

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE**

January 12, 2005

Trustees Attending: Deborah Barnett
Claudia Kauffman RedMorningStar
David Lamb
Karen Lane
Merritt Long
Marilee Roloff

Absent: Stanley Flemming
Sophal Long

Representatives to the Board: Debbie Johnson, Staff Representative
Bonnie Marie, Alumni Representative
John Perkins, Faculty Representative

Staff Present: Don Bantz, Interim Provost and Academic Vice President
John Carmichael, Administrative Assistant to the President/Recording Secretary
to the Board of Trustees
Petra Carver, Director of Business Services
Art Costantino, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration
Edie Harding, Director of Governmental Relations
Lee Hoemann, Executive Associate to the President
Phyllis Lane, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
Frank McGovern, Vice President for College Advancement and Executive
Director of the Evergreen State College Foundation
Thomas L. Purce, President
Steve Trotter, Executive Director of Operational Planning and Budget

Others Attending: Howard Fischer, Senior Assistant Attorney General
See roster for others attending.

Wednesday, January 12, 2005

Vice Chair Deb Barnett called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. in the board room of the Daniel J. Evans Building in Olympia. Trustees David Lamb, Karen Lane, and Merritt Long were present.

Capital Projects Update

Vice President Art Costantino and Assistant Director of Facilities Nancy Johns provided an update on the Parkway renovation project. Vice President Costantino said that the college needed to do work on the Evergreen Parkway to address several critical issues, including the deteriorated condition of a portion of the roadway, concerns about excessive speeds, and a desire to improve intersection safety for both automobiles and others. In December, the college held an open house to collect feedback on options for renovating the parkway. Vice President Costantino said that he recommended to the president a re-designed parkway that would reduce traffic to one lane in each direction, install a roundabout at McCann Plaza, improve the other intersections, and improve facilities for bicycles and pedestrians. The President accepted the recommendation. The college staff are working with consulting engineers to produce documents that can be put out to bid in January. Construction would begin in March and would conclude in early summer.

Vice President Costantino said that renovation of the third floor of the Lab II building is nearly complete. The staff is working with the contractor for the Child Care Center renovation to complete the punch list. The renovation of space for Student and Academic Support Services was completed in December. Staff are occupying the space. The construction contract for the Phase I renovation of the Daniel J. Evans Library building went to bid on December 6. Responses are due on January 19, and construction is scheduled to begin in March and finish in June of 2006.

Vice President Costantino said that the board would be asked to pass a resolution delegating authority to Collin Orr to complete transactions on behalf of the college with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The college is in the final stage of closing out its grant with FEMA related to the 2001 Nisqually earthquake.

Accountability Audit

Director of Business Services Petra Carver described the recently completed accountability audit conducted by the Office of the State Auditor. Ms. Carver said that the audit was very clean, with no findings and no items for a management letter. The audit was completed two months earlier than previous audits. Ms. Carver said that the State Auditor's office is now working to audit the college's financial statements.

Legislative Budget Outlook

Executive Director for Operational Planning and Budget Steve Trotter described Governor Locke's budget proposals. Governor Locke's budget proposes an increase of \$160 million in supplemental budget for the current biennium. The increase would primarily fund caseload increases and would not affect the college.

Governor Locke's capital budget proposal would spend \$2.8 billion. Higher education would receive 31 percent of the budget (\$870 million). Evergreen would receive 4.2 percent of the bond-funded portion of the budget. This would give Evergreen a biennial capital budget of \$33.6 million, including non-bonded revenue from the Normal School Trust Fund and a portion of tuition collections. This budget would be \$3.5 million less than the college's budget request.

For Higher Education, the governor's operating budget proposal does not include budget reductions. In the governor's scenario including tax increases, higher education would receive additional budget allocations to expand access and to provide more financial aid. The governor's proposal would give the Board authority to raise tuition for resident undergraduates up to nine percent, but funding for the State Need Grant would only increase to cover a five percent tuition increase. The college would be required to commit additional money to financial aid if the board raised tuition beyond five percent. Mr. Trotter said that, overall, it is a good budget proposal, avoiding budget reductions and providing cost of living increases for employees.

Report from Faculty Representative

Chair Marilee Roloff invited Member of the Faculty John Perkins to report to the board as faculty representative. Dr. Perkins said that the faculty and the Faculty Agenda Committee continue to be interested in how faculty can participate in the governance of a changing college. The faculty unanimously approved the changes necessary to implement an Extended Education program. The resolution was especially important to faculty because it involves a reorganization of the Deans' area. The faculty is also looking at several proposed changes to faculty governance. If approved, the proposed changes would clarify and strengthen the role of the Agenda Committee. The proposed changes do not create a faculty Senate. In addition, collaborative work is underway with the Agenda Committee, the Academic Deans and the Planning Unit Coordinators to clarify the roles and improve communication among the three groups. Dr. Perkins also said that many faculty members are putting considerable energy

into developing and discussing proposals for enrollment growth. The deadline for submitting proposals to the Enrollment Growth Disappearing Task Force is soon.

Performance Contracts

Provost Don Bantz discussed recent college work to draft a possible performance contract between the college and the state. Evergreen decided to begin work on the draft because the governor's office has occasionally expressed strong interest in requiring a performance contract as part of future funding enhancements. Dr. Bantz said that the draft template for a contract attempts to identify the values and principles that should be used to measure the success of the college, given Evergreen's mission as a public liberal arts college.

National Survey of Student Engagement

Provost Bantz discussed the 2004 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). He said that the college was disappointed to find that its scores slipped in each of the five areas measured by the survey. The Academic Deans, the Senior Staff and staff in Student and Academic Support Services have discussed possible reasons for the decline. The Academic Deans suggested that increases in faculty workload, accompanied by an erosion of the college's core teaching practices, may be one of the root causes. He said that a number of efforts are underway to respond to the change. Work continues to improve narrative evaluations and create a summative senior evaluation. The recommendations of the Campus Life Disappearing Task Force may suggest additional steps.

Interim Director of Institutional Research Laura Coghlan discussed the survey's method and the NSSE findings in more detail. The college continues to rank relatively well on the survey's first two areas. Evergreen ranks in the 80th percentile for freshmen and seniors on "Level of Academic Challenge." On "Active and Collaborative Learning" the college ranks in the 80th percentile for freshmen and the 70th percentile for seniors.

The college's score on "Student-Faculty Interaction" is not as good (60th percentile for freshmen and 40th percentile for seniors). Evergreen students are more likely than other students to report that they talk about ideas from class with faculty members outside of class. They are also more likely to receive prompt feedback from faculty than students. However, they are less likely than other students to discuss career plans with faculty or advisors.

The college's score on "Enriching Educational Experiences" is difficult to compare to previous years because the survey's measure changed significantly. Evergreen ranks in the 50th percentile for seniors on this measure. Evergreen seniors are less likely than their peers to participate in co-curricular activities, pursue foreign language studies, do community service or volunteer work.

The college ranks in the 40th percentile for freshmen and the 50th percentile for seniors on the "Supportive Campus Environment" measure. Freshmen report a higher quality of relationships with faculty, but Evergreen students report less participation in co-curricular activities.

The college is using NSSE data in many ways. Evergreen has proposed using NSSE data in the Higher Education Coordinating Board's accountability process. The survey is also included as a performance measure in the draft template for a performance contract. In addition, it is part of the college's assessment of general education initiatives and will be an important part of the college's regular accreditation process.

Legislative update

Director of Governmental Relations Edie Harding provided an update on the college's legislative work. She said that Member of the Faculty Rob Knapp made a presentation to the Senate's education committee

earlier in the day. She shared the Powerpoint presentations that she and President Purce will use to present the college's operating and capital budget requests to legislative committees during the session.

Ms. Harding reviewed key issues before the legislature including enrollment growth, the role of branch campuses, the Higher Education Board's Strategic Master Plan, high performance ("green") construction standards, a statewide course equivalency standard, alternative models for tuition policy, minimum admissions standards, and remedial education.

Human Resources Update

Associate Vice President for Human Resources Ken Holstein presented information on employee turnover. Dr. Holstein said that 9.1 percent of staff positions turned over during the year. This compares favorably with other employers. The turn over among employees with 5 to 10 years service is higher than expected, but it is too soon to determine whether this represents a trend.

Dr. Holstein said that it takes an average of 120 days from the time a personnel request is filed to the time a position is filled. This is much longer than in many organizations, including other higher education organizations. Using methods that are commonly used in other organizations, the average cost of turnover per employee is \$25,350, which compares favorably to other organizations.

Delegation of Authority to obtain federal disaster assistance funds

Motion Trustee Karen Lane made a motion to adopt Board Resolution 2005-01 (attached)
#1-01-05 delegating authority to the president and his designee to act on behalf of the Board to obtain federal and/or emergency or disaster assistance funds. The motion was seconded by Trustee Barnett and passed on a voice vote.

Approval of minutes

Motion Trustee Deborah Barnett made a motion to approve the minutes of the board's
#1-02-05 November meeting. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Report from the chair

Ms. Roloff invited Trustee Lane to report on the work of the Joint Governing Boards working group. Ms. Lane said that the group met in December and discussed the agenda for the Joint Assembly to be held in conjunction with Higher Education Day on February 15. In addition, the group talked about governance issues facing the boards. The group is considering a day long Joint Assembly in May to focus on higher education issues and governance.

President's Report

President Purce invited Bonnie Marie to report as Alumni Representative to the Board. Ms. Marie said that the alumni board is preparing for its next meeting. The alumni association recently awarded a small grant to an alumnus and plans to award two scholarships. The alumni office is coordinating several alumni gatherings and is working on plans for Higher Education Day.

President Purce invited Debbie Johnson to report as Staff Representative to the Board. Ms. Johnson said that the campus e-mail system recently suffered a hardware shortage that affected staff. She noted that the timing of winter holidays caused the class registration cycle, which is normally five days, to be shortened by a day.

President Purce asked Vice President for College Advancement Frank McGovern to report on fundraising. Mr. McGovern said that gifts to the Annual Fund are lagging behind gifts received at the same time last year. Several large gifts in previous years explain a large part of the difference. Mr. McGovern said that overall fundraising lags behind fundraising in the previous two years, largely because of large gifts from the Pew Charitable Trust and the Atlantic Philanthropies received during the past two years. Some significant pledges received this year suggest that the comparison to previous years will continue to improve over the course of the year.

President Purce asked Provost Don Bantz to discuss the proposed reorganization of the Academic Deans' and Provost's offices. Dr. Bantz said that the proposal would add a Dean to oversee the Extended Education and Summer programs. A second new dean would be hired, probably to take responsibility for the graduate programs and public service centers. The Associate Vice President for Budgets, Walter Niemiec, and the Deans would get some additional staff support so that they can spend less time on routine tasks and focus on major issues.

President Purce asked Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Phyllis Lane to talk about the student energy fee initiative. Dr. Lane read a message to the board from student Brad Bishop, thanking members of the staff for their assistance with the project. Dr. Lane said that students collected more than 900 signatures on a petition expressing interest in a student fee to support "green" energy on campus. Student then voted affirmatively on a proposal to create a one dollar per credit fee. Ninety percent of the money collected would be used to buy "green tags" from the power company. The remaining money would fund green energy projects on campus. Staff continue to work with students on the details of implementing the proposal, which will come to the Board as part of the budget package in May.

President Purce asked Executive Associate Lee Hoemann to provide an update on the search for Director of Facilities. Ms. Hoemann said that three finalists will interview on campus beginning on January 13. She described the experience of the three finalists. President Purce said that the search committee for the Vice President for Finance and Administration is scheduling phone interviews with ten candidates.

President Purce summarized his recent activities, including an alumni event in Quilcene at the home of Provost emeritus Barbara Smith, a holiday event on campus, a visit with the new president of Grays Harbor College, and a series of visits with editorial boards. President Purce said that he will be meeting with many legislators. He said that he will attend the Association of American Colleges and Universities annual meeting in San Francisco and will attend an alumni event there as well.

Public Comment

Ms. Roloff invited comments from the public.

Mr. Dick Courter spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. He said that the Parkway was designed to serve both the campus and the surrounding community. He said that the majority of users are from the surrounding community and that the Parkway is designated as an arterial. He said that the money designated for the project is intended for maintenance and operations and should not be used to restrict traffic on the Parkway. He said that the college's open house should not be viewed as an adequate opportunity for members of the surrounding community to have input into the design. He asked the board to table any action on Parkway until community members and college officials get together to develop a proposal that mutually benefits both.

Ms. Amy Fortier spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. She said that once road access is lost, it can not be restored. She said that the option of turning jurisdiction of the Parkway over the city or the county should be explored. She said that she opposes spending \$1.6 million to restrict access on an arterial. She asked the Board to not approve the construction contract for the

Parkway and to explore other options. She suggested that the college try cordoning off the lanes that would be removed to assess the impact of the proposal.

Mr. Robert Martindale spoke about Food Services at the college. He said that the college has long had trouble balancing the financial viability of food services with providing quality food services. He read from a report of a Disappearing Task Force that was charged in Fall 2000, which said that a self-operated food service would best meet Evergreen's needs, but recognized that the college would need time to prepare for self-operated food service. Mr. Martindale urged the board to charge a new Disappearing Task Force to specifically examine the option of self operated food services.

Mr. Larry Leveen spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. Mr. Leveen said that he is very impressed with the college's proposed changes and urged the board to support the design. He referred to a successful project at the University of Toronto, where a road was narrowed from four lanes to two, with improved intersections and widened sidewalks and bike lanes. He encouraged the college to commission a short video to document the before and after comparison.

Mr. Jim Lazar spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. Mr. Lazar said that he is the government affairs officer of the Capital Bicycling Club. He said that the club has a long relationship with the college. He said that he supports the proposed changes to the Parkway to address safety and speed problems. He suggested that the rather than a four-foot shoulder on both sides of the roadway, the college consider a six-foot and a two-foot shoulder. He said that in the event that the board's successors decide that traffic warrants a four-lane roadway, that option will be available to them.

Mr. David Copley spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. He said that the process that the college used to propose the changes does a disservice to cyclists and motorists. The school has not addressed some of the major problems brought up in public meetings. He said that the college should adopt a policy requiring a Disappearing Task Force or equivalent to identify all the interests in a project from the beginning of the design process.

Mr. Ed Lamb spoke about the college's proposed changes to the Evergreen Parkway. He said that the Parkway has served the entire community for many years. He said that he is a regular and long-time user of the Parkway and has not been well represented in the project. He said that the college has taken a maintenance and repair project to redesign the Parkway without adequately involving the local community. The Evergreen Parkway is an important outlet for an area with limited outlets. If the project goes forward, it will inspire negative feelings toward the college and will send drivers to other routes, where traffic will increase, requiring more expensive traffic projects.

Adjournment

Ms. Roloff adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Marilee K. Roloff, Chair

Merritt Long, Secretary