD Board of Education; Ms. April Harris, Assistant Professor/President, Academic Senate; Dr. Robin Riecker, Associate Dean/ President, HCCCAA; Students Carynn Bohley and Alexander Fowler

*On March 11, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.1, which, in part, suspends certain in-person attendance and public accessibility provisions of the Open Meetings Law and authorized public meetings to be conducted in an alternative manner during the declared “Disaster Emergency.”*

*Per the Governor’s Open Meetings Law Provisions of the New Executive Order No. 202.1: [...I hereby temporarily suspend or modify, for the period from the date of this Executive Order through April 11, 2020 the following:]*

*“Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.”*

*Executive Order No. 202.92 allowed for the extension of public meetings to be held remotely until May 16, 2021.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairwoman Crandall presented the following consent agenda items for Board approval:

- a. Minutes
  - i. February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting
- b. Campus Reports
  - i. Division Updates
  - ii. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as of 3/31/2021
  - iii. President’s Activities

Dr. Ainsworth moved that the consent agenda items for the April 26, 2021 regular meeting be approved.

Mr. Reardon seconded the motion.

Vote-Unanimous. Motion adopted.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Robert Batson, President of the Poland Central School District Board of Education, advocated for waiving the cost of dual enrollment of College Now classes, which the Board of Trustees for the past two years had graciously approved of. Chairwoman Crandall expressed her appreciation for Mr. Batson's comments.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Academic Senate:**

Ms. Harris reported that the Academic Senate voted unanimously in favor of deactivating the Recreation Leadership and Ecotourism and Adventure Travel programs, due to lack of students. Also put forth was a revision to the Health Professions program. This revision changes the sequence of the course.

### **Academic Services:**

*Resolution 20-11: Proposal to Deactivate: Ecotourism and Adventure Travel A.A.S. and Resolution 20-12: Proposal to Deactivate: Recreation Leadership A.S* were presented and reviewed by Provost Oriolo. Both programs went through the program prioritization process, and it was recommended that they be deactivated due to lack of enrollment.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-11 and 20-12, as presented.

Ms. Prymas seconded the motion.

Vote-Unanimous. Motion adopted.

### ***CCRC Summer Institute:***

Provost Oriolo reported on The Community College Research Center (CCRC) Summer Institute.

Herkimer College is one of 22 rural institutions across the nation that will look at data about guided pathways. Students will be guided through the program selection to find the best fit for them in order to reduce the number of curriculum changes during the first semester and to keep them on track to successfully complete their program within two years. A team of nine employees of the College will participate in the CCRC Summer Institute during a two-week period in July (virtually), and Mr. Oriolo will be the lead. Dr. McColgin recognized Mr. Oriolo, Ms. Ayouch, Mr. Sargent and the rest of the committee members for all the work they will be doing. The Board also thanked Mr. Oriolo. Data will be used to share with other community colleges across the nation. Miss Listovitch expressed her enthusiasm about this and believes it will help students a great deal.

***Program Feasibility Analysis – Emergency Management Certificate:*** Provost Oriolo provided a Program Feasibility Analysis on a new one-year certificate program (on-line). A resolution will be brought to the Board to be formally approved once it is ready to be sent to SUNY. This program, spearheaded by Dr. Riecker, relates to all levels of government connected to Emergency Management. The Board recommended that administration and academics move forward with the process of developing this new program.

### **Admissions and Enrollment:**

Dr. Stickrod reported on a new program, *Commit 2 Complete*, for Fall 2021. It is hoped that this new program will attract new and transfer students to enroll and complete their degree in two years or less. The program is inclusive to Herkimer County students, as well as out-of-county

students. Participants will receive \$500 their first semester, and an additional \$500 their final semester upon graduation, and monies will be applied directly to their housing. There is an additional benefit of a supportive built-in retention initiative. Dr. Stickrod reviewed eligibility, program requirements and student benefits. The Foundation approved funding for 100 students and will continue to keep the Hope Scholarships and Foundation Scholarships in place. Chairwoman Crandall and Dr. McColgin thanked Dr. Stickrod for his presentation and for his efforts in this program.

**President's Update:**

*Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence and All-New York Phi Theta Kappa Award Recipients:* Dr. McColgin recognized those students who received special recognition this academic year. The recipients of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence are Carynn Bohley, Kaitlyn Jenks and Taylor Listovitch. Recipients of the All-New York Phi Theta Kappa Award include Kaitlyn Jenks and Alexander Fowler. Dr. McColgin provided a background on each individual and their achievements.

*Promotion as presented:*

Promoted from Associate Professor to Professor:

Dr. Karen Jones – Physical Therapist Assistant

Promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor:

April Harris – Criminal Justice/Cybersecurity

Mr. Stalteri made a motion to approve Promotion Recommendations, effective September 1, 2021, as presented.

Mr. Reardon seconded the motion.

Vote-Unanimous. Motion adopted.

Dr. McColgin added her congratulations to these individuals and commended them for their dedication and service.

*Emeritus:*

*Resolution 20-8 Emeritus Status for Debra Sutliff; Resolution 20-9 Emeritus Status for Susan Tripp; and Resolution 20-10 Emeritus Status for John Lasher* were presented.

Dr. Ainsworth made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-8, 20-9 and 20-10, as presented.

Mr. Stalteri seconded the motion.

Vote-Unanimous. Motion adopted.

Chairwoman Crandall thanked the three individuals for their many years of service and expressed the Board's appreciation for all they have done for the College.

*Merit:*

Merit recommendations will be brought to the Board at their next meeting in June.

*Reappointments:*

Dr. McColgin noted the listing of 40 individuals who have been reappointed, effective September 1, 2021.

*SUNY Update:*

Dr. McColgin reported that Chancellor Jim Malatras visited Herkimer College on March 8<sup>th</sup> and met with campus members, leadership and students. The Chancellor returned later this month with his children to attend a General's baseball game. He looks forward to having the campus open in the fall. The College will need to submit to SUNY a return to campus plan. SUNY's best thinking at this time is that the College may be able to relax testing to every other week in the fall, as well as reducing social distance from 6 feet to 3 feet. Masks will still need to be worn. The CDC and the Health Department will provide valuable information and guidance to the College for a safe return. Dr. McColgin recognized Christina Cain and Diane Ward from the Herkimer County Public Health Department, as they have been very instrumental in guiding the College with the right answers.

Senator Peter Oberacker also visited the College earlier this month and met with several campus community members. He was given an extensive tour, and the senator was very impressed with the College's labs.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Student Trustee Report:*

Miss Listovitch added that she spoke to Chancellor Malatras personally during his visit, and he expressed that he was very impressed with how well Herkimer College students are complying with surveillance testing, as well as with the number of negative results. He feels that the students are stellar and represent SUNY very well. He was also concerned about the mental health of students and was impressed with how engaged students are.

**FOUNDATION & AUXILIARY REPORTS**

**Housing Corporation:**

Mr. Laino reported that the Housing Corporation is fiscally sound.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Ainsworth moved to adjourn the meeting.

Miss Listovitch seconded the motion.

Vote-Unanimous. Motion adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

slh