

**MEETING OF THE
EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

June 16, 2016

Minutes

The External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College held a meeting on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at the HCC Administration Building, Second Floor Auditorium, 3100 Main, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Neeta Sane, Committee Chair
Eva Loreda, Committee Member
Adriana Tamez, Committee Member
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, Alternate Committee Member
Zeph Capo
Robert Glaser
John P. Hansen

ADMINISTRATION

Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor
Melissa Gonzalez, Chief of Staff
Valerie Simpson for Ashley Smith, General Counsel
Teri Zamora, Senior Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration
Kimberly Beatty, Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services, Chief Academic Officer
Athos Brewer, Vice Chancellor, Student Services
William Carter, Associate Vice Chancellor, Information Technology
Madeline Burillo, President, Southwest College
Margaret Ford Fisher, President, Northeast College
William Harmon, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Phillip Nicotera, President, Coleman College
Irene Porcarello, President, Southeast College
Janet May, Chief Human Resources Officer
Carme Williams, Executive Director, HCC Foundation
Remmele Young, Associate Vice Chancellor, Governmental and External Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT

Jarvis Hollingsworth, Board Counsel, Bracewell LLP
David White, President, Faculty Senate
Other administrators, citizens, and representatives from the news media

Mrs. Sane, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters pertaining to Houston Community College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Capo, Evans-Shabazz, Hansen, Loreda, and Sane)

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

REPORT ON PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Dr. Maldonado noted the item provides an overview of the proposed legislative agenda for the upcoming session. He introduced Mr. Remmele Young to provide an update.

Mr. Remmele Young provided an overview of the proposed legislative initiatives for the 85th Texas Legislative Session which convenes in January 2017 to include:

- Financial Aid/Workforce
- Transfer and Articulation
- Dual Credit
- Funding Success
- Legislative Timeline
- Proposed Legislative Initiatives
- Performance Goal Domain Alignment
- State Appropriations for Community College
- Community Colleges' Biennium Funding (2008-09 to 2018-19)
- Federal Grants Update

Mr. Capo inquired if there is a plan for tightening the discrepancy of what the state and federal government considers an accredited institution as it relates to financial aid. Dr. Maldonado noted that discussions will be held with legislators to provide guidelines for following the federal rules. Mr. Capo noted the number one priority is insuring the feasibility and accessibility to financial aid for HCC students.

Mr. Capo inquired if funding for opening new campuses is requested through the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) and if the item is included in the budget request. Dr. Maldonado noted that there will be a multi-prong approach that will be included in the LAR to include a request for additional support for equipment and operational cost for the COEs. He noted facilities are not funded through the LAR.

(Dr. Tamez joined the meeting at 1:35 p.m.)

Mrs. Sane requested an analysis of the enrollment expected at the new campuses and how it translates to LAR. She also requested a draft of the LAR including the funding requests state for the next two years. Dr. Maldonado noted the draft LAR will be provided in August to show the

LAR alignment with the budget, the traditional contact hour, and momentum point funding. He noted the information will be shared with the Committee and the Board in time to provide input and alignment.

Ms. Loreda inquired of the process regarding financial aid for students attending multiple institutions. Mrs. Zamora noted one institution receives the funding, however funds are transferred to the other entity. Ms. Loreda apprised students should be advised of the process.

Dr. Hansen reiterated the point made in a prior committee meeting regarding the importance for long term strategies. He noted there needs to be an alignment with K-12 and higher education regarding student preparedness.

Mrs. Sane concurred with Dr. Hansen's points and inquired if a course of action can be taken in working towards the alignment. Dr. Maldonado noted there has to be a meaningful definition of what college readiness is, and noted an alignment would then trickle down as a result.

Mr. Capo noted the issue of college readiness rolls downward. He noted it is a systemic problem that is both policy and practitioner and requiring the practitioners to work in a cohesive way. Dr. Hansen noted it is the marginal student who struggles when there is no alignment.

(Mr. Glaser arrived at 1:53 p.m.)

Mr. Young continued with the presentation to include the following:

- Transfer and Articulation
- Dual Credit
- Funding Success
- Federal Grant Update

Mrs. Sane inquired if the funding request is being proposed by TACC. Dr. Maldonado responded that the TACC funding request is higher than the THECB total. Mrs. Zamora added colleges are not at liberty to request beyond the recommendation since all colleges are considered as one and funding is based on contact hours and size.

Mr. Glaser inquired of the TACC requested amount and the amount appropriated in the last session. Mrs. Zamora informed that the TACC requests were less and the student success funding was a new item in the 83rd biennium with funding at \$185 a point as an incentive. She added the 84th biennium funding was \$172K regardless the number of points, lowering the rate per point.

Mr. Young continued with the presentation to include the Federal Grants update.

Mrs. Sane inquired about considering a tax base increase and to adding areas through annexation to increase revenue. Dr. Maldonado apprised it has been considered but a recommendation is not forthcoming at this time. Dr. Maldonado indicated the first step is to conduct a land study through a RFQ process to look at programming in the West Houston area and how HCC can serve the community.

Mrs. Sane asked if there has been a feasibility study regarding the annexing of communities in the Southwest area beyond West Houston. Dr. Maldonado replied there has been no consideration given to any areas, including West Houston, but a review of the revenues that could be generated from further annexation would be conducted and report to the Board for feedback.

Dr. Tamez inquired of the work being done by the champions in the areas listed in the LAR. Mr. Young noted interaction is taking place with stakeholders such as HISD, THECB, and TACC in anticipation of the next legislative session. He noted the effort is to identify like issues.

Ms. Loreda noted there needs to be representation at the federal level and the funds awarded need to be used in a timely fashion to avoid having to return the funds.

Mr. Capo noted the Board is a resource that could be used for having a presence and expertise to engage on behalf of HCC in Austin. Dr. Maldonado conveyed a final draft document will be provided regarding the legislative agenda and a visitation schedule with legislators will be identified.

Ms. Sane and Dr. Tamez voiced the importance of HCC making an impact in greater force. Mrs. Sane requested the impact take place at the initial stage to include the year prior to the start of the session and should include external stakeholders.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved: August 18, 2016