

**HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

MINUTES

*Joint Meeting with the County Commissioners
March 16, 2004*

A Joint Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hagerstown Community College and the Washington County Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 16, 2004 at the College Center, Conference Rooms 1 and 2, beginning at 12:00 noon. In attendance:

Board Members

Wayne E. Alter, Jr.
Guy Altieri, Secretary / President
Carolyn W. Brooks, Vice-Chair
Patricia K. Cushwa
Anton T. Dahbura
Merle S. Elliott, Chair
Margaret E. Hetzer
William J. Reuter

Commissioners and County Staff

Debra Bastian – Director of Finance
James Kercheval – Commissioner
John Martirano – Deputy County Attorney
John Munson - Commissioner
Doris Nipps – Commissioner
Rod Shoop – County Administrator
Greg Snook – Commissioner, President
William Wivell – Commissioner, Vice President

Others

Anna Barker – Dean of Administration and Finance
Stephanie Copeland – HCC Student
Sarah Keely – HCC Student
Barbara Macht – Director, Planning, Governance and Institutional Research
Barbara Roulette – Recording Secretary
Alaina Rowe – HCC Student
Donna Rudy – Dean of Students
Joe Sidlowski – Dean of Academic Affairs
Elizabeth Stull – Director, Public Information / Government Relations

Media

Julie Greene, Herald Mail
Erica Taylor, NBC-25

Call To Order

Mr. Merle S. Elliott, Chair, presided and convened the joint meeting at 12:40 PM.

FY05 Plan and Operating Budget Review

President Altieri discussed the College's vision and mission statement, and various partnerships with local businesses and agencies to better serve HCC's students and the community.

Three HCC students spoke about the importance of HCC in their lives.

Sarah Keely began taking classes at HCC at the age of 13 through the talented and gifted program. Sarah felt that having been home-schooled, HCC provided the student-centered environment she needed at such a young age. In addition, HCC's dual enrollment program provided the opportunity for her to continue to be academically challenged. At age 15, Sarah is the youngest graduate in HCC's history. She plans to continue her education at Hood College, majoring in math.

Stephanie Copeland is a 43 year old mother of two currently enrolled in the Administrative Assistant program through the Job Training Institute (JTI). She is currently juggling work as a security officer and responsibility for her own children, as well as seven children of a deceased relative. Stephanie said that the staff at JTI found an answer for every obstacle, such as transportation and child care, and made it possible for her to pursue her goals. After completing the certificate program, she would like to complete her Associates degree, as well.

Alaina Rowe graduated from South Hagerstown High as Salutatorian, and is the reigning Miss Washington County. Alaina had planned to attend a four year college upon graduation from high school, but changed her plans due to finances. By attending HCC and then transferring to a four-year institution, she has saved thousands of dollars while still receiving a good education. Alaina pointed out that many students pay for their own education, as she is doing, so keeping tuition as reasonably affordable as possible is an important consideration.

President Altieri reported that in comparison to Frostburg State University, Allegany College, and Washington County Public Schools, HCC receives the least financial support per FTE (full time equivalent). From FY71 to FY05, students' share of the cost to attend HCC has increased from 25% to 46%, while State support has dropped from 45% to 26%, and County support has decreased from 30% to 27% in the same time period.

To update 40 year old facilities and meet the demands of increasing enrollments, several capital improvement projects are planned through 2011: (1) Career Programs Building renovation, (2) Science and Classroom Buildings and Kepler Theater renovations, and (3) traffic loop, campus entrance, additional parking, Campus Operations building, and ARCC and athletic field updates. The total cost of these projects is estimated to be \$31.1 million over 8 years, with the County share of 40% totaling \$12.4 million.

In conclusion, HCC requests the following support from the County Commissioners: (1) maintain the current level of county support at 27% of the operating budget for FY05, which represents a 6% increase over the county's FY04 allocation, (2) explore ways in the near future to increase the County's level of operating budget support to the statewide average of 32%, (3) support the College's CIP funding for FY05, FY06, and FY07 for the County's share of renovations to the Career Programs Building, and (4) prepare to support the College's CIP funding for FY08, FY09, and FY10 for the County's share of renovations to the classroom and science buildings.

Concluding Remarks

Discussion ensued regarding the rate of tuition for out-of-state students, which Dean Barker said is about 22% higher than in-state student tuition. She was uncertain of the proportional ratio of these two groups, but offered to provide a percentage breakdown if desired.

President Altieri said that the College continues to support training in the various industrial and construction trades. The College not only offers workforce training for local companies, but would also be willing to work with the Commissioners or other agencies to attract companies expressing an interest in locating to this locale.

In response to a question regarding the use of available space at the University System of Maryland Hagerstown Center, President Altieri said that that space has not been offered, but the College would certainly be interested in discussing the possibilities.

The Commissioners requested follow up on the Career Programs Building cost, which will be provided by Phil Snodderly and Dean Barker.

The Board concluded the discussion by thanking the Commissioners for their time and support, recognizing their past efforts to provide the College with essential resources. The Commissioners, in turn, expressed their desire to continue to provide the necessary funds, with assurances that they would do their best.

Adjournment

There being no further business, discussion, or remarks, the joint meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM. A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees immediately followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Altieri, Ed.D.
President/Secretary

GA/bwr