

BOARD MEETING

*For the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College on **Monday, May 19, 2025, at 3:30 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, Charlie Millar, Ned Schneier, Susan Timan, and Chloe VanWagner, Student Trustee

Excused: Maryanne Lee

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 Mary Garafalo, Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustee

1. Call to Order, 3:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call, quorum present

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Request for Approval of Agenda

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

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

Resolution: Accepted

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

Motion: Mr. Millar; **Seconded:** Ms. Konsul

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

Resolution: Accepted

6. Introduction of Guests and Items from the Floor

7. Moment of Silence

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8. Presentations:

a. Update ATD – Meredith Hatch, Director, Network Relations (via Zoom)

With the joining of ATD in 2021, C-GCC has had many accomplishments with this partnership.

The support of ATD Coaching and Network Support, they have been able to identify and remove barriers to enrollment and completions. They have helped with improving internal processes. Also, assisted in increasing student support through new technologies, such as AI.

C-GCC has been able to launch a GED testing site on campus, expanded the ELL and non-degree program. We have also established the Center for Innovation, Teaching, and Learning. Also, we are building relationships with mid-size and small employers to better understand and respond to workforce needs.

ATD helps transform higher education through research, advocacy, partnerships, empowering college leaders to redesign systems that support their efforts.

With the assistance of ATD, they can assist community college to identify and remove barriers to enrollment and completions. Also, they can assist improving internal processes.

ATD will assist in deepening employer engagement and workforce barriers.

C-GCC has recently been honored as a Leader College. With this honor, C-GCC is nationally being recognized for demonstrating steady improvement for student success outcomes.

b. *Initial review of the Nursing and Allied Health Division – Dean (Dr.) Latasha Powell*

Dr. Dean Powell explained to the board of the concerns of the Nursing Program and what changes will be forthcoming.

Currently C-GCC Inlex exams is 82.69%, which the U.S. average being 90.63% and NYS at 87.7%

Dr. Powell action plan is to engage our students and have them on campus to have the optimal learning experience. Also, ensuring content is updated regularly to correlate with evidence-based practice.

We will also be bringing technology into the clinical labs. We will have implementation of dosage calculation program, promote an interactive hands-on environment in the lab area, We will be providing open lab opportunities for the students to be able to work with professors 1:1 and practice with their peers.

We want to spend more time in the hospitals – getting there when the shifts begin at 7am, for the reality of this career.

We have expanded clinical practice locations to: The Pines at Catskill, SPHS (St. Peter's Health Partners), and Ellis Medicine.

The consistency of the changing in the RN program will be across the board for Allied Health. We will have an increase in the number of RN acceptance in the future and will be working on an evening cohort.

President Drummer thanked Dr. Powell for the many challenges she has overcome since her starting in January.

9. President's Report

President, Carlee Drummer:

Columbia-Greene celebrated students with a series of activities that culminated in Commencement on May 10.

PTK Scholars and CASE Recipients

The College applauds this year's Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Academic Team Scholars and the Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence winners who were celebrated during special ceremonies at Empire State Plaza in Albany on April 29.

The 2025 PTK Scholars are **Tanisha Loheit** and **Keely Massey**, and the Chancellor's Awardees are **Jayden Cross** and **Student Trustee Chloe VanWagner**. The Chancellor's

Awards for Student Excellence are the highest honors bestowed on students by SUNY – and this is the first time that two students have been recognized in many years!

Also, **Jayden Cross** has been named a TOP 5IVE Changemaker in the Capital District Region. He will be honored this coming Friday at a formal awards ceremony at The Wire in Coxsackie hosted by *The Columbia Paper*, *Greenville Pioneer*, and *Ravena News-Herald*.

Nurses' Pinning Ceremony

On May 6, the College hosted the annual Nurses' Pinning Ceremony, a rite of passage dating to Florence Nightengale that celebrated 43 Columbia-Greene graduates who are pursuing this noble profession. The event coincided with National Nurses' Week, a tradition started in 1974 that salutes the millions of registered nurses in the United States "who embody the spirit of compassion and care in every health care setting".

Commencement

The 55th Annual Commencement ceremony on May 10 honored 254 graduates and featured Columbia-Greene alumnus Josh Sager, the Chief Financial Officer for the SUNY System, who delivered the keynote address.

Tiny House Ribbon Cutting

On May 6, Building Construction Technology hosted a ribbon cutting for an 8' x 30' Tiny House, the largest structure to be constructed so far by Construction Tech students. **Mark Gustavson** and **Nancy Nosiglia**, who purchased the Tiny House for \$49,000, attended the festivities and expressed their appreciation to the students.

Hudson Children's Book Festival

For the first time, Columbia-Greene was the venue for the annual Hudson Children's Book Festival. More than 2,000 people attended the event to check out the magnitude of books available for children and young adults and take advantage of the opportunity to meet the nearly 80 authors and illustrators scattered throughout the Gymnasium and the Dining Hall. Many thanks to Mary Garafalo and Andy Baker who spent countless hours helping the organizers relocate this treasured tradition to the College.

Environmental Bio Blitz

This past Friday, an Environmental Bio Blitz enticed students to learn about a degree in environmental science that provides preparation for careers in forestry, land management, water treatment, wildlife conservation, and more! Staged at the newly renovated Environmental Field Station, the event offered conversations with faculty as well as experts and professionals from a wide range of environmental agencies.

State of the University Address

On Wednesday, Chancellor King will deliver his State of the University Address. Part of the event will be the 2025 Campus Showcase highlighting how SUNY provides pathways to employment and upward mobility. Columbia-Greene will be displaying a Chicken Coop constructed by Building Construction students this past year.

State Budget Updates

Governor Hochul's final \$254 billion budget passed last week earmarks \$47 million for the new SUNY Reconnect initiative and \$8 million in additional funding for the community colleges.

Forty Under Forty Reprise

Congratulations to Trustee Susan Timan for being in *Albany Business Review* includes a special supplement showcasing the 2025 Class of Forty Under Forty.

10. Trustees Report

Student Trustee, Chloe VanWagner:

The Engagement Office piloted “Speed Mentoring,” an event in the Career Services space featuring a mix of mentors from our campus community as well as outside partners. This event was successful, with 40+ students participating and the event going overtime!

The Office of Engagement purchased a table at the MHA of Columbia-Greene fundraiser “Dinner to die for” event. Students got dressed up and participated in a thrilling evening, at which they were recognized by the emcee for their philanthropy. The cost of the table meant \$1,050 was donated to Columbia and Greene counties where the funds will benefit children, families and individuals.

The Engagement office continued with programming events up until 3 days prior to Commencement, concluding the semester with a visit from a petting zoo and student-led BYE BYE BINGO.

The Engagement office launched our first ever big trip: Six Flags New England – 40 students attended this all expenses paid trip and it was a resounding success!

The Engagement office will continue to engage our student body throughout the summer intercession with communications about fall planning.

Five cultural events were selected and presented to the student body to begin the trips planning for the fall term. So far the one drawing the most attention is the Vampire Circus which is a new traveling act inspired by Count Dracula.

A student engagement sharepoint page will be built out this summer. This will give our campus community a centralized location to access things like an events calendar.

Engagement from our student body continued to trend strongly. For the first time our Student Senate had multiple candidates competing for the roles of President and Vice President. Additionally, the opportunity to be the student speaker at Commencement attracted 5 finalists. At Commencement, we were proud to have 5 student volunteers helping out.

Senate built and confirmed the 25-26 student activity fee budget for co-curricular programming and initiatives.

Mackenzie Campbell will be the next Student Trustee. She is hoping to join us in June before taking on the roll for the next academic year.

11. Vice President and Provost Reports

a. Vice President for Administration and Finance/CFO, Amanda Bishop:

Cash disbursements for the month of April totaled \$1.52 million. The cash balance as of April 1st stood at \$6.3 million, with an ending balance of \$6.1 million as of April 30th.

Total bank account balances reflect this change, showing a net decrease of \$225,000 from March's balance of \$6.3 million.

On a year-over-year basis, revenues have increased by \$1.37 million, while expenses have risen by \$1 million.

The annual audit is nearing completion, and we anticipate the auditors will present their findings at the June or August board meeting.

b. Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Victoria Walsh:

Provost Walsh informed the board of the SUNY Reconnect Program which is SUNY's free community college program for adult learners ages 25 to 55. We currently have 5 programs which are eligible for this program.

Currently the programs of Nursing and Automotive are full for the Fall semester.

Per the presentation from Dr. Dean Powell, we are finding way to increase the capacity for the Nursing Program.

Provost Walsh is looking forward to continuing to keep the board informed of any concerns to our current academic programs.

Trustee Millar had a concern of the prison program, but Provost Walsh assured him that the prison program is stabilized and will continue to run until June.

12. Announcement of the Monthly June 2025 Meeting

Monday, June 16, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

13. Public Comment

14. 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: Seconded:

Vote: Yes ; No; Abstention(s)

Resolution: Accepted; Rejected, Tabled

Entered Executive Session at:

Resolution:

Resolution #0525-2291 Appointing of President of Columbia-Greene Community College

It was moved by Trustee Doreen Davis that a particular individual be appointed as President of Columbia Greene Community College. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ned Schneier.

Trustees voted as follows:

Trustee	Vote
Ed Bloomer	Yes
Doreen Davis	Yes
Kelly Konsul	Yes
Maryanne Lee	Absent

Charles Millar	Yes
Peter O'Hara	Yes
Edward Schneier	Yes
Susan Timan	Yes
Chloe VanWagner	Yes

Motion: Ms. Davis; Seconded: Mr. Bloomer

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

Resolution: Accepted, Rejected, Tabled

Exited Executive Sessions at: 4:41 p.m.

Resolution:

Resolution #0525-2290 Approval of President Benefits Agreement

Motion: Mr. Millar; Seconded: Ms. Konsul

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

Resolution: Accepted

Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. Millar; Seconded: Mr. Schneier

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

Resolution Accepted

Adjournment at: 5:37 p.m.

Peter O'Hara

Peter O'Hara

Chairman of the Board

Mary E. Garafalo

Mary E. Garafalo

Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees

CONSENT AGENDA

May 19, 2025

Approval of the Minutes of April 21, 2025, Board Meeting

Operating Warrant Approval:

Warrant No. 04-25, Operating Warrant