

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of March 12, 2024

The six hundred seventy-fourth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:33 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso,
George Siberón, Leslie Vazquez Student Trustee.

Absent: Lynne D'Agostino, Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

Chair Gardyn requested a motion that pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the purposes of: 1) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the NCCAA; 2) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Department Chairs; 3) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the AFA; and 4) to review the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Weiss. Motion carried 7-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Wanda H. Jackson, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso,
George Siberón, Leslie Vazquez, Student Trustee.

Absent: Lynne D'Agostino, Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 2024. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Siberón. Motion carried 6-0-1(Weiss).

2. Not Called

Dr. Conzatti reported on the following items:

- The Women's Basketball Team are in the Top 12 in the Country, they are enroute to Rochester, Minnesota. They qualified for the NJCCA national tournament and will play against Northland Community and Technical College on March 13, at 2 pm central time. We are cheering them on to victory.
- In February, twenty-eight NCC students traveled to New Britain, Connecticut for the Kennedy Center American College Music Festival. Six students advanced to the finals, and two – Jessica Nunez, an Acting

major from Wantagh, and Christine Bailey, now an alumna from Hicksville – took top honors in Musical Theatre and Dramaturgy for Region I. As part of her first-place finish, Jessica Nunez earned a Musical Theatre Fellowship and will represent NCC at the Kennedy Center’s national competition in April.

- NCC Campus radio station, WHPC, received four national awards at the 2024 Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference on March 2, including Best Community College Radio Station in the Nation. We are grateful to the NCC Foundation board members who paid the registration fee to allow for the radio station director and more than 40 students to attend the conference in New York City.
- Work is progressing steadily on the drafting of a comprehensive, evidence-based Middle States Self-Study as we seek a successful re-accreditation by Middle States in Spring 2025. Dr. Conzatti is appreciative to the more than 40 members of the campus community who include representatives from every unit at the college for their ongoing work in collecting evidence and creating written responses that address the rigorous standards of Middle States. Last week, members of the Steering Committee hosted a table at the student activities fair where more than 30 students played the trivia game “test your knowledge of Middle States. The College will host a mock Middle States visit by SUNY’s Council on Assessment from April 7 to 10.
- On March 22 and 23 from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. NCC will host the Muslim Lights Fest. This Ramadan experience includes breathtaking decorations, a lively market, and multiple halal vendors. Tickets can be purchased at muslimlightsfest.com
- Thank you NCC Foundation for creating the Fall 2024 Excellence Scholarship and committing \$30,000 in free tuition for graduating seniors in every senior in Nassau County. There are 52 high schools in the county.
- Continuing conversations with the County as well as with State Representatives regarding the status of community college funding. We should know more in early April.
- Dr. Conzatti wished everyone a Happy and safe St. Patrick’s Day.

Speaker

Jason Gorman, Chair of Academic Senate spoke of accountability and asked the Board, why there is still no permanent President? In his opinion, the administration must be held accountable for jeopardizing our accreditation with a disregard for governance procedures, policies, administrative personnel and their responsibilities, endangering our institution with the reckless merging of departments, dismissing of critical faculty, and reckless handling of our Middle States Self-Study, as well as the class cancellations and program cuts resulting in harm to enrollment, revenues, faculty and students.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Board of Trustees’ committee meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the opening of the Public Session.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda H. Jackson
Secretary