STUDY SESSION

Vice President for Administrative Services Daryl Campbell introduced Cima Malek-Aslani (schacht | aslani architects) and David Van Skike (Land Use Planner) who provided information on an Addendum, a Compliance Document and the Long-Range Development Plan (LRDP) Student Housing Amendment. Vice President Campbell informed the Trustees that the Board would take action on the LRDP during its Regular Session.

President Lambert informed the Board that in addition to the next steps with the City of Shoreline, he is hopeful that the Ground Lease related to the Student Housing Project can go in front of the State Board by May 2013. President Lambert anticipates that the Ground Lease would be brought to the College’s Trustees for approval at its April 2013 Regular Meeting.

In response to a question from Chair Barrett, Vice President Campbell noted that there are plans to hold another public meeting specifically related to the Student Housing Project which will provide concerned citizens a venue in which to respond. He added that another opportunity for public comment will take place when the City of Shoreline moves through its processes (City of Shoreline recommendation → Planning Council → City Council).

The Trustees expressed concern about the traffic impacts during the construction phase and once the Student Housing Project is complete. In addition, the Trustees asked that security concerns and pedestrian safety are planned for well in advance of the opening of the Student Housing Project.

CONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Shoreline Community College District Number Seven was called to order by Chair Barrett at 4:04 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building at Shoreline Community College.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Trustees Phil Barrett, Shoubee Liaw, Roger Olstad and Gidget Terpstra were present.

Assistant Attorney General Cheryl Bateman represented the Office of the Attorney General.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Barrett asked the Board to consider approval of the Consent Agenda.

On the agenda for approval:
• One set of minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 23, 2013
• One set of minutes from the Special Meeting of January 29-30, 2013

Motion 13:02: A motion was made by Trustee Liaw to approve the consent agenda.

Trustee Terpstra seconded the motion.

Chair Barrett inquired if the calendars were aligned with other colleges. Professor Amy Kinsel explained the parameters under which the calendars are developed and added that attempts were made in the past to align the College Calendars with the calendars of other colleges and that it was “impossible to do.”

The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

REPORT: BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR

While attending the TACTC (Trustees Association of Community and Technical Colleges) Legislative Contact Conference, Chair Barrett had an opportunity to speak with a number of Legislators. “While there is tremendous support for the Community and Technical Colleges, the state’s budget does not look good going forward and there are many tough decisions that we are going to have to make. We have to examine everything in the scope of the environment in order to serve the College as best we can.”

President Lambert added that if the “State funds McCleary,” most or all of the colleges will face a 25% cut for the biennium.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

Representing the Faculty Senate, Professor and Faculty Senate President Terry Taylor spoke of the countless volunteer hours put in by Faculty to advance the endeavors of the College including the Virtual College and Internationalization initiatives as well as Faculty involvement in unfinanced support activities (participation in scholarly organizations; publishing; presenting research). He noted that despite dedicated service, Faculty has not received cost of living increases and step increases and that Professional Development Funds barely cover the cost of a single regional conference. Professor Taylor closed by stating that the Faculty has made significant financial concessions and that while the President boasts about budget surpluses in part created by the concessions, “we are being told that we cannot afford sabbaticals.” “This is about the academic quality of our institutions. Lip service is no longer enough.”
Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Nirmala Savage shared elements of her sabbatical proposal including the development of an online class to increase student retention and participation in an online Music Theory class to “make me a better online instructor.”

Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Brooke Zimmers used the metaphor of mountain climbing as a parallel to teaching and sabbaticals. While conveying her understanding of the budget constraints, she expressed concern about “losing out on quality if we can’t have breaks.” Professor Zimmers stated that all of the sabbatical proposals submitted were student centered and hoped that the recommendation on sabbaticals could be suspended.

Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Rachel David spoke of the thorough vetting of sabbatical proposals via the Sabbatical Selection Committee noting, “All will be innovative.” She added, “The budget issue is complicated and uncertain. Setting budgets is about setting priorities.” Professor David spoke of the very low morale on campus and expressed, “It feels like we aren’t valued, based on the decisions made by the decision makers on campus” and wondered about the last time the campus had a climate check.

Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Tim Payne spoke of teaching his students about the weighing of pros and cons via cost-benefit analysis. He stated, “We talk a lot of the cost of things. We don’t talk about the benefits. Students see coming here as an investment.” Professor Payne expressed disappointment at the recommendation from the Administration to not approve the 2013 – 2014 sabbaticals and wondered if the Administration looked at the costs without looking at the benefits. He spoke of the sabbaticals as a “way to innovate” and expressed hope that support for sabbaticals could come from the Innovation Fund. Professor Payne closed by noting that the Faculty has not put sabbatical proposals forward for two years and requested that the decision on sabbaticals be delayed by month in order for the Board to hear from others by allowing “others in the room.” He asked the Board, “Will you allow us to be in room?”

Chair Barrett stated that he appreciated what Professor Payne was saying and noted that the Board could only respond yes or no and not get into a dialogue as “it is the way in which we are chartered.”

Student Ned Volkstorf recommended that the Board take another month and look at more sources of information before rendering a decision on the sabbaticals.

Student Alessandro Banducci conveyed that he has learned a lot in Professor Payne’s Economics class and credited Professor Payne’s experience of “going out into the world” as a large contributor to his strength as a teacher. He noted that sabbaticals “help the Board’s human capital.”

Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Neal Vasishth conveyed that he has been supporting the College’s initiatives of Virtualization and Internationalization through his work and noted, “In order to do our work well requires the time that a sabbatical leave provides.” He
referred to the rationale to not recommend sabbaticals for 2013 – 2014 as a “virtual crisis,” not a “real crisis” and added that the possible 25% biennial cut mentioned by President Lambert is hypothetical and “should be based on facts.” Professor Vasishth shared the sentiment of speakers before him and asked the Board to wait before making a decision about sabbaticals.

Student Keith Pardee acknowledged, “This is a difficult position for the Board to be in.” He asked if the Board could hold off on making a decision for a month to see how things pan out from a budgetary standpoint.

Professor and 2013 – 2014 Sabbatical Applicant Tony Doupé stated that as a result of collaborating with the City of Shoreline, a Film Office, has come to fruition—“something that is bigger than me.” He noted that while he has been getting many phone calls from filmmakers, he acknowledged that the work tied to the Film Office “is taking so much of my time” and that his “students aren’t getting out what they should be from me.” This led to his applying for a sabbatical. Professor Doupé spoke of the universal theme of “Students First” in relation to the sabbatical proposals.

Referencing his twenty-one years at the College, Professor Gary Parks noted that he has had a lot of experience with “this Administration” and communicated that he was not at all surprised by “this latest act by President Lambert and the Administration.” He added that the President does not authentically respect Faculty and through his actions, shows that “he is more aligned with the right wing agenda” by using financial problems to open up access to corporate interests. Professor Parks spoke of Managers who do not include Faculty and Staff in decision making. He closed by speaking of the Administration’s repeated use of scare tactics and the agreement with the Administration to not put forward sabbatical proposals for the past two years and expressed his displeasure that President Lambert had essentially “extended the agreement” by not recommending that the Board approve sabbaticals for the next academic year.

International Education Executive Director Diana Sampson introduced Zhao Xie, State of Washington Confucius Institute Instructor and Visiting Scholar from Chengdu, China. Instructor Zhao stated that she will be teaching Chinese and is looking forward to working with everyone.

**ACTION: FACULTY SABBATICAL PROPOSALS (2013-2014)**

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs James Jansen referred to TAB 3 (FACULTY LEAVES, 2013-2014) containing the following: Background; Recommendation; Economic Conditions; and Conclusion. He stated that the Administration is very aware of the value of sabbaticals. Vice President Jansen spoke of the indications from the Federal and State levels and the general welfare of the College as a whole which led to President Lambert and the Senior Executive Team having to make the very painful decision that the College not fund Faculty Sabbaticals for 2013 – 2014. He added that he would like to channel the Faculty who applied for sabbaticals, to the Innovation Fund.
Chair Barrett inquired about whether or not action on the sabbaticals could be delayed.

President Lambert stated that during a conversation with Federation President Amy Kinsel, a request for an extension was not put forward. He added that he is not sure if there will be clarity in a month and is considering other options, including vetting some of the sabbatical proposals through the Innovation Fund. President Lambert spoke of being tired of laying off employees and would rather keep employees than proceed with layoffs.

Chair Barrett communicated that it is not the role of the Board to facilitate negotiations and noted, “I feel that a vote at this time is premature.” He spoke of agreeing with the sabbatical concept and added, “As a Trustee, I have the authority to say yes or no.” Chair Barrett stated that he understood President Lambert’s concerns as well as the concerns of those “who came to the podium” and asked that everyone work together.

After spending forty years as a Faculty member, Trustee Olstad expressed that he cares about the College, the students and the Faculty. In response to a question from Trustee Olstad, the Board was informed that eight sabbatical leave proposals were put forward and would cost approximately $150,000.00 - $180,000.00 to fund.

Trustee Olstad then concurred that a one month postponement would not make a difference. President Lambert mentioned that there were three FTE Faculty positions that were identified for layoffs previously and foregoing sabbaticals would help in preserving the positions. Trustee Olstad requested that it would be helpful for the Board to see the data related to sabbaticals versus layoffs.

Trustee Liaw expressed that she did not appreciate the “attacks on the President” and communicated that she wanted to “hear solutions, what we can do and how we are going to do it.”

Chair Barrett called on Federation President Amy Kinsel to read a prepared statement. In essence, the statement conveyed the merits of the sabbatical proposals, the value of sabbaticals and taking issue with the Administration’s interpretation regarding the identification of the three specific positions. Furthermore, Federation President Kinsel referred to the reduction of fourteen Faculty lines over the past several years and expressed that from a Faculty perspective, “the Administration does not place Faculty needs as a priority.” She added that Faculty members continue to “give and give” and urged the Board to approve the sabbatical proposals and concluded by stating that the Faculty is willing to work with the Administration to fund Faculty Professional Development.

Motion 13:03: A motion was made by Trustee Liaw to approve President Lambert’s and the Senior Executive Team’s recommendation that the College not fund Faculty Sabbaticals for 2013 – 2014.
Trustee Terpstra seconded the motion.

Trustee Olstad communicated that he would vote no on the motion as he felt there should be a piece tied to the Administration and Faculty working out a proposal for alternate funding and requested that a second motion be put forward. Trustee Liaw stated that she would put forward a second motion related to looking at proposals tied to innovation.

Trustee Liaw reread the TAB 3 (FACULTY LEAVES, 2013-2014) Recommendation: President Lee Lambert and the Senior Executive Team (SET) recommended that the college not fund faculty sabbaticals for 2013-2014. The Board then took action on Motion 13:03:

Trustees Barrett, Liaw and Terpstra: Aye
Trustee Olstad: Nay
Motion passed.

Motion 13:04: A motion was made by Trustee Liaw for the Administration and Faculty to work out a proposal for alternative funding utilizing the Innovation Reserve and potential grant monies to fund projects that address innovation.

Trustee Olstad seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued related to the operational aspects of an Innovation Reserve. This led to President Lambert reminding the Board that it had granted him authority to open the “Innovation Fund.” He added that the Board did not necessarily need a motion in order for the Administration and the Faculty to work out a proposal.

Chair Barrett expressed that he wanted to show that the Board believes in sabbaticals and the value of sabbaticals and to reflect the Board’s sentiment that it is in support of sabbaticals.

Motion 13:05: A motion was made by Trustee Liaw to withdraw her previous motion.

Chair Barrett seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

ACTION: LONG-RANGE DEVELOPMENT (LRDP) STUDENT HOUSING AMENDMENT

Vice President for Administrative Services Daryl Campbell provided an overview of TAB 4 (Long-Range Development Plan (LRDP) Student Housing Amendment) and read the recommendation as denoted on the TAB.
Motion 13:06: A motion was made by Trustee Olstad to approve the Long-Range Development Plan.

Trustee Terpstra seconded the motion

The Trustees commended the work between the College and the City of Shoreline in moving the Student Housing Project forward.

The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

REPORT (BMR): PROGRESS OF INDICATOR REVIEW/EVALUATION FEEDBACK

Director of Institutional Assessment/Data Management Joe Duggan provided an overview of the Board Monitoring Report on Progress of Indicator Review/Evaluation Feedback. Due to a recommendation contained in the evaluation report from the NWCCU (Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities) that the College revises its “indicators to ensure they are meaningful and are connected with aspirational thresholds,” work has commenced to review the College’s indicators. Director Duggan stated that there are currently ninety-three indicators and that the goal is to reduce the number of indicators to twenty.

President Lambert explained that the colleges have been moving toward a new accreditation model under the NWCCU and that clarity surrounding the new model will come into play as more colleges go through the accreditation process. Part of the Board’s role in the revisions to the indicators will involve how the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) align with the College’s Core Themes. President Lambert suggested that the Board hold a mini retreat in the Spring to review and discuss the KPIs and Core Themes.

REPORT: HONORS PROGRAM

Dean Bob Francis gave an overview of the Shoreline Community College Honors Program that was started via a “seed grant” in the amount of $25,000.00 to “bring to the forefront, the idea of critical thinking and communication.” He commended the Program as a “non-traditional, cutting edge Program” and expressed his appreciation for the Lead Instructors for “giving of their time freely”—Professors Amy Kinsel, Kira Wennstrom, Brooke Zimmers, Terry Taylor, Claire Murata, Diana Knauf and Steve Bogart.

In response to questions from the Trustees, Dean Francis confirmed that the Program is made up of both Transfer and Professional-Technical students and that there are approximately twenty-one to twenty-two students in the Program each year that “move through as a cohort.”

Professors Brooke Zimmers and Diana Knauf shared student and graduate successes and provided examples of the rigor and intellectual stimulation of the Program. They spoke of how amazing it is to watch the transformation of students in the Program.
REPORT: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Special Assistant to the President for External Affairs McKinzie Strait distributed and provided an overview of a document containing information on Federal Updates; Reauthorization Bills; Pell Grants; and a Washington State Legislature Mid-Session Update.

Special Assistant Strait shared that representatives from the College were asked to provide testimony “in Olympia” on the Automotive Program and that Representative Kagi is modeling a TANF Program after the College’s CEO Program.

REPORT: GRANTS UPDATE

Special Assistant to the President for Grants and Contracts Brandon Rogers distributed and provided an overview of spreadsheet entitled Shoreline Community College Grant Development Report February 25, 2013. He noted that “Shoreline Community College is known for putting forward innovative ideas” and pointed out that there are a number of grants currently “in the pipeline.” Special Assistant Rogers added, “Foreign governments are investing in U.S. community colleges and we are well positioned to get there.”

REPORT: SCC FACULTY

Professor Amy Kinsel testified in favor of step increases for Faculty and noted that the “bill passed out of the House.”

In regard to the sabbatical proposals, Professor Kinsel spoke of the formula contained in the Faculty Contract in determining the number of sabbatical proposals that the Sabbatical Selection Committee (an elected committee) puts forth.

Faculty will soon have access to a new advising portal that will include early academic warnings.

The January 31st Lockdown revealed that the campus is in need to training on how to handle emergencies.

The Canvas Retreat was attended by twenty-one Full-Time and Part-Time Faculty. Professor Kinsel stated that the retreat was very good and helped with morale.

REPORT: SCC CLASSIFIED

Instructional Support Technician Jerry Owens went to Olympia on Lobby Day and had an opportunity to meet with Senator Frockt. He spoke of the number of Legislators whom he had to educate about the WFSE (Washington Federation of State Employees) and its contract.
He communicated that the Classified Staff is appreciative of the steps that the Administration is taking to address the issues resulting from the Lockdown.

Campus Reorganization is a hot issue and the Classified Staff Union has been working with the Human Resources Office and the Administration about potential impacts to Classified Staff.

REPORT: SCC STUDENT BODY ASSOCIATION

Student Body Association President (SBA President) Kanpong Thaweesuk shared that eighteen student attended the rally in Olympia and that he and others had an opportunity to meet with Senator Frockt’s staff and Representative Kagi’s staff.

Five students won awards at a recent DECA Competition and competed against individuals and teams from four-year colleges and universities.

The Student Parliament has approved three students to go to Baltimore for an Energy Conference. SBA President Thaweesuk noted that requests for funding via the SS&A (Student Services & Activities) Budget, has increased. He added that there has also been an increase in requests for subsidized bus passes via the SCOF (Sustainable Commuter Options Fee).

In closing, SBA President Thaweesuk conveyed that he understands the College’s budget situation. He communicated how great the Faculty at SCC is by passionately doing work outside of class too and that he has been personally mentored by Faculty. He also noted that Staff and Administrators contribute as well.

REPORT: SCC PRESIDENT

President Lambert stated that he was heartened to read the sabbatical proposals and that all of the proposals were connected to Internationalization and/or the Virtual College. He indicated that he believes there is an avenue through which some of the projects could be done. In addition, he spoke of the divestment in the public education system, the way Higher Education is funded in the State of Washington and how colleges are forced to adapt.

High School enrollment continues to decline nationwide and with Shoreline Community College having only two feeder High Schools, the impact is amplified.

On the international front, connections with groups, educational institutions and organizations (Morocco, China, India, Saudi Arabia) continue to move forward.

There are reports about the completion rates of online students. In some instances, there are reports that state 90% of online students “are not completing.” An analysis of the College’s data shows “that we are nowhere near this.”
President Lambert closed his report by calling the January 31st Lockdown, a test incident and an opportunity for the College to work on the vulnerabilities that were exposed as a result. He announced that Robin Blacksmith will be returning to campus and her previous position as the Director of Safety and Security.

REPORT: CLOSING REMARKS – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair Barrett thanked President Lambert for his measured responses tied to the sentiments of discontent expressed about the recommendation to not approve sabbaticals.

Trustee Olstad distributed an editorial from Science magazine entitled They Never Saw It Coming which speaks of the profound changes impacting Higher Education as it has other industries.

Trustee Liaw recommended the following of Senator Tom’s bill related to retirement plans for state employees forty-five years old and younger.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Barrett adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Signed ________________________________
Phil Barrett, Chair

Attest: March 20, 2013

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Lori Y. Yonemitsu, Secretary