

# COLUMBUS STATE

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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## **MINUTES** **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Mitchell Hall | Crane Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
September 26, 2024 | 6:00 PM

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS**

James Fowler, Chair  
John Ammendola, Vice-Chair  
Corrine M. Burger, Immediate-Past Chair  
Sandy Doyle-Ahern  
Traci L. Martinez, Esq.  
Terri Meldrum, Esq.  
Jerome Revish  
Rick Ritzler  
Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Columbus State Community College Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Chair Fowler at 6:00 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present:

- James Fowler
- John Ammendola
- Corrine Burger
- Sandy Doyle-Ahern
- Traci L. Martinez, Esq.
- Terri Meldrum, Esq.
- Jerome Revish
- Rick Ritzler
- Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

### **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

President Harrison advised that the record should show that notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with provisions of §121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

### **OPENING REMARKS FROM CHAIR FOWLER**

Chair Fowler noted that this is the first Board meeting since the start of academic year, and the energy across campus was notable. Chair Fowler shared he had attended a roundtable discussion earlier that day with Governor Lisa D. Cook of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and Columbus State Executive Vice President Rebecca Butler that he said was a testament to thought leadership and workforce development that is happening at the college.

Chair Fowler provided an overview of President Harrison’s annual performance review, and he said the Board has tremendous confidence in President Harrison’s leadership of Columbus State. He said the Board recognized a number of achievements under President Harrison’s leadership, including regularly convening workforce leaders from companies such as Intel, OhioHealth and Amgen; obtaining approval to launch a bachelor’s degree program in nursing; addressing regional workforce needs in industries such as semiconductor manufacturing and healthcare; and partnerships to expand access and affordability with other educational institutions, including Columbus City Schools and Ohio Wesleyan University. Chair Fowler said the Board identified student success as a key area needing improvement, with clear actions to improve performance. He said President Harrison and the entire leadership team has made this a priority area to address.

### **OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT HARRISON**

President Harrison thanked Chair Fowler for his remarks and said it is an incredible privilege to lead Columbus State. He said the entire leadership team is focused on improving student success and returning to the disciplined approach that Columbus State has utilized in the past to drive results. He said the entire college is focused on helping students achieve their goals.

President Harrison introduced Fatima Atta Muhammad as the new ex-officio student representative to the Board. Ms. Muhammad is pursuing a science/pre-med track, with the intention of becoming a doctor. She shared her story, which includes moving to the United States from her native Dubai, UAE, where she was a senior manager working on regulatory projects for a financial institution. Ms. Muhammed said coming to Columbus State as she prepares for this career change was one of the best decisions she has made. She is a Peer Learning Success leader, as well as a trailblazer in the Peer Developers group. She thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to serve the College.

President Harrison introduced Martin Maliwesky, Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, who thanked each of the emeritus status nominees for all they have done for the College. President Harrison congratulated newly tenured faculty members and expressed thanks for their contribution to the College and the success of our students.

President Harrison shared that Governor DeWine signed an executive order requiring trustees of state colleges or universities to complete an annual ethics training. Mr. Charles Noble, General Counsel, will be sending information to trustees soon.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Fowler shared the consent agenda items, which were discussed at the Sept. 20, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting:

- Awarding of Emeritus Status
- 2024 College Completion Plan
- Local Administration of State Capital Projects
- Construction Manager at Risk: Automotive Technology Academic Center
- Design Services Contract: Franklin Hall Renovation
- Capital Project Overview: WD Administrative Suite Renovation
- General Contractor: Aquinas Hall Fire Alarm System Replacement
- Design Build: Rhodes Hall Chiller Replacement

Trustees declined to hold any further discussion.

**Member Burger moved**, Member Meldrum seconded, that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Ammendola, Burger, Fowler, Martinez, Revish, Ritzler, and Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Doyle-Ahern and Meldrum

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE ONE MONTH ENDED JULY 31, 2023**

This item was presented to the Board for information only.

### **PERSONNEL INFORMATION ITEMS**

This item was presented to the Board for information only.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Harrison shared recent highlights with the help of members of the Columbus State leadership team:

- **Honor for Nationwide Children’s:** Forbes named Nationwide Children’s Hospital to the No. 1 spot on the Best Employers for Women 2024. He congratulated Trustee Lorina Wise, who is the chief human resources officer at Nationwide Children’s.
- **College leader shares expertise on IT security:** Ben Dalton, who has been the director of information security at Columbus State for seven years, shared his expertise and tips in a Columbus Dispatch article breaking down the threat of data breaches and what to do if your data is compromised.
- **National story highlights bond, capital projects:** *Community College Daily* highlighted Columbus State as part of an article on how community colleges deliver on bond-funded capital projects.
- **College launches bachelor’s degree in nursing:** Columbus State has successfully launched its first bachelor’s degree program, which will enable registered nurses to obtain affordable bachelor’s degrees within two years. The first BSN class started this fall. A second cohort will start this semester because of the demand.
- **Trustee Ammendola visits with college apprentices:** Trustee John Ammendola spent time with six amazing Columbus State apprentices at Grange Insurance. Dr. Harrison shared that this is an example of a truly transformative opportunity that opened jobs for our students.
- **Visit with Delaware Campus students:** President Harrison visited Delaware Campus to speak with instructor LaSalle Jackson’s Business Leadership class and to participate in a pizza party with Delaware students.
- **Upcoming events of note:** President Harrison provided updates on a variety of upcoming events and initiatives, including that he would be part of a panel on Oct. 24 at the national conference of the Association of Community College Trustees. The panel will focus on workforce development as part of Intel’s decision to come to Ohio. President Harrison also announced that Patrick Losinski, the retiring CEO of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, will be the Commencement speaker on Dec. 13.

President Harrison asked Mr. Allen Kraus, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing and Communications, to provide an enrollment update. Mr. Kraus shared that enrollment for Autumn 2024 was up 5.0% in terms of headcount and 4.4% in terms of total credits. Mr. Kraus noted that the College outperformed its budget expectations despite delays by the federal government related to the financial aid process and the implementation of a new FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Mr. Kraus provided updates on the College’s enrollment growth strategies for the health sciences, IT, semiconductor/EV battery, College Credit Plus, Columbus Promise, and Basic English as a Second Language (BESL) programs.

Ms. Katy Trombitas, Vice President of Advancement, provided an overview how grants and philanthropy are contributing to student success. Over the last three years, Ms. Trombitas said Advancement has attracted \$100 million to support College priorities over the last three plus years. She cited several examples of how public and private partnerships have led to successful initiatives

at the college. The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations recently provided \$1.5 million to support healthcare programs, including the acquisition of program equipment and student support for expenses outside of the classroom. Also, Bloomberg Philanthropies awarded the College \$5 million over three years to amplify student success strategies in IT, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Biotech.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There were no items.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Past Chair Burger shared that each year the Board appoints a three-person Nominating Committee to recommend officers for the following calendar year. The Nominating Committee members are selected at the September meeting and make their recommendations for action at the November meeting. Past Chair Burger recommended that Chair Fowler and Trustee Revish join Dr. Harrison to form the Nominating Committee to recommend Board officers for 2025.

**Member Revish moved**, Member Wise seconded that the Board approve the Nominating Committee, as proposed.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Martinez, Meldrum, Revish, Ritzler, and Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

President Harrison shared that the Board meeting schedule for 2025 would be adjusted next spring, to hold a June meeting instead of the normal May timeline. This adjustment will assist in the development of the College's FY25 operating budget because the state biennial budget will be closer to completion at the time of the June Board meeting. The proposed calendar will be presented to the Board at the November meeting.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No public participation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Member Ammendola moved**, Member Ritzler seconded, that the Board of Trustees adjourn to executive session at 7:23 p.m. in accordance with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised to consider

details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols and to consider the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property in accordance with Section 505.10 of the Revised Code.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Martinez, Meldrum,  
Revish, Ritzler, and Wise

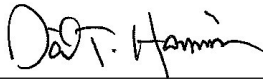
NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

The regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole reconvened from executive session at 7:44 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



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David T. Harrison, Ph.D. Secretary, Board of Trustees

Office of the President/bcj 09.26.24