

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

*For the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College on **Monday, March 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 614** on the College campus, 4400 Route 23 Hudson, New York.*

*The following matters were submitted for consideration and action.*

**Present:** Peter O'Hara, Chairman; Ed Bloomer, Doreen Davis, Kelly Konsul, Maryanne Lee, Charlie Millar, Susan Timan, and Chloe VanWagner, Student Trustee

**Excused:** Ned Schneier

**Others Present:** Carlee Drummer, President; Amanda Bishop, Vice President for Administration and Finance/CFO; Victoria Walsh, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs; and Lori Mashaw, Senior Associate for Academic Affairs

**1. Call to Order, 3:51 pm**

**2. Roll Call, quorum present**

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Request for Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Ms. Lee; **Seconded:** Ms. Davis

**Vote:** Yes - 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution: Accepted**

**5. Request for Approval of the Items in the Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** Ms. Konsul; **Seconded:** Ms. Timan

**Vote:** Yes - 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution: Accepted**

**6. Introduction of Guests and Items from the Floor**

**7. Resolution**

Resolution No. 0325-2288 Approve the Discontinuance of the Sports Management A.S. Program

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College must be advised of all curricula to be discontinued at this institution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Curriculum Committee, the Faculty Council, and Board of Trustees have examined the factors leading to the proposed discontinuance of the Sports Management A.S. Degree Program; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College supports the discontinuation of this program and submission of this request to SUNY.

**Motion:** Ms. Konsul; Seconded: Ms. Davis

**Vote:** Yes – 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution: Accepted**

Dr. Walsh said that the Sports Management Degree is being discontinued. It will become a concentration within the Business Degree.

## **8. President's Report**

**President, Dr. Carlee Drummer:**

### **Enrollment**

Enrollment is up four percent.

### **Kudos**

Congratulations to Trustee Susan Timan for being named to the Albany Business Review's "40 under 40" list.

Student Trustee and Student Senate Vice President Chloe VanWagner and Student Senator Jayden Cross will be receiving the 2025 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. This recognition is the highest honor given to a student by SUNY. It acknowledges students for outstanding achievements that have demonstrated the integration of SUNY excellence within many aspects of their lives.

Congratulations to Mel Bruschetti who is the permanent Director of Security and Facilities.

## **2026 State Budget**

The Senate and Assembly released their respective versions known as the One House Bills. For Community Colleges both the Senate and Assembly support the Governor's recommendation to maintain the funding floor. The Assembly added \$30 million for additional operating expenses and the Senate added \$9 million for additional operating expenses.

The Free Community College for Adult Learners is in high demand fields, the Senate accepted the \$28 million proposed by the Governor and asked that Agricultural and Technical Colleges be included. The Assembly rejected the \$28 million proposed and added \$99.8 million for the New York College Access Program to cover tuition for associate degree seeking students at Community Colleges and Agricultural and Technical Colleges. The Assembly and House believe that the "high demand" field requirement is too restrictive with putting an age around it (25-55). We could help with the LPN program or other Allied Health related healthcare industry. Electric Vehicle Certification for green jobs would fall in that category through our Automotive Program.

**College in the High School**

President Drummer and Provost Walsh have been visiting all the superintendents with in-person visits and how the college can help serve their high schools. They have met with Superintendents from Germantown, Chatham, and Catskill. This week they will visit Greenville, Cairo-Durham, and Coxsackie-Athens.

The President's Circle Brunch to celebrate donors to our Foundation will be on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Hudson River Bank and Trust Foundation Dining Hall.

The Admissions Open House will be Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

The commencement will be on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Our guest speaker is Josh Sager, SUNY CFO and C-GCC Alum.

**9. Trustees Report****Student Trustee, Chloe VanWagner:****Programming Updates**

Attendance at events continues to trend up this semester. A hypnotist visited campus and attracted over 40 attendees to his show. On March 20<sup>th</sup>, Student Engagement will partner with the Gaming Club to put on a board game event hour in the student cafeteria. Student Engagement has also partnered with the Registrar's office for a "50 days to Commencement" tabling event that will take place at the same time.

**Career Fair**

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Student Engagement will host a Law Enforcement & Military Career Fair in the Gymnasium. Surrounding colleges and high schools have been invited to send their students to join us for this exciting networking event!

**Campusgroups**

Student Engagement is currently piloting the Campusgroups app with our Student Senate. Feedback so far has been very positive.

**10. Vice President and Provost Reports****a. Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, Dr. Victoria Walsh: Enrollment Update**

We are consolidating the Spring enrollment now that we have completed the CITHS enrollment. We are seeing some positive trends with spring enrollment since we redesigned our enrollment program. Our first time students are up 32.5% which is good testament to the work Dean Phelps and her team are doing. In addition, Continuing Students is up 3% and returning students is up 2%.

We have been given a \$50,00 grant to support our adult learners. Thank you to Dean Phelps and Dean Ledoux for contributing to the grant narrative. This will allow us to do more concentrated market research into the adult learner market in the two counties and develop some strategic marketing around attracting that population to Columbia-Greene. This grant was the maximum amount issued.

Dean Powell has had some nursing simulation consultations on campus. She is very involved in the redesign of our simulation center. We have about half a million dollars from the SUNY Transformation Fund which has been given to Dean Powell to update our nursing simulation space.

**Prison Education Program:**

The strike by the correctional officers has caused significant disruption across the State to our educational provision. Right now, we are not teaching in the facilities. We are concerned about the students who are ready for graduation. We hope to get into both facilities to complete the semester. We have not been able to teach since about week three. Students have had some contact with the instructors. We had to let then Middle States Commission for Higher Education, and the US Department of Education know where we are at.

All the students have been packaged in terms of their financial aid. We have obligations to teach the students or ensure that the financial aid is returned.

We have some options available to us:

We can create a 21-week semester, which will allow us to complete the courses the students started. The longer we go without being able to teach in the facility, the more time we will need for distance learning. It is not a big issue with Greene Correctional, however it is at Green Haven. We have to navigate both facilities in different ways.

What we have decided to do: create a 21-week semester to see if we can get these students through their taught program. We know the drop-dead date that we can no longer hold out hope for them to complete. If that is the case, we will have to consider one of the other options which will result in a loss of revenue for the College and the students not finishing for this semester. If they pick up next semester it could affect their TAP because they are not completing a course this semester. The Academic Team, Student Affairs Team, Financial Aid Office, and Bursars Office are working to keep track of the situation.

When we get back into the facilities, we will have to see what students are still within our program or if they can be moved to another facility and engaged in another program. We are working closely with State and Federal Partners as well as our creditors and Department of Corrections to navigate this situation the best we can for the students.

**b. Vice President of Administration and Finance/CFO, Amanda Bishop:**

Vice President Bishop presented her Finance Reports during the Finance Committee Meeting, which was held prior to this board meeting.

**11. Announcement of the Monthly April 2025 Meeting**

Monday, April 21, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

**12. Public Comment**

**13. Executive Session**

To discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

**Motion:** Ms. Davis; **Seconded:** Mr. Bloomer

**Vote:** Yes - 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution:** Accepted

**Entered Executive Session at: 4:14 pm**

**Motion:** Ms. Konsul; **Seconded:** Ms. Timan

**Vote:** Yes - 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution:** Accepted

**Exited Executive Sessions at: 5:38 pm**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Mr. Millar; **Seconded:** Mr. Bloomer

**Vote:** Yes - 8; No - 0; Abstention(s) - 0

**Resolution Accepted**

**Adjournment at: 5:39 pm**

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*Peter O'Hara*

Peter O'Hara  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

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*Lori Mashaw*

Lori Mashaw  
Senior Associate to Academic Affairs

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

**March 17, 2025**

**Approval of the Minutes of February 24, 2025, Board Meeting**

**Operating Warrant Approval:**

Warrant No. 02-25, Operating Warrant