

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
3 Regular Board Meeting  
4 Monday, January 27, 2020 3:45 p.m.  
5 Board Room - Blake Hall/SCA Building  
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at  
8 3:45 p.m., Monday, January 27, 2020, in the Board Room of Blake Hall 140/144.  
9

10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Vice-Chairperson Callie Langohr called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following  
12 Board members were in attendance:  
13

14 Kelly Stimpson Lyle Mitchell  
15 Stephanie Wallace Mark Holston  
16

17 Trustees Peter Akey and Shannon Lund participated via conference call. Also present were  
18 President Jane Karas and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District.  
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20 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None**  
21

22 **III. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

- 23 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on December 23,  
24 2019.  
25 **B.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting – February 24, 2020  
26

27 Trustee Stephanie Wallace moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A & B Under  
28 Section III, Consent Agenda-Action. Trustee Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion. The motion  
29 carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.  
30

31 **IV. REPORTS/COMMENTS**

32 **A. Monthly Reports**

33 **1. Faculty Activities Report**

34 Dr. Heather Estrada presented the Board with the Faculty Activities  
35 Report, please see Attachment I.  
36

37 **2. Executive Staff Activities Report**

38 The Board of Trustees received written reports from the Executive Staff  
39 for review. Trustee Mark Holston noted the exceptional job staff did with the recently released  
40 annual President's Report.  
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46 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**  
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48 **A. Student Success: Student Research Conference**

1 Christina Relyea, Associate Professor, Natural Resources, introduced two students  
2 who participated in the most recent Student Research Conference. Students presented their  
3 research projects on Friday, December 13, 2019, during the college's fall Conference on Student  
4 Research. Two students, Jonathan Pfeifer and Luke Dowler, shared with the Board a short  
5 summary of their research, along with their experiences participating in the conference. Jonathan  
6 Pfeifer, presented research on *Developing Methods to Characterize the Carbonate System in*  
7 *Seawater*, in which he was awarded a second place win under the STEM Poster category of the  
8 conference. Luke Dowler received a third place win for his project presentation, *The Wilderness*  
9 *Choice* and a first place win for his 10-Minute Play Performance, *Next Session*. The 10-Minute  
10 Play Performance is new to the conference this year.

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12 **B. Board Policy, Chapter I, Doctrine, (First Reading)**

13 The Board was presented with Board Policy, Chapter I, Doctrine, First Reading. Trustee  
14 Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy, Chapter I, First  
15 Reading. Trustee Mark Holston seconded the motion. After review and with no further  
16 discussion, the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.

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18 **C. Board Policy, Chapter II, Organization (First Reading)**

19 The Board was presented with Board Policy, Chapter II, Organization, First  
20 Reading. Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy, Chapter II,  
21 Organization, First Reading. Mark Holston seconded the motion. After review and discussion,  
22 the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.

23  
24 **D. Board Policy, Chapter IV, Fiscal Affairs, Section 30, Student Tuition (First**  
25 **Reading)**

26 The Board was presented with Board Policy, Chapter IV, Fiscal Affairs, Section 30,  
27 Student Tuition, First Reading. After review, Mark Holston moved that the Board of Trustees  
28 approve Board Policy, Chapter VI, Fiscal Affairs, Section 30, Student Tuition, First Reading. Lyle  
29 Mitchell seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with  
30 seven (7) "yes" votes.

31  
32 **E. Resolution 20-3, Trustee Resolution calling for an Election by Mail Ballot**

33 The Board was presented with Resolution 20-3, Trustee Resolution calling for an  
34 Election by Mail Ballot. The Board of Trustees is required to approve a resolution calling for Trustee  
35 Election to be held in conjunction with the regular school elections on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. Trustee  
36 Peter Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve Resolution 20-3, Trustee Resolution calling for  
37 an Election by Mail Ballot. Trustee Stephanie Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried  
38 unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.

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43 **F. Finance and Audit Committee**

44 **A. Quarterly Budget Report**

45 The Finance and Audit Committee met prior to the Board meeting to  
46 discuss the Quarterly Budget Report ending December 31, 2019. An update on the General Fund  
47 Budget Analysis report was provided to the Board. The overall report is positive with the college  
48 maintaining a contingency and revenues and expenditures on track with projected budget totals.

1                                   **B. Buy-Sell Agreement**

2                                   At the March 18, 2019, Board of Trustees meeting, the FVCC Board  
3 approved the sale of land not useable by the College. The parcel of land was advertised for sale. A  
4 buy-sell is in place that requires approval by the Board. The Buy-Sell was reviewed by an attorney on  
5 the College’s behalf. Funds from this sale, once final, will be used for the College Center project.  
6 Trustee Mark Holston moved that the Board of Trustees approve the buy-sell agreement and give  
7 President Jane Karas the authority to sign and execute any and all documents related to the sale of the  
8 property in the agreement. Trustee Lyle Mitchell seconded the motion. The motion carried  
9 unanimously with seven (7) “yes” votes.

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11                                   **G. Board of Trustees Events Calendar**

12                                   President Karas reviewed the Trustees’ events calendar and noted that the next  
13 regularly scheduled Board meeting is Monday, February 24, 2020. The college will be closed for  
14 President’s Day on Monday, February 17, 2020. The Annual Association of Community College  
15 Trustees National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. will be held February 10-12, 2020.  
16 The Board of Regents will hold their next meeting March 5-6, 2020 in Dillon.

17  
18                                   **H. President’s Update**

19 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 20                                   • The Board of Regents held their meeting January 14 via conference call.
- 21                                   • An All Employee In-Service was held on January 16. Individuals from  
22 Achieving the Dream presented the results from the recent ICAT survey  
23 that was completed by the majority of the campus community. Following  
24 the presentation, employees participated in feedback sessions to discuss  
25 and answer questions about the survey results. Several individuals from  
26 the FVCC team are currently compiling the data from the feedback  
27 sessions.
- 28                                   • President Karas and staff continue to work with Miles Community  
29 College, Dawson Community College, OCHE and the Legislative Fiscal  
30 Division on the community college funding formula. A meeting is  
31 scheduled in the next few weeks in Helena.
- 32                                   • The Encore Campaign has approximately \$2.4 million left to raise. The  
33 campaign is continuing with its Be Seated! opportunities, where a \$5,000  
34 gift or pledge will provide a seat to be named in the Performance and  
35 Lecture Hall. President Karas encouraged each Trustee to come up with  
36 the names of 10 friends or associates who could participate in the Be  
37 Seated campaign. Selling just 200 seats would raise an additional \$1  
38 million.

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40 **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

41                                   With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

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44 Shannon Lund, Chairperson of the Board

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47 Kelly Stimpson, Secretary to the Board

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4 **Faculty Activity Report**  
5 **January 2020**  
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7 **Eliza Thomas - Assistant Professor - Education**

8 This semester will be a busy one for EDEC students as the two practicum courses in early  
9 childhood take place in spring semesters. Future educators will be spending 90 hours in the field  
10 working side-by-side with early childhood educators at our Early Childhood Center (ECC) and  
11 other childcare facilities. They will also be participating in community activities like Plates and  
12 Play (opportunities for families to connect and children to play), the Week of the Young Child  
13 (April 11th - 17th), and other community-based events. Additionally, the EDEC program is  
14 partnering with Flathead County Health Department's zero to five grant and the Flathead's Best  
15 Beginning Council and will be supporting efforts to create short PSAs (Public Service  
16 Announcements) around developing early literacy.  
17

18 Eliza Thomas presented for staff about Trauma-Informed Strategies as part of FVCC's  
19 professional development opportunities. She also presented to the RAs (resident assistants) of  
20 the dorms on the same topic. Eliza will be keynoting for Kalispell Public Schools on the topic of  
21 Motivation and Self-Care as well as breakout sessions on Math Formative Assessment.  
22

23 Both Renee August (director of the ECC) and Eliza Thomas (faculty and director Early  
24 Childhood) continue their personal educational growth this semester through higher level  
25 coursework on a masters (Renee) and doctorate (Eliza).  
26

27 The EDU students will continue progressing towards their applications to the various teacher  
28 preparation programs. Currently, there are five teacher candidates that are student teaching  
29 through the FVCC/UM 2+2 program and upon successful completion will graduate in May.  
30 There are thirteen students who are progressing to their Level 2 field experiences in local  
31 schools. At the end of last semester, graduates from the FVCC/UM 2+2 came back to provide  
32 first-hand suggestions for gaining employment in local schools.  
33

34 **Christina Relyea - Associate Professor - Natural Resources**

35 Faculty members Dr. Anita Ho (Geology and Geography), Tim Eichner (Geospatial Technology  
36 and Natural Resources), and Dr. Christina Relyea (Natural Resources) were recently accepted  
37 into the SAGE 2YC: Faculty as Change Agents project as part of a grant from the National  
38 Science Foundation Division of Undergraduate Education. This program intends to build a  
39 national network of self-sustaining local communities of 2 year colleges geoscience faculty and  
40 administrators who use evidence-based strategies to improve all students' academic success,  
41 broaden participation, and facilitate students' professional pathways into the STEM workforce.  
42 Anita, Tim, and Christina will join colleagues from 30 other schools around the country to  
43 participate in professional development activities over the next year.  
44

45 **Marty Mullins - Adjunct Professor - Social Sciences**

46 In late 2019 Dr. Marty Mullins' most recent article was published in conjunction with the 30th  
47 anniversary of the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe. It is entitled --"[Forgotten Velvet:  
48 Understanding Eastern Slovakia's 1989](#)" and is an analysis of the unique way Communism

1 collapsed in Eastern Slovakia (as opposed to Prague or Bratislava).

2  
3 It is the culmination of research conducted in Slovakia during her Mellon-Fulbright fellowship in  
4 2011-12, which included an examination of archival records but also eye-witness interviews.  
5 The entire article can be downloaded for free by visiting the link.

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7 **Karla Ryan - Assistant Professor - Anatomy and Physiology**

8 Over the winter break, Karla Ryan visited local elementary and middle school classrooms to  
9 teach about anatomy and physiology. At the middle school, Karla spoke to four different science  
10 classes, walking students through the basics of the body's systems and explaining how she uses  
11 A&P models in the classroom. Students from that school will be coming to campus for a field  
12 trip in early February.

13  
14 At the elementary school, Karla worked with the PE teacher to teach nutrition to all the 3rd, 4th  
15 and 5th graders. She spent time discussing the components of food (fat, protein, carbs), whole  
16 grains versus refined grains, the evils of sugar and Go, Slow and Whoa foods. She gave them  
17 homework of trying 3 new foods and was pleased to hear from a few parents that the kids led  
18 dinner conversation and discussed the information they learned from her class.  
19