

Alpena Community College  
Board of Trustees  
Official Proceedings  
November 19, 2009

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees convened its regular November meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2009, in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, 665 Johnson Street, Alpena, Michigan. Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: John Briggs, Marc Ferguson, Joseph Gentry, Dr. Judith Grenkowicz, Florence Stibitz, and Thomas Townsend.

Absent: Lisa Hilberg

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Briggs led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Townsend that the agenda be approved as presented.

Ayes: Briggs, Ferguson, Gentry, Grenkowicz, Stibitz, and Townsend

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

Approval of October 15, 2009, Regular Proceedings

The October 15, 2009, Board proceedings were approved as presented.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

The following guests signed the register: April Ahlgren, WATZ Radio; Crystal Nelson, *The Alpena News*; Mark A. Curtis, ACC; Dick Sutherland, ACC; Jay Walterreit, ACC; Roy Smith, ACC; Kathy Muzynski, Alpena Garden Club; Ann Speaks, Alpena Garden Club; Henry Stibitz, Alpena Garden Club; Paul Mathes, BACCHUS; and Amanda Hulsey, BAACHUS.

There was no public comment.

Communication(s)

President Joynton acknowledged the following items of communication: a thank you note from the family of Arlin Spragg; a thank you note from Dr. Judith Grenkowicz; and a letter from State Representative Kevin Elsenheimer.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Board Chairman John Briggs reported the president's evaluation had been done earlier in closed session. He reported the evaluation was positive, and listed the willingness to listen, effective leadership, ability to act on issues, trust, and integrity as qualities on which the president scored high. Chairman Briggs indicated the president has been given the assignment of producing a five-year plan for the College for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He also indicated there was no discussion on compensation and wouldn't be until all bargaining contracts are settled.

President Joynton thanked the Board for the positive evaluation and for their expression of trust.

There were no subcommittee reports.

### Faculty Report

The faculty report was delivered by Faculty Council President Roy Smith.

### Student Report

There was no student report; however, President Joynton reported the Student Senate is working very hard on the upcoming "Christmas Bash" activity.

### President's Report

The president's report follows as it was presented.

#### 1. IPEDS Report

Again this year ACC staff members have assembled and submitted information for the US Department of Education's Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a requirement for any institution receiving federal funds. Although the results can be reported out in dozens of different ways, the most useful way enables us to track ACC's performance against benchmarks set by the other nine comparably-sized community colleges in Michigan (classified as Group 1).

The 2009 report covers performance during the 2007-08 academic year and brings to light the following comparisons:

- ACC's 12-month unduplicated headcount of 2,698 is smaller than the Group 1 median figure, but its full-time equivalent number of 1,445 is larger. That's an effect of more students at ACC going full-time and fewer going part-time – a long-term trend with a noticeable uptick over the past couple of years.
- ACC has a lower percentage of women students (56%) than its peers.
- ACC's student/faculty ratio of 15:1 is lower than the median of 19:1 for the other nine, which bears out ACC's excellent reputation among students for individual attention from faculty.
- The ACC yearly tuition and fees rate of \$3,040 continues to remain higher than the Group 1 benchmark, although the gap has narrowed somewhat over that last couple of years. ACC's low property tax revenue causes its tuition and fees to be higher.
- The dollar amount of federal financial aid accessed by ACC students is roughly comparable to those at other schools. ACC students receive less state aid but considerably more institutional aid, which reflects well on the scholarships made available by the ACC Foundation.

- ACC students are more willing to assume debt for their education than students at the peer schools.
- The fall-to-fall retention rate of ACC students is 77%, well beyond the 61% median for the comparison group.
- ACC graduation rates and numbers far exceed those for peer colleges. For the second year in a row, ACC takes first place for all Michigan community colleges in the standard benchmark for graduation rate, with 34% of its first-time, full-time students completing certificates or degrees within 150% of the prescribed time.
- In the faculty, administrative, and support staff categories, ACC is better staffed than sister Group 1 institutions, with the widest margin appearing in the faculty ranks. This correlates with the low student/faculty ratio reported above.
- ACC full-time faculty salaries are \$5,214 above the median figure for peer colleges.
- Compared with other Group 1 colleges, ACC derives more revenue from tuition, fees, and state revenues while deriving less from local property taxes. Reflecting the Community Based Job Training Grant and the TRIO Grants, ACC surpasses the federal revenue medians by wide margins.
- ACC expends more on instruction and academic support than the peer colleges while expending less on administration and student services.

Overall, these comparisons tell a story of resources focused on the core business of instruction, students persevering and completing their programs, and administrative/support functions running in a lean manner.

## 2. Alcohol Awareness Week

Upward Bound Counselor Julie Robarge is present this evening with participating students to summarize activities by the BACCHUS organization to raise consciousness on campus about the dangers of alcohol abuse. These activities took place October 19-23 as part of National Alcohol Awareness Week at colleges throughout the land. Julie and the students are to be commended for continuing efforts to help members of the ACC family avoid the perils of immoderate, illegal, and unsafe drinking.

Students Paul Mathes and Amanda Hulsey were present to speak about the BACCHUS activity.

## 3. Presentation of Business Incubator Feasibility Study

On Wednesday, October 21, the Granum Theater was the setting for the presentation of a business incubator feasibility study for Alpena by Lawrence Molnar, director of the Center for Economic Diversification and the Institute for Labor, Employment, and the Economy at the University of Michigan. After conducting surveys of prospective incubator clients in a four-county region, Mr. Molnar concluded that Alpena makes the most sense for a regional location. No existing facilities are suitable for an incubator site, though a dozen possibilities were inspected. The study contains business models based on conservative, (12 clients), moderate (15), and optimistic (18) assumptions that project an Alpena mixed-use incubator being in the black after the first year from rental and instructional revenue. The business models also presume availability of professional services at below market rate and oversight by a full-time director.

The study has affected planning for ACC's first priority capital improvement project, the proposed Electrical Power Technology Center, which might incorporate incubator space for entrepreneurs in the electrical trades as well as other fields. Funding for the study came principally from a USDA grant acquired by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, with supplements from MSU Extension Service, the Small Business and Technology Development Center, and ACC.

#### 4. Healthcare Forum

Also in the Granum Theater on the evening of Monday, October 26, a panel of experts presented many sides of the healthcare debate that claims much national attention and excites much local interest. The presenters included

- Pete Wilson, Partner of Alpena Agency, Inc., on the role of private insurance.
- Bev Bodem, aide to State Senator Tony Stamas, on Michigan House Speaker Andy Dillon's proposal to consolidate health insurance for all state employees.
- Karmon Bjella, CEO of Alpena Regional Medical Center, on global issues affecting hospital management.
- Charles Easton, MD, Pulmonologist, on the economics of health care.
- Trina Gray, Owner of Bay Athletic Club, on preventative health care.

The forum was well attended, with many compliments for the breadth of perspective coming to ACC afterwards, including a favorable letter to the editor published in the *Alpena News*.

#### 5. Annual Report

With mission and goals set by the Trustees, a public institution like ACC owes its community stakeholders periodic reporting on accomplishments toward its professed commitments. Director of Marketing and Public Information Jay Walterreit is present this evening with copies of the 2008-09 ACC Annual Report – a celebration of our success in achieving what we have set out to do.

Public Information Director Jay Walterreit distributed the 2008-09 Annual Report. Trustees expressed their approval and applauded Jay for producing a quality report.

#### ***Action Items***

##### 2.469 Resolution of Appreciation

Moved by Member Gentry that the Board approve the attached resolution for Dr. Henry Stibitz and Volunteer Gardeners.

Ayes: Briggs, Ferguson, Gentry, Grenkowicz, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

##### 2.470 Five-Year Master Plan for Capital Outlay 2011-2015

Moved by Member Stibitz that the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees authorizes staff to submit master planning documents as described in the resolution to the State of Michigan for consideration of capital outlay funding during the period 2011-2015.

Ayes: Briggs, Ferguson, Gentry, Grenkowitz, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

2.471 Designated Fund Deficit Elimination Plan

Moved by Member Grenkowitz that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS Alpena Community College's Designated Fund has a \$66,669 deficit fund balance dating from June 30, 2009;

WHEREAS, Act 275 of the Public Acts of 1980 requires that a Deficit Elimination Plan be formulated by the local unit of government and filed with the Michigan Department of Treasury;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Alpena Community College's Board of Trustees adopts the following as the Alpena Community College's Designated Fund Deficit Elimination Plan:

When the World Center for Concrete Technology was opened for operation in 2000, a separate set of accounts was developed to track how well the Center was progressing. These WCCT accounts were placed in the Designated Fund. Since the first three years of WCCT operation created a significant deficit, the Designated Fund went into deficit. Progress was made in reducing the deficit over the last five years. Additionally, the WCCT made annual contributions of \$40,000 per year (totaling \$200,000) to the Maintenance and Replacement Fund to cover significant capital expenditures that will be needed at some point (such as a roof replacement).

It is unlikely that the WCCT will be able to eliminate its deficit within the next couple of years due to the downturn in the economy. For this year it is proposed that the WCCT not contribute the budgeted \$40,000 to the Maintenance and Replacement Fund. In addition, it is recommended that the College transfer back from the Maintenance and Replacement Fund to the WCCT an amount sufficient to cause the Designated Fund deficit to be eliminated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alpena Community College's Vice President for Administration and Finance submits the Deficit Elimination Plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury for certification.

Ayes: Briggs, Ferguson, Gentry, Grenkowitz, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

2.472 Affirmation of Election Results

Moved by Member Townsend that the Board of Trustees officially accepts the results of the election and certifies the election of Marc K. Ferguson, Dr. Judith A. Grenkowitz, and Lisa M. Hilberg for six-year terms in office effective January 1, 2010.

Ayes: Briggs, Ferguson, Gentry, Grenkowitz, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

3.647 Financial Report

President Joynton reviewed the financial report with the Board.

3.648 Personnel Report

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

3.649 Gifts and Grants Report

The gifts and grants report showed the attached activity.

New Business

None

Suggested Future Agenda Items

Member Grenkowicz asked Dr. Curtis to speak to MIS regarding the need for Flicker in the classroom.

The Board will meet sometime in January for a Board Retreat.

Next Regular Meeting

December 17, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

December 17, 2009, Christmas Luncheon at John A Laus Saloon, 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth L. Spragg  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees