

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of Alpena Community College met for a regular meeting on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, on the College campus.

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: John Briggs, Marc Ferguson, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Florence Stibitz, and Thomas Townsend.

Present at the Board Table: Appointed Trustee Teresa Duncan; Board Secretary Elizabeth Spragg and College President Dr. Olin Joynton.

Seating of New Trustee

Secretary Spragg swore in new Trustee Teresa Duncan to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Judith Grenkowicz.

Approval of January 20, 2011, Regular Proceedings

The January 20, 2011, proceedings were approved as distributed.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Guests: The following guests signed the register: Crystal Nelson, *The Alpena News*; Dr. Mark Curtis, ACC; Katherine Meharg, ACC staff; Jamie Miller, Student Leadership Commission; Lindsey Miller, Student Leadership Commission; Lesslee Dort, Northwood University; Brendan Fleishans, ACC staff; Don MacMaster, ACC staff; Tom Ludwig, ACC staff; Heather Stutzman, Alpena High School; Lisa Rosenbeck, ACC staff; Peter Eastwood, ACC staff; Dick Sutherland, ACC staff.

Communication(s)

There were no communications or public comment.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

There were no Board member reports or subcommittee reports.

Faculty Report

Automotive Service instructor Peter Eastwood reported on behalf of the faculty.

Student Report

Jamie and Lindsey Miller, both members of the Student Leadership Commission, were present to report on the activities of the Commission.

### President's Report

The President's Report follows as it was presented.

#### 1. Michigan Works Alumnus Award for Brendan Fleishans

Learning Technology Technician Brendan Fleishans is present this evening to tell about being recognized as a 2011 Outstanding Michigan Works! Alumnus. Brendan is also an ACC graduate who went on directly to Northwood for completion of his bachelor's degree, while working for Omni Metalcraft's information technology department and also serving frequently as an ACC Community Education class instructor. He came on staff at ACC last fall to assist students and instructors with ACC's growing complement of online courses and on-the-ground courses that are supported by our Blackboard learning content management system.

Vice President Dick Sutherland, Director of Learning Technology Jeff Blumenthal, and I were privileged to attend the presentation of the award to Brendan on January 25 in Lansing, where State Representative Peter Pettalia and State Senator John Moolenaar gave speeches in tribute and several regional representatives of Michigan Works! were also present.

#### 2. Report from Sustainability Champions

Don MacMaster and Tom Ludwig, Sustainability Champions for the College, were present to discuss work that has been done to date on sustainability projects.

### General

- Membership in Project Sustainability Education and Economic Development (SEED) Center, the national sustainability initiative of the American Association of Community Colleges.

### Curriculum and Instruction

- Application submitted for a \$200,000 National Science Foundation Advanced Technical Education proposal to study CO2 sequestration and efflorescence in concrete masonry units. Status: April funding decision.
- Application in progress for a \$2 million Title III, Part A ("Strengthening Institutions") US Department of Education grant. Status: June deadline, September funding decision.
- Application in progress for a \$2.5 million Trade Adjustment Act Community College Career Training (TAACCCT) grant from the Employment and Training Administration of the US Department of Labor. Status: April 21 deadline, June funding decision.

| Deliverables                           | Key Partners                            |
|--|---|
| Biofuels Technician Training           | American Process Inc. Biorefinery (DPI) |
| Concrete Studies online                | Besser Company, Lafarge Alpena Plant    |
| Green Building AAS degree              | National Homebuilder's Association      |
| Energy Technician Certificate          | Alpena Power, Wolverine Energy          |
| Maritime Technology Degree (AA or AAS) | Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary   |

- Discussion led by Office of Instruction on a three-credit course in sustainability as a general education offering.
- Visit to Milwaukee Area Technical College in January to look at its nationally-recognized sustainability programs. Planning in progress to attend MATC's green energy summit March 9-12.

### Physical Plant

- Lighting improvements (World Center for Concrete Technology, Besser Technical Center, Newport Center, Van Lare Hall, parking lots).
- Heating and cooling projects (Besser Technical Center, Van Lare Hall, World Center for Concrete Technology and Electrical Power Technology Center extension, Natural Resource Center).
- Reductions in water usage (faucet aerators, irrigation system).
- Green custodial products.

### 3. National Endowment for the Humanities Grant for CC Faculty Shipwreck Study

ACC staff members have been working closely with counterparts at Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary to prepare for two weeks of training on shipwrecks for two 25-member cohorts of community college faculty from around the country during the last two weeks of July. At last count we have 36 applications in progress, with a March 1 application deadline. So much of the focus over the last month has been recruitment of participants. The workshops are supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities Landmark grant program for American history and culture, with the end goal of enriching the preparation of instructors for their teaching in the future on site-based topics.

### 4. Election in Posen School District for Joining ACC District

This week Board Secretary Lee Spragg, with the assistance of General Counsel Karen Bennett, completed in a timely manner all ACC legal responsibilities for Posen School District electors to respond on May 3 to two ballot measures – one to join the ACC District and the other to be taxed at the 2.5 mill rate. The most recent events have included securing approval of Michigan Superintendent of Public Education Mike Flanagan and delivery of his letter, along with other documents, to the secretary of the Posen School Board.

Planning for ongoing communication with Posen electors has continued with a committee directed by ACC Foundation Trustee Dave Nadolsky. Posen resident and Volunteer Center Director Kathleen Bruski has performed many services as point person in the community for this effort, including a robust schedule of community education offerings throughout Presque Isle County. Vice Presidents Mark Curtis and Dick Sutherland are developing a plan of upgraded service for Posen students supported by new revenue if the measures pass. Director of Marketing/Public Information Jay Walterreit has produced the attached flyer.

5. Letter from Greg Adamus (used by permission)

Dear Family and Friends,

Well, here I am on day 168 in China, with 142 to go. The Year of the Tiger has just passed, and we are just entering the Year of the Rabbit. I thought I'd write a short general update of my experiences so far.

5 months in, I've survived a monsoon, complete with torrential flooding, blackouts and food shortages; snake bites, pickpockets and motorcycle crashes; several earthquakes and accompanying tsunami warnings; a category 5 typhoon; and a nuclear-tinged missile shelling between North and South Korea. Other than those minor distractions, everything's just peachy keen here!

Seriously, I am having the experience of a lifetime, and every day brings a new adventure and challenge. During the Chilean mining rescue, someone asked, "Does the situation make the man, or does the man make the situation?" Here, I have found the answer to be more of the latter, and that's where all of YOU come in. I am bringing to bear everything I have garnered from all of you during my lifetime to survive this odyssey. I thank all of you for equipping me with the summation of all the positive influences gained by my relationships with all of you, because I use those life skills every minute of every day here.

I must start with the teaching. It's been a thrill. I have 5 classes of 40 students each. I teach conversational English to college freshmen. I have a new level of respect for any Foreign Language teacher I've ever known. It's tough enough to teach a foreign language, but it's twice as hard when you the teacher cannot speak the native language. Imagine my predicament: every time I teach a new word, I can only use English words that the class already knows to define it! Suffice it to say, I use a lot of pantomime, object pointing, facial expression, and voice inflection. The students are very patient and kind with me, and we laugh and learn between high fives and hugs. One last thing: I have been super blessed to be saved by an excellent textbook series from the UK. All my lesson plans are laid out in the teacher's edition, and I basically stay one or two pages ahead of the class. Anyone who loves teaching, no matter what his/her major or minor, can do what I'm doing. The secret to success is not really so much the content of the course, or my knowledge of grammar and syntax. It's more about building relationships, establishing trust and supplying encouragement. Chinese students are highly motivated to learn English. It's their ticket to prosperity. They continue to exceed my academic expectations, and complain only when I go too slowly.

My fellow foreign staff members here are an incredibly rich part of my experience. I have befriended people from the UK, Australia, France, Germany, Russia, Japan, The Philippines, the Koreas, and Africa. To adequately describe the depth to which my colleagues have contributed to my success and survival here would fill a book. We all live in apartments on campus, and we share meals, movies, medicine, poker, smokes, walks, lectures, and umbrellas. We all have each other's backs, and we stand united on any and all issues involving our personal treatment and our academic integrity.

Hainan is just like Hawaii. Wenchang City is scrappy and wild. Haikou is twice the size of Detroit, with twice its fortunes and troubles. Sanya is a mini Las Vegas. Shanghai is three NYC's rolled into one. The beaches here are incredible. The food here is beyond healthy, and mystifyingly diverse. The black market is a wonderful riot of commerce, and the shopping malls rival anything stateside. What don't I like? There's no tennis, and no live music, anywhere. Facebook and Google are blocked. All water has to be boiled. Secularism, misogyny and collectivism rule the day. However, these negatives are totally outweighed by the omnipresent positive, bottom-line fact: the Chinese people are kind and generous to all westerners, they are fascinated by us, and they want nothing more than to learn from us.

I'll close for now with this: please pay close attention to what just happened in Egypt during the last 14 days. China is watching the unfolding of this so-far peaceful revolution with a very nervous eye. Many people here are already saying that the Egyptian Revolution will end up serving as a precursor to the entire political/social theme of the 21st century, just the way the Russian one did for the 20th, and the American and French ones three centuries ago. China fully understands that it shares shocking similarities with the ingredients that brought the Egyptian Revolution into being: issues like autocracy, a ridiculous gap between rich and poor, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, cultural westernization, pollution and collapsed infrastructure, suppression of competing ideologies, cronyism and corruption - to name a few. Most importantly, it was the technological catalyst for change that fueled the possibility for Egypt's revolution even at all possible in the first place: primarily social media, and to a lesser but significant extent, satellite broadcasting. That's what bought the genie out of the bottle. In all these respects, Egypt is but a microcosm of China. My hope is that when the next Tiananmen Square happens - and it's inevitable it will - the rulers of China who will have to handle it will take a positive lesson from what's happening right now in Egypt.

I aim to return to Michigan in late June (via Hawaii, where I plan to visit my son James for a bit) and will immediately start to prepare a photo journal presentation to share with all of you. They say pictures speak louder than words, and I have one doozy of a collection.

Missing all of you greatly...God bless you all,

Greg

### ***Action Items***

2.498 Seating of Trustee to Fill Unexpired Term (Will be administered under number (3) above).

Board Secretary Elizabeth Spragg administered the Oath of Office to appointed Trustee Teresa Duncan. The Board took action on filling the seat at the Special Board Meeting held earlier in the week on Monday, February 14, 2011. Therefore, there was no need to take an additional vote on the appointment.

### ***Information Items***

#### 3.689 Financial Report

President Joynton reviewed the financial report with the Board.

#### 3.690 Personnel Report

The personnel report showed no additions/replacements, resignations, retirements, or other.

#### 3.691 Gifts and Grants Report

The gifts and grants report showed the attached activity. The Board was reminded of the scholarship reception to be held on March 24, 2011.

### New Business

There was no new business.

### Suggested Future Agenda Items

It was agreed that sustainability should be a topic for the upcoming retreat. The retreat was scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2011, beginning at 2:30 p.m., at the Combat Readiness Training Center.

It was agreed that a preview of the budget would be held at a Board meeting as opposed to a Board retreat.

### Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 17, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Elizabeth L. Spragg  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees