



Observer Report

Observer(s): Jill Sagi Date: 5/16/2019

Government Body: College of DuPage Board of Trustees	
<i>Members Present</i>	<i>Members Absent</i>
Frank Napolitano, Chairman	
Christine Fenne, Vice Chairman	
Daniel Markwell, Secretary	
Charles Bernstein	
Annette Corrigan	
Maureen Dunn	
Heidi Holen	
Jasmine Shuett, Student Trustee	

- Remember:**
- *Always be polite and respectful*
 - *Record the meeting if possible*
 - *Your attendance is about observation not participation. You are there to learn not judge*
 - *Strive for clarity while avoiding bias and partisanship*

General Observations	Yes	No	Comments
Did meeting start on time?	X		
Were the facilities large enough? Could the audience readily hear the proceedings? Handicapped Access?		X	
Was there media coverage?	X		

Illinois Open Meeting Act requirements			
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If so, where?	X		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed	X		
Was background information available to the public?	X		
Were issues adequately discussed?	X		
Was public comment encouraged?	X		
Was the public treated respectfully?	X		



Agenda and supporting agenda items can be found at:

http://www.cod.edu/about/board_of_trustees/pdf/agendas/2019/2019may16_agenda.pdf

http://www.cod.edu/about/board_of_trustees/pdf/packets/2019/2019may16_packet.pdf

Meetings are streamed and archived at:

https://www.cod.edu/multimedia/bot/archive/2019_05_16.html

FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC is being collected by the COD Board until 5/22

Prior to the official public open meeting, there was a meeting called re: Presidential Search Candidate. A public interview in the Atrium at COD (approx. 25 -50 live bystanders and audience members, was video taped not sure if that was by COD)

NOTE: it was finals week and the atrium was setup with a microphone, video equipment and stage.

Candidate Dr. Brian Caputo shared his vision for the college and answered public questions asked by Shannon Toler, President Faculty Senate, Frank Napolitano, Chairman Board of Trustees.

Main question RE: why Dr. Caputo withdrew then reentered as a candidate for president was never clearly answered. Personal reasons were the only reason Dr. Caputo cited. His reentry was "based on request of the Board".

Dr. Caputo iterated:

Guided Pathways program and software were keys for college strategic plan he is intimately familiar with

He wants to build trust and facilitate change.

Is different from Dr. Rondeau in that Army vs Navy... moving from rebuild to execution of the strategies devised.

Dr. Caputo did not find there to be a negative connotation to the COD faculty contracts under negotiation despite the question indicating negotiations were "NOT GOING WELL".

Decreasing enrollment is counteracted with COD leadership recruiting at the middle and high school levels. More certification program offerings, and staying "relevant"

Fiscally the college is dipping into fund balances to operate, the Board recently passed a \$1/ credit hour tuition increase. They are technically operating in a budgeted deficit spend despite public decry of high fund reserve fund balances.



Public participation: (estimate of attendance excluding staff and elected officials) 15 – plenty of staff on hand

Public Participation Remarks: 5 Union/Staff members spoke

Urged Board to consider the Presidential search committee process to ensure it is transparent and equitable as the College Staff and Students have worked very tirelessly to regain and maintain accreditation over the past several YEARS in spite of leadership and being challenged with what some might consider too many initiatives. Also, that the Board acknowledge and respect faculty feedback about the new Presidential search. Keep students the priority. Ensure process is sound and what the precedent on the Presidential candidate dropping out and reentering at the Board's request as it is viewed as very suspect.

MANY INCLUDED THE NEED FOR THE BOARD TO COMMENT ON THE CAPUTO RE ENTRY to the PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH process.

OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:01PM.

REPORTS:

Chairman:

Commencement, Nurse Pinning, announced Committee appointments:

Budget	Markwell, Bernstein
Audit	Bernstein, Corrigan
Education	Holden, Dunn
Outreach	Dunn, Napolitano
Long Term Strategy	Markwell, Napolitano
Foundation	Holden, Corrigan

Student Trustee Report:

Student leaders lobbied in Springfield in favor of SB 1641 and HB 3032

President:

Recognized College and groups/individuals: Horticulture, Music, STEM, NAACP, Forensics

Bond refinance savings

Presidential Search update: Board accepting feedback 2 more weeks.

Grant Update:



Dr. Dunn presented Autism grant awarded for study/program/training and updated on other STEM applications

PRESENTATIONS:

OUTSTANDING FACULTY 11 were recognized, 10 in attendance

FY20 Budget by Robert Hayley

30 day required wait period for Public comment, will culminate with vote at June 20 Board Meeting to accommodate that 30 day wait period.

FY20 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:

Total Cash Available: \$612M, some required to be held as a fund balance

Main Revenue Sources: Property Taxes, Tuition and State (note: State Pension contribution is an "in and out" to the total COD Board) akin to a 401K employer "match"

Enrollment is budgeted down 3%

Expenses:

\$5.5M is IT expenditures

\$3.3M is Pathways Strategic Spend (FY2019 t FY2023)

\$8.0M in capital expenditures

NOTE: \$1.0M Cushion is budgeted in addition to required fund balances

Goal: double the number of counselors in FY20

Innovation DuPage currently housed at Glen Ellyn Civic Center rent "free"

No mention about Breuder litigation liability

Veteran program underfunded but mandated by the State. The College is meeting the obligation.

COD Debt ceiling is \$1B but tentative plan is to be debt free by 2032.

FTE to grow by 30 Total full time positions (Adjunct not counted in this number)

Estimated FY20 Ending Fund Balance \$262.6M

1 question from Trustee Corrigan re: MAC Program expenses beyond 2 fiscal years.

Answer: staff to research

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. PE Switchgear Room Excavation, Drainage and Waterproofing

b. Truck Purchase for College of DuPage Continuing Education CDL Truck Driving School



- c. Interpreting Services *
- d. Main Campus Irrigation
- e. Student Success Software Solution
- f. Reimbursable Expenses for Joseph Wozniak
- g. Illinois Community College Trustee Association Trustee
 - a. Membership; and b. Attendance Conference and Training COD was in this, then discontinued now rejoining
- h. Retention of Vendor for Cybersecurity Review
- i. Reimbursable Expenses for Dr. Brian Caputo INTERIM PRESIDENT
- j. Minutes of the April 25, 2019 Organizational & Regular Board Meeting
- k. Minutes of the April 29, 2019 Special Board Meeting
- l. Closed Session Minutes of the following:
 - a. April 25, 2019; and b. April 29, 2019.
- m. Personnel Action Items
- n. Financial Reports

Consent agenda was presented and in whole was unanimously approved after brief discussion of Sign Language interpreter expenses.*

Staff answered that interpreter expenses are varied based on need but they see that needs are greater than current staff can handle – they may be back to ask for more.

TRUSTEE DISCUSSION:

Fenne, Peoples Resource Center appreciation for COD donated computers/equipment
Holen, attended certification for Trainer program

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday June 20, 2019 main agenda item: approve FY20 budget.
Tentative: meeting to vote on next President of COD. TBD based on committee work.

Adjourned to closed session with no action to follow 8:45PM

**Were any issues on the agenda relevant to any LWV state or local positions or programs?
Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues? If “yes” what action do you recommend?**

No action needed

Additional Comments/Concerns – Presidential Search committee, candidate withdrawal and reentry as well as transparency issues were brought up in open session Public Comments.

Observation Report filed by: Jill Sagi Date: May 19, 2019

Observation Report Reviewed by _____ Di Niesman _____

Date ___ 5/20/19 _____

Observation Report posted by _____ Date _____