The Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of Oakton Community College
March 15, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, Oakton Community College, was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at the Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, Illinois.

Closed Session
Chair Harada called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. in room 1506, and asked for a motion to close the meeting for the purpose of considering the appointment; employment; compensation; discipline; performance or dismissal of employees; pending litigation; and collective negotiating matters. Ms. Tennes made the motion, seconded by Dr. DiLeonardi; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Harada</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Tennes</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Stafford</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. DiLeonardi</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Salzberg</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wadhwa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dixon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also present: Dr. Joianne Smith, President; Dr. Thomas Hamel, Vice President, Academic Affairs; Dr. Karl Brooks, Vice President, Student Affairs; Ms. Bonnie Lucas, Vice President, Technology and Data Analytics; Ms. Mum Martens, Chief Human Resources Officer; and Mr. David Agazzi, Consultant for Finance Operations. At 7:35 p.m., Mr. Wadhwa made a motion to adjourn the session seconded by Ms. Tennes. A voice vote was called and the meeting was adjourned.

Call to Order and Roll Call – Open Session
Chair Harada called the open session to order at 7:45 p.m. in room 1506; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Harada</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Tennes</td>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Stafford</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. DiLeonardi</td>
<td></td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Salzberg</td>
<td></td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wadhwa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dixon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes
Chair Harada asked for a motion for the approval of the amended minutes of the regular Board meeting held on February 16, 2016. Ms. Tennes made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Stafford. A voice vote was called and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Statement by the President
President Smith welcomed everyone and asked for introductions of those present:

Classified Staff in attendance: Philip Cronin, Media Services; Eileen Cukierski, President’s Office; Officer Saad Muhammad and Officer Mark Palmisano, Public Safety; and Jesse Wallace, Media Services.
Katherine Schuster, Professor of Education, and Full-time Faculty Union President, presented full-time faculty:
Joan Boggs, Professor, Psychology; Olga Cedrina, Assistant Professor, Mathematics; Mary Kakenmaster,
Professor, Nursing; Gordon McClarren, Professor, Mathematics; John Stryker, Professor, Computer Technologies
and Information Systems; Leslie Van Wolvelear, Professor, Accounting; Gabe Wallace, Professor, English;
Sherrill Weaver, Professor, Library Services; and Dorata Zak, Associate Professor, Mathematics.

Cheryl Thayer, Vice President, Adjunct Faculty Association, and Lecturer, Sociology, introduced: David Arieti,
Lecturer, Biology; and Iordana Iordavova, Lecturer, ESL.

Will Dixon, Student Trustee, presented student: Mark Adquiban.

Administrators present included: Michael Carr, Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs; Sebastian Contreras,
Jr., Dean, Student Success; Karen Epps, Director, Budget and Accounting Services; Dale Gustafson, Chief, Public
Safety; Mum Martens, Chief Human Resources Officer; Bruce Oates, Director, Athletics and Registrar Services;
Paul Palian, Director, College Relations; Doreen Schwartz, Director, Business Services; Bob Sompolski, Dean,
Mathematics and Technologies; Leah Swanquist, Director, Facilities; Ruth Williams, Dean, Science and Health
Careers; and Brad Wooten, Dean, Social Sciences and Business.

Guests in attendance: Vincent Bonanno, Winthrop Harbor Police Department; Bryan Kimmell, alfaenergy; and
Michael Lundeen, Legal Architects.

President Smith began by announcing that this week, a group of students from Oakton’s Habitat for Humanity
chapter, are helping to move a three bedroom house, built by Maine East students, to a partner family in
Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. She noted that it is wonderful that our students, on their spring break, are
continuing to give back to their community. President Smith offered condolences to Jeff Manson, Web
Programmer, on the passing of his mother; to Patti Interrante, Professor of Speech and Theater, on the passing of
her sister; to Adjunct Rabbi Herbert Bronstein, on the passing of his wife; and to Anthony Ramos, Manager,
Advising Transitions and Student Success, on the passing of his mother. President Smith offered
congratulations to Kathleen DeCourcey, on the arrival of her first grandchild, Nora Kathleen.

Congratulations to students Simone Montgomery and Roxanne Berinde, who have been selected as 2016 Coca-
Cola Community College Academic scholarship recipients. Congratulations also to Lynne Steele, Chair of the
Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) program, on the recommendation by the National Accrediting Agency for
Clinical Laboratory Sciences, on accreditation of the MLT program. Two Oakton basketball players were named
to the NJCAA All-Region team: women’s sophomore forward Rebecca Bartnicki earned a spot on the NJCAA
Region IV, Division II, District D, All Region Second Team; and men’s captain freshman guard Trae Stott was a
second team selection to the NJCAA Division II, District B, All-Region Team. Also, the Illinois Skyway
Collegiate Conference named five Owl basketball players to its All-Conference Team: Rebecca Bartnicki,
Mallory Gonzales, Atorena Michael, Trae Stott, and Mike Hoffman.

President Smith introduced Officer Vincent Bonanno of the Winthrop Harbor Police Department and the
Chicagoland Law Enforcement Coordinator for Toys for Tots, who presented a plaque to the Public Safety
Department, for their participation in the Toys for Tots program. Oakton was the regional leader in the collection
of toys during the 2015 holiday season; Officer Palmisanto accepted the award for the department.

President Smith highlighted a few events: the Black Teen Summit was held on February 19; Singuele! was hosted
at Oakton on March 11; Oakton hosted the 19th Annual Infant Toddler Conference at the Des Plaines campus on
March 5; March is Women’s History month, a number of speakers and events were sponsored by the Women’s
and Gender Studies program; Staff Day, the theme for the day, All for One, Connect for Student Success.
President Smith pointed out new photos of faculty and students that are on the walls of the Board room. President
Smith said this captures the essence of our All for One initiative, pairing a faculty member with a student for
whom they’ve made a difference. President Smith thanked Nancy Nash and the College Relations department for
helping showcase the importance of those connections.
Board Report:
President Smith introduced Dr. Thomas Hamel, Vice President of Academic Affairs, who shared with the Board, an update on the accreditation process. Dr. Hamel began by stating that this would be the first of a number of communications regarding the College’s reaccreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), which is the regional accreditor for Oakton; the HLC is accountable to the U.S. Department of Education. This is a very important process, one that is both familiar and new. The HLC will be sending a team to the College in September 2017, and preparations for that visit are already underway. The HLC will have employees of their own who facilitate the accreditation process, but by and large, the accreditation process is one that is done by peers; administrators, faculty, and staff members from institutions comparable to Oakton. During our visit in September 2017, we will be visited by such a team from other institutions, there will not be a representative from HLC present. One thing that has changed significantly from the last time that Oakton was visited, is that the significance of mission and integrity have become very critical, and that is because of a variety of circumstances in the higher education marketplace that have effected all institutions. Dr. Hamel said that Oakton is very well positioned in that our goal is to serve students, and we have loads of evidence across the board to sustain that goal. The values of accreditation include institutional self-knowledge and advancement. It verifies that colleges and universities meet standards set by their peers and the regional accreditor; assures the public that institutions fulfill their educational missions; operate with integrity; and service students. Two additional practical values that many people associate with regional accreditation are the ability for students to transfer credits between accredited institutions, and providing students access to federal financial aid.

Next, Professor Sherrill Weaver spoke about Oakton’s preparation for the 2017 visit. Coordinating and Steering Committees have been assembled. The Coordinating Committee will coordinate and oversee the eighteen month process; assist the Steering Committee; and communicate with the Board and the college community. The Steering Committee will assemble an evidence file and write drafts of the self-study. Per Professor Weaver, the evidence that is being gathered, are documents that are coming from different parts of the College. The Board of Trustees will have a role during this process. Throughout the drafting of the self-study, various members of the Committees will be coming to update the Board on the progress that we have made. The visiting team will arrive on September 24, 2017. To recap, Dr. Hamel said that is a long process, and is what self-study is all about, evidence based statements, and evidence of continuous improvement. The information presented to the Board is a very general overview of the process to come. Trustee Wadhwa asked to be provided a summary of the report from the 2007 accreditation visit. Trustee Tennes offered her thanks and gratitude to the members of the Coordinating Steering Committees. This is important work on behalf of the College and their service is very much appreciated.

ICCTA Liaison Report
Trustee Joan DiLeonardi reported on the quarterly meeting of the ICCTA. Dr. DiLeonardi said that it was quite obvious that the attendance of trustees was much lower, probably close to fifty percent lower, because of the state budget crisis. Many of our sister colleges downstate receive forty percent of their budget from the state, that is a forty percent budget reduction and obvious responses to that have been, some of them very severe, layoff and shutting down programs. Many colleges funded the MAP grants last fall, fewer of them this spring. Oakton was able to fund MAP grants this spring semester because of funding from the Educational Foundation. Nobody seems to be overly optimistic about getting a budget this year, or receiving any money this year. We are hoping that there will be money next year, but that also is somewhat up in the air as it seems there is no movement at all the impasse between the Governor and the Legislature. Students have been writing letters, and we will go to Springfield for Lobby Day, but it does not seem to have made much of an impact, there hasn’t been enough of a public outcry. Some of the trustees who attended the meeting were self-funding their trips. Some schools have not been able to pay their dues to the ICCTA. Consequently, that means the ICCTA itself is on a very restricted budget and is cutting back on all of its activities. A large part of each of these meetings has an education component for the trustees; that is how we keep up on what changes there are in the laws, what is going on in the state, what other best practices are. Several of the colleges gave presentations; one that was of particular interest to us because of our WIG (Wildly Important Goal), was one presented by William Rainey Harper College, which has made major strides in both retention and in completion. They had a very systemic planned process over the past seven years that has led to positive outcomes. Elgin Community College also had a presentation on what they
have done to reduce student loans and to increase the repayment on student loans. Trustee Frank also commented on the presentation given by Harper, and invited all of the trustees or anybody interested, to take a look at it on the ICCTA website.

Trustee Tennes inquired if there was any talk about tuition increases. Trustee DiLeonardi replied that almost everyone is increasing tuition. There are huge tuition increases in some places because of the budget impasse. Colleges are anxiously awaiting to see what the higher tuition rates may do to their enrollment. Oakton’s tuition is still competitive, still in the mix, but with the increase it will be getting higher up than we would like to see it. Chair Harada thanked Trustees DiLeonardi and Frank for representing the Board and Oakton at these meetings. It is important that we have representation and we appreciate you taking the time to attend these meetings.

Green Committee Liaison Report
Chair Harada reported that the Green Committee is very busy this spring. Planning is underway for Earth Week, April 18-23. A variety of presentations and workshops will be offered, topics to include: “Green Jobs Panel: Finding Your Path to a Fulfilling Green Career”; “Redefining Waste in our Future; and “How Money and Greed are Destroying the Planet”. There will also be several opportunities for hands-on learning on campus including restoration work days, bird walks, and nature walks. The finalized schedule will be on the website soon. Update on prescribed burn: due to weather conditions in late fall/early winter, the burn was canceled. Instead the Committee has worked with a contractor, Applied Ecological, to assist in moving to a second option of apply herbicide directly to the buckthorn. A burn is planned for the next fall. The pilot compost project has begun on the Skokie campus in the Early Childhood Education center. This project has also extended to the dining room and kitchen at the campus and as a result, there is very little food waste produced from those areas. In Wilmette, Go Green Wilmette, sponsored a large fair and Oakton was represented. Deb Kustra, our sustainability officer attended with students from Students for Social Justice. They featured their water bottle display. Chair Harada said that she was happy to see that Oakton had a presence at the fair.

Student Trustee Report
Student Trustee Will Dixon reported that on February 20, Oakton’s DECA team went to DePaul University for the Midwestern DECA Conference. The team, which was formed three weeks before the tournament, placed first in the sports marketing division. It was an exciting competition and a great experience for the students to see one aspect of what academics would be like for a student at DePaul. Ed Hoffman and Victor Balan from the Speech and Debate team, are ranked second in the state for parliamentary debate at two year colleges. The competition was held on March 4 and 5 at Illinois Central College. Candidate forms and statements were due last week for the Student Government Association (SGA) elections that will occur during the first week of April. Due to some major increased activity and membership in the SGA, this election is expected to be one of the most contested ever. The Illinois Community College Board Student Advisory Committee held its final meeting for the current roster of student leaders. The body reflected on their efforts throughout the year and the approximately 8,000 signatures that were collected urging state leaders to fund higher education. Plans were discussed for Student Advocacy Day on April 20, where students will go to Springfield and lobby for funding of higher education. The latest edition of the OCCurrence will be on newsstands on March 21st.

Comments by the Chair
At this time, Chair Harada made a few comments about the tuition increase that is on the agenda saying that it is never easy for the Board to vote on a tuition increase, but it is made even more difficult because of the dire financial situation in the state as well as an uncertain future. Chair Harada wants the students to be assured that the Board has looked at all the options, and the grim alternatives that can happen if we do not make some hard choices. The $12 tuition increase alone is not enough to balance the budget for next year. The administration has stepped up and they are looking at expenses throughout the College and are committed to cutting $800,000 in costs throughout the campus. We applaud their initiative and effort in this respect, because otherwise the tuition hike would be even higher. Chair Harada again applauded the Educational Foundation for contributing $350,000 to offset MAP grants. In conclusion, Chair Harada said that these are very challenging times, and she wants the students and the faculty to know that the Board is approaching these issues in a responsible way while, trying to maintain the high educational standards at Oakton Community College.
Public Participation – Professor of Mathematics, Gordon McClarren, retiring after thirty-five years of teaching at Oakton, the last fifteen as full-time faculty, told the audience that the College has been an enjoyable and gratifying place to work. Trustee Tennes thanked Professor McClarren for his lovely tribute and taking the time to address the Board.

New Business

3/16-1a Approval of Adoption of Consent Agenda
Ms. Tennes offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves adoption of the Consent Agenda.”

Dr. DiLeonardi seconded the motion; a voice vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

3/16-1b Approval of Consent Agenda Items 3/16-2 through 3/16-5
Ms. Tennes offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following items 3/16-2 through 3/16-5 as listed in the Consent Agenda.”

3/16-2 Ratification of Payment of Bills for February 2016
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 hereby ratifies expenditures and release of checks by the Treasurer of Community College District 535 in the amount of $5,163,015.71 or all check amounts as listed and for all purposes as appearing on a report dated February 2016.”

3/16-3 Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report for February 2016
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 receives for filing as a part of the College’s official records, the report of the Treasurer for the month of February 2016.”

3/16-4 Ratification of Actions of Alliance for Lifelong Learning Executive Board
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535, in its capacity as governing board of the administrative district of the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Program, ratifies and approves the actions of the Executive Board in items a to i, and hereby approves the expenditures in the amount not to exceed $78,361.37 for all funds listed in items a, g and i.”

a. Salary payments in the amount of $15,240.78 for part-time teaching services for the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Spring 2016.
b. Salary rescinds in the amount of $872.08 for part-time teaching services for the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Spring 2016.
c. Recommend no FY’17 tuition increase for general Alliance classes. The tuition for some specialized classes including: workforce related, on-line, computer, Emeritus, Youth and fitness classes, will vary from the approved rates due to increased vendor costs or based on competitive rates. Tuition for reimbursable Alliance classes will align with the Oakton per credit hour rate.
d. Recommend the non-refundable registration processing fee increase from $8.00 to $9.00 effective with the Fall 2016 term.
e. Recommend the course cancellation fee increase from $10.00 to $15.00 effective with the Fall 2016 term.
f. Recommend the continuation of the professional services of the Adult Education educational specialists for the GED Program, Literacy Program, ESL Program and the Evening High School Program, pending the receipt of adequate FY’17 ICCB Adult Education and Family Literacy grant funds.
g. Recommend the continuation of professional services, effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 of the professionals who plan, develop and implement the Continuing Education for Health Professionals (CEHP) courses, seminars and activities. The amount to be paid will not exceed the following: Pam Mauro, LSW - $35,000.
h. Recommend the FY’17 classroom and office rental rates and computer usage rates remain at the same level as the FY’16 rates unless otherwise reduced by individual districts.

i. Payment for Fall 2015 Space Utilization and Facilities Services and Classroom/Office Space rental as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Rental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District 535 (Oakton)</td>
<td>$11,281.32</td>
<td>$6,462.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 202 (Evanston)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,951.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 207 (Maine)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>6,120.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 219 (Niles)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,564.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 225 (Glenbrook)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>740.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Payment</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,281.32</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,839.27</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3/16-5  
**Supplemental Authorization to Pay Professional Personnel – Spring 2016**

1. "Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the adjustments of part-time faculty 2016 spring semester salaries in the amount of $465,046.97, resulting in a revised total of $4,111,896.16."

2. "Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the adjustments of overload faculty 2016 spring semester salaries in the amount of $39,076.44, resulting in a revised total of $371,810.04."

Dr. DiLeonardi seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

- Mr. Salzberg  Aye
- Mr. Frank  Aye
- Ms. Harada  Aye
- Ms. Tennes  Aye
- Mr. Stafford  Aye
- Mr. Wadhwa  Aye
- Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-6  
**Authorization to Approve March 2016 Purchases**

Mr. Salzberg offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the approval for the purchase of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/16-6a</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td>Contracted Instructional Training (Two Year Contract)</td>
<td>Advocate Lutheran General Hospital</td>
<td>$451,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16-6b</td>
<td>1- 5</td>
<td>Custodial Supplies (Two Year Contract)</td>
<td>Laport, Inc. Metro Professional Products Interboro Packaging Corporation</td>
<td>$38,012.00 $25,869.31 $15,359.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16-6c</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Additional Funds for Architectural Services</td>
<td>Legat Architects</td>
<td>$700,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,230,240.70.”</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ms. Tennes seconded the motion.
Trustee Tennes commented that it is important to note that the funding for 3/16-6c, Legat Architects, is not for new services, this is a procedural matter that is required of the Board to stay current with some funds that were spent beyond what was originally approved.

Trustee Salzberg had a question on item 3/16-6a, Contracted Instructional Training, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, in regards to students and the amount of hours required and how the program is structured. Per Dr. Hamel, this agreement covers Fire 221, 222, 223, and 224. The Fire 220 course is an eight credit course, the other courses are four credit courses. The catalog provides information about those and they are a lecture lab combination which is not unusual, but it is significant in this particular case. For example, in Fire 221, the students receive six credits for the course, which is divided up into four lecture and eight lab hours, very much both a didactic and a hands on experience. Dr. Hamel continued that the students do what is done in many training programs, they participate in lectures, they take notes, they are tested on the material; they demonstrate increasing levels of skills in the lab components for these classes. It is the case that the fire chiefs specifically request these extended class experiences so that they can manage the absences of their employees from their fire departments. It would be much more difficult for them to do that if a student for example, came to Oakton for five days a week, for two hours of class. Dean Sompolski added that their work schedule is such that they are on for 36-48 hours and then furloughed for an extended period. Consequently, we try to schedule those long classes when they on their furlough.

Trustee Salzberg expressed concern about the students’ ability to absorb such a great deal of information, eight hours in a day for ten weeks, in this specific curriculum, which is very intensive. Dean Sompolski said that the curriculum is designed to prepare the students to take the Illinois Department of Public Health paramedic exam. We do have an enviable success rate for passing those exams, typically in the 80-90% range. They may not all pass at the first attempt, but overall, we do have a very high rate of success. In conclusion, Dr. Hamel said that the students who finish the program receive a paramedic certificate and they also have to pass a rigorous series of certifications. As Dean Sompolski pointed out, our students do quite well. Although, make no mistake about it, this is an intensive and demanding experience. We have had an extremely successful group of students and instructors with an enviable pass rate. In answer to a related question as to whether or not the students fulfill all the instruction minutes for all these credits and they absolutely do. There is a formula that is used to determine the scheduling that we do of these classes which meets the state mandated requirements. The only way a community college can offer this curriculum, is to do it in partnership with a hospital, which is a state law. We have had very a very good experience with Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and our other partner St. Francis Hospital in Evanston.

Mr. Stafford called the roll:

Dr. DiLeonardi         Aye
Mr. Frank              Aye
Mr. Wadhwa             Aye
Mr. Salzberg           Aye
Mr. Stafford           Aye
Ms. Harada             Aye
Ms. Tennes             Aye

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-7     Preview and Initial Discussion of April 2016 Purchases
The following purchases will be presented for approval at the April 2016 Board of Trustees meeting: Great America Tickets on Consignment; New College Vehicles; Vision Insurance; and Approval of Energy Futures.

Trustee Tennes said that she was pleased with the specifications of the of the paper products that are going to be purchased, specifically, 100% recycle content of the paper towels and toilet paper.

3/16-8  **Approval of Tolling Agreement Extension**  
Mr. Stafford offered:  
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approve the Tolling Agreement Extension between Terracon Consultants, Inc. and the Board of Trustees of Oakton Community College, District 535 and authorizing execution of the Agreement by the District’s attorney on the District’s behalf.”

Ms. Tennes seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Rank and Assignment</th>
<th>AY2015-16 Lane, Step, Base Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. DiLeonardi</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Harada</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Salzberg</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Stafford</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wadhwa</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Tennes</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-9  **Authorization to Hire Full-time, Tenure-track Faculty Members**  
Dr. DiLeonardi offered:  
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the full-time, tenure-track faculty hires of Mario Borha and Olga Cedrina for the 2016-17 academic year, beginning on August 15, 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Rank and Assignment</th>
<th>AY2015-16 Lane, Step, Base Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mario Borha</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Mathematics</td>
<td>E-5, $68,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Cedrina</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Mathematics</td>
<td>A-4, $54,255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salaries will be determined pending the negotiated agreement between the Oakton Community College Faculty Association and the Oakton Community College Board of Trustees for the 2016-17 academic year.”

Mr. Frank seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Aye</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wadhwa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Harada</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Tennes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Stafford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. DiLeonardi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Salzberg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-10  **Approval of Academic Calendar for Years Spring 2017 – Fall 2019**  
Mr. Frank offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves and adopts the Academic Calendars for the Spring 2017 – Fall 2019, as a part of the official records of the College and of this meeting.”

Ms. Tennes seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

Ms. Tennes  Aye  
Ms. Harada  Aye  
Mr. Wadhwa  Aye  
Mr. Frank  Aye  
Mr. Stafford  Aye  
Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye  
Mr. Salzberg  Aye  

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-11  Approval of Reduced Load for Faculty Member  
Dr. DiLeonardi offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves a three LHE reduced load for Carlos Briones, Professor of Humanities and Philosophy, for fall semester 2016, in accordance with Section 10.3 of the contract between Oakton Community College Faculty Association and the Board of Trustees.”

Mr. Wadhwa seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye  
Ms. Tennes  Aye  
Mr. Frank  Aye  
Ms. Harada  Aye  
Mr. Stafford  Aye  
Mr. Salzberg  Aye  
Mr. Wadhwa  Aye  

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-12  Approval of a Personal Leave for Faculty Member  
Mr. Wadhwa offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves a one semester unpaid leave of absence for Elena Ermolenko-Fein for fall semester 2016.”

Mr. Frank seconded the motion; Mr. Stafford called the roll:

Mr. Wadhwa  Aye  
Ms. Harada  Aye  
Mr. Frank  Aye  
Mr. Salzberg  Aye  
Mr. Stafford  Aye  
Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye  
Ms. Tennes  Aye  

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

3/16-13  Acceptance of Grants

9 of 14
Mr. Dixon offered:
"Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 accept 3/16-13a and 3/16/13b, for the following grants:

a. Illinois Secretary of State Adult Volunteer Literacy Grant in the amount of…………………………………………………………. $6,519
b. American Society for Cell Biology PALM Fellowship in the amount of………………………………………………………………. $2,000

for a total of $8,519.”

Dr. DiLeonardi seconded the motion; a voice vote was called; the motion passed unanimously.

3/16-14 Adoption of Resolution on Tuition Rates
Ms. Tennes offered:
“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorize a tuition rate of $123.25 per credit hour effective as of the summer term of 2016 and further authorizes a tuition rate not to exceed $136.25 effective as of the summer term of 2017.”

Mr. Stafford seconded the motion.

There was a lengthy discussion by the Board about the proposed tuition increase. Mr. Frank began by questioning the $123.25, per credit hour figure that was quoted in the resolution, versus the $116.25 figure that was listed in the chart which was included in the resolution. Mr. Agazzi, said that the chart includes tuition and fees, and what the Board is voting on is just the tuition rate. The tuition rate being voted on is $123.25, and that number is a combination of both tuition and fees. Our current tuition rate is $111.25. Trustee Frank asked if the Board will be voting on fees. President Smith responded that the Board does not typically vote on fees. There is a $3 fee, which is a Student Government activity fee, which is proposed by student leaders, and a $2 construction fee that we are planning to move forward with given all the construction that we still have in progress. Trustee Tennes expressed concern that the Board was presented with a table that shows tuition and fees combined, when we are voting only on tuition. When the fees are added on to the $123.25 per credit hour, the total is $128.25. President Smith said that the chart that was shared with the Board in the packet last week included tuition and fees for Oakton as well as for our comparatives. Our fees per credit hour are $5, where some of our peers, for instance like Harper College, has a $16 per credit hour fee, which does not include a student activity fee. President Smith said that we wanted to include those numbers in the chart of what Oakton’s tuition and fees are relative to the tuition and fees of our peers, not just the tuition rates. Trustee Tennes responded that it would have been helpful and more of a best practice, to be able to have all of those figures in front of the Board at the same time, especially as this is such a difficult vote. Chair Harada pointed out that this also is representative for FY 2016, so it does not necessarily reflect all of the tuition increases at our peer institutions, as many have not yet voted on their increases. Trustee Salzberg said it looks like we are up 10.3 percent in 2016 and 20.6 percent for the following year. Oakton will be above everyone else in tuition and fees. Chair Harada replied that is not the case because the summer term of 2017 will not exceed $136.25.

Mr. Agazzi said he takes responsibility for the Board report, though not for its originality. He updated the exact same format of the report that the Board approved two years ago. He assumed that the Board would want to know where our peers are at. Mr. Agazzi said that the tuition increase that the Board is considering is a high tuition increase. That being said, it still will have Oakton less than the median for our peers, and less than the average for the entire state of Illinois, and that is including both tuition and fees together. Trustee Wadhwa said that he has a problem with the comparison as he feels it was only included to prove a point. We are a very rich district based the tax levy compared to other places. We are here to serve the students in this College, and I cannot conceive that we are going to have such a hefty increase in our tuition. Trustee Wadhwa
also questioned the ‘not to exceed’ $136.25 figure that is shown in the resolution. He hopes that is not an arbitrary amount due to the fear that the state is not going to come through with funding. Trustee Wadhwa said that he does not question the salaries of anybody in this institution. Did we need a $60 million dollar building, now that we have it I am proud of it, but we don’t need mortar and bricks. Quality is not directly proportionate to the money that we invest. Trustee Wadhwa said he is having a very difficult time with this proposed increase.

Chair Harada said that Trustee Wadhwa has raised excellent points and good questions. In regards to the ‘not to exceed’ language for next year, at the Committee of the Whole meeting, the subject of a ‘not to exceed’ figure was discussed, and the figure proposed is not an arbitrary figure. Mr. Agazzi spoke and said that we certainly would not want to imply that we are raising tuition to be like our peers, or that that is even a reason to raise tuition, it is being done simply to balance our budget, as is the $800,000 in reductions that the administration has committed to. Mr. Agazzi said we did not want to do a second large tuition increase, so we recommended the amount that it would take, not restore that $800,000, but still balance our budget. Our legal counsel has advised that we would have to come back, and we promise to come back in December, hopefully with a lower amount. Mr. Agazzi said that unfortunately, if Springfield takes action beyond just cutting our funding, such as freezing our property taxes, we may have to ask for even more of a tuition increase with even larger reductions. Trustee Wadhwa said with all due respect to his colleagues, this is a very difficult situation for him to accept this kind of increase. He said he will either abstain or not vote for the increase.

Trustee Tennes asked Trustee Wadhwa, if his desire is to either abstain or vote no on the increase, what is his specific plan to balance the budget? Trustee Tennes mentioned layoffs. If we do not have funds coming in from the state and we cannot afford to meet our payroll and our obligations, then we would have to cut staff. Mr. Wadhwa asked why we cannot apply some of our capital fund to underwrite tuition, put it in the operating fund so that we can meet our financial obligations until the state of Illinois solves their own problems. We should be able to use some of the rainy day funds to take care of us instead of giving 10-12 percent increase to our students.

Trustee Stafford stated that you cannot use bonded funds for operations as it is illegal. Trustee Stafford said that he plans on supporting the tuition increase. The reason we are here is not through any problems of our own, it is the state of Illinois, they have left us high and dry, and we are out $5,000,000. Last week in the papers we watched Western Illinois and Eastern Illinois losing faculty and making cuts, which is directly related to the fact that our state has abandoned their duty to educational institutions. Trustee Stafford respectfully disagreed with Trustee Wadhwa, that even with this increase at $128.25, we still are in the median level and that is important because these other institutions that are peers of ours and have the same types of students. Trustee Stafford is sympathetic in that this is a high tuition increase, but it does do two things for us. It keeps our College operating; we are making cuts, and it gets us one step further from not being dependent on a state that seems to have abandoned higher education and education throughout, and it does it in a reasonable way. This is not outlandish, we are not out of the range of possibility here, and he feels by the time the rest of these institution increase their tuitions next year, we are going to be in the median again. Trustee Stafford said that this is an important time for our institution, which is, a world class institution and he understands that this is a burden for our students, but in terms of other state intuitions of higher education, we are still a bargain. Regardless of what the state does, the Board is going to have to do this increase. Trustee Stafford reiterated that he strongly supports this increase, and understands the fact that it is a tough situation and we need to have access to this institution in a really critical time in its history and this allows us to do that.

Trustee Salzberg said that he is proud of this institution, received an Associates degree from Oakton and his father taught at this school for thirty years. He agrees on certain points that an
increase is necessary because the state has problems right now, but what will happen when we start receiving our funding from Illinois. Are the rates going to stay the same? He said he has been thinking of different language that could be included when we do start receiving funding from the state. He said he was also having a hard time deciding what to do. Our tax base is huge, we pull in from so many different places. There are wealthy properties surrounding Oakton, compared to other areas. Trustee Salzberg said he was against raising tax rates for property, and should be against raising tuition. He suggested that the College have a formal process in place to look at where there might be waste. Trustee Salzberg continued that there is such a great feeling of teamwork here and hopes we can work together to help reduce the burden to students.

President Smith spoke about the ‘not to exceed’ clause that has been brought up. We have a history of having two year tuition increases for students so that they can plan appropriately, and part of why the Board has voted on two year increases, is so that students know what to expect. The $13 amount is the worst case scenario from our perspective for students, and our hope is that if some of the factors that were presented to the Board last month, whether it is enrollment, money from the state, if we end up in a better financial situation this fall than we anticipate, we will come to the Board with an amount the following year that is not as high as $13. President Smith said that we also need to be responsible in planning for the future and make sure that our students know what to plan for. It was hard to bring this recommendation to the Board. We have prided ourselves in having low tuition so that students can have an affordable education. But we also pride ourselves on quality education. President Smith said that this is what felt like the most responsible recommendation that could be brought to the Board, making sure that we still stay competitive with our peers, are comparable keep tuition as affordable as we possibly can, and deliver the education that we all think that is important.

Trustee Salzberg said that he did not like the language ‘not to exceed’. Trustee Tennes asked what language he would like to see being used. Trustee Salzberg said something along the lines “that if we have state funding”, or “if the state funding from Illinois was a certain dollar amount or a certain percentage, that we will reduce tuition proportionately”, or “based on the Boards recommendation the increase would be proportionally reduced”. Chair Harada stated that both President Smith and Mr. Agazzi said that we are going to review this issue come November or December, if the state begins funding. Mr. Agazzi stated that legal counsel has advised as well, that the Board will need to vote again, we will provide to the Board at least a month before, a state of the state.

Trustee Wadhwa said that we can make a compromise in a sense that because of the way we are budgeting year to year and the state condition of the state maybe we should be able to not go beyond one year at a time. It takes only a matter of a vote to come back again and we will vote again, why are we voting, ‘not to exceed’ now. I understand that we cannot spend the capital funds. I withdraw that statement. President Smith said that the Board will vote again, but the reason for the two years is to allow students to plan, because one of the things that we hear from students is that they want a forecast, what is it going to cost them to come to Oakton. We felt that is was responsible to let them know that this is what the worst case would be and to plan. We will bring to the Board another resolution in December along with the study on variable tuition which was also requested.

Trustee Frank said that he remembered voting on fees in the past. Trustee Tennes said that the only fee that she can recall the Board voting on was for the construction fee, which has already been factored in. A question was asked if we vote on the ‘not to exceed $136.25’, as stated in the resolution, will this be binding as of next year, in case we have to go $14? Mr. Agazzi said that yes this is what we are communicating. Unfortunately, something even more than we can anticipate could happen, but that is our best estimate at this point. Trustee Tennes asked is that statement binding or is it not. Mr. Agazzi said that no, it is not. Trustee Wadhwa then again why are it is being voted on. Trustee Tennes replied that are we voting on it so that the students have at
least a sense of what they need to plan for and that is going to be our best effort to stay true to this. Trustee Wadhwa asked that come next year, even if we get zero money from the state, the tuition will not go up more than $13? Trustee Tennes reiterated that will be our best effort, and that will be a discussion that the Board will be having a year from now. Trustee Salzberg stated that he would definitely like to push, since we are raising tuition and the state has issues right now, to create a formal process improvement program, along the lines of the Six Sigma methodology approach on how to save money. He said he would feel better knowing that this institution is doing everything it can to be as efficient and effective as possible. Trustee Tennes said that she appreciates that suggestion and would suggest that Mr. Agazzi and President Smith discuss that idea and she would look forward to a recommendation from them.

Various members of the Board asked Student Trustee Will Dixon, to give his thoughts on the tuition increase. Mr. Dixon said that it is extremely difficult for a student to vote on a tuition increase. He said that Mr. Agazzi, President Smith, and Dr. Brooks visited with the Student Government Association Board multiple times to explain the financial situation of the College and explain the situation. Mr. Dixon said that the students value the administration’s transparency regarding the tuition increase and their efforts in explaining the finances of the College. The students have built a relationship with the administration based on trust. They know that Oakton is between a rock and a hard place, but the students believe the College is in good hands. Based on that trust and love for the College, the students believe that the Board and the administration will make the right decision, whatever it may be. In closing, Chair Harada thanked Mr. Dixon for his thoughtful, heartfelt, and honest words which are much appreciated.

Mr. Stafford called the roll:

- Mr. Stafford  Aye
- Ms. Harada  Aye
- Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye
- Ms. Tennes  Aye
- Mr. Frank  Aye
- Mr. Wadhwa  Aye
- Mr. Salzberg  Aye

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

Trustee Tennes concluded by stating that she is very proud of her colleagues on the Board. She indicated that for her, this was the most difficult vote that she has had to cast in almost nine years of sitting on this Board. Trustee Tennes said she appreciated the discussion and everyone’s careful thoughts.

**3/16-15**

**Authorization to Name the Pavilion at the Entrance to the Margaret Burke Lee Science and Health Careers Center for Harry and Lila Tankus**

Mr. Wadhwa offered:

“Be it resolved that in recognition of the generosity provided by Harry and Lila Tankus through numerous gifts to the College, and to honor the service provided on the Educational Foundation Board of Directors for over thirty years, including serving as the Foundation’s President, the Oakton Community College Board of Trustees approves a naming recognition for Harry and Lila Tankus for the outdoor Pavilion area at the entrance to the Margaret Burke Lee Science and Health Careers Center.”

Dr. DiLeonardi seconded the motion. President Smith said that Harry and Lila Tankus have been very generous contributors to the College for over forty years, and this is a wonderful tribute to their ongoing generosity.
Mr. Stafford called the roll:

- Mr. Salzberg  Aye
- Ms. Harada  Aye
- Mr. Frank  Aye
- Ms. Tennes  Aye
- Mr. Stafford  Aye
- Mr. Wadhwa  Aye
- Dr. DiLeonardi  Aye

The motion carried; Student Trustee Dixon favored the resolution.

**Adjournment**
Chair Harada noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Oakton Community College, District 535, will be Tuesday, April 19, 2016 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the College’s Skokie campus located at 7701 N. Lincoln Avenue, in rooms P103 and 104.

There being no further business before the Board, Chair Harada asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Tennes made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dixon; a voice vote was called and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

---

**Patricia Harada**
Patricia Harada, Chair

---

**William Stafford**
William Stafford, Secretary

---

A video recording of the March 15, 2016 meeting was made and may be viewed by calling the Library and Instructional Media Services office at (847) 635-1640.