

**PIERPONT COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
March 15, 2011**

MINUTES

Call to Order

A meeting of the Pierpont Community & Technical College Board of Governors was held on March 15, 2011, beginning at 2:00 PM in the Falcon Center Board Room. Present at the meeting were Board members: Chairman James Griffin, Dixie Copley, Kyle Hamilton, Beverly Jones, CassAndrew Kelly, Earl McConnell, Rick Pruitt, Sharon Shaffer, Tom Stose, and Eugene Weaver. Absent were: Linda Aman and Jeff Tucker. Also present were: President Doreen Larson, and Cyndee Sensibaugh.

Last Call for Public Sign Up

Chairman Griffin announced last call for public sign up for comments to the Board.

Approval of Minutes

Dixie Copley moved that the Minutes of February 15, 2011 Board of Governors Meeting be approved. Tom Stose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Special Recognitions

Chairman Griffin and President Larson recognized and congratulated Paul Schreffler, AVP of Workforce and Economic Development, for his election to the West Virginia High Technology Consortium 2011-2012 Affiliate Leadership Council. This advisory board is comprised of five nominated and five elected representatives tasked with exploring strategies for business development and growth with focus on health insurance, education, workforce development and entrepreneurial programs.

Acknowledgment was also given to the presentation of a framed print from artist John Holyfield in recognition of Pierpont's commitment to the West Virginia Black Heritage Festival. The print will be placed in the Musick Library.

President's Report

Dr. Doreen Larson gave acknowledgement and thanks to Chairman Griffin for his leadership in the community and the dedicated hours he has given to Pierpont. Dr. Larson also introduced Jodi Rust the newest staff member to Workforce Education. Within the first week on the job, Jodi has already traveled to Chicago assisting the Pierpont Pathways team at the Higher Learning Commission with planning for quality improvement projects. Dr. Larson also took a moment to introduce Quentin Johnson, Sr. VP of Enrollment Student Services. Dr. Johnson's bio was presented at the last Board meeting.

Dr. Larson commented on the stability of the WV state budget, which has given way for budget and planning opportunities in higher education. Increased enrollment has provided revenue increases that have provided the ability to add new positions to Pierpont faculty and staff. In looking into the next fiscal year, level funding will provide support to new technology programs. Pierpont will finalize strategic priorities this spring and align the budget with those priorities.

Dr. Larson informed the Board of Pierpont's work in securing funding from numerous grants to begin new programs and engage in new partnerships. The Workforce Education division has received \$450,000 in grant funding this year for Building Performance Institute Training, Green UP Initiatives, and Train the Trainer programs. The Allied Health division received a \$123,000 careers grant and the Business Aviation and Technology division received close to \$100,000 for the Power Plant Technology program.

Applications have been submitted for an additional \$350,000 in Green UP grants to support curriculum redesign and fund a mobile simulator, and for \$300,000 in funding the equipment purchasing for the Mechatronics program. Pierpont is partnering with the Council for Community & Technical College System to apply for grants to support the Mechatronics, and possibly the Health Information Technology programs, under the TAAC3T competitive funding program. Drafts for grants have been made for Nanotechnology, Sustainable Agriculture, and Marcellus Shale extraction, production, and distribution training.

Dr. Larson reported that with development of the strategic priorities, Pierpont is focusing on creating a culture of completion and becoming a flexible institution. In relation to these goals, it has been noted that some students are in need of developmental coursework and for various reasons may encounter difficulties to succeed and enter into college work. Some students take placement tests and score just below the threshold to enroll in college level English. Therefore, Debra Benedetti, faculty member of the Pierpont School of Academic Studies, has developed a "blended" developmental college level English course to provide these "threshold" students with extra time and attention to some basic skills in English and to incorporate time in the Writing and Tutorial Center. This course was offered on an experimental basis in the fall of 2010 and in the spring of 2011. The fall retention rate for this course was 77%, as compared with 52% for the traditional developmental English courses. The retention rate for spring looks to be just as positive. More sections of this course are being planned for the fall.

Dr. Larson stated that she is looking forward to the Inauguration activities scheduled later in the month and informed the Board that Pierpont has received many sponsorships for the events. A billboard on Rt. 250 has been advertising the 5K Race and the race is getting a good response. Dr. Larson noted that she and Jonathan Rider of Rider Pharmacy (race sponsor), will be making a radio commercial to promote the event. The community is becoming involved and is also excited to make the event a community celebration.

Operation Reports

- Leslie Lovett presented the Academic Affairs Report
- Paul Schreffler presented the Center for Workforce Education Report

Financial Report

Dale Bradley provided the report on the Pierpont Community & Technical College Unrestricted and Restricted Funds and Fund Manager Budgets for current budget and year-to-date actual.

Capital Projects Report

Jim Decker informed the Board that four pre-bids for the Aerospace Sprinkler and Foam Fire Suppression project have been received. Eight firms have bid on the Folklife Phase 3 project. The architect for the Turley Center project has been finalized. The Hardway Hall HVAC Unit project is complete.

Committee Reports

- Finance Committee
 - Dale Bradley reported that the Finance Committee met to discuss the Tuition and Fees Increase for Academic Year 2011-2012. Mr. Bradley stated that in developing the budget for FY 2012, there were a few significant expenditure additions that necessitated the need for a tuition increase. Three possible scenarios were presented to the Committee showing figures based on both an increase and no increase. It was unanimously decided by the Committee to set the tuition rate at an increase of 1.98%, or \$34.00, per semester for CTC Residents and at 1.99%, or \$84, per semester for CTC Non-residents.

Also addressed were the Fairmont State University (FSU) residence halls, meal plans, and apartment rate fees increase for Pierpont students under the Separation of Assets and Liabilities Agreement. It is anticipated that the FSU BOG will approve an increase ranging from 2.95% to 3.00% for AY 2011-2012. Pierpont students using these specific facilities will pay the same rate as FSU students. Should the FSU BOG take any other action than what has been anticipated for this increase, a report will be presented to the Pierpont BOG.
 - A motion to accept the proposed Tuition and Fees Increase for Academic Year 2011-2012 was presented by Kyle Hamilton and seconded by Dixie Copley. Motion carried.

- Off Campus Operations Committee
 - No report
- Marketing Committee
 - No report

New Business

Dr. Larson was proud to present “Pierpont Pride” an alma mater that she had commissioned through Alan B. Kirsh, Kenneth L. Kirsh, and Kristy L. Kirsh to pen the lyrics and score, as a gift to the College. Board member Earl W. McConnell volunteered his services to assist with the arrangement. Dr. Larson wished to unveil the alma mater at the inauguration ceremony as Pierpont’s new official alma mater. Copies of “Pierpont Pride” were provided to the Board, while Dr. Larson gave a vocal demonstration.

Dixie Copley moved that the commissioned alma mater “Pierpont Pride” be accepted as Pierpont’s alma mater and be unveiled at the inauguration ceremony. Tom Stose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

There being no further business the Board meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM. The next Board of Governors Meeting will be held on April 19, 2011 at 2:00 PM in the Falcon Center Board Room.