

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DATE: APRIL 20, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS CHAMPAGNE
STEC
TAYLOR
PITKIN

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR CONOVER

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

DR. RONALD HEACOCK, PRESIDENT

DR. PAUL MAZUR, VICE PRESIDENT

WILLIAM LONG, VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

JOSEPH CUTSHALL-KING, VICE PRESIDENT, ACC FOUNDATION

KEVIN RIELLY, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

MARK BULMER, ACC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

KAREN MOSHER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ATTORNEY/COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE &
FISCAL SERVICES

JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD

REPRESENTING WASHINGTON COUNTY:

KEVIN HAYES, ADMINISTRATOR

DEBRA PREHODA, CLERK OF THE BOARD

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

JOANNE COLLINS, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

The joint meeting of Warren and Washington Counties Community College Committees was called to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Bishop Community Conference Center (BCCC).

Agendas were distributed to all Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Commencing the agenda review, Dr. Ronald Heacock, Adirondack Community College (ACC) President, stated that ACC was one of very few entities which had experienced growth. He explained that over half of the revenue generated from increased enrollment, which totaled approximately \$900,000, was expended on additional Special Adjunct faculty. He further noted that cost containment efforts continued with a goal to add \$400,000 in surplus funds to the fund balance.

Dr. Heacock apprised that ACC's projected operating budget for 2010-2011 would increase by approximately 4.5% to 5% and he reiterated that increased enrollment necessitated the need for more instructors. The State Legislature, he said, had agreed to a 5% reduction for next year, and he acknowledged the uncertainty regarding the final State budget. He further noted that State Aid was determined by student enrollment; therefore, he said, the increase in enrollment would result in a decrease in State Aid. The tuition increase for 2010-2011, would be 3%, he added. To balance the budget, he apprised that surplus funds would be used, tuition would be raised, and the remaining options for funding would include contributions from the counties or use of the Fund Balance.

Dr. Heacock explained that expenditures were driven by three factors which included contractual obligations, healthcare costs, and the New York State Teacher's Retirement system, over which the College had no control.

According to Dr. Heacock, the student portion of the tuition expenses had risen to 50% which was in line with other Community College's, and he noted the cost per credit hour of \$136. Class size, he apprised, had grown, and there was a need for expanded class scheduling, thereby initiating the

need for a utilization analysis. Excessive class size, he asserted, would have an adverse effect on retention.

Privilege of the floor was extended to William Long, Vice President of Administrative Services, who addressed the Chargeback Balance Report dated March 31, 2010, a copy of which is included with the agenda. He reported the Cash on Hand total of \$847,731 as of September 1, 2009 and available funds of \$314,789 which included both fall 2009 and spring 2010 Chargebacks for a total of \$1,162,520 in available funds. Regarding outstanding projects, Mr. Long stated that as of March 31, 2010 there was a total of \$528,012 in available Chargebacks for use on Capital Improvement Plan requests.

Summarizing the 2010-2011 Capital Improvement Plan Requests, a copy of which is included with the agenda, Mr. Long stated that \$1,456,338 was the total estimated cost to be split evenly between the State and Local Shares to equal \$728,169 from each. He explained that the 35% escalation fee was derived from a recommendation from the architects. He further noted the reasons for improvements included code compliance, health and safety, and program enhancement.

Dr. Paul Mazur, ACC Vice President, expounded that the Washington Hall Renovations included a large darkroom located in the basement which had become obsolete. He stated that the building also housed the campus radio and television studio's for which equipment had already been updated to meet federal compliance codes. He added that the multi-media programs would present unique programming in the capital region.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the 2010-2011 Capital Improvement Plan Requests for a total amount of \$1,456,338, with 50% of the project cost paid by the State of New York and the 50% Local Share to be paid from Chargebacks., and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Kevin Reilly, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the Enrollment by County of Residence Five Year Trend for the period 2005 through 2009, a copy of which is included in the agenda.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Joseph Cutshall-King, Vice President of the ACC Foundation, who referred to the Regional Higher Education Center (RHEC) and noted the outstanding amount of \$22,500 was owed by Washington County. Mr. Champagne and Mr. Hayes concurred that the Washington County Treasurer would prepare an updated status report relative to the RHEC. Mr. Hayes thanked Mr. Cutshall-King for his efforts in reaching what was deemed an enormous fundraising goal.

Regarding the State University of New York (SUNY) Plattsburgh programs offered at ACC, Dr. Mazur expounded that issues relative to student conduct, technology, and accessibility services were being addressed and the overall programming was meeting expectations. Dr. Heacock stated that the Plattsburgh degree offerings at ACC were expected to grow and the transfer process would allow a seamless transfer from ACC into four-year degree programs. Dr. Heacock noted the intensive collaboration efforts required by all faculty from each department involved in a degree program, who must reach agreements relative to degree program requirements. Dr. Mazur added that a SUNY initiative to streamline the general education component was currently underway and was referred to as "mobility" which ensured the transferability of general education credits. Dr. Heacock added that the new SUNY Chancellor had made the latter a priority and New York State was the most difficult State within which to accomplish same, and he reported that progress had been seen for the first time.

Dr. Mazur noted that a SUNY plan was underway for the purpose of linking the college programs closer to those pertinent to the current needs of business and industry. An effort to engage students, he explained, was accomplished by Service Learning programs. He cited the example of a college Spanish student who visited a 4th grade classroom to assist with grade school instruction which offered the college student both a broader scope of experience and the opportunity to further develop specific language skills.

Mr. Hayes asked if any plans for ACC's 50th anniversary were underway and Mr. Cutshall-King stated that planning had begun for the 2011-2013 anniversary event. Mr. Hayes noted the positive effect that alumni participation, especially from the Warren and Washington Counties Board of Supervisors, would have on the event.

Responding to a question from Mr. Taylor relative to student housing, Dr. Heacock stated that a housing capacity study which was based on current enrollment, had supported housing for up to 500 students at ACC. He noted the importance of holding discussions with neighboring housing complexes, as well as the Queensbury Town Board to gain a clear understanding of the concerns and expectations of area residents.

Regarding GlobalFoundries, Dr. Heacock reported that a meeting was held which also included the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), to discuss alignment and development of ACC programs relative to the needs of local businesses. According to Dr. Heacock, a Liberal Arts Associates degree could be transformed into an Associates degree in Math Science with a concentration in Math. He apprised that one of the primary staff needs at GlobalFoundries was that of skilled mechanical staff, for which a group was currently training in Germany. The first recruits, he said, came from around the world and required 4 to 5 years of experience. Dr. Mazur articulated that Community Colleges had not referred to this field as manufacturing but rather a more sophisticated technical discipline which required judgement, mobile awareness, critical thinking and the soft skills necessary for success, unlike the technology field of the past. Subsequently, he said, they will become the trainers for future new hires. Dr. Mazur stated that there would be approximately 1,100 jobs available with some degree of staff turnover due to the repetitive nature of the work. Dr. Heacock added that ACC had met with the Council for Economic Growth (CEG) and the ideal candidates for this particular culture and skill set would be those with clean room experience, such as disciplined lab and hospital staff.

As there was no further business to come before the Community College Committee, on motion by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Stec, Mr. Champagne adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist