

**Minutes of the
Gaston College
Board of Trustees Meeting
Robinson Classroom Building, Room 126
May 24, 2021**

Members Present: Sheriff Alan Cloninger, Secretary
Mr. John Dancoff, Chair
Ms. Jennifer Davis, Vice Chair
Mr. Steve Hall
Ms. Iris Hopper
Ms. Resa Hoyle
Mr. Steve Huffstetler
Ms. Suzanne Riley
Mr. Tim Smith
Ms. Julie Stroupe
Mr. Randy Vinson

Dr. John Hauser, President

Members Absent: Ms. Najira Davis, SGA President
Mr. Tom Keigher
Ms. Janie Peak
Ms. Natalie Tindol

Others Present: Ms. Shelly Alman, Mr. Michael Applegate, Mr. Todd Baney, Mr. Gene Banks, Mr. Sam Buff, Dr. Dewey Dellinger, Ms. Mary Ellen Dillon, Mr. John Horshok, Ms. Guyann Howe, Ms. Renita Johnson, Ms. Kerri Massey, Chief Talmadge McInnis, Dr. Jennifer Nichols, Mr. David Nutt, Ms. Julie Ostrowski, Ms. Kimberly Parsley, Mr. Jacob Rand, Ms. Alisa Roy, Mr. Calvin Shaw, Dr. Audrey Sherrill, Mr. Greg Smith, Mr. Darren Stewart, Ms. Donna Taylor, Mr. Luke Upchurch, Ms. Linda Vespa, Ms. Brittany Wilson, Ms. Debra Windley, Dr. Heather Woodson; and Mr. Carl Stewart, College Attorney.

Chair Dancoff called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Chair Dancoff welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Mr. Vinson to start the meeting with a prayer.

- **Invocation – Mr. Vinson**

- **Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder**

Chair Dancoff reminded Trustees of the ethics requirements of public servants and requested they identify any conflicts of interest or appearance of conflicts of interest present. No conflicts were identified.

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Dancoff asked if there were any changes, additions, or corrections to the agenda. None were identified.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda; Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 22, 2021, BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AND THE MAY 3, 2021, CALLED BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.

Chair Dancoff presented the Minutes of the March 22, 2021, Board of Trustees Meeting and the May 3, 2021, Called Board of Trustees Meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. No changes were identified.

Ms. Davis moved to approve the Minutes of the March 22, 2021, Board of Trustees Meeting and the May 3, 2021, Called Board of Trustees Meeting; Mr. Vinson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

C. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1. Welcome Guests and Introduce New Employees

Dr. Hauser welcomed everyone to the meeting and recognized Mr. Calvin Shaw, Faculty Senate President, and Mr. Darren Stewart, Staff Senate President.

Dr. Hauser, President, introduced:

Mr. Gene Banks, Athletic Director

Mr. David Nutt, Associate Athletic Director/Head Coach-Men's Basketball

Mr. Jacob Rand, Instructor/Assistant Coach-Men's Baseball/Recruiting Coordinator

Dr. Hauser invited Ms. Alman and Dr. Woodson to introduce the new employees in their Divisions.

Ms. Alman, VP for Finance, Operations and Facilities, introduced:

Mr. Jason Finger, Network/PC/AV Technician

Dr. Heather Woodson, VP for Academic Affairs, introduced:

Ms. Kimberly Parsley, Instructor/Lead Faculty-Department for EMS

2. Recognition of Ms. Najira Davis, SGA President

Ms. Najira Davis was unavailable to attend the meeting. She will be recognized at the June Board of Trustees Meeting.

3. The Gaston Regional Aquatic Center Presentation

Ms. Debra Windley, Windmark Consulting; Ms. Kerri Massey, COO for Holy Angels; Ms. Donna Taylor, Gaston Aquatics Board President; and Mr. Michael Applegate, Executive Director of Gaston County Travel and Tourism and Gaston Aquatics Advisory Committee member came before the Board to provide a presentation about the proposed Gaston Regional Aquatic Center.

The Trustees received a packet of information that included a listing of the members of the Gaston Aquatic Board of Directors and the Gaston Aquatics Advisory Committee, a quick facts sheet about the scope of the project, a snapshot of the economic impact for Gaston County, excerpts from letters and full letters of support for the project from local civic, educational, medical, and economic development community members, and architectural renderings of the project.

Ms. Windley thanked the Board for allowing the group to present a brief snapshot into how the project came about, the need for it, the benefits it will bring, and the cost for the project. Each member of the presenting team brought forward their views of how building the Gaston Regional Aquatic Center would impact the groups/companies they represent. Some of the ways the Center will be a major asset for Gaston County include aquatic safety/swimming instruction, aquatic rehabilitation, emergency personnel training, adaptive aquatics (which would include a training experience for students majoring in exceptional children's programs), and competitive swimming.

The Gaston Aquatics Board's and Advisory Committee's purpose for approaching Gaston College is that they are looking for a 1.5-acre parcel or up to four acres of land to lease if there is not adjacent parking available on which they can build the Gaston Regional Aquatic Center. They also would want funding for the use of the facility by Gaston College. The Trustees asked several questions, and more discussion will follow.

Chair Dancoff thanked the group for their presentation.

D. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hauser's activities since the March 22, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting, were provided in the Board packet. Also, in the Board packet were reports from the Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and Vice Presidents/Administrators for Administrative Services; Economic and Workforce Development; Finance, Operations, and Facilities; the Foundation; and the Textile Technology Center.

CONNECT Beyond Joint Advisory Committee Meeting - The Centralina Regional Council brought together its Policy, Technical, and Community Advisory Committees on March 24, 2021, to discuss strategies to enhance coordination between transit service providers to improve bus services and connectivity throughout our 12-county region.

Gaston College Legislative Breakfast - Gaston College hosted a Legislative Breakfast on April 6, 2021, on the Dallas Campus. Legislative attendees included Senator Kathy Harrington and Representatives Bumgardner, Hastings, and Torbett.

GBA Board of Directors Meeting - The GBA held its spring quarterly meeting virtually on April 8, 2021. The meeting began with a discussion related to the newly formed Board's Strategic Plan.

Lincoln County Board of Education Presentation - On April 13, 2021, Dr. Hauser provided a presentation to the Lincoln County Board of Education related to ways Gaston College can help employers with the training, recruiting, and retaining of local industry and other business employees.

North Carolina State Board of Community College (SBCC) Meeting - The SBCC met on April 16, 2021. One focus of the meeting was related to an update on the SBCC's NC Workforce Credentials program.

David Belk Cannon Family Scholarship Virtual Event - On April 29, 2021, Dr. Hauser and approximately 33 guests attended the David Belk Scholarship Virtual Event, which is held to recognize the achievement of students and the generosity of those who are helping to make dreams come true through student scholarships.

NCACCP Program Committee Meeting - During the May 12, 2021, NCACCP Program Committee meeting, a motion was brought forward to approve a proposal for a strategy for student access and success as the RISE (Reinforced Instruction for Student Excellence) pilot would end at the end of FY 2020-2021.

E. SGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Renita Johnson, Dean of Student Development, provided Ms. Najira Davis's SGA report as Ms. Davis was unavailable to attend the meeting. The report gave the following update on SGA activities since March 22, 2021. The report in its entirety can be found in the Board meeting packet.

Virtual Spirit Week - On March 22-26, 2021, SGA hosted a Virtual Spirit Week. Students had the opportunity to post a picture of their participation via Facebook and Instagram.

Student Appreciation Week - SGA celebrated Student Appreciation Week on March 29 – April 2, 2021. SGA offered a variety of events virtually and throughout the community in both Gaston and Lincoln counties.

Highway Clean-Up - On May 6, 2021, SGA sponsored a Highway Clean-Up. Seven students volunteered to clean-up portions of C. Grier Beam Boulevard.

SGA Senator of the Year - Each year, SGA recognizes an outstanding Senator who has gone the extra mile as a student leader. This year's recipient is Mr. Nathan Vasquez.

SGA Graduates - SGA has two members who graduated during this academic year. SGA President, Ms. Najira Davis is transferring to North Carolina A&T to study Psychology and SGA

Treasurer, Ms. Hannah Hawkins is planning to study Film and Television at Western Carolina University.

NCCCS Student Leadership Development Program - Four SGA members were selected to participate in the 2021 North Carolina Community College Student Leadership Development Program (SLDP). The virtual leadership sessions will be held weekly during the summer from June 1 – August 1, 2021.

F. CAMPUS AFFAIRS

Chair Dancoff called on Ms. Jennifer Davis, Chair of the Campus Affairs Committee, to bring forward the items under consideration, which had all been approved at the Campus Affairs Committee meeting immediately prior to the full Board meeting. Chair Davis thanked Mr. Dancoff and deferred to Mr. Gene Banks to guide the trustees through the first two items up for review and approval. Mr. Banks took a moment to introduce Mr. John Horshok and Mr. David Nutt to the Board. He relayed that both of them have been working hard behind the scenes to promote all Gaston College's sports programs. He then deferred to Dr. Sherrill to introduce the policy.

1. Proposed Intercollegiate Athletic Policy 2-10

On November 16, 2020, The Trustees of Gaston College approved a new intercollegiate athletics program for the College. To support the new athletics program, policies, procedures, rules, and standards needed to be established.

Policy 2-10 Intercollegiate Athletics is the overarching policy for the intercollegiate athletics program to ensure that the College and the program comply with all applicable Federal Laws, NC General Statutes, the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) Code, the National Junior Collegiate Athletic Association (NJCAA), and College policies and procedures.

As per Policy 2-10, to support the administration of the Athletics Program, specific and relevant handbooks, guides, and/or procedural manuals or documents may be approved and implemented by the President, and student athletes must satisfy all admissions requirements, and shall abide by all College policies and procedures and other rules or standards.

Upon the recommendation of the Campus Affairs Committee, Ms. Davis moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the proposed Intercollegiate Athletics Policy 2-10 as presented.

As this motion was brought from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff inquired if there was any discussion needed about this policy. There was none.

The motion carried.

Campus Affairs Committee Chair Davis asked Mr. Banks to tell the Board about the proposed program up next for review. Mr. Banks then introduced Mr. Horshok who had been instrumental in guiding the College to begin the Women's Cross-Country Athletics

program. Mr. Horshok feels the teams the College is bringing forward will help highlight and add to all the great opportunities available at Gaston College, whether it is academics or textiles. The cost to run the proposed program will be minimal.

2. Proposed Women's Cross-Country Athletics Program

Gaston College proposes to add the option of a Women's Cross-Country Intercollegiate Athletics program to its roster of athletic programs available for students. Other NJCAA Region X Cross Country colleges who have this program include Central Carolina, Cleveland, and Sandhills. A women's cross-country program would allow Gaston College to have more of a local presence in the community and the ability to attract potential student-athletes that are currently going to other area schools. The program would not only be beneficial to the athletes on the team but to the broader campus population as well. Participation on a team teaches students collective responsibility, provides structure, and accountability. It will also enhance a student's ability to enjoy team work, camaraderie, and pride in an accomplishment. The program would organize local outreach events on/off campus and would help to promote improved health and wellness of the student body.

What impact will it have on our other athletic programs? A women's cross-country program would enhance the overall athletic program at Gaston College. It would complement the other teams and work with those programs on basic nutritional needs planning as well as endurance training. Additionally, it may also lead to a future Track and Field segment.

How many students can participate? While teams competing in actual invitationals are often limited to just seven athletes, the program could have upwards of 20-25 women affiliated with the team.

How much will it cost the College per athlete? (Uniforms, fees, transportation)

These numbers are best ROUGH estimates:

Uniforms: 15 jerseys + shorts ~ \$600

Fees: \$200-\$500

Transportation: ~\$2,000-\$3,000

The team will practice at a variety of locations such as on Campus, Dallas Park, Rankin Park, Crowder's Mountain, Poston Park, South Mountain, and other local sites.

Gaston College's team will compete against other NJCAA teams as well as other area schools at various invitationals. The average college cross-country season typically consists of about 6-10 invitationals or meets. A part-time coach will be hired to guide the team.

Upon the recommendation of the Campus Affairs Committee, Ms. Davis moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the proposed Women's Cross-Country Athletics Program as presented.

As this motion was brought from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff inquired if there was any discussion needed about this program. There was none.

The motion carried.

Committee Chair Davis then called on Mr. Baney to guide the Board through the Credit for Prior Learning Policy 4-25. As this policy is housed in Student Affairs, he called on Dr. Sherrill who had both contributed to the preparation of this policy to provide the background for the policy. Dr. Sherrill thanked Ms. Roy (Director for Records and Registration), Dr. Dellinger, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Baney for their work on the prior to it coming to her for review.

3. Proposed Credit for Prior Learning Policy 4-25

Effective 4/1/21, a new NC State Board of Community Colleges Code (SBCCC) 1D SBCCC Subchapter 800 (Credit for Prior Learning – CPL) was published to ensure that all NC Community Colleges followed consistent academic conventions to ensure the integrity of the CPL process and to establish minimum standards.

Due to the new SBCC Code, Gaston College needed to revise its policies.

The revised policy (4-25 Credit for Prior Learning), updates several Gaston College's policies and combines them into one policy that includes the following changes:

- a. Changes the name of Policy 4-25 from Transfer of Credits to Credit for Prior Learning.
- b. Maintains the College's current conventions for providing CPL such as College Curriculum Course Credit and International Credentials as permitted by the new SBCC Code.
- c. Adds a new Workforce Continuing Education option for CPL.

In sum, the combined single policy provides CPL for the following: College Curriculum Course Credit, Courses Listed in High School to Community College Articulation Agreements, Certifications, Licenses, and State/Industry Recognized Credentials, Military Education and Training, Standardized Exams, International Credentials, Workforce Continuing Education, Apprenticeship, Public Safety Training (PST) Prefix Course, Portfolio Assessment, and Credit by Examination (CBE) or Challenge Exams/Proficiency.

The combined single policy dissolves the following policies:

- a. 4-26 Credit by Exam and Form
- b. 4-43 Advanced Placement
- c. 4-45 College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP)

Upon the recommendation of the Campus Affairs Committee, Ms. Davis moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the Credit for Prior Learning policy, which further dissolves policies 4-26 Credit by Exam, 4-43 Advanced Placement, and 4-45 College-Level Examination Program.

As this motion was brought from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff inquired if there was any discussion needed about this program. There was none.

The motion carried.

Committee Chair Davis then called on Mr. Baney to guide the Board through the next item which was the Resolution for Mutual Aid Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies.

4. Resolution for Mutual Aid Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies

In accordance with General Statutes 160A-288, 115D-21.1 and 90-95.2, one of the most valuable tools North Carolina law enforcement agencies have at their disposal is the ability to share resources and expertise among agencies pursuant to mutual aid agreements.

Gaston College's Campus Police Department currently participates in the law enforcement regional mutual aid agreement, which comprises approximately 62 other law enforcement agencies. Although not required, the Resolution for *Mutual Aid Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies* further supports the College's Campus Police Department's continued participation. Gaston College's recent graduation ceremony was an example of this type of resolution in action. The City of Gastonia had provided Gaston College with a Mutual Aid Agreement and had asked Gaston College to assist them that day at the ceremony.

Mr. Baney introduced Chief Talmadge McInnis, Chief of Gaston College's Campus Policy, to the Board and relayed he would be glad to answer any questions they had. There were none.

Upon the recommendation of the Campus Affairs Committee, Ms. Davis moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the Resolution for Mutual Aid Assistance with Other Law Enforcement Agencies as presented.

As this motion was being brought from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff inquired if there was any discussion needed about this program. There was none.

The motion carried.

Ms. Davis told the Board how those attending graduation did see the Mutual Aid Agreement in action. She also relayed that Chief McInnis had provided information at the Campus Affairs meeting about an incident in Elizabeth City where this type of agreement worked very well to get law enforcement back-up at a difficult time. Ms. Davis thanked the staff and the Campus Affairs Committee for their work to bring these items forward for review and approval.

G. FACILITIES

Chair Dancoff called on Facilities Chair Cloninger to present the Facilities Items for review. Chair Cloninger then asked Ms. Shelly Alman to assist as the items were reviewed.

1. Beach Volleyball Courts – Proposed Cost Estimate and Location

As part of the implementation of intercollegiate athletic programs, the Board of Trustees approved beach volleyball along with baseball, basketball, softball and esports. A proposal for the location and cost of the beach volleyball courts is attached.

Three courts are required by NCAA standards. The proposed location is above the Vet Tech/DBC parking lot in the former child care facility area. The sand volleyball courts will also be used by students, faculty, and staff for physical education, intramural sports, student activities, Student Government Association, and Early Colleges to satisfy physical education requirements.

The estimated cost is \$40-\$45k per court and \$80k for regulation lighting for a total of \$200k for the project. The project will be funded with remaining county capital funds.

Upon the recommendation of the Facilities Committee, Sheriff Cloninger moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the Beach Volleyball Courts proposed cost estimate and location.

As this motion came from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

The motion carried.

Committee Chair Cloninger then asked Ms. Alman to walk the Board through the next two items.

2. Construction Management at Risk

On February 24, 2021, Gaston College Board of Trustees approved the use of the Construction Management at Risk (CM@Risk) process for construction of the Gaston College Fiber Innovation Center project on the Kimbrell Campus. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was advertised with the State Construction Office on April 19, 2021, and due to the College on May 11, 2021, by 4 p.m. As part of the RFQ, a mandatory pre-proposal conference for firms interested in the CM@Risk opportunity was held on April 29, 2021, with 11 firms attending. The College received six RFQs.

A CM@Risk Committee consisting of personnel from the College and WHN Architects reviewed the RFQs. The Committee considered the experience, the expertise, and the reputation of the proposing firms, as well as, proffered quality, performance, and time specified for performance of the contract. Each RFQ was scored.

The top three firms with the highest scores were selected for oral presentations to the Committee. Oral presentations were conducted on May 17, 2021. The purpose of the oral presentations was to allow the College to meet the proposer's key personnel assigned to the project and to allow the proposer to highlight aspects of its technical proposal.

Guidelines from the State Construction Office require the CM@Risk Committee to rank the top three firms in priority order and recommend the slate of firms to the Board of Trustees for their final approval. The top three firms chosen by the CM@Risk Committee to send forward to the State Construction Office were:

1. Shelco
2. SAMET Corporation
3. Edison Foard Construction Company

After Board approval and submission to the state, the State Construction Office will begin negotiations with the first-choice firm on the College's behalf. The State Construction Office in coordination with appropriate representatives from the College will attempt to negotiate a fair and equitable fee consistent with the project program and the professional services required for the project. If negotiations are successful with the first-choice firm, a contract will be executed. If negotiations are not successful, State Construction Office will move to the second-choice firm and then the third-choice firm, if needed.

The College has the right to refuse the CM@Risk contract prior to execution. The CM@Risk Committee recommends Shelco as our first-choice for CM@Risk.

The Fiber Innovation Center is a \$5.3 million project.

Upon the recommendation of the Facilities Committee, Sheriff Cloninger moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve and move forward the top three choices Shelco (first), SAMET Corporation (second), and Edison Foard (third) to the state Construction Office for negotiations for the Construction Management at Risk process for the Fiber Innovation Center.

As this motion came from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff asked if there was any discussion. Two questions were asked; the first related to fundraising to increase the size of the facility and purchase the needed equipment, and the second one concerned when the College sends this CM@Risk request to State Construction whether the College must have the final size of the building. Ms. Alman replied that right now the College is presenting the project to State Construction as the \$5.3 million project, which is the funding currently allocated by the legislature for the project. The scope can easily be increased if funding is provided to do that. Dr. Hauser added that efforts are ongoing to acquire the needed funding to expand the building and purchase the extra equipment, but there is nothing concrete to report at this time. Talks are ongoing.

The motion passed.

3. Capital Reports

CAM Electrical Upgrade

Because the project is under \$500,000, three informal bids were solicited for the project. The lowest bid was received from Dallas Electrical for \$156,645, which was less than expected.

Lincoln Campus Space Renovation

The college has initiated the project description with the community college system and submitted the 3-1 capital improvement project approval form, which was approved by the State Board on September 18. An architect's contract dated September 30 was signed and returned to State Construction Office and NCCCS on October 7. Schematic design and design development documents will be submitted to State Construction, and we are now in the construction documents phase. The College is working to have the project completed by the beginning of the fall 2021 term.

These items were presented for informational purposes; no action was necessary.

H. FINANCE

Chair Dancoff asked Ms. Alman to present the Finance Items for review as Ms. Riley had to leave the meeting early.

1. FY 2021-2022 Proprietary Budgets

The proposed FY 2021-2022 proprietary operating budgets follow. The proposed budgets reflect the hope that students will be back on campus for the fall term. Budgets will need to be revisited if the College is unable to fully open campus in the fall.

Bookstore

- Bookstore revenues for the prior year were reduced due to the coronavirus pandemic. With students back on campus, Bookstore revenues are estimated to increase 8% over the prior year. There is still the expectation that the shift toward all-inclusive service offerings by publishers for students and an increasing use of Open Educational Resources (OER) by faculty will continue to reduce the costs of books for students while also reducing revenues for the Bookstore. OER are freely accessible, openly licensed textbooks, media, and digital assets faculty members can use in lieu of requiring a textbook. Cengage offers electronic access to online instructional materials for all Cengage courses for a single subscription fee.

Campus Access (Usage)

- The FY 2021-2022 campus access (usage) fee budget is projected to decrease an estimated \$15,000 from prior year FY 2020-2021 due to no longer charging this fee to Career and College Promise (CCP) students. The College will move to charging a single flat fee to CCP students for the FY 2021-2022 year and not charge this separate fee. The fees are mainly used for facility repairs for paving and other projects.

Vending, Discretionary, President's Discretionary, and Fine Arts

- Vending revenue for FY 2021-2021 was significantly impacted with students not being on campus during the pandemic. With the expectation of students being back on campus in the fall, the budget is projected to remain the same as prior year 2020-2021. The numbers also remain unchanged in the FY 2021-2022 budgets for discretionary and fine arts spending.

Textile Testing Center

- Textile Center revenue is estimated to increase by approximately 7% compared to the prior year. Salary and benefit expenses were increased to reflect an anticipated increase in pay for employees.

SGA

- The SGA revenue budget is expected to decrease an estimated \$19,000 during FY 2021-2022; however, the expense budget will remain the same as the prior year. Revenue is expected to decrease due to the College no longer charging this fee to CCP students. The College will move to charging a single flat fee to CCP students for the FY 2021-2022 year and not charge this separate fee. SGA will use profits from prior years (fund balance) to cover expense overage.

Print Shop

- Print Shop revenues are expected to remain the same as prior year. Revenue for current year sales (copies) were grossly under budget due to the pandemic, but are expected to improve as students return to campus. Salary and benefits decreased during the year due to employee retirement and reorganization of the department.

Fire Training

- Fire Training program revenues are expected to increase approximately 7.5% compared to the prior year. The expectation is that Industrial Training should be able to open fully when restrictions are lifted from the pandemic.

Cosmetology & Esthetics

- The FY 2021-2022 revenue budget is projected to remain basically the same as prior year FY 2020-2021 with the assumption that facilities will be able to open again for patrons.

The 2021-22 proprietary expense budget totals are as follows:

Bookstore	\$1,991,363
Campus Access (Usage) Fee	\$ 125,000
Vending	\$ 36,500
Discretionary	\$ 18,000
President's Discretionary	\$ 16,500
Fine Arts	\$ 2,000
Kimbrell Campus Textile Testing	\$1,526,000
Student Activity	\$ 149,000
Print Shop	\$ 247,644
Fire Training	\$ 355,000
Cosmetology & Esthetics	\$ 40,000

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Chair Dancoff entertained a motion from Committee that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the FY 2021-2022 Proprietary Budgets as presented.

As this motion came from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff inquired if there was any discussion. There was none.

The motion carried.

2. FY 2021-2022 Student Fees

SBCCC 700.1 authorizes local boards of trustees to establish local fees. Several testing and fee changes are recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2021.

Student Fee Changes:

- Increase the Student Activity Fee from \$15 per term (fall and spring only) to \$35 per term (fall, spring, and summer) to help cover the costs of our athletic programs.

- Change the Technology Fee to a flat \$48 per semester. The College currently charges a tiered fee based on the number of credit hours. The current fee structure does not support and sustain the amount of technology that is being incorporated into instruction; especially now with the increase in virtual and hybrid learning.
- Decrease fees charged to Career College Promise (CCP) students from a maximum of \$53 per term to a flat \$15 per term. Currently charge a combined maximum fee of \$53 per term, which is made up of the usage fee of \$12.00 fall and spring/or/\$10.00 for summer, technology maximum fee of \$22.00 (tiered charge,) student activity fee of \$15, and student insurance fee of \$4. Reducing fees charged to CCP students would simplify and reduce barriers for all, including under-represented populations, help increase enrollment in the CCP program, help meet the growing needs of local employers by increasing certifications and credentialing, and potentially lead to an increase in the number of high school graduates attending Gaston College after graduation. These fees would be set aside and used specifically for marketing the CCP program and out-reach to recent high school graduates to encourage them to make Gaston College their college of choice.
- Add lab fees for the new Central Sterile Processing, Health and Human Technology, and Pharmacy Tech programs pending accreditation. Increase the lab fee tier from \$18 to \$24 per lab hour for Associate Degree Nursing, Practical Nursing, EMS, and Veterinary Technician classes to cover costs of new compliance, clinical placement, scheduling, and rotation manager software required for the 2021 fall term.

Associate Degree Nursing Fees:

- LPN-RN fee increases to \$466.33 for the first semester and \$436.33 for the second and third semesters.
- ADN Generic fee increases to \$328.80 for the first semester and to \$273.80 for the next four semesters.
- Practical Nursing increases to \$391.33 for first semester and to \$361.33 for the second and third semesters, which is an increase for the first two semesters and decrease for the third semester.

Regional Emergency Services Training Center Fees

- Increase the Training Center fee from \$80 to \$85 per person per day. This fee has not been changed since 2015.

Massage Therapy Fees

- The massage therapy program will move from curriculum to continuing education for the 2021 fall term. The malpractice insurance fee for massage therapy will change to \$15 per course with 2 courses being required.

Nurse Aide Refresher and EMS Continuing Education Fees:

- Decrease the Nurse Aide Refresher fee from \$25 to \$20 per course to bring more in line with actual costs.
- Add \$105 fees to EMS continuing education courses to cover the cost of required clinical compliance software.

Community Education Fees:

- No changes in fees for the Attitudinal Driving Dynamics, Alive @25, Defensive Driving Course, and Basic Motorcycle Safety community education classes were requested for the year 2022 year.

The increases in fees are to offset increases in operating costs for the tests and programs involved.

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Chair Dancoff entertained a motion from Committee that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the FY 2021-2022 Student Fees as presented.

As this motion came from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff asked if there was any discussion. A comment was made that students who receive financial aid do receive funds to pay their fees. If students do not receive financial aid, they may always apply for funds via the Student Emergency Grant available at the College.

The motion carried.

3. FY 2021-2022 Interim Budget

The North Carolina Community College Law 115D-57 states:

In case the adoption of the budget resolution is delayed until after July 1, the board of trustees shall authorize the president, through interim provisions, to pay salaries and other ordinary expenses of the institution for the interval between the beginning of the fiscal year and the adoption of the budget resolution. Interim provisions so made shall be charged to the proper allocations in the budget resolution.

There are no fiscal implications other than to authorize ongoing expenditures until the 2021-2022 Budget Resolution is approved by the Board.

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Chair Dancoff entertained a motion from Committee that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the FY 2021-2022 Interim Budget as presented.

As this motion came from Committee, it would not need a second. Chair Dancoff asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

The motion carried.

4. Pension Spiking Report

During the 2014 General Assembly session, contribution-based benefit cap (CBBC) legislation was enacted effective Jan. 1, 2015 to control the practice of "pension spiking" in which a retirement system member's compensation substantially increases, resulting in a monthly retirement benefit that is significantly greater than the member and employer contributions would fund. As part of this calculation, a minimum average final

compensation (AFC) amount is established before the calculation would apply, which is indexed for inflation each year. The current AFC threshold is \$110,404. This rule as established will only impact a few members of the retirement system. The legislation requires the member's last employer to pay the additional contribution required to fund the member's benefit in excess of the cap.

The State Treasurer's office reports monthly to each employer a list of those members for whom the employer might be required to make an additional contribution. The chief financial officer of the agency is required to provide a copy of the report to the chief executive and the governing body, so that all are aware of the potential future liability.

Gaston College receives monthly reports from the State Treasurer's office identifying four members who are close to the AFC threshold. The members identified may or may not actually reach the CBBC at the time of their actual retirement.

At the current time, the members' calculated AFC falls below the minimum threshold established by the State Treasurer. We will continue to monitor the calculation in the future. Ms. Alman added that the report simply tells us who to watch.

This item was presented for informational purposes.

5. Biannual Employment Vacancy/Turnover Report

In compliance with State Board Code 1A SBCCC 200.4 and Gaston College Policy 6-1.1, a biannual report detailing employment vacancy and turnover is required to be presented to the Board of Trustees. There are currently 32 open positions.

This item was presented for informational purposes; no action was necessary.

6. Supplemental State Budget Allocation

Following is the Supplemental State Budget Allocation received after the FY 2020-2021 State Budget was finalized.

#4	Budget Reversion	\$(170,976)
	Customized Training	117,516
	ABE Literacy	35,000
	WIO/AEFLA	18,231
	Bus/Ind Support	3,000
	BioNetwork	<u>42,500</u>
	Total	\$ 45,271

This Item was presented for informational purposes; no action was taken.

7. Financial Reports

A summary of expenditures for FY 2020-2021 through April 30, 2021, for State, Gaston, and Lincoln operating budgets and proprietary accounts in comparison to the previous year was provided for the Board's review and information.

Chair Dancoff thanked Ms. Alman for presenting the Finance items for the meeting.

I. REPORT FROM NCACCT

Mr. Vinson relayed to the Trustees that although there is now one month left in the fiscal year, he feels the legislature is several weeks away from deciding what they will commit to spending next year. As a result, the legislature will not have the budget prepared by July 1, 2021. There are on-going conversations behind closed doors for salary increases for state employees, which may be possibly 4-5%; however, that is not the 7% the NCACCT was advocating and hoping to attain. He encouraged the Trustees to reach out to the legislators so they keep the NCCCS's priorities in mind. He added that President Stith and Mr. Jim Harrell, lobbyist, have both been hard at work pushing for the NCCCS's priorities. A draft letter had been prepared by the NCACCT Executive Office for Board Chairs to send to local newspapers to advocate for those priorities. Chair Dancoff added that he had sent the letter to three local newspapers.

Mr. Vinson concluded letting the Trustees know that the fall 2021 NCACCT Leadership Seminar would be held in person, in Wilmington, and information would be coming out soon related to that.

Chair Dancoff thanked Mr. Vinson for his report.

J. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT / ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Gaston County Commissioners Volunteer Week Proclamation

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners presented the Gaston College Board of Trustees with a resolution at a recent Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to recognize them for the many ways they volunteer and serve the citizens and community of Gaston County.

WHEREAS, the entire community can effect positive change with any volunteer action no matter how big or small; and,

WHEREAS, volunteers can connect with local community service opportunities through hundreds of community service organizations; and,

WHEREAS, millions of volunteers working in their communities utilize their time and talent daily to make a real difference in the lives of children, adults and the senior population; and,

WHEREAS, during this week, all over the nation, service projects will be performed and volunteers recognized for their commitment to service; and,

WHEREAS, the giving of oneself in service to another empowers the giver and the recipient; and,

WHEREAS, experience teaches us that government by itself cannot solve all of our nations' social problems; and,

WHEREAS, volunteers are vital to our future as a caring and productive county and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims **April 18 - 24, 2021, as Volunteer Week** and recognizes this year's theme "Shining a Light on the People and Causes that Inspire Us to Serve" as an opportunity to encourage all citizens to volunteer on appointed boards and in their respective communities. By volunteering and recognizing those who serve, we can replace disconnection with understanding and compassion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners joins the Nation and State of North Carolina in Celebrate Service by recognizing all volunteers in the community and especially the members of the

Gaston College Board of Trustees

for the many services they provide to the County Commission and the Citizens of Gaston County.

The resolution was signed by: Tom Keigher, Chairman; Chad Brown; Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman; Bob Hovis; Kim Johnson; Tracy L. Philbeck; and Ronald E. Worley.

To be Adopted the 27th Day of April 2021

This item was presented for informational purposes, no action was necessary.

2. Draft Board Meeting Dates for FY 2021-2022

Chair Dancoff presented a draft of the proposed Board of Trustees meeting dates for FY 2021-2022 and asked the Trustees to let him know of any known conflicts that might be going on in the community that would affect attendance on those dates. He also let the Trustees know that in an effort to be more inclusive, it is proposed to have one fall meeting on the Lincoln Campus and one spring meeting at the Kimbrell Campus. Trustees responded positively to that request.

3. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Board Officers for FY 2021-2022.

Chair Dancoff announced that he had asked Ms. Janie Peak, Mr. Randy Vinson, and Ms. Resa Hoyle to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2021-2022 Board of Trustees Officers; Ms. Peak will serve as Chair of the Committee. At the Board Meeting in August, they will bring forward their recommendations.

4. Graduation

Gaston College's graduation ceremony took place at the CaroMont Health Park (formerly the FUSE Stadium) on May 14, 2021. It was well attended and an excellent event. He expressed his thanks to all the staff who worked so hard to pull all the details of the event together.

5. Upcoming Events

The Trustees were reminded of the two upcoming events in June. President Stith is expected to visit Gaston College for luncheon presentation on Tuesday, June 1, and the Welcome/Celebration for Dr. Hauser, which is scheduled for June 3, at the Gaston Country Club. All the Trustees are welcome to attend each event; spouses are included in the June 3 event.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with provisions of G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6), Chair Dancoff entertained a motion to enter the Board into Executive Session to discuss a confidential matter and then a personnel matter. Ms. Stroupe moved to enter the Board into Executive Session, Mr. Huffstetler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Dancoff entertained a motion to close the Executive Session and return the Board to open session. Ms. Hoyle moved to close the Executive Session and return to open session; Ms. Stroupe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Dancoff entertained a motion as the result of the Board's discussion of the President's evaluation survey. Ms. Davis moved that the Board of Trustees give the President an Outstanding rating evaluation for his performance for FY 2020-2021 from the Board of Trustees. Mr. Huffstetler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. Hauser's evaluation will be communicated to the North Carolina State Board of Community College's pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6).

L. AJOURNMENT

Chair Dancoff asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, Chair Dancoff adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheriff Alan Cloninger, Secretary

Mr. John Dancoff, Chair

Mary Ellen Dillon, Recording Secretary

(College Seal)