



**Minutes of the Oakton Community College Board of Trustees Meeting
March 16, 2021**

The 764th meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 was conducted virtually on March 16, 2021.

Closed Session – Call to Order and Roll Call

At 3:07 p.m., Chair William Stafford called the meeting to order. Trustee Martha Burns, and Student Trustee Karen Suarez were absent. All other trustees attended virtually.

Board Secretary Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. William Stafford	Chair	Present
Mr. Paul Kotowski	Vice Chair	Present
Ms. Marie Lynn Toussaint	Secretary	Present
Dr. Gail Bush		Present
Ms. Martha Burns		Absent
Mr. Benjamin Salzberg		Present
Dr. Wendy Yanow		Present
Ms. Karen Suarez	Student Trustee	Absent

Chair Stafford asked for a motion to go into closed session under the following exceptions to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, with the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiation matters; the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; and litigation.

Trustee Salzberg made the motion, seconded by Trustee Yanow.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye

Physically present in room 1502 at the Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Dr. Joianne Smith, President, and Mr. Edwin Chandrasekar, Vice President for Administrative Affairs. Attending virtually were Dr. Colette Hands, HR; Dr. Karl Brooks, Vice President, Student Affairs; and Dr. Ileo Lott, Vice President, Academic Affairs.

At 3:38 p.m., Chair Stafford asked for a motion to adjourn the closed session meeting. Trustee Salzberg made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Yanow.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye

Open Session and Roll Call

Chair Stafford called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 4:05 p.m. Trustee Martha Burns and Student Trustee Karen Suarez were absent. All other trustees attended virtually.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Stafford	Chair	Present
Mr. Kotowski	Vice Chair	Present
Ms. Toussaint	Secretary	Present
Ms. Burns		<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Bush		Present
Mr. Salzberg		Present
Dr. Yanow		Present
Ms. Suarez	Student Trustee	<i>Absent</i>

Physically present in room 1506 at the Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Dr. Joianne Smith, President; Mr. Edwin Chandrasekar, Vice President for Administrative Affairs; Mr. Prashant Shinde, CIO; and Mr. Philip Cronin, Senior Media Services Technician.

Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Stafford

Approval of Minutes

Chair Stafford asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Kotowski made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Salzberg.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye

The motion carried.

Statement by the President

President Smith welcomed everyone. She shared it was spring break week, and appreciated the faculty and students who joined the meeting. She also thanked Professor Suzanne Ziegenhorn representing the full-time faculty association (OCCFA), and congratulated Heather Jakob-Short who was elected as the new Classified Staff Association president.

Condolences were offered to: Controller Andy Williams on the passing of his mother on February 22; Coordinator of Student Life Simi Khurana on the passing of her grandmother last week. President Smith also thanked everyone for their expressions of sympathy on the passing of her mother Barbara last week.

President Smith reflected on the one-year anniversary of the World Health Organization identifying the COVID-19 pandemic, and indicated that the last in-person Board meeting was held in February 2020. Many people have experienced the loss of loved ones, loss of employment, loss of health, loss of rituals and routines that centered us. We have also experienced tremendous resiliency, witnessed incredible generosity and community building in innovative ways, and have learned to focus on gratitude. As an entire college community, students, faculty and staff will come together on April 2 at 10 a.m. for an opportunity to come together and reflect on the past year, and this moment in our collective history.

Recognitions:

- Oakton received the 2021-2022 Military Friendly designation for the sixth straight year. This distinction honors colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members and veterans (and their spouses) ensuring their success on campus. President Smith thanked the team who work with veteran students for helping Oakton earn this distinction.
- The 2020 nursing program class had an NCLEX-RN Exam pass rate of 93%. The national pass rate is 87%, and the state pass rate is 88%. President Smith congratulated students and the Nursing department for having such a high quality program.
- Oakton's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa received the REACH Award for increasing membership. President Smith said this was impressive given the impact of COVID-19 on in-person events.
- Over 500 participants registered for the first virtual Infant-Toddler Conference, and 378 participants were in full attendance on March 7. The 23rd Infant Toddler Conference is the last event hosted at Oakton in 2020 before the pandemic. President Smith thanked the Early Childhood Education program, Media Service, and Jasmyne Woodard for their coordination of the event.

Happenings:

- March is Women's History Month, and there are a number of virtual events hosted by the Center for Campus Inclusion and Diversity, and the Women and Gender Studies program. Information about the events is available on the Oakton website.
- "Discover Oakton", a virtual open house is scheduled for March 24. It is a great opportunity to showcase the college for prospective students and families. President Smith asked the community to encourage people to attend.

Educational Foundation Liaison Report

The Oakton Educational Foundation has raised nearly \$1.3 million in monetary support since July 1. Recent gifts of note include:

- A \$600,000 gift from PharmaCann Inc. to support the construction of a lab and launch of a new scholarship for students in the college's cannabis programs. Representatives from PharmaCann participated in a press conference with Oakton's leadership on March 2 to announce the gift and

its impact at the College. The news was carried by 16 local and national media outlets, including three local TV stations and the Community College Daily.

- A \$80,000 gift from Maribis LLC, another firm with representatives on Oakton's academic advisory committee for cannabis programming. The gift launches The Maribis Beverly Dineff Memorial Scholarship, an endowment named for the founder's sister who died from a debilitating illness without the benefit of medical cannabis to counter symptoms of the disease.

The Foundation will hold a virtual fundraising event on Thursday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. The "*Art & More for Education Sake*" event will include a live and silent auction with artwork by students and faculty, travel experiences and more. Register to attend for FREE or purchase a ticket for the VIP experience through the event site at www.oakton.edu/auctionevent.

The Foundation Board held a quarterly meeting on March 3 where they approved the annual spend rate for endowed funds and the unrestricted budget to support the General Scholarship Fund, awards, and grants to faculty and staff projects. Thanks to strong investment performance and growing donor support, the allocation of available funds increased by 12.5% for the coming year.

The Foundation Board also authorized the execution of the first Memorandum of Understanding between the Educational Foundation and the College. This action appears on today's agenda.

ICCTA Liaison Report

The ICCTA Board of Representatives meeting was presided by President Jon Looney, Blackhawk College. President Looney reported on the seminar that was held on Friday afternoon, March 12 entitled, "The Urgency to Treat Cybersecurity as a Business Decision" as there were colleges that had dealt with this threat during the past year. The Roundtable topics had included e-learning; handling public comments during zoom meetings; and the second CARES Act funding.

Executive Director Jim Reed reported on the decision to focus support of the baccalaureate degree on early childhood education (ECE), which is a statewide concern, rather than also address the BSN, which is a more regional issue. ECE also has a very strong and dedicated champion in 20th District (Chicago) Senator Cristina Pacione-Zayas who has a doctorate in educational policy.

Director Reed also discussed the \$39.6 Billion support for institutions of higher education in the American Rescue Plan of 2021 - with 50% of the allocation earmarked for student emergency grants. The ICCTA Strategic Plan that will be approved at the annual meeting in June has 4 goals: 1) Grow and Sustain ICCTA; 2) Advocacy; 3) Trustee Education; and 4) ICCTA Governance.

The Government Relations Committee report from Jessica Nardulli, our lobbyist, included encouragement for all trustees to advocate with local elected officials, especially those newly elected. There is a focus on increasing the MAP set aside to 15% and to changing the date from January to summer for student applications. Committee reports included the Public Relations Committee reminding us that April is Illinois Community College Month. Illinois Council of CC Presidents President Sylvia Jenkins reiterated support for SB 1832, the early childhood education baccalaureate.

ICCB Executive Director Brian Durham discussed reviewing policies established during COVID-19 that might be sustained such as flexibility in course delivery. He also reported an emphasis on reframing ICCB with a critical DEI lens as each matter arises.

Evanston Task Force Report

Trustee Yanow and Trustee Burns are continuing to work with the Evanston Task Force, although they are attending meetings less frequently giving the administration the chance to put together some plans for immediate next steps as of next fall. One of the plans includes interviewing currently enrolled Black male students at Oakton in the interest of learning from the community.

Student Trustee Report – Student Trustee Karen Suarez was absent.

Student Spotlight – Audra Lawlor (President of the current nursing class)

Ms. Lawlor thanked President Smith and the Board of Trustees for allowing her to speak about her experiences. Nearly four years ago, Audra was ready to become a nurse, which she perceived as nearly impossible. She had previously earned a bachelor's degree, but was unsuccessful with grades and faced several challenges, including having to raise two small children when she started her journey at Oakton. When Audra first looked at schools, she found Oakton to be a good fit and made an appointment with nursing advisor Julie Rosenberg who she met in person on the first day of school that semester. After explaining her challenges and concerns, Ms. Rosenberg reminded her that every student faces challenges, and developed a program for Audra to begin classes with a late-start program, and she was able to enroll.

Audra indicated that Oakton has given her the opportunity to thrive. She has been inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, received the President's Scholar distinction several times, and is part of the Honors Program. She is the class president for the current cohort that will be graduating in May 2021, and has served as a mentor for upcoming students. Audra said that Oakton has provided an environment in which she has been able to succeed. Although she has accomplished great things academically, Audra shared that it is the connections that she will carry with her. Professor Bill Strond in the biology department continuously cheers her success after being her instructor 3 years ago. She has developed a diverse set of friends who have been with her during her best and hardest moments.

Audra's experience at Oakton speaks to the background and the support that enriched her experience. As class president, she has had the privilege of working closely with Chair of Nursing Margaret Gas from whom Audra has learned about leadership. Audra indicated that Ms. Gas sees all the students' potential, and has the courage and the wisdom to develop their ability. Under Ms. Gas's guidance, each faculty member brings a unique perspective that shapes the experience of students in the nursing program.

Audra highlighted Professor Mary Kakenmaster who has shown students the true heart of nursing. Professor Kakenmaster is demanding, but she is compassionate and understanding. In her classes, she asks students to think critically and deeper, and is very involved with curriculum development, following students very closely and continuously asking for feedback to help make the nursing program better. Like many other students, the COVID-19 pandemic has altered Audra's education experience. Being a nursing student, she had a lot of hands-on experience, but the moment she was not able to be in the hospitals or other clinical sites, Professor Kakenmaster was able to alter the activities to make them worthwhile on campus.

Audra shared that Professor Kakenmaster has developed strong relationships in the community, especially with the Skokie Department of Health COVID vaccine program, which has given nursing students hands-on time while many nursing students across the country are limited to the classroom. Oakton nursing students were able to help administer vaccines that were much needed in the community. That experience has really reinforced why Audra chose nursing as her career. She considers it an honor to be part of this historical event, and has enjoyed getting to know clients that come through the program to understand she is making a difference.

It has not been an easy journey for Audra, but her experience at Oakton has made it worthwhile. She appreciates the diverse population that has allowed her to grow. She knows the academic programs are rigorous, and have stretched her abilities. Audra shared she feels well prepared; in a few months, she will be working as a nurse at a hospital and she feels competent to do it successfully.

Trustee Stafford congratulated Audra on her achievements and wished her success in her career. He also extolled Audra's communication skills and dedication.

Trustee Comments - None

Comments by the Chair

Trustee Stafford expressed condolences from the Board to President Smith on the passing of her mother Barbara, and wished her safe travels as she prepares to be with family. While the Board did not know her mother personally, they know her daughter who is exceptional.

Report: Information Technology Comprehensive Long-Range Master Plan

In February 2020, CIO Prashant Shinde presented the roll of IT in the student experience. This presentation included information about who was part of the process of developing an IT strategic plan, which took over 15 months; how and when tasks were completed; what they found from the assessment report; and what recommendations are key. This presentation also included information on how the outcomes of technology improve the student experience and a quick look at the technologies IT plans to implement over the next 3-5 years.

The master plan process started in October 2019 with the formation of an Information Technology Council which included stakeholders from all areas of the college following the shared governance model and a participatory approach. Faculty members included John Stryker and Mariam Millman, staff members included Jamie Petersen from Financial Aid, Bursar Tamara Laws, and Michal Chowniak in accounting. There was also student participation from Michael Pasioka and Sneha Shah. The administrators' team included Marc Battista and Anne Brennan. IT representatives were Renee Kozimor (Director for Software and User Services), John Wade (Director for Networking Systems) and Julia Gray (Web Services Manager).

Mr. Shinde and Mr. Charlie Moran (Moran Technology Consulting) facilitated the sessions. Leaders from different departments at the college also took part of these sessions: From Student Affairs were Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Karl Brooks, Director of Admissions and Enrollment Michelle Brown, and Dean of Enrollment Management Matthew Huber. From Academic Affairs were Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Ileo Lott, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Curriculum Ruth Williams, and Dean of Online Learning Raymond Lawson. Murneka Davis from Human Resources and Dr. Andrea Lehmacher from College Relations participated in the sessions as well.

After the Technology Council was organized in October 2019, a first meeting was scheduled. The Board of Trustees had approved Moran Technology Consulting to partner with Oakton to help conduct an information technology assessment and develop a strategic plan. The college had an open RFP, and invited proposals from several vendors. Oakton received 17 proposals, out of which 4 finalists were selected to come on campus to do presentations that were well attended by the college community. Based on collective feedback, Oakton selected Moran Technology Consulting.

After the Board of Trustees approved the partnership with Moran Technology, students received a survey in January 2020. The survey was comprehensive, and the college received 800 student responses, and over 340 employee responses. The purpose of the survey was to understand technology utilization,

satisfaction level, and obtain information about their future needs. Survey responses provided thousands of data points to analyze, and the Moran Technology team used the data analysis as the basis for their focus group meetings and interviews with stakeholders. During February and March 2020 they conducted over 50 focus group meetings with over 400 participants including members of Oakton President's Council. Most meetings happened in person on campus before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, but then they transitioned to an online environment. Members of the Technology Council and Moran Technology continued the work remotely.

Between April and July 2020, Mr. Moran finalized assessment reports and provided them to Oakton. The report was a validation of the findings from the survey through focus groups and interviews. The methodology was to find patterns and themes that emerged from these interactions, which became the basis for the report. The Technology Council members reached out to their stakeholders to identify projects that their units wanted to implement to improve their efficiency. The team received over 45 projects that the college would like to see implemented within 3-5 years. The projects were grouped together—based on the themes that emerged—into 34 initiatives that were selected, finalized and prioritized. After the initiatives were identified, the team met with subject matter experts to score the initiatives based on need and priority levels (Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Human Resources and College Relations). The plan was finalized in January 2021, and Moran Technologies provided a master plan, at which point conversations started with stakeholders. The Technology Council looked at the report, and has had meetings with different units: Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Human Resources, College Relations, Academic Computing Council, President's Council, and the Student Government Association. In the future, meetings will include COCAC members, other units from Student Affairs and academic divisions.

The master plan is being presented to the Board of Trustees, and it will start an implementation phase in May 2021. The master plan will be open to campus feedback through myOakton. Employees will be able to review the plan and ask questions (shared governance model). More than a thousand people have participated in the plan through surveys and meetings, and it will be taken to a bigger audience.

When the Information Technology Council was organized in October 2019, they had a focused approach and wanted to ensure that the IT strategic plan would help Oakton deliver its overall strategic plan. This master plan needed to align with Oakton's mission, vision, and core values. The Council wanted collaboration with all deans, councils, departments—including student and academic services, administrative assistants, Administrative Affairs, and the Student Government Association. The technology plan needed to be adaptive and flexible enough to accommodate the new technologies that will emerge over the next 3-5 years, and the needs of the college.

Moran Technology Consulting has decades of experience, and has worked with over 200 colleges and universities across the United States and internationally. Based on their expertise they developed a methodology that ensures that every aspect of technology is being considered as they prepare assessment reports. Moran Technology focuses on IT governance and organization, software development, project management, and user support. Their team met with Oakton's IT team to understand their capabilities and how it could support the needs of the college now and in the future.

Along with the assessment came a recommendations report focused on people, process and programs. Moran Technology had recommendations on IT staffing, organizational structure and the evolution of the technology council into a steering committee. Recommendations were also made on training and how the IT team needs professional development to ensure delivery of the projects that are part of the strategic plan. The report also included IT communications and how to ensure they become an integral part of all the technology implementations at Oakton, recommendations on IT security and how to make systems and users accessing technology more secure.

Mr. Shinde provided examples of how new technology implementation will impact student success. When a student applies for financial aid to attend Oakton, he or she will be able to log into a self-service portal (myOakton) and obtain award information any time through a mobile device or a computer. Once students have financial aid award information, they are able to meet with an academic advisor to develop their educational plan, register, apply aid to their tuition, set up payment plans, and access the bookstore to select their required course materials. In the bookstore site, students will be able to compare book prices with outside vendors. Once classes start, instructors can keep track of students' progress through the newly implemented retention portal, and connect them with the Learning Center as necessary. The Learning Center can contact instructors about students' interactions with them in order to close the loop. Personal collaboration tools are also part of the student retention platform, and they help improve employee experience as well to make them more efficient. All interactions are held under one platform/screen, including emails.

Hybrid class models help students attend classes remotely. If a student misses the class, they are still able to watch the recording on demand any time. Over the next 12-15 months, Oakton will be upgrading classroom technology to provide students the opportunity to participate in the classroom in person or virtually. This technology will provide a 360° view for the instructor with screens around the classroom.

Board approvals for new technology implementation will positively affect classroom interaction, and financial aid processes. The strategic plan will help Oakton stay focused on the outcomes. High priority initiatives include universal lecture capture, streaming media platform, D2L capabilities, automated transcript process, document management systems, bookstore operations, remote work, and data analysis.

Trustee Bush thanked Mr. Shinde for the presentation, and indicated it provided a good picture of the entire process. She expressed that her concern for the students is paramount, and she had questions about the entering/navigating process system related to students' understanding of technology, and their experiences in different school districts. The College should be proactive in scaffolding the instructions for each stage so that every student can get the most out of each of these technology supports. Mr. Shinde reiterated that there would be support for students throughout the process. Technology resources are already being provided to students to overcome the divides, and make sure that students are successful.

Trustee Stafford shared that one of his concerns is that the systems require an ability to be an adept user. What is Oakton prepared to do in terms of professional development for faculty/staff and student development in terms of training? Mr. Shinde shared that the College is looking at ways to provide professional development workshops for students and employees. If students have concerns or issues using any technology, there will be a place where they can go and ask questions that will be answered by subject matter experts. IT is building the processes organization to provide support. Trustee Stafford asked if technology training would be part of student orientation, which Mr. Shinde appreciated as a good suggestion they will look into.

Trustee Yanow requested clarification on training issues, and how Oakton will make sure that every student who enters its doors owns the technology needed to engage. Mr. Shinde shared that as part of the assessment report, students answered a survey with over 800 responses in which 90% of students indicated they had two or more technology devices. However, these were the students who were able to respond, which indicates there is over 10% of students who did not have a device. Over the past 12 months, Oakton has allowed students to checkout over 500 devices; any student who indicates a need for a laptop/Chromebook/hotspot can request them. Mr. Shinde will provide a report to Trustee Yanow with information on how many students have requested devices/technology from the College, and shared that there are hundreds of devices available to students who need them. Trustee Yanow had a concern regarding non-traditional age students who may not know what they need, and how to help them. These barriers need to be overcome.

Public Participation – None

New Business

3/21-1a Approval of Consent Agenda

Trustee Bush offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves adoption of the Consent Agenda.”

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion. Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Dr. Yanow	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-1b Approval of Consent Agenda Items 3/21-2 through 3/21-6

Trustee Bush offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following items 3/21-2 through 3/21-6 as listed in the Consent Agenda.”

3/21-2 Ratification of Payment of Bills for February 2021

“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 \$5,611,657.17 for all check amounts as listed and for all purposes as appearing on a report dated February 2021.”

3/21-3 Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report for February 2021

“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 2021.”

3/21-4 Ratifications 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 b as stipulated above, and hereby approves the expenditures in the amount not to exceed \$50,345.61 for all funds listed in item a.”

3/21-5 Supplemental Authorization to Pay Professional Personnel – Spring 2021

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves an adjustment of \$552,778.28 to the total amount of part-time teaching salaries paid during the spring semester, 2021; the revised, total payment amount is \$3,584,006.04.”

“Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves an adjustment of \$53,872.00 to the total amount of faculty overload salaries paid during the spring semester, 2021; the revised, total payment amount is \$553,450.56.”

3/21-6 Approval of Clinical Agreements

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following cooperative agreements:

Health Information Technology:

Midwest Medical Record Associates
Swedish Covenant Hospital

Pharmacy Technician:

United RX

Physical Therapist Assistant:

Advocate Health and Hospitals Corp.
Advanced Physicians Group
Evolve Chiropractic
Kindred Healthcare Operating LLC
Optimum PT.”

Trustee Kotowski seconded the motion. Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye

The motion carried.

3-21-7 Authorization to Approve March Purchases

Trustee Kotowski offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the approval of the attached resolutions, as stipulated in the following agenda items, for the purchase of the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3/21-7a	1	Audit Services - Two Year Renewal	Sikich, LLP	\$185,545.00
3/21-7b	1	Financial Aid Digitization Software - Three-Year Renewal	CampusLogic®	\$270,800.00
3/21-7c	1 - 2	Argos Enterprise Data Reporting Solution - Three Year Contract	Evisions	\$175,000.00

3/21-7d	1	Financial Aid Software	Ellucian Financial Aid Implementation Services	\$165,000.00
3/21-7e	3	Classroom Technology Upgrades	Computer Comforts, Inc. Lecterns B&H Screens	\$108,145.36 \$55,321.95
GRAND TOTAL				\$959,812.31.”

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion. Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-8 Preview and Initial Discussion of Upcoming Purchases

The following purchases will be presented for approval at an upcoming Board of Trustees meeting: a) Multifactor Authentication Services Renewal; b) ExamSoft Testing and Assessment Software; and c) Architect Services.

3/21-9 Resolution to Adopt the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) Deferred Compensation Plan

Trustee Yanow offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the adoption of Plan, Employer Participation Agreement, and Authorized Contact Form for the new State Universities Retirement System (SURS) Deferred Compensation Plan (DCP).”

Trustee Kotowski seconded the motion.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Dr. Bush	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-10 Authorization of Memorandum of Understanding between the Oakton Community College Educational Foundation and Community College District 535

Trustee Kotowski offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Oakton Community College Educational Foundation (attached hereto).”

Trustee Salzberg seconded the motion.

Trustee Stafford asked Foundation Board Director Carl Costanza to say a few words.

Mr. Costanza indicated that the Foundation and the College share a common goal of improving the lives of students, their families and the community through standing educational opportunities with a focus on innovation, equity, diversity and inclusion. This MOU codifies an even stronger commitment of those goals, and The Foundation greatly appreciates the spirit of collaboration, cooperation and student success that energized the process. The Foundation is grateful for the time, effort and expertise displayed by Chair Stafford, Trustee Kotowski, President Smith, Associate Vice President and Executive Director Katherine Sawyer, and Foundation Board member Julie Fenton. The MOU takes a partnership of nearly 45 years to a new level of communication and engagement. The Foundation Board is fully committed to provide additional resources to support the college in completing strategic goals while honoring its mission to enable student success. Mr. Costanza also thanked the College’s Board of Trustees for placing the MOU on the agenda for approval.

Mr. Stafford indicated that the MOU brings Oakton into the 21st century in terms of the relationship with the Foundation, and he expressed his enthusiasm regarding current Foundation initiatives in terms of organization and strategy. Mr. Stafford thanked Mr. Costanza, Ms. Fenton, and Ms. Sawyer for their outstanding work, and provided a shout out to Trustee Paul Kotowski for his legal work in the development of the MOU. Mr. Kotowski thanked Mr. Stafford, and shared this has been a great experience.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-11 Authorization for the Oakton Community College Educational Foundation as the exclusive fundraising organization for private gifts to benefit Community College District 535

Trustee Toussaint offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 authorizes the Oakton Community College Educational Foundation as the exclusive fundraising organization of the College for the receipt, investment and management of all private gifts.”

Trustee Kotowski seconded the motion. Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-12 Approval of New Unit of Instruction

Trustee Kotowski offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 approves the following new unit of instruction: Cannabis Cultivation Certificate.”

Trustee Bush seconded the motion.

Trustee Bush asked if it would be possible to include all the courses in the three Cannabis certificates to provide a special credential for students who have completed all of them, and are not necessarily thinking about transferring to institutions like Northern Michigan University to complete further training. Dr. Ileo Lott indicated that each certificate is separate, and the most logical step would be to include classes into an AGS. Trustee Bush asked what would be the option for students who are only interested in the cannabis courses. Would it be possible to develop a credential just for the cannabis education piece? Dr. Lott shared that all credits could potentially be combined into one big certificate program, but there would be overlap. There are 21 unique credits, and Dr. Bush inquired about the possibility of creating a curriculum credential similar to AGS. Dr. Lott shared that he will meet with his advisory committee to discuss the interest/value of stackable credentials for students.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye

The motion carried.

3/21-13 Acceptance of Grants

Trustee Yanow offered:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 accepts the attached resolutions, 3/21-13a and 3/21-13b, for the following grants:

Illinois Community College Board	
Developmental Education Innovation Grant	\$25,000.00
Project Wingspan, Plant Material Awards	\$0.00

For a total of: \$25,000.00.”

Trustee Kotowski seconded the motion.

President Smith provided clarification on the \$0.00 amount. The grant is for native seed material instead of dollars. Dr. Bush had a question regarding the ICCB grant's expectation that the applicants will propose activities that will align with statewide priorities. What would be the next step after receiving the grant? Dr. Lott indicated that the grant will allow Oakton to implement a faculty-developed project to help a cohort of students to feel more included in the college.

Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye

The motion carried.

Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Oakton Community College, District 535, will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

Trustee Kotowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Salzberg.

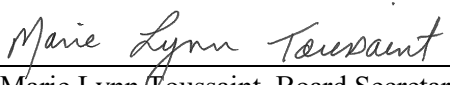
Trustee Toussaint called the roll:

Mr. Salzberg	Aye
Dr. Bush	Aye
Ms. Toussaint	Aye
Mr. Kotowski	Aye
Mr. Stafford	Aye
Dr. Yanow	Aye

The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.



William Stafford, Board Chair



Marie Lynn Toussaint, Board Secretary

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3/2021

A video recording of the meeting is available by calling the Media Services office at (847) 635-1998.