

**BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

December 15, 2008

Carver Administration Building (#2)  
Cocoa Campus

**PRESENT:** Mr. James Theriac, Chair; Mrs. Alberta Wilson, Vice-Chair; Mr. Stephen Charpentier;  
Mr. C. R. "Rick" McCotter III; Mrs. Dixie Sansom (arrived at 9:15 a.m.);  
Dr. James A. Drake, Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. James Theriac, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Theriac opened the meeting with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

**II. APPROVAL OF OFFICIAL MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

A. Minutes – Board of Trustees Meeting – September 18, 2008 (Addendum)

Mrs. Wilson moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 18, 2008. Mr. Charpentier seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Theriac, Wilson; opposed: none. Motion unanimously approved.

**III. PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. Report on Dual Enrollment for 2007-08**

Dr. Drake introduced Ms. Lynn Demetriades, BCC Dual Enrollment Program Coordinator, who provided a report on the Dual Enrollment Program, and discussed the benefits of the program for students, including exposure to the College environment and academic expectations, concurrent high school and college credit, and exemption of dual-enrolled students from BCC tuition and fees. In her report to the Board, Ms. Demetriades also commented that for public school students, the Brevard County School system provides textbooks free-of-charge, and the number of college credits that the student earns toward graduation is not subtracted from their Bright Futures eligibility, thereby enabling them to pursue double majors if they elect to do so. Parents and students are encouraged to carefully consider the choice to dual enroll because of the rigor of the program, and also because the grades these students earn at Brevard Community College become part of their permanent college-level record.

Ms. Demetriades also discussed the substantial benefit of dual enrollment to the College, and reported that BCC has generated a far higher FTE than any other community college in the state. In response to a question from Mr. McCotter, Ms. Demetriades stated that she attributes this to the leadership of both the College and the Brevard County School Board, and to the support of the BCC Board of Trustees. In addition, the College maintains a solid relationship with the school district, and has opened all BCC courses to dual-enrolled high school students, in contrast to other Florida state colleges which limit the availability of courses.

Ms. Demetriades noted that Advanced Placement (AP) classes also affect dual enrollment, and that the College may lose some dual-enrolled students to AP classes; but the majority of Brevard County residents is quite familiar with dual enrollment, according to Ms. Demetriades, and hence is aware that the grade received in a dual-enrollment course is the grade that will appear on the student's college transcript, whereas AP credits are awarded only if the student passes the AP examination.

Dr. Astrab commented that the advising and admissions resources that have been provided by the College also contribute to the high level of dual enrollment. Other districts may not provide this same level of commitment and resources.

*(Mrs. Sansom joined the meeting.)*

Mr. Charpentier noted that, overall, dual-enrolled students achieve good grades and are very successful. Ms. Demetriades responded that the College closely monitors the progress of dual-enrolled students. Early alerts are provided for students who may be having trouble, and the high school is notified if a problem arises. The withdrawal rate is only 2% for dual-enrollment participants annually. Ms. Demetriades added that dual enrolled students can take academic as well as vocational/technical courses.

Ms. Demetriades addressed future challenges for the dual enrollment program, including the increased graduation requirements for Brevard County Public School students. This may affect the manner in which high school and college credit is calculated.

Also, last year the school district spent \$250,000 for textbooks for dual-enrolled students. The Spring Term 2009 is the first semester that the school district will not pay for one-time use items, such as electronic access codes, which are primarily used in online courses, but may be adopted for use in regular classes in the future.

Ms. Demetriades referred to the Implementation of the Statement of Standards, and discussed that the College will need to be vigilant in ensuring that the level of instruction is appropriate for the dual enrollment program.

In response to a question from Mrs. Wilson, Ms. Demetriades stated that orientation is held three times per year and is held at each campus.

Mrs. Sansom noted that home-schooled students represent a significant number of the dual enrolled population, and do very well in the program.

Mrs. Wilson expressed concern that Dr. DiPatri's successor will have the same enthusiasm for dual enrollment. Mrs. Sansom suggested that the trustees consider taking formal action to reaffirm the College's support of the program and the cooperation between the College and the Brevard Public School system.

Ms. Demetriades thanked Dr. Drake and the Board for their leadership and support of the program.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Dr. Drake provided an overview of each item on the consent agenda.

A. Approval of November Monthly Summary of Income and Expenditures (Addendum)

Dr. Drake stated that this is a routine agenda item, and noted that both Mr. Cherry and Mr. Richey are available to answer any questions Board members may have.

B. Approval of Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree upon Robert A. (Al) Glover

Dr. Drake stated that the Board's approval is requested to confer the Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree on Robert A. (Al) Glover. Dr. Drake noted that Mr. Glover was nominated by two trustees to receive this honor. Dr. Willis Holcombe, Chancellor of Florida Community Colleges, confirmed to Dr. Drake that the awarding of honorary doctoral degrees is not at all uncommon among Florida community colleges, and that as a matter of protocol the Board of Trustees usually review and approve honorary-degree candidates. Dr. Drake stated that this honorary degree, if approved, will be the first time in the last fifteen years that Brevard Community College has conferred an honorary doctoral degree.

C. Approval of Corporate Name and Identification of DSO as "The Maxwell C. King Center for the Performing Arts of Brevard Community College"

Dr. Drake stated that this a legal clarification, and will only affect the corporate name of the Center. Dr. Drake added that the proposed corporate name change reflects the intentions of the administration and Board of Trustees to identify the King Center for the Performing Arts as a BCC entity.

D. Proposed Facilities Usage Fees for 2009 (Addendum)

Florida Statutes require that the Board of Trustees approve the fees charged for the use of the College's facilities. Dr. Drake added that the College has recently received requests for office space from state legislators, and noted that these officials have secured other locations for their offices.

E. Architectural Contract for Classroom Building Renovation, Melbourne Campus (Addendum)

Dr. Drake stated that this a routine request, and noted that both Mr. Richey and Dr. Paradise are available to answer any questions the Board may have.

F. Approval of Telephone System Upgrade (Addendum)

Dr. Drake explained that this is primarily a telecommunications upgrade that will enhance the College's safety and security services by enabling immediate communications with students, faculty and staff in cases of emergency. Due to the total cost of the upgrade, Board approval is required for this proposed upgrade.

G. Approval of DSO Governing Board Nominees

Dr. Drake apprised the Board of the recommendations for nominees for the governing boards of each of the College's Direct Support Organizations. Dr. Drake commented that the Board of Trustees has the authority to approve these appointments.

The following new members have been recommended by the Foundation Board of Governors for three-year terms: Mr. Robert Herman, Mrs. Ambika Ravindran Palaniyandi, Mr. Kevin Pruett, and Mr. William Taylor.

These new members have been recommended by the Maxwell C. King Center for the Performing Arts Board: Dr. Richard Di Patri, Mr. Peter Foley, Mr. Mike Means, Mr. Tom Molnar, and Mr. Sandy Sanderson.

The Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse Board has proposed the following new governing-board members: Ms. Susie Wasdin, Mr. Alan Boggs, Mr. Robert Anderson, Jr., Ms. Charlotte Houser and Mr. Tom Hermanson. An additional six members will be recommended to the Board at a later date.

H. Approval of Construction Contract for Replacement of Central Cooling Towers, Cocoa Campus (Addendum)

Dr. Drake stated that this is a budgeted item that requires Board approval due to the dollar amount of the request.

Ms. Sansom requested that Item B on the Consent Agenda be removed for further discussion. Mr. Theriac stated that he would also like to further discuss the use of College facilities.

Mrs. Sansom made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A and C through H. Mr. McCotter seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Sansom, Theriac, Wilson; opposed: none. Motion unanimously approved.

Mrs. Sansom discussed that she would like for the Board of Trustees to consider awarding an honorary doctoral degree to Mr. Bernie Simpkins, benefactor and former trustee, in addition to Mr. Al Glover. In response to an inquiry from Mrs. Wilson, Dr. Drake stated although no formal processes are specified in the College's current governance documents, in past years the College administration initiated prior contact with honorary-degree nominees before their names were submitted to the Board of Trustees for their review and approval. In the instance of Mr. Glover, two trustees independently suggested that he should be awarded an honorary doctoral degree, after which the College administration contacted Mr. Glover to inform him of his nomination.

Mr. Theriac suggested that Dr. Drake discuss this honor with Mr. Simpkins before the Board is asked to approve a motion. Board members agreed on the merits of Mr. Simpkins and would like to include this item on the agenda for the next Board meeting, after Dr. Drake has had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Simpkins. Mr. Charpentier noted that such a process will establish a precedent for future nominations or recommendations. Dr. Drake added that Mr. Simpkins has recently consented to the College's proposal to name the auditorium of the Simpkins Fine Arts Center in memory of his daughter, the late Jan Simpkins Jakubcin, when the renovated building is re-opened.

In response to a question from Mr. Charpentier, Dr. Drake clarified that the next commencement ceremonies will take place in May 2009. Mr. Charpentier reiterated, and Dr. Drake confirmed, that Mr. Glover would be the sole honorary-degree recipient at the upcoming Fall 2008 commencement.

Mrs. Sansom moved approval of Item IV.B. Mr. Charpentier seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Sansom, Theriac, Wilson; opposed: none. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Theriac commented upon the recent requests for use of College facilities by legislative officials, and suggested that the Board consider a policy to restrict the assignment of spaces in College-owned facilities to academic instruction, which is consistent with the mission of the institution. In response to a question from Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Theriac stated that although the assignment and utilization of office space in College-owned facilities may benefit a state legislator by reducing or forgoing rental charges for the space, the benefit to the College is not only less definable but may also create the perception of a conflict of interest on the part of the legislator and/or the College. Mrs. Wilson expressed concern for creating a precedent that may become burdensome and/or may compromise the academic priorities of the College.

Mrs. Sansom stated that a number of Florida community colleges currently provide office spaces to legislators, and cited examples demonstrating a current precedent in the state for legislators to utilize office space in state higher-education facilities free of charge because both entities (i.e., the College and the Legislature) are state agencies. Mrs. Sansom urged that providing office space to legislators on a BCC campus would provide greater access to the legislators by students and by the public at large, and would also expose the legislators to the personnel, programs and initiatives of the College. Mrs. Sansom reiterated her desire for the College administration to consider individual requests from elected officials only for the use of office space, provided that such space is available.

Mr. McCotter suggested that the College maintain flexibility with regard to use of its facilities, and reminded the Board that College facilities currently support childcare and the YMCA, which are not directly related to instruction.

Dr. Drake requested clarification that the Board, not the administration, would reserve the right to consider and approve or disapprove individual requests from legislators for the use of space in College-owned facilities. In response, the trustees confirmed that the Board, rather than the administration, should consider and decide such requests.

Mr. McCotter made a motion that requests for the use of space on College property for other than direct educational purposes, must come before the Board for review and approval. Mrs. Sansom seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Sansom, Theriac, Wilson; opposed: none. Motion unanimously approved.

Mrs. Sansom suggested that the College invite the members of the Brevard Legislative Delegation to meet with the Board of Trustees during the month of January, prior to the legislative session. Board members concurred, and the administration was asked to coordinate arrangements for this meeting in concert with the leadership of the Board. Mrs. Sansom reported that the Chair of the Legislative Delegation, Rep. Ralph Poppell, has offered the assistance of his staff in coordinating this meeting.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**VI. CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT:**

None.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule for 2009**

Dr. Drake stated that the annual meeting schedule of the Board was not finalized at the September meeting. At the time, the Board had considered meeting every other month. Dr. Drake commented that it would remain feasible to schedule Board meetings every month, in addition to which the governance manual of the Board provides a mechanism for the Board leadership to call a special meeting whenever necessary.

Board members discussed the benefits of a regularly scheduled monthly meeting, and the option to cancel meetings or call additional meetings, if necessary. Mrs. Wilson stated her preference for regularly scheduled meetings every other month.

Mrs. Sansom made a motion to schedule eleven regular Board meetings per year. Mr. McCotter seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Sansom, Theriac; opposed: Wilson. Motion approved.

Dr. Drake recalled that the Board agreed to accommodate faculty attendance at Board meetings where possible, and also to hold a regularly scheduled Board meeting on each of the BCC campuses at least once per year.

Mr. McCotter suggested that the Provosts and the Deans be encouraged to attend the meetings of the Board, as it provides an opportunity for them (i.e., the Provosts and Deans) to have a first-hand knowledge of the issues that the Board and administration are addressing, and also contributes to a healthy organizational culture.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

A. YMCA

Mr. McCotter commented on the successful partnership between the College and the YMCA on the Cocoa Campus, and its inception approximately five years ago when the YMCA facility required substantial renovations. In response to a question from Mr. McCotter, Mr. Cherry confirmed that the College has subsidized the operations of the YMCA in the amount of \$85,000 per year. Mr. McCotter requested a report of the administration concerning the BCC-YMCA partnership, to include an analysis of the financial status of the partnership. In response to a question from Dr. Drake, Mr. McCotter suggested that it may not be necessary at this point to include YMCA officials at the presentation of this report. Mr. McCotter further requested that the College provide to Board members, via e-mail today, the terms of the College's obligation to the YMCA as set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement which the Board and the YMCA had negotiated and jointly approved.

**IX. FINANCIAL ACTIONS:**

None.

**X. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

A. Pilot Program

Dr. Drake reported that the Commissioner of Education has approved a pilot initiative for the Brevard County School District and Brevard Community College to study the effectiveness of the American College Test (ACT) as a potential alternative to the College Placement Test (CPT) for students. Dr. Drake expressed gratitude to Dr. Eric Smith, Florida Commissioner of Education, Chancellor Holcombe, and especially Superintendent Richard Di Patri for making this opportunity possible for the College and the school district.

B. Miscellaneous

Dr. Drake reported that the College will be challenged by the anticipated decrease in state funding for the coming year. The College will hopefully continue to set record enrollments; the spring enrollment projections are indicating continued growth. Dr. Drake additionally reported that to date seven hundred and ninety-six (796) students have applied for the textbook scholarship, and that two hundred and forty-eight (248) students will each be awarded a \$300 textbook scholarship. Dr. Drake added that documented financial need is the primary criterion for the awarding of the textbook scholarships.

Mrs. Sansom thanked Dr. Drake for his personal contribution to the creation of the textbook scholarships for students, and expressed the Board's concern for the financial hardships faced by college students.

Mrs. Wilson inquired if the College will continue to promote this type of assistance for the students. Mr. Flint, BCC Foundation CEO/Executive Director, responded that this form of assistance is being promoted by the BCC Foundation to the members of its governing board, and in turn the board members are promoting it to their constituencies. Mr. Flint additionally reported that the first-time BCC Golf Ball generated \$108,000 in scholarship revenue; that approximately \$45,000 has been received for scholarships in honor of Fred Gay, for whom the new BCC Golf Academy is named; and that various individuals have made donations to the College following Dr. Drake's example of personal generosity.

Dr. Drake added that CNN will televise a segment on the textbook scholarship during the last week of December.

Dr. Drake reported that the College will collaborate with the leadership of the BCC faculty to increase enrollment and retention. Dr. Drake also reported that the Faculty Liaison Committee, in partnership with the administration and the UFF, has developed a survey for full-time faculty to determine the College's challenges and priorities from the perspective of individual faculty members. Dr. Drake suggested that after the responses to the survey have been analyzed by the Liaison Committee and the College administration, the Board of Trustees should consider inviting the members of the Faculty Liaison Committee to present and discuss the results of the survey.

Dr. Drake also provided general updates concerning the King Center for the Performing Arts and the Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse.

Mrs. Sansom summarized the position of the Board with regard to the College's and the Brevard County School District's commitment to dual enrollment.

Mrs. Sansom made a motion for the Board to submit a resolution to the School Board reiterating the College's support for dual enrollment and early admissions. Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion: Charpentier, McCotter, Sansom, Theriac, Wilson; opposed: none. Motion unanimously approved.

Dr. Drake offered to meet with the Board leadership to discuss the language and content of the resolution.

Mrs. Sansom also requested that future agendas for Board of Trustees meetings include an item for reports from individual trustees.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, District Board of Trustees

**ATTESTED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, District Board of Trustees