

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

**June 15, 2006**

**Trustees Attending:** Deborah Barnett  
Stanley Flemming  
Christopher Hedrick  
Jayne Kaszynski  
David Lamb  
Karen Lane  
Marilee Roloff

Absent: Claudia Kauffman RedMorningStar

**Representatives to the Board:** Bonnie Marie, Alumni Representative  
Laurie Meeker, Faculty Representative

**Staff Present:** Don Bantz, Provost and Vice President for Academics  
John Carmichael, Administrative Assistant to the President/Recording Secretary  
to the Board of Trustees  
Art Costantino, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Lee Hoemann, Executive Associate to the President  
Steve Hunter, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management  
John Hurley, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Tom Mercado, Director of Student Activities  
Rita Pougiales, Academic Dean  
Thomas L. Purce, President  
Paul Smith, Director of Facilities  
Steve Trotter, Executive Director of Operational Planning and Budget

**Others Attending:** Janice King, The Evergreen State College Foundation  
Janis Mercker, The Evergreen State College Foundation  
Bill Stevens, The Evergreen State College Foundation  
Colleen Warren, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Dr. Flemming called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in the Board Room of The Evergreen State College. A quorum was present with Trustees Barnett, Flemming, Hedrick, Kaszynski, Lamb, Lane and Roloff attending. President Purce introduced Senior Assistant Attorney General Colleen Warren, who has been assigned to provide legal counsel to the board.

**Strategic Planning Work Session**

President Purce said that staff would invite members of the community to comment on the draft strategic plan over the summer. The Faculty Agenda Committee will be invited to consider the draft plan in the fall. The staff anticipate presenting a final draft for the board's approval in November.

Provost Don Bantz said that the current draft of the plan incorporates the work of many Disappearing Task Forces and Working Groups, including the Information Technology group, the Sustainability Task Force, the Diversity DTF, the First Year Experience DTF and the Faculty DTF of the whole. In addition, groups working on exempt staff compensation and on conflict resolution have contributed to the plan. The detailed recommendations and work plans produced by each of these groups support the strategic goals identified in the draft plan. In addition, the college will begin developing a new master plan in the next year. Dr. Bantz said that the draft plan attempts to state the college's aspirations, prepare for re-accreditation, indicate fundraising priorities, and guide budget allocations.

Dr. Bantz briefly listed the plan's major goals and invited comments from the board. Dr. Flemming asked that the language about the number of computers on campus be clarified. Mr. Hedrick urged the staff to use the plan's metrics to develop a set of dashboard indicators.

### **Enrollment Update**

Associate Vice President Steve Hunter provided an update on enrollment for fall 2006. He said that the enrollment outlook had not changed much since the update he provided to the board in March. He said that the college has received 230 applications fewer than received at the same time last year, a decline of seven percent. The decline is due to a decrease in applications from in-state students. The state's other public baccalaureate institutions have noted similar declines. Mr. Hunter said that he estimates a drop in enrollment of 150 FTE for the 2006-2007 academic year, which would result in lost tuition revenue of approximately \$750,000. President Purce discussed the college's ability to respond to the revenue shortfall. He said that the college had set aside \$500,000 in its base budget to fund strategic initiatives yet to be specified. The Council of Presidents is proposing that the state return to a funding plan that includes "enrollment bands" that would give institutions more flexibility to manage fluctuations in enrollment.

### **Operating Budget Work Session**

President Purce said that staff are working on developing budget requests for the 2007 legislative session. The college's requests will be presented to the Governor's office and the Higher Education Coordinating Board in the fall. The staff will ask the board to approve the budget requests at the board's July meeting.

Steve Trotter, Executive Director for Operational Planning and Budget, said that the proposed framework for the 2007-2009 operating budget request is very similar to the framework of the request that the board approved for the 2005-2007 biennium. Both frameworks focus on improving quality and funding per student. He said that many of the lines in the budget request affect multiple strategic priorities included in the draft strategic plan. Mr. Trotter summarized the priorities included in the draft request. First priority is full funding for existing authorized cost increases and mandatory rate adjustments. The second priority is providing adequate core funding to fully support current enrollment levels, including improvements in compensation. The third priority would include a modest increase in budgeted enrollment in the second year of the biennium.

Provost Don Bantz highlighted the importance of additional funding for faculty salaries. Mr. Hedrick asked whether the college had considered adjusting the faculty-student ratio to provide additional funding for faculty salaries. Dr. Bantz said that faculty members experience a dramatic increase in workload when the student-faculty ratio shifts from 20:1 toward 25:1. He said that members of the college have begun discussing the idea of providing teaching assistants to assist with workload and reduce the costs of some programs, which could provide resources to improve faculty compensation.

Vice President for Student Affairs Art Costantino said that the proposed funding request for "Student Support and Success" connects clearly to the proposed strategic plan. The request includes support for student recruitment and marketing, additional tuition waiver authority, and enhanced student retention efforts. Executive Associate Lee Hoemann highlighted the request for additional support for integrated marketing, an additional gifts officer, and additional funding for the salary of the Vice President for College Advancement.

### **Services and Activities Fee Allocations**

Director of Student Activities Tom Mercado recalled that last year the Board of Trustees approved a biennial budget for Services and Activities (S&A) Fee Allocations of \$4,858,164. That budget provided two-year funding for the Campus Recreation Center, the Student Activities office, the Campus Children's Center, the *Cooper Point Journal*, KAOS Radio, the Tacoma program and the Reservation-Based program. This year's S&A Board was responsible for distributing funds from the \$100,000 Special Initiatives fund and for reviewing requests from student organizations for 2006-2007 funding. The Board

of Trustees will be asked to approve the S&A Board's proposal for allocations to student organizations for the 2007 fiscal year. S&A Board Chair Maggie Cain described the S&A Board's thirteen-hour deliberation to propose a distribution of \$321,094 to 46 student organizations. Groups funded include the new student government.

### **WashPIRG Fee and Contract**

Mr. Mercado said that Evergreen has had an active chapter of the Washington Public Interest Research Group (WashPIRG) since 1983. As an independent, student-directed non-profit, WashPIRG is required to have a vote of the student body every two years to re-affirm the student fee that supports the organization. According to the college's contract with WashPIRG, 25 percent of students must vote in favor of the fee in order to continue the contract. The vote was held in Winter quarter and the students voted to continue the relationship with WashPIRG for two more years and to increase the fee from six dollars to eight dollars. Mr. Mercado recognized the work of WashPIRG campus coordinator Blair Amundson and Sarah Grimes from the WashPIRG regional office, before introducing Jess Tweedy, an Evergreen student active with the PIRG national organization. Ms. Tweedy introduced David Hornbeck, who will be the WashPIRG Evergreen chapter chair next year. Ms. Tweedy described the chapter's work over the past two years, including leadership development, voter registration, the clean energy fee, hurricane relief, and national student aid issues. Mr. Hornbeck described plans for the next two years, including continued work on voter registration, homelessness, toy safety, hurricane relief, and student debt.

### **CAB Facilities Fee**

Vice President Costantino said that students held a very significant vote in Spring quarter. The vote included the election of representatives to the newly formed student government. The vote also asked students whether they supported a new fee to support the renovation of the College Activities Building (CAB). More than twenty-seven percent of eligible students participated in the vote.

The vote on the CAB fee was in two parts. In the first part, students were asked whether or not they supported a fee. In the second part, they were asked which of three possible fee levels they would prefer. Each proposed fee level was linked to a preliminary design for the renovation. Students could vote on the second part of the question regardless of how they voted on the first part. The majority of students voting approved a fee, and a clear majority approved the highest cost fee of \$5.75 per credit per quarter.

Dr. Costantino said that he has heard concerns from students about how the cost of the fee will affect students. He has also heard concerns about the effort to get out the vote, including some concerns about his own involvement in that effort. He has heard concerns expressed about the fact that ongoing tallies of votes were available during the weeks in which the polls were open. Ms. Kaszynski said that most concerns she heard were about the incentives provided to students for casting ballots. She said that some students believe that the level of support for the fee demonstrated by the vote is less than demonstrated for other fees in previous votes. She heard concerns about actions the student elections commissioner took in response to flyers urging a vote against the fee. Mr. Mercado said that the student elections commissioner removed flyers urging a vote against the fee based on a misunderstanding that led him to apply standards to the flyers that are intended only for flyers produced by official student organizations.

Dr. Costantino distributed information on total cost of attendance at Evergreen as it would be affected by the implementation of the proposed fee. He also provided a comparison of fees at other public institutions for student union buildings, recreation centers and stadiums.

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Hurley described the financial assumptions behind the project budget. Staff believe that the proposed fee will be sufficient to fund the project, depending on the interest rates available when the college sells bonds for the project. The current project plan also relies on a \$4.9 million request for capital funding from the state to pay for critical infrastructure

preservation projects in the building. The financial assumptions used to assess the project budget were conservative and include no assumed enrollment growth over the life of a 20-year bond. Ms. Kaszynski asked what would become of any excess revenue collected. Mr. Hurley said that excess revenue might be used to pay off the bond early or used to finance on-going maintenance and repair in the building. The terms of the bond sale are likely to specify how excess revenue would be used.

### **Capital Project Updates**

Director of Facilities Paul Smith said that Phase I of the Library Building renovation is on schedule to conclude in mid-July. He said the overall budget for the project is in good shape, but the contingency budget will soon be used up. He said that staff would ask the board in July for the authority to use cost savings in other parts of the budget to approve some final change orders to conclude the project.

Mr. Smith said that the design of the Lab I, first floor renovation is moving forward. The college hopes to complete programming on Phase II of the Library Building renovation by the end of the month and move forward with schematic design, which would come to the board for approval in January. He said that construction costs in the region are rising notably. When another public university recently bid a major project, the bids were nearly 25% over budget, in spite of two independent cost estimators reviewing the project before bid. That university will have to re-design and re-bid the project.

### **Capital Budget Request Work Session**

Vice President John Hurley said that the Council of Presidents has completed work on an integrated, prioritized list of capital requests for the baccalaureate institutions. Evergreen's requests for \$4.1 million in minor works preservation and \$930,000 in minor works program projects are both included as top priorities on the list. Among the major program projects included as high priorities are Evergreen's requests for \$4.9 million for the CAB and \$1.7 million to expand the Longhouse. Evergreen's request for \$8.7 million to renovate the Communications Building is lower on the list. Staff will ask the board to approve the whole list at the July meeting.

### **Executive Session**

Dr. Flemming announced that the board would conduct a brief executive session to evaluate the qualifications of candidates for public employment, after which the board would recess for lunch and reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

### **Public Comment**

Dr. Flemming reconvened the board in an open public meeting at 1:34 p.m. in Seminar II, B1107. He opened the meeting for public comment. Ten members of the public signed in and addressed the board about the recent student vote on the proposed CAB Facilities fee: Matt Kreiling, Carolyn Commer, Adam November, Blake Hamann, Laurie McEvers, Evan Hashi, Mikey Moren, Brad Bishop, David Hornbeck, Dan Edelson-Stein and Blair Amundson. Mr. Kreiling and Ms. Commer each presented letters signed by several student representatives.

Comments made by members of the public included the following:

- Improper incentives, including food and gift certificates, were given to students in exchange for voting.
- Phone calls to students to encourage voting constitute harassment and a violation of privacy.
- Literature opposing the fee was mistakenly removed, making the election unfair.
- There has been confusion about the level of participation required to validate the election.
- The controversy surrounding this election may set a negative precedent for future elections.
- Only 15 percent of students voted in favor of the fee, while previous fee proposals have demonstrated higher levels of support.

- People who vote to get a treat may not be well informed about the issues.
- There is a big difference between the requirements of the WashPIRG vote and this vote.
- This is a high fee, which will increase student debt and could affect enrollments in the future.
- The process leading up the vote was highly consultative and those working on the proposal tried to be impartial. Extensive efforts were made to inform students about the vote.
- Information provided to encourage voting in the election was neutral.
- In advance of the election, the elections commissioner invited input on the rules of the election.
- To encourage voting in a past election, people went door-to-door in the residence halls, which seems more intrusive than any of the methods used in this election.
- This election was more impartial and independent than past elections. If the board invalidates this election, it should also invalidate the WashPIRG and student government elections.
- Twenty-five percent participation is the standard that has been used to validate past elections, except for the WashPIRG election, which requires 25 percent voting in favor.
- The 25 percent standard is very difficult to meet. The percentage of students voting in favor of the fee at Evergreen exceeds the percentage of total students voting on most campuses.
- The information distributed to students was not clear and did not make clear that students could reject the fee.
- The proposed CAB fee has considerably less support than any other fee previously approved by students.
- If the CAB vote is invalidated, the student government vote should also be invalidated.
- To invalidate the election would be a slap in the face to all the students who worked on the proposal and the election.
- The student government should be heavily involved in the final design of the building.
- Many students thought that the only way to oppose the fee was by not voting.
- The board should allow the student government to set out elections guidelines before deciding on the validity of this vote.
- The board should invalidate the vote and deny any further support to the project until the student government convenes.
- The college should learn from this election, but the board should not find it invalid.
- The public record on the clean energy fee is in error and should be changed to reflect that more than 25 percent of eligible students voted in favor of the fee.

Dr. Flemming thanked those making comments. He said that the board would consider these comments as it considers future actions.

### **The Evergreen State College Foundation**

Janice King, Chair of The Evergreen State College Foundation's Board of Governors, reported on the Foundation's activities. She was joined by the incoming chair of the Foundation Board, Janis Mercker, and by board member Bill Stevens. Ms. King said that the Foundation began the fiscal year with the departure of the Vice President for College Advancement. Nevertheless, the Foundation was very active and successful over the course of the year. The Foundation has been following up on the Collins Group report and using the Gates Foundation grant to prepare for a future fundraising campaign. The college's new strategic plan will be an important part of that campaign. The Foundation Board has been working with staff to develop case statements and conduct staffing searches, including a search for a new Vice President. Ms. King distributed a brief report on the benchmarks that the Foundation is using to measure its progress. Ms. King said that one of the Foundation's goals this year was to raise \$375,000 for the Annual Fund. More than \$425,000 has been collected to date. New members of the Foundation Board include Ralph Bietz, Sophie Bilezikian and Glen Kriekenbeck.

President Purce, on behalf of the Board of Governors and Board of Trustees, thanked Ms. King for her leadership for the past two years and presented her with a gift.

### **Roofing Contract**

Vice President John Hurley said that the college sought bids to re-roof the Communication Building, the water pump station and the campus garage. He recommended that the board approve the award of the contract to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Roof Toppers, Incorporated.

**Motion**  
**#6-01-06**

Ms. Lane made a motion to:

- Approve a project budget of \$833,880 to re-roof the Communications Building and outbuildings, including architecture and engineering fees, construction contract, sales tax, project management costs and contingency.
- Authorize the award of the construction contract to Roof Toppers Inc. for \$524,114.
- Delegate to the President or his designee the authority to approve change orders for the project as long as the total cost for the project does not exceed the approved project budget.

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Services and Activities Fee Allocations**

Director of Student Activities Tom Mercado introduced Utah Newman who will chair the Services and Activities Fee Allocation Board next year. Mr. Mercado said that the proposed Tier Two budget for 2006-2007 would fund 46 student organizations, provide a \$100,000 Special Initiative Fund, provide funding for salary adjustments in the Campus Children's Center, and modify the assistant advisor position at the *Cooper Point Journal* to allow the paper to go on-line.

**Motion**  
**#6-02-06**

Ms Barnett made a motion to approve the 2006-2007 Services and Activities Tier Two budget as proposed by the Services and Activities Fee Allocation Board, totaling \$321,094. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **WashPIRG Contract and Fee**

Mr. Mercado said that the students approved an extension of the college's contract with WashPIRG to cover the 2006-2008 biennium, including an increase in the WashPIRG fee from six dollars to eight dollars.

**Motion**  
**#6-03-06**

Ms. Kaszynski made a motion to approve the proposed contract between WashPIRG and the college, effective Fall 2006 through Summer 2008. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Minutes**

**Motion**  
**#6-04-06**

Ms. Roloff made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Election of Board Officers**

**Motion**  
**#6-05-06**

Mr. Lamb, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, made a motion to table election of board officers to the next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

### **Report from the Student Trustee**

Ms. Kaszynski said that controversy over the vote on a CAB Facilities Fee is a major issue on campus. She said that representatives to the new student government have been elected. The group had its first meeting and met several campus administrators. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Administration, Dr. Flemming thanked Ms. Kaszynski for her service on the board and presented her with a gift.

### **President's Report**

President Purce invited Bonnie Marie to provide a report as Alumni Representative to the Board. Ms. Marie said that the Alumni Association would be selling flowers and bottled water at graduation and running the Greener Oasis beer garden at Super Saturday. Proceeds will help fund student scholarships. The Alumni Association's annual meeting will be held on Saturday to select new board officers. Scott Pinkston, the Director of Alumni Affairs, is leaving the college for another opportunity.

President Purce invited Laurie Meeker to report as faculty representative to the board. She said that the faculty have elected Brian Walter as the next chair of the faculty Agenda Committee. The outgoing chair, Artee Young, will serve as faculty representative to the Board of Trustees next year. A group of faculty has filed for an election to form a collective bargaining unit affiliated with the United Faculty of Washington State. The faculty Agenda Committee set aside time at the May 31 and June 7 faculty meeting to discuss the issue. The Agenda Committee plans to make more time for discussion in the fall. The election, which will be conducted by mail, will occur between October 9 and October 31. The faculty also discussed the college's Patriot Act policy and got an update on the college's budget outlook.

President Purce asked Vice President Art Costantino to provide an update on Super Saturday plans. Dr. Costantino introduced members of the committee, including Michael Harris, Greg Porter, Janette Parent, Bonnie Marie, Sabine Riggins, Tracey Johnson, Linda Kellogg, and Bill Zaugg.

President Purce asked Provost Don Bantz and Dean Rita Pougiales to report on faculty hiring over the past year. Dean Pougiales introduced Jan Sharkey, the Program Coordinator for Faculty Hiring. Dr. Pougiales said that 16 new full-time faculty were hired, including 11 continuing appointments and five visiting appointments. She said that approximately 1,000 people applied for these sixteen positions. Roughly 50 candidates came to campus for interviews, representing approximately 100 days of interviews.

President Purce summarized his recent activities on behalf of the college and described his schedule over the next month.

### **Nominations for Faculty Emeritus**

Provost Don Bantz on behalf of the faculty recommended that the board confer the title of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on Nancy Allen, Alan Nasser, David Paulson and Paul Sparks.

**Motion #6-6-06** Ms. Lane made a motion to adopt Resolution 2006-06 (attached) conferring the title of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on Nancy Allen. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion #6-7-06** Mr. Lamb made a motion to adopt Resolution 2006-07 (attached) conferring the title of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on Alan Nasser. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion #6-8-06** Ms. Roloff made a motion to adopt Resolution 2006-08 (attached) conferring the title of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on David Paulson. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**Motion** Ms. Barnett made a motion to adopt Resolution 2006-09 (attached) conferring the title

**#6-9-06** of Emeritus Member of the Faculty on Paul Sparks. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Nancy Allen and David Paulson were present at the meeting. Vice President and Provost Don Bantz presented a gift to each of the new emeritus faculty and Dr. Flemming invited the recipients to say a few words. Dean Lee Lyttle gave each emeritus faculty member full library borrowing privileges. Dan Ralph provided each recipient with parking privileges.

**Adjournment**

The board adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

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Stanley L.K. Flemming, D.O., M.A., Chair

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Deborah J. Barnett, Secretary