

**MEETING OF THE
EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

August 11, 2016

Minutes

The External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College held a meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2016, at the HCC Administration Building, Second Floor Auditorium, 3100 Main, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Neeta Sane, Committee Chair
Eva Loreda, Committee Member
Adriana Tamez, Committee Member
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, Alternate Member
Zeph Capo
John P. Hansen
Dave Wilson

ADMINISTRATION

Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor
Melissa Gonzalez, Chief of Staff
Valerie Simpson for Ashley Smith, General Counsel
Teri Zamora, Senior Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration
Kimberly Beatty, Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services, Chief Academic Officer
Athos Brewer, Vice Chancellor, Student Services
William Carter, Associate Vice Chancellor, Information Technology
Madeline Burillo, President, Southwest College
Margaret Ford Fisher, President, Northeast College
William Harmon, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Phillip Nicotera, President, Coleman College
Irene Porcarello, President, Southeast College
Janet May, Chief Human Resources Officer
Terrence Corrigan, Director, Internal Audit
Carme Williams, Executive Director, HCC Foundation
Remmele Young, Associate Vice Chancellor, Governmental and External Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT

Melissa Mihalick, Board Counsel, Bracewell LLP
David White, President, Faculty Senate
Other administrators, citizens, and representatives from the news media

Mrs. Sane, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters pertaining to Houston Community College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Capo, Evans-Shabazz, Hansen, Loredo, Sane, Tamez, and Wilson)

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

APPROVE PROPOSED 85TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Motion: Dr. Tamez motioned and Ms. Loredo seconded.

Dr. Maldonado apprised the recommendation is to approve the Proposed 85th Texas Legislative Session Legislative Initiative and noted Remmele Young would provide an overview of the proposed legislative agenda.

Mr. Young provided an overview to include the following:

- Proposed Legislative Initiatives
 - Financial Aid and Workforce
 - Transfer and Articulation
 - Dual Credit
 - Measuring and Funding Success
- Performance Goal Domain Alignment
- Projected Initiative Pursuit Timeline
- 60x30TX Plan Goals
- HCC Legislative Initiatives Alignment to 60x30TX Plan Strategic Goals
- HCC State Appropriations
- HCC Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR)
- HCC Delegation Session Activities

Mrs. Sane inquired if any specific campus will be listed in the LAR. Dr. Maldonado noted pro-active advising and the two squared program are across the entire system. He appraised that there is consideration of adding a bachelor's degree in nursing and another engineering program on the two square. He asked Ms. Zamora to provide an overview of the campus specifics listed in the LAR. Mrs. Zamora apprised funds are for salaries regarding campus openings in the next biennium, which are the last three CIP projects to include Fraga, Coleman, and Central opening in 2018.

(Mr. Wilson stepped out at 12:14 p.m.)

Dr. Maldonado noted there was a methodology used to establish the dollar amount linked to those locations. Mr. Capo inquired if it was based on contact hours. Mrs. Zamora noted the facilities funding request was based on contact hours.

Dr. Hansen inquired what is expected to be accomplished at the next session as distinguished of what needs to be accomplished. Mr. Young apprised the proposal is based on areas where there is anticipated influence. Dr. Maldonado noted there is a high expectation of influencing the items listed; however, it may be too early to determine or measure the anticipated outcome

(Mr. Wilson returned at 12:20 p.m.)

Dr. Hansen noted he is not familiar with historical discussions regarding the awarding of bachelor degrees. He noted concern for the potential of taking the college away from its core mission. He added the UT-Tyler model is workable.

(Dr. Evans-Shabazz stepped out at 12:21 p.m.)

Dr. Maldonado noted the college would use a 2+2 model regarding the awarding of bachelor degrees.

Mrs. Sane inquired if there has been any indication of funding allocation for fixing rigor. Dr. Maldonado noted rigor is not a funding issue but a matter of applying and doing a better job at making certain dual credit courses are taught at the college level syllabi and not the high school level. He noted the college has adjuncts teaching the dual credit courses.

(Dr. Evans-Shabazz returned at 12:24 p.m.)

Dr. Maldonado noted the Commissioner is supportive in seeking funding for advising, which is the first exceptional request on the LAR.

Mr. Capo noted the rigor discussion is always the most interesting. He noted there should be objectivity maintained and age appropriateness included in the discussions and the voice from all levels need to be inclusive.

Dr. Hansen inquired how the discrepancies are being addressed between the high school students being required to follow the state's TEKS requirement and the required college syllabi. Dr. Maldonado noted efforts are being considered with both TEA and THECB Commissioners since there are conflicting objectives and constraints.

Ms. Loreda inquired about the student/advisor ratio and if faculty can serve as advisors Dr. Maldonado noted the ratio is 683 students per advisor. He noted the college is addressing areas of improvement as opposed to waiting on the state. He noted the faculty is also asked to assist in advising the students.

Mrs. Sane inquired if faculty needs to be compensated to take on the additional workload of advising students. Dr. Beatty noted advising is part of the faculty workload contract.

Mr. Capo inquired if there is a difference between advising provided by faculty versus academic advisors. Dr. Beatty explained the faculty workload is a very protected process to maintain, but faculty can support through different levels of engagement.

(Dr. Tamez stepped out at 12:36 p.m.)

Mr. Capo noted it would be helpful to be provided with a stair step sequencing on what to focus on for the 85th Legislation and what is the next logical sequence of the 86th Legislation. Dr. Maldonado noted a briefing session with the trustees will be held prior to visits to the Legislative session. He noted there will be some bills that will arise during the session, and the Board will be asked to assist.

Mr. Capo requested an analysis of the unintended consequences and a briefing on the bill mentioned to discuss when meeting with the House author of the bill.

Ms. Loreda asked if the Texas School Board works with the THECB regarding the upcoming dual credit. Dr. Maldonado noted there is dialogue between the two agencies.

Mr. Wilson noted there should be a unified voice when going to the legislature, and no one should be speaking from an individual standpoint.

Mrs. Sane inquired if it would be possible to comprise a delegation consisting of members for ISDs, community college and universities.

(Dr. Tamez returned at 12:44 p.m.)

Ms. Sane concurred with Mr. Capo and Mr. Wilson in being unified and speaking as one voice at the Legislature.

Dr. Hansen pointed out TASB hosts a day in February for all ISD Board of Trustees to attend. Dr. Maldonado noted there is a designated day for Community College and its members as well as a HCC day. Mrs. Sane inquired why the days are not in alignment with the school districts and other College Board trustees.

Dr. Maldonado noted that at the local basis, he would reach out to the area superintendents to discuss common interests and concerns. He noted that at the statewide level, the discussion should come from the two trustee organizations.

Dr. Tamez requested the dates be added to the Board calendar. Dr. Maldonado noted the schedule is preliminary and noted the dates are subject according to availability of the legislature.

Dr. Tamez recommended a document be provided for the Trustees to have regarding the LAR. Mrs. Sane requested an executive summary of the LAR.

Vote: Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved: September 22, 2016