

**Minutes of the  
Gaston College  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Myers Center Board Room  
August 27, 2018**

**Members Present:**

Mr. John Dancoff  
Ms. Jennifer Davis  
Mr. Ron Hovis  
Mr. Tom Keigher  
Mr. Brad Overcash  
Dr. Jim Ragan, Vice Chair  
Ms. Suzanne Riley  
Mr. James Smith  
Dr. Jim Watson, Chair  
Ms. Kyra Rhyne, SGA President

Dr. Patricia Skinner, President

**Members Absent:**

Mr. Stephen Campbell, Secretary  
Sheriff Alan Cloninger  
Judge Craig Collins  
Ms. Natalie Tindol  
Mr. Randy Vinson

**Others Present:**

Ms. Julia Allen, Ms. Megan Allen, Mr. Todd Baney, Ms. Tonia Broome, Ms. Sherry Carpenter, Dr. Dewey Dellinger, Dr. Keith Denson, Ms. Mary Ellen Dillon, Ms. Lynda Ellington, Ms. Kim Gelsinger, Ms. Ashley Hagler, Ms. Renita Johnson, Ms. Meagan Lingerfelt, Ms. Cynthia McCrory, Mr. Kendrick McDowell, Dr. Dennis McElhoe, Ms. Stephanie Michael-Pickett, Mr. Jeremy Railton, Dr. Silvia Patricia Rios Husain, Ms. Verna Rochon, Mr. Don Rusch, Ms. Juanita Williams, Ms. Patricia Williams, Dr. Heather Woodson; and Mr. Carl Stewart, College Attorney.

- **Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and declared a quorum present.**
- **Invocation – Mr. Smith (Mr. Vinson was absent.)**
- **Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder**

Chair Watson reminded Trustees of the ethics requirements of public servants and also requested they identify any conflicts of interest or appearance of conflicts of interest present. None were noted.

**A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Chair Watson asked if there were any changes, additions, or corrections to the agenda. None were identified. Mr. Hovis moved to approve the agenda; Dr. Ragan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 11, 2018, BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.**

**Chair Watson presented the Minutes of the June 11, 2018, Board of Trustees Meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. No changes were identified.**

**Mr. Dancoff moved to approve the June 11, 2018, minutes; Ms. Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**C. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Welcome/Introduction of New Employees**

Dr. Skinner welcomed Ms. Sherry Carpenter, Staff Senate President, and Mr. Jeremy Railton, Faculty Senate President, to the meeting.

Dr. Dellinger Introduced:

Ms. Megan Allen, Instructor-Sociology

Ms. Patricia Williams, Instructor-Biology

Ms. Sharon Wilson, Career and College Promise Success and Outreach Coordinator  
(Ms. Wilson was not in attendance.)

Dr. Husain Introduced:

Ms. Meagan Lingerfelt, Student Recruiter/Enrollment Specialist

Dr. McElhoe Introduced:

Mr. Kendrick McDowell, WIOA Youth Specialist

Ms. Verna Rochon, WIOA Youth Coordinator

Ms. Juanita Williams, WIOA Youth Work Experience Specialist

**2. Welcome New Trustees**

Chair Watson welcomed two new trustees to the Board: Mr. Tom Keigher and Ms. Kyra Rhyne. He provided a brief background on each of them.

Mr. Keigher was appointed in May by the Gaston County Commissioners to serve a four-year term on the Gaston College Board of Trustees. He is a returning trustee as he has previously served on the Board from 2006 to 2016. During that time, Mr. Keigher was a diligent advocate for Gaston College with the Gaston County Commissioners Board.

Ms. Rhyne is a resident of Stanley, NC, and a student at the Gaston Early College High School. She is passionate about volunteering and leadership and looks forward to the opportunity to serve the Student Government Association as president. She is working on obtaining an Associate in Science at Gaston College and plans to transfer to a four-year university to study Chemistry and enter the medical field.

Mr. Keigher and Ms. Rhyne thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

### **3. Recognition of Ms. Ashley Hagler – ACCT 2018 Southern Regional Faculty Award Winner**

Dr. Skinner announced it was her pleasure to recognize and ask Ms. Ashley Hagler to come to the podium. Ms. Hagler has been named the 2018 ACCT Southern Region Faculty Member award winner and will have the chance to compete for the 2018 ACCT National Faculty Member award at the 2018 ACCT Leadership Congress in New York.

Ms. Hagler has been at Gaston College for 11 years and has shown progressive growth with demonstrated leadership skills, dedication, and commitment to students, faculty, and the community. In addition to teaching, she has been actively involved with the SPARC<sup>3</sup> (STEM Persistence and Retention via Curricula, Cohorts, and Centralization) project for the past nine years. In 2014, Ms. Hagler led a college team to apply for national certification for the Partnership for Undergraduate Life Science Education (PULSE). In early 2015, the College received notification that it was one of two community colleges in the U.S. to have earned PULSE certification. Additionally, in 2016, the College was awarded the prestigious Bellwether Award from the Community College Futures Assembly for the SPARC<sup>3</sup> project due to significant increases in course success, retention, and graduation rates. In January 2017, Ms. Hagler was selected as the North Carolina Community College Excellence in Teaching award recipient as a result of her efforts to improve biology education.

Dr. Skinner relayed to Ms. Hagler how very proud the College was of all she had done and looked forward to her winning the ACCT National award; however, she felt Ms. Hagler was already a winner in the College's view. Dr. Skinner then thanked Dr. Woodson for putting together all the ACCT nomination information on Ms. Hagler. Chair Watson added his congratulations to Ms. Hagler on behalf of the Board.

### **4. Digital Learning at Gaston College**

Chair Watson relayed that this topic had come up during a meeting with the Executive Committee. He felt it would be appropriate and informative for the Board to know the digital learning that was already taking place at Gaston College. He welcomed Dr. Dewey Dellinger forward to introduce the participants involved in the digital learning presentation.

Dr. Dellinger introduced the team that would present this topic to the Board: Ms. Kim Gelsinger, Director – Distance Education; Ms. Tonia Broome, Dean – Arts and Sciences (She was also the Colleges QEP Director during last SACSCOC accreditation visit where

the QEP topic was on distance learning-Strengthening Academic Internet Learning or SAIL.); Dr. Keith Denson, Music Instructor (and instructor for several online courses); and Dr. Heather Woodson, Associate VP for Academic Affairs (and she supervises the distance education department). Mr. Karen Duncan, Instructional Technology Specialist, was not present as she was on jury duty.

Ms. Gelsing relayed information that concerned the early years (1980s) and the progress and growth that has taken place through the years. Technological advancements have allowed the College to expand its online presence greatly from a two-way interactive video process, to web-based courses, and now to courses available through the Blackboard Learning Management System. Graphs within the PowerPoint charted this growth.

Ms. Broome relayed the efforts that were undertaken during the College's 2012 Accreditation Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which focused on Strengthening Internet Academic Learning (SAIL). This effort was to set standards for Internet classes regarding course design and delivery based on best practices in distance education. As a result of that work, Ms. Karen Duncan won an International Blackboard Catalyst Award, which honors those who push the boundaries of their educational programs and technology in order to deliver innovative and effective learning experiences. She won this award in 2013 and 2014.

Ms. Broome continued to relay the positive outcomes reached during the five-year SAIL QEP program: the number of courses SAIL certified, the increased success rate for students in online courses, and the decrease of withdrawal rates for online courses.

Dr. Denson then talked about his work on his dissertation at Wingate that had to be centered on a topic at the College where they worked. As he had been involved with early online courses as a music instructor, he had a great interest in the development and growth of online classes. He studied a cohort of students (1,700) who had taken 60% of their courses either online, hybrid or face-to-face throughout their learning journey. He then provided statistics on four-year success rates by modality; the success rates for students taking online courses was the highest. This success in online courses has greatly increased over the years.

Dr. Woodson then concluded the presentation discussing the future on online learning. Work will continue in an effort to increase accessibility for all students; with the Student Information System Integration, auto enroll will be possible for online students; authentication software will help prove the person who took the course is the person who gets the grade; Cengage Unlimited will give students access to any textbook for one flat fee for a semester, or even a year; and some courses will have their materials embedded within the course so students will not have any additional costs.

#### **D. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Following is a summary of Dr. Skinner's activities and travel since the June 11, 2018, Board meeting. Additional details for each item can be found with the report in the Board packet distributed at the meeting.

- North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP) - The NCACCP met on June 13, 2018, for their monthly meeting. Senate Bill 420 was expected to be ratified to change the language regarding how many times a Board of Trustees should meet to "six times per year," rather than bi-monthly.
- Gaston College Workforce Summit - Gaston College hosted a Workforce Summit on June 14, 2018, for our stakeholders in Gaston and Lincoln counties.
- NC Listening Session - myFutureNC, a statewide education commission focusing on educational attainment for all North Carolinians, is holding a series of eight listening sessions throughout the state. Dr. Skinner attended on June 14, 2018, at the Murdoch Research Institute.
- Gaston College's Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) Retreat - On June 25, 2018, Gaston College held an internal GPS Team Retreat for the members selected from Gaston College's various divisions that will lead the changes necessary to fully implement guided pathways.
- Superintendents Meeting - On July 10, 2018, Dr. Lory Morrow and Mr. Jeff Booker, Lincoln and Gaston counties' superintendents respectively, came to the College to discuss with Dr. Skinner present and future collaborative initiatives.
- Jobs for the Future Student Success Center Network (JFFSSCN) Meeting - The JFFSSCN meeting took place in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 17, 2018; Dr. Skinner was part of the team to represent North Carolina's Student Success Center.
- Jobs for the Future (JFF) State Policy Network Meeting - The JFF Network State Policy Meeting took place July 18-19, 2018, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Dr. Skinner attended along with Mr. Wesley Beddard, Associate VP for Student Learning and Success, and Mr. Bill Schneider, Associated VP for Research and Performance Management, from the System Office.
- North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP) Quarterly Meeting - The quarterly meeting of the NCACCP took place from July 25 – 27, 2018, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
- North Carolina Student Success Center Advisory Board Meeting - The Student Success Center Advisory Board met on July 27, 2018, via Skype. Ms. Susan Barbitta is the new North Carolina Student Success Center Executive Director, taking over upon the retirement of Dr. Roxanne Newton.
- Teaching and Learning Conference - On August 6-7, 2018, Gaston College partnered with Gaston County Schools to host the Teaching and Learning Conference on the Dallas Campus. Over 1,100 teachers, instructors, and school administrators attended this conference.

- Strategic Plan Process Update – Work has continued with the Strategic Plan process to select a company to assist in that endeavor. Board member Jennifer Davis was part of the company interview process; Paulien & Associates was selected to work with Gaston College to conduct a thorough and in-depth comprehensive assessment of the College and formulate the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. Paulien has extensive experience with working with community colleges in this capacity, and that will be important as the College will also review its mission and vision statements as is required by SACSCOC. Dr. Skinner will keep the Board apprised of upcoming Strategic Plan meeting dates.
- Textile Technology Center (TTC) Proposal with NCSU – Dr. Skinner provided an update of the meetings that have taken place since June Board of Trustees meeting surrounding the TTC Proposal with NCSU. She relayed that a revised TTC Proposal had been recently sent to Dean Hinks, with the College of Textiles at NCSU, that was a better fit with Gaston College's needs. A meeting is planned for August 28, 2018, with Senator Harrington, Senator Andy Wells, Dr. Garrett Hinshaw, Mr. Carl Stewart and Dr. Skinner to discuss the new proposal and garner support for it. (A copy of the TTC handout provided will be kept with the minutes.)
- Welcome Breakfast for NCCCS President Hans – A community welcome breakfast is being planned for Friday, October 12, at 8 a.m., in the Rauch Fine Arts Gallery. Invitations will be going out soon.

## **E. SGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Ms. Rhyne, SGA President, gave the following update on SGA activities since June 11, 2018. The report in its entirety is filed with the minutes.

- SGA Leadership Training - The 2018-2019 SGA Executive Board and Senators participated in training for the upcoming academic year on Monday, August 6 and Tuesday, August 7.
- Greeter Day - SGA partnered with the Student Success Committee and participated in Greeter Day that was held on August 20 and August 21 at the Dallas Campus.
- Welcome Back Events - SGA Welcome Back events occurred on August 21– August 23 on all three campuses.
- Senate Meetings - SGA's first senate meeting for the 2018-2019 academic year will be on September 5, 2018, in the Myers Center Conference Room, 216.

## **F. FACILITIES**

### **1. Capital Report**

Ms. McCrory informed the Board that the topic of the Gaston County Greenway has gone back to the County for further discussion in an effort to resolve some concerns of the College.

A Capital Report on the Veterinary Technology Facility was submitted for the Board's information and review. No action was required.

Veterinary Technology Facility

Ms. McCrory reported the architect is working towards obtaining county approval of construction documents in order to bid the project. At the end of July, it was realized that the architect was running behind schedule. When Ms. McCrory spoke with the architect, they relayed they were five months behind. The College worked through tightening up the schedule with them, and the new revised schedule is now just two months behind. This is a legitimate delay as State Construction was running behind as they had numerous projects lined up for review. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Veterinary Technology Facility is scheduled for December 4, 2018.

**G. FINANCE (Mr. Smith presented the Finance Committee items as Mr. Campbell was absent.)**

**1. Proposed Firing Range Agreement with Town of Cramerton**

The Town of Cramerton has approached Mr. Dennis Crosby, Director of Criminal Justice Academy/BLET program, regarding a potential partnership related to the Firing Range facility. Cramerton is in the process of selling their town firing range and proposes a significant contribution to fund improvements to the College firing range in exchange for guaranteed sole use of the firing range facility by the Town of Cramerton Police Department for thirty-six (36) days per year, with scheduling priority over other jurisdictions.

Potential implications of the agreement include:

Advantages:

- Provides a significant capital infusion (\$500,000) to fund major improvements to the firing range, including paving, a fully covered range and possibly automatic turning targets.
- Strengthens the relationship between the Town of Cramerton Police Department and the Criminal Justice program at Gaston College.

Possible Challenges:

- Potentially negatively impacts partnerships with other jurisdictions, since Cramerton would have exclusive use and first choice of up to 36 training days per year.
- Loss of some flexibility in scheduling.
- Sets a precedent whereby others may want to pay for preferential scheduling.
- Extended length of terms of payment (proposal provides \$350,000 now and \$5,000 per year for 30 years).
- Coordinating the terms of Cramerton agreement with the terms of existing City of Gastonia property lease agreement for the firing range.

At the June 11, 2018, Board of Trustees meeting, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board passed a motion to approve the proposed concept related

to the use of the firing range with the Town of Cramerton, subject to the successful negotiation of contract terms, and authorized the College Attorney and College Administration to negotiate the terms of the associated agreement.

**Update as of August 15, 2018:**

Mr. Carl Stewart and Ms. Cynthia McCrory have held discussions with Ms. Karen Wolter, Town of Cramerton attorney, regarding suggested revisions to the terms of the Town of Cramerton Firing Range Agreement. Revisions include:

- reducing the requested thirty six (36) days of guaranteed range days per year to thirty (30),
- changing the terms of payment to a one-time payment of \$350,000 and then fifteen years of payments thereafter at \$10,000 per year,
- revising the term of agreement and method of pay-out in case of early termination to match the range lease agreement between the City of Gastonia and the College.

Ms. Wolter expressed her opinion that Cramerton officials would be amenable to accept these suggested changes.

Mr. Stewart has been in contact with Mr. Ashe Smith, City of Gastonia attorney, to request Gastonia's consent regarding the proposed agreement between Cramerton and the College. A letter of consent from Gastonia is required in the Cramerton agreement (Cramerton agreement – section 11 – Consent of Other Interested Parties). Mr. Smith advised that he will discuss this matter with Mr. Michael Peoples, City Manager and Chief Robert Helton, Police Chief and advise Mr. Stewart of their intent. Attached for the Board's information and review were a draft letter of agreement with the City of Gastonia along with the revised draft agreement between the Town of Cramerton and the College. Also attached was a copy of the executed agreement for the range lease between the City of Gastonia and the College. The implication for the budget is a possible gift of \$500,000 to Gaston College for improvements to the firing range.

**Upon a recommendation from the Finance Committee, Mr. Smith moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the proposed agreements related to the use of the firing range with the Town of Cramerton and the associated letter of consent from the City of Gastonia and authorizes the College Attorney and College Administration to finalize the terms of the associated agreements. The motion carried.**

**2. Sound Fiscal Management Policy**

The State Board of the North Carolina Community College System recently adopted State Board Code 1A SBCCC 200.4 "Sound Fiscal and Management Practices". The effective date of the adoption of this new policy is August 1, 2018.



Each community college's Board of Trustees must adopt policies that adhere to the new standards implemented at the state level. The wording of the proposed policy is practically identical to the one adopted by the State Board.

While the College already complies with all policy standards noted, the standards require a biannual review of staff turnover, which will be a new report to the Board.

**Upon a recommendation from the Finance Committee, Mr. Smith moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees adopt the Sound Fiscal Management Policy to adhere to the standards adopted at the state level on August 1, 2018. The motion carried.**

### **3. FY 2018-2019 State Budget Update as of August 7, 2018**

The Conference Committee budget was issued on May 28, 2018. The budget process was shortened by legislators to only issue a conference budget amendment to last year's biennial budget (Senate Bill 99), instead of the traditional budget issued separately by the Senate and House. The rationale was based upon the limited amount of additional recurring funding available to allocate in an updated budget. The Conference budget was vetoed by Governor Cooper on June 6. The legislature then overrode the Governor's veto on June 7 (Senate) and June 12 (House).

Provisions in the budget that benefit the Community College system and Gaston College include:

- Funding for short-term workforce training parity (the #1 priority for the system): Total funding \$14.7 Million, with \$6.4 Million recurring and \$8.3 Million non-recurring. Total system requested: \$16.5 Million. (Expected benefit to Gaston College \$73,171.)
- Funding to provide a 2% salary increase to community college workers. Total funding: \$24.1 Million recurring. (Expected benefit to Gaston College \$422,777 for faculty and staff salary increases.) The amendment also establishes a minimum annual state employee pay of \$31,200, or \$15 per hour. Community colleges are exempt from the minimum annual salary.
- Awarding five bonus leave days for positions that earn annual leave that may be carried forward year to year, but have no cash value at retirement.
- A special allotment to Gaston College of \$1 Million non-recurring for the construction and equipping of the Veterinary Technology building.

The total state budget available to Gaston College is not yet available, as of August 7, but is expected to be approximately 1% less than previous year on a status quo basis, due to decline in Curriculum FTE of 1.5%.

The State Board of Community Colleges will vote on accepting the budget at their August 16-17 meeting, and it will be presented to Gaston College Trustees at their October 1 meeting.

**4. FY 2018-2019 County Capital Priorities**

Ms. McCrory reviewed the County Capital Priorities with the Board.

<b>2018-19</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Budget Amount</b>	<b>Source</b>
Burn Building Repairs - Phase 1 - bays, reflectors, & roof 3rd level	1	\$350,000	County Cap
Myers Center Update - Building Automation Controls	2	\$200,000	County Cap
Renovate David Belk Cannon Simulation Lab	3	\$23,000	County Cap
Maintenance Reserve	4	\$74,000	County Cap
OSHA/ADA	5	\$25,000	County Cap
Energy Conservation	6	\$25,000	County Cap
<b>BUDGET YEAR TOTAL</b>		<b><u>\$697,000</u></b>	County Cap

**5. Veterans Affairs Audit**

The North Carolina State Approving Agency conducted a Veteran’s Affairs audit in July 2018. Two minor discrepancies were reported for Gaston College. The discrepancy areas involved late reporting of an initial student enrollment and late reporting of a change in the student enrollment. The Program Specialist was very complimentary of the procedures the College has in place. He reported that the two findings represent the second-lowest number of discrepancies under his review in the last five years. Ms. McCrory thanked Mr. Darren Stewart, Veterans Affairs and Financial Aid Specialist, for doing a great job.

**6. Financial Reports**

A summary of expenditures for FY 2017-2018 through June 2018, for State, Gaston, and Lincoln operating budgets and proprietary accounts in comparison to the previous year was presented for the Board’s review and information. No action was necessary.

**H. REPORT FROM NCACCT**

No report.

**I. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Watson asked Mr. Overcash for his report as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 Board Officers. Mr. Smith and Ms. Davis also served on the Committee. Board Officers serve one-year terms and may be reelected up to three years. The Committee placed the name of Dr. Jim Watson in nomination for Board Chair, Dr. Jim Ragan in nomination for Vice Chair, and Mr. Steve Campbell in nomination for Board Secretary. Chair Watson asked if there were any nominations from the floor; no additional nominations were made.

**Chair Watson entertained a motion by Mr. Hovis to close the nominations; Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Chair Watson entertained a motion by Mr. Hovis that the Board accept the nominations and elect each officer as presented by the Nominating Committee; Mr. Dancoff seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Mr. Overcash congratulated the newly appointed officers, and the Board gave them a round of applause.

## **J. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chair Watson relayed to the Board that he was very pleased to have the opportunity to serve the Board and expressed his thanks for their vote of confidence in him and the slate of officers that will serve with him. He commented how last year when he had to be away for two Board meetings, Vice Chair Ragan has taken his role and accepted and performed that duty well. He informed the Board that the Executive Committee had met a few times last year, and the presentation on digital learning was part of a brainstorming session during one of those meetings.

He informed the Board that he had been asked by the Lincolnton Rotary Program Director to provide a presentation at a Rotary meeting, and he had selected the topic of Gaston College. He brought information to them about the economical cost of education at Gaston, the job training programs/opportunities available, Apprenticeship 321, statistics on high schools sending their students to Gaston, the top four-year colleges Gaston's students transfer to, and other information. Dr. Skinner had come to the Lincolnton Rotary Meeting to support his program, as did Ms. Julia Allen and Dr. John McHugh; he thanked them all for their support. He particularly thanked Ms. Allen for putting the program together for him. Chair Watson concluded that he felt this was an excellent opportunity to be an advocate for the College.

### **1. Appointment of Foundation Board Member**

Pending Board of Trustees approval, Mr. John S. Lowery, Jr. has agreed to serve on the Gaston College Foundation Board.

With a background in the insurance and financial planning industries, Mr. Lowery has made a name for himself as owner of the Lowery Financial Group, which was later changed to WealthPlan Financial Partners. Since selling his firm in 2016, he has opened an advisory practice, again named, Lowery Financial Group, located in Gastonia. He works with business and individuals to assist in planning their financial needs. His experience will be an asset to the Foundation Board.

Mr. Lowery's term will be effective immediately through June 30, 2020.

**Chair Watson entertained a motion that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Mr. John S. Lowery, Jr. to serve on the Gaston**

**College Foundation Board of Directors as stated above. Dr. Ragan made the motion; Mr. Hovis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **2. Confirmation of Board Retreat**

Chair Watson relayed that the Executive Committee had had a brief discussion of the possibility of moving the retreat from the Gaston Country Club to Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens. However, due to the costs associated with the catering, it was deemed cost prohibitive. The retreat will remain at the Gaston Country Club and will be held on January 18, 2019.

## **3. November Board Committees Meeting Time Change and Board Meeting Date Change**

The Finance and Facilities Board Committees will meet on November 5, but the time has been moved to 2 p.m., instead of 3 p.m.

The November Board of Trustees meeting will be moved from November 19 to November 5, 2018. It will be at 4 p.m. as usual.

A list of meeting dates for FY 2018-2019 was placed in the back of the Trustees Board packet for their convenience.

## **4. Survey for Service on Board Committees**

Chair Watson relayed that the survey for service on Board Committees will go out August 28. He requested trustees list their first, second, and third choices, and stated he will try to honor those, if possible. He suggested that if a trustee had previously served on one Committee, it might broaden their perspective of the College to serve on a different Committee. He asked trustees to turn the survey results around quickly so Committees could be in place for the September 24 Committees Meetings.

## **5. Support of the Gaston College Foundation**

Trustees were urged to support the Gaston College Foundation as it would be wonderful to report we have 100% participation.

## **6. Dr. Patricia Skinner's Anniversary**

Chair Watson offered congratulations to Dr. Skinner on her 24<sup>th</sup> year as President of Gaston College, which occurred on August 25, 2018. The Board gave Dr. Skinner a round of applause.

## **7. NCACCT Leadership Seminar**

The fall 2018 NCACCT Leadership Seminar will be held in Asheville, September 5-7, 2018. Dr. Watson said he was proud to announce that ten trustees would be attending along

with Dr. Skinner. He relayed that these meetings are a wonderful time to interact with other trustees and learn of some of the issues and concerns they are facing. The professional development portion of these events is always very informative, too. Chair Watson relayed that Mr. Smith, Mr. Campbell, Dr. Skinner and himself would be providing a panel discussion at the event related to Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation Surveys based on our history with the Survey.

Dr. Skinner added that she was very proud of the fact Gaston College's Board has already been doing Board surveys for years. She further relayed how Board Self-Evaluation Surveys are now part of a SACSCOC criteria. As this is new to several colleges, Gaston College had been asked to relay to others the evaluation process used and other things related to the Board and President's roles, ethics, and new trustee orientation.

#### **8. Ad Hoc Committee on Advocacy**

Mr. Brad Overcash has agreed to Chair the Ad Hoc Committee on Advocacy. This is a major area of importance as the Board continues its efforts to build the resources and support we need for the College. Chair Watson thanked him for serving in this role.

#### **9. NCCCS Legislative Liaison**

Chair Watson stated a request from the NCCCS had asked that a Legislative Liaison be named for each Board of Trustees. He announced that Ms. Suzanne Riley would fill that role for Gaston's Board. He felt the more coverage and contact with legislators, commissioners, and local government officials the College has would be of benefit. He thanked Ms. Riley for serving in this role.

#### **10. Representative on Strategic Planning Leadership Committee**

Chair Watson shared that Ms. Jennifer Davis has agreed to serve as a Board representative on the Strategic Planning Leadership Committee. He asked Ms. Davis for her comments regarding the Strategic Planning meeting she had already attended. She felt the process was going well and had enjoyed all the interaction with the two companies that brought forward their portfolios during a meeting to be considered for developing the next Strategic Plan. Dr. Watson relayed a request for another trustee to come forward that would have interested in serving in the Strategic Plan process. He asked they indicate their interest on the Board Committees Survey. The Strategic Plan will be a topic of discussion at the Board Retreat.

#### **11. Veterinary Technology Facility Groundbreaking**

The Veterinary Technology Facility groundbreaking will take place on December 4. More information will be coming out about that later.

#### **K. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Watson invited the Board to review the list of upcoming meetings and events.

**L. AJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Stephen D. Campbell, Secretary**

**Dr. Jim Watson, Chair**

**Mary Ellen Dillon, Recording Secretary**

**(College Seal)**