

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING  
Scibelli Hall, Building 2, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor

Monday, October 26, 2015  
5:00 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting**

Present: Maria Gonçalves, Chair  
Chris Johnson, Vice-Chair  
Benigno Padilla III, Student Trustee  
William Abrashkin  
Debra Kaylor  
Denise Pagán-Vega

Also Present: Ira Rubenzahl, President  
Michelle LeDoux, Staff Assistant, Office of the President  
Michael Suzor, Assistant to the President, Office of the President  
Arlene Rodríguez, Vice President, Academic Affairs  
Bob Dickerman, Dean, School of Science and Engineering Transfer  
Joseph DaSilva, Vice President of Administration/CFO  
Robert LePage, Vice President of Foundation and Training Workforce Options  
Kamari Collins, Interim Vice President of Student and Multicultural Affairs  
Joan Nadeau, Senior Director of Human Resources  
John Reynolds, Events Planner, Facilities Department  
Nick Camerota, Professor/Representative, STCC Professional Association

Excused Absences: Eric Hagopian  
Rosa Maldonado-Brown  
Daniel Moen  
Dora Robinson

**I. Call to Order**

Trustee Gonçalves called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

**II. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – September 25, 2015**

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 25, 2015, seconded by Trustee Abrashkin and unanimously approved.

**III. Review of Notes from the Board Retreat – September 25, 2015**

President Rubenzahl gave a summary of the retreat notes and the presentations. Sean Nelson, Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Finance, gave a presentation on community college funding, and Jennifer Perkins, Director of the Office of Trustee Relations, invited the trustees to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Trustee Conference to be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at UMass Lowell. Trustee Johnson is scheduled to present on a panel on “*What I Wish I Had Known When I Was First Appointed*”. After the presentations, the trustees toured sites of deferred maintenance throughout campus.

#### **IV. Trustee Committee Reports**

##### Committee on Internal and External Relations

[Committee Report] No meeting held in October.

##### Committee on Ways and Means

[Committee Report] Meeting held on October 14, 2015

Trustee Kaylor reported that the committee reviewed the audit, voted to approve the financial statement, as delegated by the Board, and granted O'Connor and Drew the authority to send the final report to the state. The college received a great credit rating. The enrollment report showed that there is a 5.1% decrease in new and returning students due to fewer high school graduates and a better economy. The committee reviewed the Presidential Search schedule and the RFR for the Presidential Search process. A search firm should be selected by November. Joan Nadeau, Senior Director of Human Resources, will provide guidance during the process. Trustee Johnson moved to approve the committee report, seconded by Trustee Abrashkin and unanimously approved.

##### Audit Committee

[Committee Report] Meeting held on October 14, 2015

Trustee Kaylor gave an overview of the Audit Committee Meeting. O'Connor and Drew, auditors for the college, Downey, Sweeney, Fitzgerald and Co., auditors for the STCC Foundation, and CohnReznick, auditors for the Springfield Technical Community College Assistance Corporation were present during the meeting and each presented their financial statement.

#### **V. Approval of RFR for the Presidential Search Process**

Trustee Gonçalves moved to approve the RFR, seconded by Trustee Abrashkin and unanimously approved.

#### **VI. Old Business**

Update on Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

1. The MOU between the STCC Assistance Corporation and STCC Board of Trustees was signed in September.
2. The MOU between the STCC Foundation and the STCC Board of Trustees will be presented for final approval and signature at the November board meeting.

#### **VII. New Business**

No new business.

#### **VIII. President's Report**

Foundation – President Rubenzahl reported that the Foundation Board's audit have been approved. Additional funds in the amount of \$2.5 million that were previously designated as restricted are no longer restricted and will be used to support the college.

Ruth B. Contrino – a large part of the Ruth B. Contrino estate has been donated to the college and the funds will be transferred to the Foundation.

Title III Grant – Dr. Arlene Rodríguez, Vice President of Academic Affairs, confirmed that STCC has received the Title III grant. We had also applied for Title V, the HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution), the Title III companion grant, but it was not submitted before the deadline. Sharon Finnerty, a grant-writing consultant, was contracted to provide her expertise on how to respond to the RFP for the Title III grant. Initially, Ms. Finnerty was not optimistic about the grant being awarded. The College received a perfect score on all parts of the grant, including on the competitive priority, which is uncommon. All member of the

grant's team worked diligently on submitting their portion of the grant. The evaluator stated that STCC had submitted the most original Title III grant that he had ever read. The grant will allow us to work with academic advising, orientation, family involvement, online courses, supplemental instruction, and training on cultural competency for faculty members.

HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution) Grant – The College is applying for a \$4 million HSI-STEM grant. A committee of faculty and staff is coming up with ideas and best practices for submitting the RFP.

MCCC Contract Negotiations – The contract expired on July 1<sup>st</sup> and negotiations are currently in effect. Once salaries have been agreed upon, faculty members and professional staff will receive retroactive pay, as of July 2015. Professor Camerota, representative of the STCC Professional Association, asked the board to send a letter to Governor Baker in support of a resolution. State law requires that the first year of the contract be funded by the state through a supplemental budget. The College has already absorbed most of the expense.

**IX. Chair's Report**

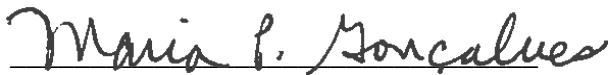
Trustee Gonçalves reported on the Top of Our City event that will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2015 and mentioned that tickets may be purchased through the Foundation office. The funds collected from this event will go toward scholarships for our students.

**X. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 23, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Scibelli Hall, building 2, rooms 703-704.

**XI. Adjournment**

Trustee Kaylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m., seconded by Trustee Johnson and unanimously approved.



Maria P. Gonçalves  
Chair  
STCC Board of Trustees