

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, February 22, 2016, 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, February 22, 2016, in the Board Room of Blake Hall/SCA 140/144.
9

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

11 Chairperson Shannon Lund called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following Board
12 members were in attendance:
13

14 Thomas Harding Kelly Stimpson Tom McElwain
15 Jeremy Presta Callie Langohr
16

17 Also present were President Jane Karas and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District. Trustee
18 Mark Holston was absent with prior Board approval.
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20 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None**
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22 **III. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

- 23 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting on January 25, 2016, the
24 Special Board meeting on 2/1/2016 and the Special Board meeting on 2/4/2016.
25 **B.** Recommendation that the Board of Trustees accept the Monthly Human Resources
26 Report as submitted.
27 **C.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting – March 21, 2016
28

29 Thomas Harding moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A, B, & C Under Section II,
30 Consent Agenda-Action. Jeremy Presta seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously
31 with six (6) "yes" votes.
32

33 **IV. COMMENTS**

34 **A. Students**

35 **1. Student Activities Report**

36 Dylan Moll, Student Government President, presented the Board with the Student Activities
37 Report.

- 38 • Week of Welcome (WoW!), a week of free events welcoming first year and transfer
39 students to campus, was held on January 25 – 29. WoW was coordinated and promoted
40 by the Student Engagement Office, but made possible by the various clubs and
41 departments sponsoring events. The week included events such as: Hot Cocoa and
42 Cookies with Student Government, Spirit Day, Build Your Own Taco Meet and Greet
43 with student clubs, Minute to Win It games sponsored by student support services,
44 Treasure Hunt on campus sponsored by departments, and many more.
45 • The Build Your Own Taco Meet and Greet with student organizations took place in the
46 Eagles Nest and was a huge success with over 100 students participating. The following
47 student organizations participated in Week of Welcome (WoW!) activities: Global
48 Friends, IMPACT, Loggers Sports, Phi Theta Kappa, Service Learning, AICE,
49 Gay/Straight Alliance, Student Government, Tobacco Free Task Force, and Intramurals.

- 1 • Student Government has been busy recruiting new officers and senators this month, and
2 will have a team of eight members starting next week. They have been gearing up for the
3 student allocations process, and have set dates for the FVCC’s Got Talent Show and the
4 End of the Year Party.
- 5 • The Tobacco Task Force members have met with Coalition for a Healthier Flathead and
6 Flathead CARE representative and have a Threw with Chew activity scheduled for
7 Friday, February 19.
- 8 • Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society recently submitted Hallmark Award applications for
9 their Honors in Action project and College Project. PTK officers are busy hosting
10 regular meetings, organizing campus tours and workshops, co-sponsoring FVCC Has
11 Heart, and planning a Family Game Night on February 17.
- 12 • The Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) has held two meetings to discuss upcoming events and
13 participated in the Week of Welcome by serving at the build your own taco event.

14 **B. Faculty and Staff**

15 **1. Faculty Activities Report**

16 Dr. Gregg Davis, Faculty Senate Vice-President presented the Board with the Faculty Activities
17 Report.

- 18 • **Dr. Janice Alexander**, Professor of Chemistry and Forensic Science, and add to the
19 equation Mathematics too, presented “ASClv2 as a Tool to Investigate Student Attitudes
20 in Australia and the United States,” at the Pacifichem December 16th, conference.
21 Pacifichem is an international meeting of 15,000 chemists held every five years in
22 Honolulu, Hawaii.
- 23 • **Dr. Robert Bauer**, Associate Professor of History, delivered the first Social Science
24 based STEM lecture for the Friday STEM Colloquium on “Sports Medicine in Gilded
25 Age America.”
- 26 • **Kathy Dunnehoff**, Adjunct Instructor of English, presented at Career Days at both
27 Glacier High School and Flathead High School in the capacity as guest author, and
28 secondarily, as FVCC recruiter.
- 29 • **Dr. Heather Estrada**, Assistant Professor and Program Director of FVCC’s Agriculture
30 Program, took four FVCC students to the 13th Annual Montana Organic Association
31 Conference in Bozeman, Montana. While there, students toured the MSU potato seed lab,
32 the state seed lab, and the plant disease diagnostic lab.
- 33 • The theatre folks are really busy. **Richard Haptonstall**, Associate Professor of Theatre
34 Arts and Music, reports that six FVCC students traveled to the University of Montana’s
35 Professionals Weekend auditions. Two of the six students received four call backs, which
36 is a good thing in theatre, and two other students received two call backs each, which is
37 also good in theatre. A perfect scenario would be that some of these students, if not all,
38 will be offered summer employment opportunities. One other student, while not receiving
39 call backs per se, did garner some interest and feedback after his tech portfolio
40 presentation. The theatre scholarship fundraiser, “Strange Snow”, featured a cast of
41 FVCC theatre faculty and was directed by **Joe Legate**, Professor of Speech and Theatre
42 Arts. For Friday’s performance, there is a collaboration dinner/show with the Culinary
43 Arts Chefs Table, a sell-out event to be sure. Auditions for the next production, “Defying
44 Gravity,” by Jane Anderson, began on February 15 and 16. And finally, submissions for
45 the 4th Biennial FVCC International Ten Minute Play Festival now exceed 500! It truly
46 qualifies as an international festival, as submissions have come from as far away as New
47 South Wales and Australia.

- 1 • **Dr. David Long**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, is the proud recipient of a grant from
2 NASA's Montana Space Grant Consortium for \$38,000. This "Education Enhancement"
3 Grant will support student work in chemistry throughout the coming year by providing
4 stipends and other resources to five FVCC students engaged in summer project work. The
5 title of the grant is "Modeling Carbon Cycle Dynamics with Marine Microcosms."
- 6 • **Dr. Ivan Lorentzen**, Professor of Psychology, announces the start of the 2016 Honors
7 Symposium Lecture Series entitled "Dividing Lines: Why Good People are Divided by
8 Politics, Religion, Race and Gender." The first of a six part series began February 15th,
9 with Dr. Gregg Frazer, History and Political Science Professor from The Masters College
10 in Santa Clarita, California discussing "The Religious Beliefs of America's Founders."
11 All lectures are free and open to the public.
- 12 • **Dr. Michael Severino**, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, had a paper accepted for
13 publication in The Electronic Journal of Combinatorics, considered a high-level scholarly
14 publication in Mathematics. Also, Michael and **Dr. Don Hickethier**, Professor of
15 Mathematics, were in Bozeman this month mentoring high school teachers on the
16 Montana Math Modeling Projects.

17 18 **C. Monthly Reports**

19 **1. Executive Staff Activities Report**

20 The Board of Trustees thanked the Executive Staff for their informative
21 reports. Trustees noted all the hard work faculty and staff do every day to continue to make
22 FVCC an amazing place for students.

23 24 **D. Commissioner of Higher Education Report**

25 Angela McLean, Director, American Indian and Minority Achievement (AIMA)
26 and K-12 Partnerships, presented the Board with an update on current AIMA goals for the
27 coming year. The goals are to increase student access, increase student retention, increase
28 student completion, improve Tribal College and MUS relations and grow availability of data.
29 Ms. McLean noted that they have ambitious goals but are hopeful for their success with support
30 of their K-12 partnerships and support from all higher education institutions in the state.

31 32 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

33 **A. Student Success: Performing Arts Department Update**

34 Joe Legate, Professor, Speech and Theatre Arts, presented the Board with an
35 update on the Performing Arts Department. During the past semester, the theatre department put
36 on three performances, *Dracula*, *Happy* and *Strange Snow*. In addition these performances were
37 able to help provide 10-12 scholarships for incoming students this coming fall. There will be an
38 opportunity to raise additional funds for more scholarships with the upcoming productions of
39 *Defying Gravity* and the *Ten Minute Play Festival*. The Music Department continues to grow
40 and is currently hosting its Spring Concert Series with concerts from students, faculty and guest
41 musicians. FVCC's Got Talent will once again be presented this spring in the Black Box
42 Theatre. The FVCC's theatre department and international student club, Global Friends, will
43 host two performances by the Moradokamai Theatre Company and Homeschool from
44 Patumthangi, Thailand on March 21. This performance will be free and open to the public. The
45 performance will be directed by Kruchang Janaprakal Chandruang, an alumnus of FVCC. The
46 students continue to be excited about the digital lab that has been built in the AT building. The
47 addition of this lab has helped to enhance an already amazing student learning experience. Some
48 of the upcoming events that are being planned for the upcoming year include the 50th
49 Anniversary Celebration, with the theatre department focusing on what would have been popular

1 50 years ago. The theatre and music departments will be working on a joint musical production.
2 In addition to the update provide by Professor Legate, student Garrett Deffert, theatre major,
3 who shared his experience at the recent University of Montana’s Professionals Weekend
4 auditions.

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6 **B. Spring Enrollment Update**

7 Maya Tsidulko, Institutional Research Analyst, presented the Board with a spring
8 enrollment update. Maya stated that as of the 15th day of enrollment, the college is at 1,327 FTE,
9 which is approximately down just over 3% from the same time last year. Maya noted that 60%
10 of the decrease was from in-district students and 28% was from out of state students.

11 Unduplicated headcount is up 17 or just under 1% over the same time last year. Running start
12 currently has 430 students participating. Average credit for all students declined from 8.6 credits
13 to 8.3 credits. There has been a loss in enrollment in non-traditional aged students which Maya
14 noted is consistent with the uptick in the current economy. Trustee McElwain asked if our
15 enrollment numbers are in line nationally with other colleges. President Karas noted that we are
16 doing much better than two-year colleges in Montana who are currently experiencing about a 7%
17 enrollment decline. President Karas noted that we are continuing to see normal enrollment
18 growth in comparison to where we were before the recession and as we adjust back to normal
19 levels after the big enrollment growth during the recession. As more students work more with a
20 healthy economy, we see students taking fewer credits but are still attending school. Trustee
21 Presta asked for clarification on what is considered fulltime and the difference between
22 unduplicated head count and semester FTE. It was noted that a fulltime student is one who takes
23 12 or more credits. President Karas noted that unduplicated head count is every live body that
24 the college serves and FTE is based on a formula of all academic credits taken over the academic
25 year divided by thirty.

26
27 **C. ACCT National Legislative Summit Reports**

28 Trustees Shannon Lund and Tom McElwain presented information on their
29 experiences at the recent Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative
30 Summit in Washington, D.C. The trustees stated that they were able to meet with Montana’s
31 State Senators and Representative and all were very receptive to visiting with the Trustees and
32 President Karas. Trustee Lund and McElwain both noted that they appreciate the opportunity to
33 represent Flathead Valley Community College at the event and stated the investment for any
34 Trustee to attend is a great benefit to the college and community.

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36 **D. Board Policy, Chapter VI, Human Resources, Section 30, Conflict
37 of Interest (First Reading)**

38 The Board was presented with Board Policy, Chapter VI, Human Resources,
39 Section 30, Conflict of Interest (First Reading). Tom McElwain moved that the Board approve
40 the second reading of Board Policy, Chapter VII, Students, Section 10, Admissions. Callie
41 Langohr seconded the motion. With no further discussion, Thomas Harding called for the
42 question. The motion carried unanimously with six (6) “yes” votes.

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44 **E. Practical Nursing Curriculum Changes**

45 Myrna Ridenour, Director, Nursing Program, presented the Board with its
46 recommendation to changing curriculum in the Practical Nursing program. The change to the
47 practical nurse is to a Certificate of Applied Science and is part of the HealthCare Montana
48 grant. A statewide group of nursing directors and faculty have been working on this for over a
49 year. The original model which had the LPN as an AAS was an exception made by the Board of

1 Regents when the model curriculum was approved in 2006. The Practical nurse program has
2 been only 50 credits which does not meet the AAS requirements. The most significant changes
3 are to the pre-requisites which are being changed to the appropriate courses for the PN level
4 education. This was verified by the National League of Nursing at a conference in Washington
5 D.C. The curriculum will prepare individuals to pass their national licensing exam. Credit
6 hours in both didactic and clinical nursing courses that will support a high level of education for
7 practical nurse students have been added. The program will be attracting a different group of
8 individuals thus serving more students and meeting a need the community has expressed.
9 Currently most LPNs are returning to the RN program leaving a void in the healthcare delivery
10 team. Trustee Presta clarified that approving the changes to the program will change the
11 Practical Nursing Associate of Applied Science AAS to a Certificate of Applied Science (CAS).
12 Thomas Harding moved that the Board approve the curriculum changes to the Practical Nursing
13 program as presented and changing to the Practical Nursing Associate of Applied Science degree
14 to a Certificate of Applied Science, Practical Nursing. Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion.
15 With no further discussion, Tom McElwain called for the question. The motion carried
16 unanimously with six (6) “yes” votes.

17 18 **F. Optional Retirement Program Signature Authority**

19 At the January 25, 2016 meeting, the Board approved DA Davidson to become the plan provider
20 for the Optional Retirement Program. It is recommended that the Board approve President Karas
21 to be the authorized representative of the college to sign all related documents as related to the
22 transition of the College’s Optional Retirement Program. Thomas Harding moved that the Board
23 allow President Karas to be the authorized representative of the college to sign all related
24 documents as related to the transition of the College’s Optional Retirement Program. Callie
25 Langohr seconded the motion. With no further discussion, Tom McElwain called for the
26 question. The motion carried unanimously with six (6) “yes” votes.

27 28 **G. Selection of Architect**

29 President Karas noted that the Board is required to select an architect to design
30 the new student housing. A committee has reviewed the applications submitted from the
31 architecture firms who responded to the January request for proposals (RFP). The committee
32 met with and interviewed four of the six firms who responded; CTA of Kalispell, Jackola of
33 Kalispell, Dowling Studio Architects of Helena and MacArthur, Means and Wells Architects of
34 Missoula. Following interviews and lengthy review and discussion from the committee, it is
35 recommended that the Board approve the selection of CTA of Kalispell. Should the Board
36 approve the recommendation of the committee, the college will immediately begin to negotiate a
37 contract with CTA and begin the design process for student housing. Tom McElwain moved that
38 the Board approve the selection of CTA of Kalispell to design the new student housing. Kelly
39 Stimpson seconded the motion. Upon further discussion, Trustee Presta asked why the
40 committee recommended CTA above the other firms that were interviewed. President Karas
41 noted that CTA ad the best response to the RFP and best interview. It was also noted that two of
42 the original six firms who submitted applications were not interviewed as they did not meet the
43 basic requirements of the RFP. The committee decision to recommend CTA was a unanimous
44 decision. Following discussion, Tom McElwain called for the question. The motion carried
45 unanimously with six (6) “yes” votes.

46 47 **H. Trustees Events Calendar**

48 President Karas reviewed the Trustees events calendar and noted the upcoming.
49 Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Annual Meeting on March

1, the upcoming Board of Regents Meeting in Dillon on March 3-4, the next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 21 and the April Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25.

I. President's Update

President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- President Karas reported thanked all of the Congressional Delegation for their time during the ACCT National Legislative Summit. Representative Zinke, Senators Tester and Daines were all very supportive of the college and responsive to listening to what is happening at FVCC and some of the challenges that higher education faces in the future.
- The Honors Symposium continues and President Karas encouraged all to attend any of the upcoming presentations.
- Spring Concert series continues to be presented for the community.
- Study Abroad for students continues to expand and the college is looking at new opportunities for its students. The Semester in Venice program continues this semester. Chemistry students will be headed to Mo'orea, French Polynesia this spring to study the impact of ph on coral and reef barriers. Students in the program will be studying from University of California, Berkeley's Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station. The college is looking at offering a Costa Rica program next winter and a Galapagos Island program in the future. An additional program that might be possible soon would also allow students to spend a month in Germany to study culture and the affects of immigration on Germany.
- The STEM Colloquium continues to be hosted on Fridays at 3:00 pm. President Karas encouraged all to attend this event that allows students, faculty and outside speakers to discuss their research. STEM Colloquium is a weekly presentation and discussion of science, technology, engineering and math research projects taking place in and affecting the Flathead Valley.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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Shannon Lund, Chairperson of the Board

Mark Holston, Secretary to the Board