

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Minutes of the Tuesday, May 5, 2020  
Virtual WEBEX PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bergen Community College was held on Tuesday, **May 5, 2020**, as a Virtual WebEx Teleconference Meeting. Chairman Gerard L. Carroll called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and the following announcement was made:

The Bergen Community College Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for today Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 5 p.m. will take place remotely. No physical meeting will take place. Rather, and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting will take place electronically through WebEx.

Instructions for the public to participate have been posted on the homepage of the Bergen Community College website, and in addition to the notice being posted on the website, an email was distributed to all BCC personnel and the information was uploaded to the electronic sign as you enter the Paramus Campus.

All members of the public, whether accessing via the web or telephone, will have the opportunity to offer comments during the public comment portion of the meeting.

The public agenda is available on the BCC website home page.

Go to [bergen.edu](http://bergen.edu)

Once on the home page:

Go to About Us

Next, Board of Trustees

Followed by Meeting Agendas and Resolutions

Thank you.

"The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by an annual notice, including the date, time, and place of this meeting posted in the first-floor main lobby of the Pitkin Education Center of Bergen Community College and mailed to The Record and The Herald News and filed with the Clerk of the County of Bergen, November 25, 2019."

**ROLL CALL**

Present

Mr. Joseph Barreto

Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee

Mr. Gerard L. Carroll

Mr. Louis DeLisio

Mr. Patrick J. Fletcher

Ms. Krista Flinn

Mr. Bryant Gomez, Alumni Trustee

Mr. Mark Longo

Ms. Ritzy Morales-Diaz

Mr. Stephen F. Pellino, Esq.

Dr. Sheetal Ranjan

Mr. Adam Silverstein

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Also Present

Dr. Anthony Ross, Interim President

Ms. Judy Verrone, Esq.

Mr. Timothy Burger, Technical Director, Information Technology Services

**REPORTS**

**VICE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

No report from Vice Chairman Silverstein.

**SECRETARY'S REMARKS**

No report from Secretary Barreto.

**TREASURER'S REMARKS**

Treasurer Blakeslee informed the board that the Audit and Finance Committee met on April 22, 2020 by WebEx. We discussed policies that will be finalized and recommendations will be submitted to the board.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Anthony Ross provided the following update:

1. With the semester coming to an end Dr. Ross acknowledged and thanked the entire Bergen Community College community for coming together and supporting the transition to working remotely and teaching our classes online. This was no easy feat and yet the campus community came together over a short period of time to make this happen. A big thank you to everyone for pulling together and continuing to serve our students remotely.
2. Dr. Ross reminded everyone that the college will remain closed as we continue to offer online instruction for the summer.
3. The BCC virtual commencement, is moving ahead. Senator Corey Booker has agreed to be the commencement speaker. An email went out today to the college community and it will be publicized tomorrow in the various media outlets including social media.

Thank you, Trustee Silverstein for getting the Senator for us.

4. A Pass/Fail option – went well, however there was an issue with the encryption portion of the personal identification information (PII) however this was resolved and there is no adverse impact to students or the college.

5. CARES Act funding to students. 4.2 million, held back 1.2 million to be awarded over summer. Over 850 students have applied for the grants since yesterday! We anticipate funding approximately 3,000 students with awarding \$800-1000 per student.

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6. Dr. Ross participated on a conference call between NJ colleges and Universities with Sen. Menendez on April 24 to discuss COVID-19. He reaffirmed his support for NJ higher education.
7. Interim President Ross participated on a conference call with County Executive Tedesco, Chairman Carroll, Vice Chair Silverstein, Trustees Blakeslee, Barreto, along with BCC Executive team to discuss next steps for BCC on April 30. Informed him of our decisions thus far, discuss planning for summer and scenario planning for Fall operations.
8. Dr. Ross will participate at a quarterly Government Relations in Higher Education call tomorrow with NJ higher education institutions with the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education.
9. An email will be distributed to the Board with information regarding the Minority Serving Institution and Hispanic Serving Institution designations so that they are better informed as to the additional CARES Act funding that will be awarded to the college.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT – AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE/LEGAL AFFAIRS**

Treasurer Blakeslee informed the board members that the Audit and Finance Committee had a virtual meeting on April 22, 2020 and reviewed the financial repercussions of COVID-19. The committee is recommending resolutions A/F1 to A/F5.

#### **EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Trustee Barreto, Chair, Education and Student Affairs Committee had a virtual meeting on April 24, 2020 and recommended approval of Education and Student Affairs Resolutions E/SA1, E/SA2 and E/S2A.

#### **PERSONNEL**

Trustee Fletcher, Chair, Personnel Committee informed the board members that the Personnel Committee had a virtual meeting on April 21, 2020 and will be recommending P1 and P2 as well as Institutional 1. An executive session meeting will be held to discuss other outstanding personnel matters.

#### **SITE AND FACILITIES**

Trustee Longo, Chair, Site and Facilities Committee informed the board members that Site and Facilities Committee had a virtual meeting on April 22 2020. At this time, the committee will not be recommending resolutions for board approval.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ISSUES**

Chairman Ranjan reported that the Strategic Planning and Issues Committee did not have a scheduled meeting due to the move of the college's programs online.

Trustee Ranjan provided a list of agenda items and questions to Mr. Ron Spaide, Chief Information Officer. Mr. Spaide is leading the Strategic Planning Committee and will organize a team to explore and research the following agenda items for the next meeting.

Agenda items:

- how does COVID19 impact our current strategic plan?
- what would our dashboard have looked like right now without COVID?
- what does it look like now?
- what has changed, and why?
- do we need to course-correct the strategic plan?
- if so, how?

The team can discuss the agenda items, questions and course correct the Strategic Plan and keep on track those activities so we can update the trustees.

### **ALUMNI TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

Alumni Trustee Gomez thanked Dr. Ross and Administration, Faculty and Staff for the continuous updates and taking the necessary measures for the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr. Gomez introduced Ms. Angie Goldszmidt, Honors and PTK Coordinator at BCC and who also serves as the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship representative.

Ms. Goldszmidt provided the following report:

PTK International Awards:

On April 17th, the International PTK convention was held virtually and our students received multiple awards including the Distinguished Chapter Award, Distinguished College Project, Distinguished Honors in Action Project, Distinguished Honors in Action Theme, and the Beta Alpha Award of Continued Excellence for being an internationally distinguished chapter for 3 years in a row. This award was given to only 11 colleges this year, including us. Our students also won the Distinguished Officer Team Award, and our chapter President, Tyler Zamski, won the Distinguished Chapter Officer Award. They received these awards in recognition of two projects they organized this year. The first is their College Project, which they presented during the March meeting, and it focused on the public transportation issues our students are facing. The second project, called the Honors in Action project, consisted of studying the use of subliminal messaging in political ads and its effect on voter perception and behavior. I am hoping they will be able to present this project once we come back to campus.

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Prestigious Scholarships Received by Bergen Students:

- Jennifer Park was selected as one of 50 in the nation to receive the Coca-Cola Silver Scholarship for \$1,250.
- Tenzin Kalden was selected as one of 7 in the nation to receive the Oberndorf Scholarship for \$1,000.
- Erisa Ganerllari was selected as one of ten students in the nation to receive the Hites Scholarship for \$7,500.
- Jenna Santacroce and Robert Krasowski were two of 15 students in the nation to receive the Guistwhite Scholarship of \$5,000 each.
- Jade Tollis was selected as the New Century Workforce Pathway Scholar. This scholarship is for \$1,250 and is awarded to the top student from each state, and so she is the recipient of the state of New Jersey.

Wonderful news was received that Luis Vera was selected as a 2020 Jack Kent Cooke Scholar. This is the largest scholarship available for community college students and it provides up to \$120,000 for each scholar to complete their bachelor's degree and an additional \$75,000 for graduate school. Luis was one of 50 students in the nation to receive this scholarship and he is the 12th Bergen student to receive it in the past 6 years. While at Bergen, Luis was involved with STEM and the 3SP program, he is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and is part of the Judith K Winn School of Honors.

Link to the recording of the announcement:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w0xwalG98aHVN5ABTvsOMM4VfituTNv-/view?usp=sharing>.

Even though the college is closed, we are continuing to offer workshops and events to students virtually. We will also host a virtual PTK Induction Ceremony at 7 pm on Thursday, May 14th and we hope that some of you will be able to join us. Thank you for your time and for continuing to support our programs and our students. We would not have been able to accomplish all these wonderful things without your support.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Dr. Aaron Fichtner, President of the Council of County Colleges, has recommended the appointment of our Trustee Dr. Sheetal Ranjan to the Campus Sexual Assault Commission. The law that creates this entity, designates one of the Governor's appointments as representative of the county college sector. We will be notified in a few weeks regarding this appointment. Congratulations Dr. Ranjan.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/BOARD MEMBERS**

Chairman Carroll requested a motion to close the Unfinished Business for Board Members. A motion was made by Trustee Barreto and seconded by Trustee Morales-Diaz. All were in favor. The Unfinished Business portion of the meeting was closed.

**NEW BUSINESS/BOARD MEMBERS**

Trustee Ranjan gave an update regarding the CARES Act Funding.

The CARES Act contains three parts of money:

Part one is for grades Kindergarten to 12, part two is for higher education (of which you heard President Ross include in his report):

Dr. Ross provided the following statement in his report:

CARES Act funding to students. 4.2 million, held back 1.2 million to be awarded over summer. Over 850 students have applied for the grants since yesterday. We anticipate funding approximately 3,000 students with awarding \$800-1000 per student.

Part three is for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund.

Governor's decide how to divide those funds across all sectors of education from K-12 to higher education. The New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) sent out a strong advocacy letter which stated that a large portion of this money should go to community colleges sectors. Dr. Ranjan, Trustee-At-Large of the NJCCC Executive Committee has been advocating very hard at the State and Federal level for operational funds. Also, additional funds will be designated for Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI).

Dr. Ross informed trustees that he received notification as it relates to Bergen Community College being a Minority Service Institution and Hispanic Serving Institution. The Executive Team submitted the application to the Department of Education for the funds. An email will be distributed to board members on May 6, 2020 with the details of the additional funds.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Chairman Carroll introduced Mr. Timothy Burger, Technical Director, Information Technology Services.

Chairman Carroll will begin taking comments first from those who have joined the conference by computer or tablet using the WebEx application and then move on to those who have dialed in. If you are using the application, please use the "raise hand" function to indicate your desire to speak. I will then unmute and announce you.

Angela Mora, Student, Bergen Community College

Mr. Mora requested information to appeal a student conduct suspension.

Dr. Ross instructed Mr. Mora that he should have received a letter from the Judicial Affairs Officer.

Please contact the Judicial Affairs Conduct Office.

Ms. Tracy Miceli, Managing Director, Scheduling and Event Planning

Tracy encouraged individuals who participate on LinkedIn to share the "Bergen Community College - Bergen Courage" stories of individuals who are volunteering and show the spirit and dedication to the community during COVID-19.

Chairman Carroll requested a motion to close the Open to the Public Session. A motion was made by Trustee Barreto and seconded by Trustee Blakeslee. All were in favor. The Public Session was closed.

Chairman Carroll requested a motion to approve the April 7, 2020 board meeting minutes. A motion was made by Trustee Barreto and seconded by Trustee Morales-Diaz.

**Roll Call Vote for approval of the board meeting minutes dated April 7, 2020.**

Mr. Joseph A. Barreto - Yes  
Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee - Yes  
Mr. Gerard L. Carroll – Yes  
Mr. Louis DeLisio – Yes  
Mr. Patrick J. Fletcher - Yes  
Ms. Krista J. Flinn – Yes  
Mr. Mark Longo – Yes  
Ms. Ritzy Morales-Diaz - Yes  
Mr. Stephen F. Pellino, Esq. - Yes  
Dr. Sheetal Ranjan – Yes  
Mr. Adam Silverstein – Yes  
Mr. Bryant Gomez - Yes

Votes - 12 Yes.

Motion passed for approval of April 7, 2020 board meeting minutes.

Chairman Carroll requested a motion to approve the May 5, 2020 Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Barreto and seconded by Trustee Fletcher.

Audit and Finance – A/F1 to A/F5.  
Education & Student Affairs – E/SA1 and E/SA2.  
Institutional 1.  
Personnel – P1 and P2.

**Roll Call Vote for approval of the Consent Agenda dated May 5, 2020.**

Mr. Joseph A. Barreto - Yes  
Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee - Yes  
Mr. Gerard L. Carroll – Yes  
Mr. Louis DeLisio – Yes  
Mr. Patrick J. Fletcher - Yes  
Ms. Krista J. Flinn – Yes  
Mr. Mark Longo – Yes

***Trustee Mark Longo abstained from voting on Resolution A/F1: Exempt from Bidding Appointment General Counsel – DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, L.L.P.***

Ms. Ritzy Morales-Diaz - Yes  
Mr. Stephen F. Pellino, Esq. - Yes  
Dr. Sheetal Ranjan – Yes  
Mr. Adam Silverstein – Yes  
Mr. Bryant Gomez - Yes

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Votes -

11 Yes on A/F1, 1 Abstention

12 Yes on A/F2 to A/F5

12 Yes on E/SA1 and E/SA2

12 Yes on I1.

12 Yes on P1 and P2.

Motion passed for Consent Agenda.

At 6:15 p.m. Chairman Carroll requested a motion to enter into executive session.

On behalf of Chairman Carroll, "Pursuant to section 12b of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the following matters will be discussed by the Board in closed session they are: personnel matters. The discussion will become public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists."

A motion was made by Trustee Longo and seconded by Trustee Blakeslee.  
All trustees were in favor. Motion passed.

At 6:45 p.m., Chairman Carroll requested a motion to return to the board meeting.  
A motion was made by Trustee Longo and seconded by Trustee Silverstein.  
All were in favor. Motion passed.

Trustees had discussion regarding the Presidential Search and there was consensus that, upon return from the executive session, Chairman Carroll will explain that the Presidential Search was temporarily suspended, and will call for a motion to adopt a resolution to restart and continue the Presidential Search on an extended timeline.

A motion was made by Trustee Fletcher and seconded by Trustee Barreto.

### **Roll Call Vote that the Presidential Search was temporarily suspended, and will adopt a resolution to restart and continue the Presidential Search on an extended timeline.**

Mr. Joseph A. Barreto - Yes

Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee - Yes

Mr. Gerard L. Carroll – Yes

Mr. Louis DeLisio – Yes

Mr. Patrick J. Fletcher - Yes

Ms. Krista J. Flinn – Due to a previous appointment Trustee Flinn left the virtual meeting.

Mr. Mark Longo – Yes

Ms. Ritzy Morales-Diaz - Yes

Mr. Stephen F. Pellino, Esq. - Yes

Dr. Sheetal Ranjan – Yes

Mr. Adam Silverstein – Yes

Mr. Bryant Gomez - Due to a previous appointment Alumni Trustee Gomez left the virtual meeting.

Votes – 10 Yes.

Motion passed.



Approved Resolutions

A/F1 – Approval of Legal Vouchers – DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, L.L.P.

Approval is hereby granted to approve the following invoice:

March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin. LLP. \$ 71,808.41

A/F2 - Authorization to renew the College's Flood Insurance Policy for 1280 Wall Street, Lyndhurst, NJ.

This category of Insurance is exempt from bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-25.5(11), in accordance with the requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services.

Approval is hereby granted to renew Flood Insurance coverage for property located at 1280 Wall Street, Lyndhurst, NJ, from Otterstedt Insurance Agency, Inc. for the coverage period:

June 5, 2020 through June 5, 2021

Flood Policy at a cost of \$39,193.00

Renewal of insurance coverage for 1280 Wall Street, Lyndhurst, NJ. Flood insurance rates are mandated by FEMA.

A/F3 - To authorize the purchase of Cohesity Datacenter Back Up & Disaster Recovery solution from Aspire Technology Partners.

Approval is hereby granted to purchase Cohesity Datacenter Back Up & Disaster Recovery solution from Aspire Technology Partners. in the amount of \$274,104.40.

A/F4 - To authorize the annual renewal of ManageEngine ServiceDesk Plus Enterprise license software, from May 12, 2020 through May 11, 2021 from Insight Public Sector.

Approval is hereby granted to renew ManageEngine ServiceDesk Plus software licensing at a cost of \$22,375.78 from Insight Public Sector on NJ State Contract 89853.

A/F5 - To authorize the purchase of annual Microsoft Campus agreement for volume licensing of various Microsoft software from Insight Public Sector for the period 6/1/20 – 5/31/21.

Approval is hereby granted to purchase an annual Microsoft Campus Licensing agreement from Insight Public Sector in the amount of \$145,915.33 on NJ State Contract 89853.

E/SA1 – To authorize submission of an Amendment Application to the Perkins FY 2020 spending plan, as required by the State of New Jersey Department of Education Perkins Guidelines, and to authorize Interim President Anthony Ross, or his designee, to execute required documents.

Approval is hereby granted for submission of an amendment of \$15,705 to the FY 2020 Perkins spending from cost savings realized by BCC's Purchasing Department.

ESA2 - To approve a corrective action plan for the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance for the Carl D. Perkins Grant FY2018.

Approval is hereby granted to authorize the Corrective Action Plan and repayment of funds.

Institutional 1 - Revision of College Policy: Smoking Policy

Approval is hereby granted for the revision and new College Policy: Smoking Policy.

This policy revision reflects new smoking media, such as electronic smoking devices, as well as the College's commitment to become a 100% smoke-free campus.

P1 - Appointment: Support Staff (This appointment is being made in accordance with the Bergen Community College Support Staff Association (BCCSSA) contract, Article XV, after successful completion of the probationary period.)

Approval is hereby granted for the appointment of the following individual to the position and annual salary indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Division</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
John Rizer	Public Safety Officer/Public Safety	\$36,000.00 (pro-rated)	02/05/20 (retroactive)

P2A - Retirement: Faculty

Approval is hereby granted for the retirement of the following individual:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Rank/Department/Division</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Michael Bodek	Associate Professor/English/ Humanities/Academic Affairs	07/01/20

**ADJOURNMENT**

As no further business was brought before the Board of Trustees, Chairman Carroll asked for a motion to adjourn the board meeting.

Secretary Barreto made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice Chairman Silverstein.

All trustees were in favor.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Thank you,

Trustee Joseph Barreto, Secretary  
Board of Trustees