

Alpena Community College  
Board of Trustees  
Regular May Meeting  
May 20, 2010

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees conducted their regular May meeting on May 20, 2010, in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, on the College campus.

Chairman John Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: John Briggs, Lisa Hilberg, Florence Stibitz, and Thomas Townsend.

Absent: Marc Ferguson, Joseph Gentry II, and Dr. Judith Grenkowicz.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Briggs led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Member Townsend moved the agenda be accepted as presented with the addition of the requested approval by the Board secretary of the April 12, 2010, Board retreat notes.

Ayes: Briggs, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Approval of April 15, 2010, Regular Meeting Proceedings and April 12, 2010, Board Retreat Notes

The April 15, 2010, regular meeting proceedings and the April 12, 2010, Board retreat notes were approved as presented.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

The following guests signed the register: Patty Rumus, The Alpena News; April Ahlgren, WATZ Radio; Lee Kirkpatrick, ACC; Penny Boldrey, ACC; Wendy Brooks, ACC; Dan Tuuri, ACC; Kathleen Richard Bruski, ACC; Lauren Rozyla, WBKB-TV; Bridget Allen, ACC student; Kelsey Kannowski, ACC student; Melissa Hale, ACC student; Robert Gandy, Examiner.com alumni; Robert Gandy, ACC student; Timothy Parsell, ACC student; Kayla Fitzgerald, ACC student; Andy Pozniah, ACC student; John Whitehead, The Bushey Road Berry Farm, L.L.C.; Carol Whitehead, The Bushey Road Berry Farm, L.L.C.; Kerri Miller, ACC; Charles A. Madison, ACC; Lisa Koss, ACC; and Lois Darga, ACC.

There was no public comment.

Communication(s)

A letter was read from Suzanne Wiser, wife of adjunct instructor Phil Wiser, requesting the Board to correct a perceived injustice of not including adjunct instructors' names on the commencement program. Chairman Briggs indicated the Board would take it under advisement.

## Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Member Stibitz reported on a recent MCCA goal setting meeting. She indicated the MCCA is now a united front with all 28 community colleges having membership.

There were no subcommittee meetings conducted since the last meeting.

## Faculty Report

Accounting faculty member Lois Darga presented the faculty report. Business/Computer Information Systems instructor Lee Kirkpatrick and several of her students presented two of their website designs created for the Bushey Road Berry Farm owned by John and Carol Whitehead. She indicated the presentation was both a faculty report and a student report.

## Student Report

Please see the faculty report.

## President's Report

The president's report follows as it was presented. Kerri Miller and several members of the Polemic student newspaper were present to report at a specific time in the president's report. Others including Penny Boldrey, Wendy Brooks, and students Kelsey Kannowski and Melissa Hale were available to speak during appropriate times in the president's report.

### 1. Record Number of Graduates for 2010 Commencement Ceremonies

Although the final verification of certificate and degree completions is in process, the estimate of 450 graduates this year tops the previous record of 416 two years ago. Several staff members and I have produced the following analysis, which for two years in a row has earned ACC first place in graduation rate among Michigan's community colleges.

- General context of emphasis on completion (not just access) by the Lieutenant Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth Final Report, the Gates Foundation's Postsecondary Education Success Plan, and the Lumina Foundation's Achieving the Dream program.
- Enrollment increases over the past three years (spring semester 2010 headcount up 21% over spring semester 2007, credit enrollment up 23%).
- Recent elimination of graduation application fee and advertising to students to apply for graduation.
- Mandatory system of advising by faculty (as opposed to separate cadre of advisors).
- High percentage of courses (about 60%) taught by full-time faculty.
- Early warning system for students making low grades and routing to session with faculty advisor.
- Excellence of tutoring, library, and counseling services.
- Excellence of financial aid services and special programs of support for displaced workers (e.g., No Worker Left Behind) who are highly motivated and focused on completion.
- Policy of never cancelling a class needed by a student for graduation, no matter how low the enrollment.
- Judicious use of course substitutions.
- Implementation of Datatel degree audit software, making the path to graduation and alternatives clearer to students and advisors.

- Recent expansion of high-demand programs (nursing, utility technician, concrete technology, correctional officer) and labor market demand in those fields.
- Rural and blue collar culture of hard work, persistence, acceptance of challenge.
- Lack of alternatives (only college campus within 150-mile radius).
- Attractive articulation agreements with university center partners and other Michigan universities.
- Higher perception of value for the associate degree.
- Stability and relative harmony among key faculty, support staff, administrators, and Trustees.
- High profile of college in community, strong support by community based on perception of quality and service.

This analysis was recently shared by VP Mark Curtis and Dean Don MacMaster with officers of Northwestern Michigan College, who called us to learn about methods of increasing their own graduation rate.

## 2. MCCPA Press Day 2010

Journalism Instructor Kerrie Miller is present this evening with several members of The Crosscut staff who earned recognition for their work by the Michigan Community College Press Association. Five staffers and editors traveled to Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn in April to participate in break-out sessions and keynote speakers relating to the ever-changing field of journalism. Student journalists took part in discussions ranging from blogging and digital journalism to writing leads for impatient readers and music/movie reviews. Each of the years The Crosscut has participated in Press Day, the crew has earned more and higher certificates of achievement.

### Four First-Place Awards: (first time for first-places for The Crosscut)

- Robert Gandy for editorial cartoon
- Charlie Madison for line/graphic illustration
- Gary Pikula for sports column
- Staff for series on ACC going smoke free

### One Second-Place Award:

- Renata Bur for headlines

### Two Honorable Mentions:

- Lisa Koss for informational illustration
- Staff for headlines

## 3. Young Women, Strong Leaders

Foundation Executive Director Penny Boldrey and Dean Wendy Brooks recently accompanied five ACC students to the ACE Women's Network's "Young Women, Strong Leaders" conference in Petoskey. Representatives of the group are present this evening to report on the program, which included topics like leadership, skill-building, and career exploration.

## 4. Volunteer Center 2009 Record of Service

Volunteer Center Director Kathleen Bruski recently compiled data on programs and services offered during the 2009 calendar year, and I have invited her to walk us through highlights of the report. As you can discern, the Center brings together a diverse set of operations unified by the common theme of community outreach.

## Passport to the Arts Faculty Participation

This year's Passport to the Arts program will build on its inaugural success last year with the help of several ACC faculty members: Shawn Sexton, Laurie Wade, Kerrie Miller, Grace Marshall, Tim Kuehnlein, and Gene Reimann. The event kicks off at the Band Shell at 6:00 p.m. on June 19 with a visit to four artistic sites to stimulate greater community participation in the arts.

## Book Report: The Challenge of Bologna, by Paul Gaston (2010)

I ordered this book for the ACC library after hearing about the Bologna process last year at the MCCA summer meetings in Traverse City. Though it had many antecedents, it formally began in 1999 as an effort by European education ministers to standardize university curriculum, degrees, and learning outcomes. The goals of the process include

- Mobility for students and graduates by agreeing on common meanings for measures of academic achievement (3-5-8 = number of accumulated years for bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees).
- Restoring the traditional strength and prestige of European university degrees through quality assurance.
- Increasing the employability of European university graduates and thus the economic strength of the European Union.
- Emphasis on life-long learning.
- Social goals of access by historically underserved populations.

Today 46 nations are signatories and much of the structure for achieving the goals has been completed. Implementation is voluntary and has been slowed by the 2008-09 recession. The process has been more successful than its US counterpart, the Spellings Commission on the Future of Higher Education (2005-06), which was marked by partisan bickering, warfare with the six regional accrediting associations, and insularity.

In other respects, the Bologna process struck me as a lot of catching up by Europeans to ways of doing business that are already well-established in the United States.

Favorite quotation: "Just as a wallet of euros can make travel easier than one stocked with national currencies, so, too, can a transcript vouched for by the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System encourage travel across educational borders."

The book is now available for checkout in the ACC Library.

## Action Items

### 2.483 Administrative Salary Schedule

Moved by Member Stibitz that the Board of Trustees approves the attached Administrative Salary Schedule for 2010-11 and authorizes the College president to issue contracts to all affected parties in accordance with performance at the College.

Ayes: Briggs, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

2.484 First Reading: FY11 Budget

Moved my Member Townsend that the Board of Trustees accepts the budget as a first reading for FY2011.

Ayes: Briggs, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

***Information Items***

3.665 Financial Report (through April 2010)

President Joynton reviewed the financial report with the Board.

3.666 Personnel Report

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

3.667 Gifts and Grants Report

The gifts and grants report showed the attached activity.

New Business

None

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None

Next Regular Meeting

June 17, 2010

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth L. Spragg  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees