

MEETING MINUTES
Arizona Western College
District Governing Board Meeting
Regular Meeting
Frances Morris Boardroom
March 16, 2020

Board Members Present: Board President Dennis Booth, Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya and Richard Lamb.

Board Member Present by Phone: Anna Camacho

Board Member Absent: None

Others Present:

Dr. Daniel P. Corr, President

Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff

Bryan Doak, Vice President for Student Services

Dr. Linda Elliott Nelson, Vice President of Learning Services

Fatima Covarrubias, President of Student Government Association

Dr. Joann Chang, Director of Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE)

Martha Cordova, Director of Transfer Services

Miguel Sanchez, Division Chair for Mathematics

Patricia Jiminez, Benefits Manager

Richard Hernandez, Conference & Events Technician I

Shara Skinner, Coordinator of Student Leadership and Activities

Sonja Greiner, Faculty Senate District Governing Board Representative

Call to Order: Board President Dennis Booth called the Regular Meeting to order at 8:05 am.

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Board President Dennis Booth.

Introductions: Dr. Corr welcomed the Board Members, faculty, professional staff, students and guests.

Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes presented for approval.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda for the March 16, 2020 meeting presented for approval.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Call to the Audience: No one approached the call to the audience.

Employee Reports

Faculty Report: Sonja Greiner presented on behalf of the Faculty Senate Committee.

Ms. Greiner highlighted the various events faculty have participated in through February 2020.

- Paul Huggins attended the 13th annual Arizona State University composition conference where he presented "Whatever Happened to the Man of Tomorrow?: Superman as an American Immigrant."
- Dr. Sarah Snyder and Jennifer Thimell attended the 13th annual Arizona State University composition conference. Together, they presented "Teaching Real Genres with Real Audiences in FYC" which they are collaborating with Student Government and Shara Skinner for an Innovation Grant. Dr. Snyder authored an article published in February's WPA: Writing Program Administration titled "Sustainable Becomings: Women's Career Trajectories in Writing Program Administration."

- Sonja Greiner has been volunteering time tutoring elementary students in reading
- William Blomquist shared the Yuma Campus Art Gallery feature of the traveling exhibition of "Crafting my Story: Experiences of Loss, Grief & Spiritual Life." The 41st Yuma Symposium was held last month with AWC's hosting the (Pre) Symposium event where 4 guest presenters gave a preview of their presentations.
- Dr. Michelle Sims contributed to local KYMA newstory about the effects of a large minimum wage increase on small businesses in a rural community.
- Career and Technical Education Agriculture Faculty, Leigh Loughead and Sarah Berner, along with its students and new Director of Ag programs, Tosha Gillispie, were busy in February helping to host the Southwest Ag Summit. The Ag department also attended along with many other faculty, students and staff the 1st annual taste of community college days at the Arizona Capitol on February 10.
- Dr. Joann Chang, Renee Macaluso, and Greg McGuire Math participated in the annual national Math Counts competition day at Ron Watson Middle School on February 7.
- Ed Schubert, Professor of English, featured a lesson using Shakespeare's "Othello" to teach students how to research and determine lessons from the play.

Student Government Association (SGA): Fatima Covarrubias, President of Student Government Association Ms. Fatima Covarrubias welcomed the Board. SGA utilizing social media to support students and sharing how to be successful and position during the transition to online coursework. She updated the recent work for Innovation Fund projects, specifically for Andale's Pantry, available as a resource for students impacted by the growing pandemic. SGA continues to focus efforts for support, encouragement and motivation utilizing social media.

Student of the Month: Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, Vice President of Learning Services
Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, Vice President of Learning Services introduced Miguel Sanchez Division Chair of Mathematics and professor of mathematics. Mr. Sanchez shared why he nominated Student of the Month recipient, Valeria Saravia-Martinez. He recognized her determination and commitment to education and an outstanding student who plans to pursue engineering.

Ms. Anna Camacho ended her participation by phone. (8:19 am)

Action Item #1 – Human Resources Candidates for Exempt Positions and Review of Unfilled Positions – Presented by Patricia Jiminez

Candidates for Exempt Positions

- Ivan Dizdar, Professor of Physical & Wellness Education/Head Women's Soccer Coach
- Julie M. Koepp, Career Development Center

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Candidates for Exempt Positions

Action Item #2 – Consideration to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Arizona Western College and Arizona State University – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Maria Chavoya, second by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Arizona Western College and Arizona State University

Action Item #3 – Consideration to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma (STEDY) – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Intergovernmental Agreement with Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma (STEDY)

Action Item #4 – Consideration to Approve Payment to U.S. Department of Education – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Payment to U.S. Department of Education

Action Item #5 – Voucher Approval (February 2020) – Presented by Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Maria Chavoya, second by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Voucher for February 2020.

President's Reports

Student Services; Vice President of Student Services, Bryan Doak

Mr. Doak welcomed the Board and introduced Martha Cordova, Director of Transfer Services. The Transfer Services office focuses on the BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal) to ensure AWC Students are prepared to a University to obtain their Bachelor's degree. Through strengthening partnerships with state universities and diligent work with students through Transfer Services Office, student transfer data has increased. The focus of pairing more academic support resources for students, data is showing an increase of student success in their first year of transfer with data showing GPA's at 3.19, leading the state average of 3.05. The implementation of Guided Pathways will continue to support student's success in the classroom with deliberate connection to additional resources for student success both in person at each campus, and online.

Learning Services, Vice President of Learning Services Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson

Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson welcomed the Board and introduced Miguel Sanchez.

Mr. Sanchez is the Division Chair for Mathematics and professor of mathematics. As a Cibola graduate, he highlighted the strong partnership amongst the community supporting students at all educational levels. He focused on the tremendous connection with students in high school taking college classes through dual-credit. Mr. Sanchez featured student participation in the Student Math League, Student Research League and COMAP Competition

which brought over 6700 3-person teams worldwide competing on math-based projects; the AWC team earned the award of honorable mention. He finished focusing on the successful alumni who pursued their dreams working at fortune 500 companies and impacting various industries including Education, Science and Research.

Closing Items:

Dr. Corr addressed the Board. He recognized the tremendous commitment to the pipeline for students to obtain their degrees and continue into higher education at the university level.

At the state level, legislative proposals have been presented to have Community Colleges offer Baccalaureate degrees. AWC is committed to continuing to build relationships with state universities but not offer courses or degrees than currently statutorily available. Dr. Corr has committed to continuing to engage at the state-level to ensure AWC's best interests are maintained.

Dr. Corr addressed the recent concerns surrounding Covid-19 and clarified the College efforts. In conjunction with university partners, classes are cancelled Monday March 16 and Tuesday March 17 enabling two days for faculty and support staff to focus on transitioning to academic course instruction to online to the degree possible. The priority for instruction is based on course objectives for students to receive the content needed and Health and safety and success of students. Evaluation of online course instruction to be done during March 30 spring break.

All Travel has been suspended for both students and professional staff. If travel is necessary, it will require Presidential approval. In regards to field athletics, the NJCAA has placed a moratorium suspending all sport activities until further notice. College support services continue to remain open to support student resources for their academic success. Child Development Learning Lab (CDLL) will follow the same hours of operation as the course instruction schedule.

Finally, Dr. Corr noted the importance of dual-credit courses and the instruction during the uncertain time. He praised the College for quickly placing multiple measures in place to prioritize the support and success of students. All staff and faculty focusing effort to ensure the health of one another while ensuring the final 10 weeks of the semester ensure the primary interests of the College which is ensuring the safety of faculty, staff and students and supporting the success of students through the Spring semester.

The next Board Meeting will be hosted at the Yuma Campus.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled regular meeting will be Monday, April 13 in Frances Morris Boardroom at the Yuma Campus and Luis Learning Center Campus at 9:00 am.

Adjourn: The meeting matters were complete.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Maria Chavoya.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.

Respectfully submitted,


Ashley B Herrington, Recording Secretary