

STCC Board of Trustees
COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Monday, April 3, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
Student Learning Commons / B19 / Forum

Present: Committee Chair Jynai McDonald, Student Trustee Glerisbed García-Figueroa, and Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez

Also attending: Dr. John B. Cook, President

Presenter: Darcey Kemp, Vice President of Student Affairs

- I. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Jynai McDonald called the meeting of the Committee on Internal and External Relations to order at 5:03 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** The following Committee Members were present at Roll Call: Committee Chair Jynai McDonald, Student Trustee Glerisbed Garcia-Figueroa, and Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez.
- III. **SUCCESS at STCC – Darcey Kemp, VP of Student Affairs & Student Affairs Leadership**

Vice President of Student Affairs, Darcey Kemp presented an overview of SUCCESS Funds and associated initiatives/programs at STCC. Included the final report for 2021-2022, a newspaper article, and associated data/detail.

Highlighted as part of the presentation are the number of Full time and Part Time positions, fully funded with SUCCESS funds (18 Full-Time positions, which include an Assistant Dean of Student Initiatives, MILE Initiative team leader and staff, LEAD team leader and staff, and a team of nine staff and liaisons providing holistic student support; an additional 42 Part Time positions providing key wraparound services such as Academic Support Services and Peer Support).

Also reviewed were outcomes to date including student demographics, Fall-to-Fall Persistent, and Engagement with SUCCESS elements (tutoring, advising, etc.). Comparison to other community colleges was included, and STCC is looking closely into lower numbers – an example is the data regarding first generation students: on the data presented STCC is showing as having 21% of 1st generation students, compared to 69% statewide, and this might be an issue with data collection. In approximately three weeks, the college will implement a new CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system to improve the way we collect student information.

Included also was a list of early successes, such as creating new spaces for students (MILE now on the third floor of Building 19), programming, peer mentors, transfer trips, leadership development, campus partnerships, Student Government, Student participants, bloom program, graduation dinner, office staffing, and Bridge programs. Lastly, VP Kemp highlighted an early outcome specific to the MILE Summer Bridge Program, noting that in the summer of 2022 MILE

implemented “its first ever Summer Bridge Program.” All 21 recent high school graduates who participated in this program enrolled in classes in the fall of 2022. MILE is on track to reach 300 students (noted that early college and student served through TRIO are not counted). LEAD is approaching 200 students. Discussion included the mechanisms by which students are recruited: when students self-identify as Black or Latino/Latina, they are connected with a MILE or LEAD Advisor; discussed the importance at STCC of approaching students instead of waiting for them to come to us.

IV. Strategic Plan: Momentum 2023-2028

Included in the packet is a draft copy of the Strategic Plan. Dr. Cook spoke about the five goals, objectives, measures and DHE Scorecard. In regards to next steps, there is a campus wide open comment period, closing next Monday, in addition to a Check-in Meeting with the Department of Higher Education (DHE).

V. President’s Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook

a. Shared Governance Council Outlook

The Shared Governance Council (SGC) is working its way through recommendations. The next SGC meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, April 7.

b. Tenure Recommendations

Dr. Cook presented to the Committee a list of Faculty and Professional Staff recommended for Tenure. Trustees received in advance, copies of letters of recommendations from Deans, and copies of CVs/Resumes for each candidate. As a recap for newer Trustees, Dr. Cook discussed the process including the peer review element (UPPC).

[MOTION 2023-05]

Trustee Tonia Butler Perez moved,
That the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees Committee on Internal and External Relations, pursuant to the provision of Section 22 (c), Chapter 15A, moves to recommend to the Board of Trustees the approval of granting Tenure as listed on Appendix A.

Motion was seconded by Student Trustee Glerisbed Garcia-Figueroa, and unanimously approved.

c. Personnel Report

Dr. Cook thanked Dr. Shai Butler for her two years at STCC, and shared that a posting for an Assistant Vice President of Advancement is up. Also discussed the Vice President of Academic Affairs search, and how the last two of five finalists are coming to campus this week.

d. WTCC Update – Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez

Trustee Tonia Butler Perez shared that Scott Laudani was hired for the part-time position of WTCC General Manager. WTCC has been run by volunteers; this is the first paid General Manager, and the search committee included a number of current WTCC contributors and leaders.

e. Trustee Liaison to STCC Foundation – Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez

Trustee Tonia Butler Perez will serve as Trustee Liaison to the STCC Foundation Board of Directors, and was formally voted by the Foundation on March 22, to be a Director. Well attended with 18 Directors, the March Foundation Board meeting was followed by a corporator social.

VI. Old Business

Dr. Cook discussed the change in practice regarding the recording of Trustee meetings. STCC will still fully comply with Open Meeting Law, including public access that will include Live Streaming via YouTube of any virtual meetings, and by posting agendas in advance. The change, after a full three years, is that meetings will now no longer be recorded, and this is a function of staffing and technology considerations, particularly with a number of Trustee meetings being held in-person on campus. Past Trustee meetings (2020-2023) will remain on the STCC YouTube channel, and it appears STCC is the only Massachusetts community college to have utilized this practice.

VII. New Business

VIII. Next meeting date and time: TBD, upon approval of 2023-2024 Trustee meetings calendar

IX. Adjournment (Roll Call) – Committee Chair Jynai McDonald called to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m., unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nanette Flores