

**MEETING OF THE  
EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**April 13, 2017**

**Minutes**

The External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College held a meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at the HCC Administration Building, Second Floor Auditorium, 3100 Main, Houston, Texas.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Neeta Sane, Committee Chair  
Zeph Capo, Committee Member  
Adriana Tamez, Committee Member  
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz  
John P. Hansen  
Robert Glaser  
Eva Loreda  
Davis Wilson

**ADMINISTRATION**

Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor  
Melissa Gonzalez, Vice Chancellor/Chief of Staff  
Ashley Smith, General Counsel  
Teri Zamora, Senior Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration  
Kimberly Beatty, Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services/Chief Academic Officer  
Athos Brewer, Vice Chancellor, Student Services  
William Carter, Vice Chancellor, Information Technology  
Kurt Ewen, Vice Chancellor, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness  
Remmele Young, Associate Vice Chancellor, Governmental and External Affairs  
Madeline Burillo, President, Southwest College  
Margaret Ford Fisher, President, Northeast College  
Muddassir Siddiqi, President, Central College  
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College  
Donna Spivey for Phillip Nicotera, President, Coleman College  
Irene Porcarello, President, Southeast College  
Janet May, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Robert King, Interim Executive Director, HCC Foundation  
Terrence Corrigan, Director, Internal Audit

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jarvis Hollingsworth, Board Counsel, Bracewell LLP  
Mellissa Miller-Waters, President, Faculty Senate  
Other administrators, citizens, and representatives from the news media

**CALLED TO ORDER**

Mrs. Neeta Sane, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:47 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters pertaining to Houston Community College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

*(The following Trustees were present: Capo, Evans-Shabazz, Glaser, Hansen, Loredo, Sane, Tamez, and Wilson)*

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION**

**REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Maldonado apprised that Mr. Remmele Young would provide an update of the bill tracking regarding the 85th Legislative Session.

Mr. Young provided an update regarding the bill tracking for the session to include:

- Discussion Topics
  - Appropriations Bill (Senate Passage)
  - Appropriations Bill (house on SB1)
  - HCC Senate Funding Estimate
  - HCC House Committee Funding Estimate
  - Next Steps
  - HCC Bill Track Overview

Mr. Capo inquired as how the budget looks since it will more than likely go to Conference Committee and what happens if the House version of the budget prevails. Mr. Young noted that the next step will be for the Speaker of the House to appoint a Conference Committee which has not been appointed at this time. He apprised that community colleges have received favorable sentiments from both the House and the Senate.

*(Ms. Loredo stepped out at 1:57 p.m.)*

Mrs. Sane noted that the difference in the budgets is regarding the student success point rate. She inquired as to why the focus has not been on the student success rate. Mr. Young noted the competition is not only with the two versions of the bill but with other amendment requests.

Dr. Maldonado requested Mr. Young provide an update regarding Article IX. Mr. Young noted that Article IX is actually Article XI for HCC. He noted that every exceptional line item request

submitted in the HCC Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) is included in the Article XI allocation. He apprised that it is anticipated discussions will be held with the local delegation and noted that even though they may not be on the Conference Committee, they still have influence for items to have due consideration.

Mr. Wilson referenced the contact hour calculation and inquired of the year and the full-time equivalent number. Mrs. Zamora noted it was based on contact hours and the numbers included are Summer/Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. Mr. Wilson inquired of the number. Mrs. Zamora apprised that the number was the total contact hours divided by \$2.69/per hour annually.

*(Dr. Evans-Shabazz stepped out at 2:00 p.m.)*

*(Mr. Glaser stepped out at 2:01 p.m.)*

*(Mr. Glaser returned at 2:02 p.m.)*

Mr. Young continued with the presentation:

Mr. Young denoted that HCC is currently tracking 548 bills and provided an overview of the bills being tracked to include financial aid and workforce, transfer and articulation, dual credit and appropriations.

Mrs. Sane requested Mr. Young to explain how the bills are different from the categories mentioned. Mr. Young noted that related bills are grouped together and tag on to the bill that has a greater chance of getting through the process.

Dr. Maldonado requested Mr. Young to review the highlights of the legislative initiatives and any goal alignment.

Mr. Wilson referenced the BOTI conference and noted that Dr. Belle Wheeler, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) President commented that Texas is the only state that enrolls 9 -12 grade high school students in dual credit. Mr. Young added that SB 1903 by Senator West is the bill that aligns with HCC's dual credit initiative.

Dr. Maldonado noted that the information presented at the Board Retreat was similar and referenced to the attachment that provided more information on the bills. Mr. Young added that an updated version dated April 13, 2017 was being provided.

Mr. Glaser inquired of HCC's status regarding the offering of baccalaureate degrees versus partnering with four year institutions. Dr. Maldonado noted that he provided testimony to the Higher Education committee regarding the college's position and the model on partnering with four year institutions to offer baccalaureate degrees. He noted it is more cost effective because is it less expensive to the student and the state. He apprised the focus is on maintaining rigor

Houston Community College  
External Relations Committee – April 13, 2017 – Page 4

with dual credit, transferability and the baccalaureate degrees all in one. Dr. Maldonado noted that HCC's position continues to be shared with the legislature.

Mr. Glaser noted his inquiry was based on the financial commitment with the expansion of Coleman College and he would consider re-visiting opportunities if the laws come into place. Dr. Maldonado noted the college is on track with the University of Houston – Downtown in offering a baccalaureate degree in nursing.

Mrs. Sane noted the cost structure needs to be reviewed during the budget process regarding the offering of baccalaureate degrees. Dr. Maldonado noted it is not being brought for budget consideration this year.

Mr. Capo referenced Senate Bill (SB) 887 regarding student debt and inquired if the college is already providing the information and if the college would be in alignment if the bill passes. Mrs. Zamora apprised that HCC student loan participation is on the federal level. She noted that there are requirements in place and the referenced bill is specific to state student loans.

Mrs. Zamora noted that in response to Trustee Wilson's inquiry the contact hours are 23.1 million in the base year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved: May 25, 2017