HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SEPTEMBER MEETING

Minutes of September 27, 2022

The 410th meeting of the Holyoke Community College Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, remotely with Chair Robert W. Gilbert, Jr. presiding.

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	Mary Dixey, Kermit Dunkelberg, Maria Estelle Camacho, Marisol Fontanez,
	Curt Foster, Gerardo Gauthier-Zayas, Jeffrey Hayden, Mark Hudgik, Jane
J	Johnson Vottero, Olivia Kynard, Johanna Lebron, Laura LeCali, Lauren Leclair,
	ane Lerner, Anne Mistivar, Gloria Penagos, Kris Ricker Choleva, Michelle
	Robak, Monica Rocha Antonin, Christina Royal, Mir-Hashmatullah Saify,
	Narayan Sampath, Shannon Sarkisian, Amanda Sbriscia, Idelia Smith, Jeannette
	Smith, Kim Straceski, Renee Tastad, Sharale Mathis and Chris Yurko.
MEETING CALL TO	At 00.04 are the masting was efficiently called to and a lay Chair Dah art Cith art
	At 08:04 am, the meeting was officially called to order by Chair Robert Gilbert.
ORDER	
	Roll Call Attendance:
	Frustee George Entered at 8:07 am
	Γed Hebert Yes
	Yolanda Johnson Yes
	Evan Plotkin Yes
	Nayroby Rosa Yes
	Vanessa Smith Yes
	vonne Vidal Yes
	Eleanor Williams Yes
F	Robert W. Gilbert Yes
CONSIDERATION OF C	Chair Gilbert asked if any consent agenda items needed to be moved to the
	egular agenda. The Presidential Evaluation Committee was moved out of the
ITEMS c	consent agenda.
	Consideration of Minutes for Board of Trustees Meeting of August 23, 2022
	•
	Unit Professional Staff and Faculty.
	Committee Reports
	o Advocacy
	 By-Laws and Government
ITEMS C	Consideration of Minutes for Board of Trustees Meeting of August 23, 2022 Report of Personnel Action dated September 27, 2022 To approve personnel actions for the Non-Unit Professional and MCCC Unit Professional Staff and Faculty.

- Audit and Finance Committee
- Equity
- Nominating
- Strategic Planning

A motion was made by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Rosa to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee George Entered at 8:07 am

Trustee Ted Hebert Yes Trustee Yolanda Johnson Yes Trustee Evan Plotkin Yes Trustee Nayroby Rosa Yes Trustee Vanessa Smith Yes Trustee Ivonne Vidal Yes Trustee Eleanor Williams Yes Robert W. Gilbert, Jr., Chair Yes

PRESIDENTIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

Presidential Evaluation Committee

Trustee Williams provided the Board an overview and highlights from the evaluation process for President Royal.

FY 2022 EVALUATION OF DR. CHRISTINA ROYAL

This summary presents the results of Holyoko Community College's annual evaluation of President Royal, which this year was conducted from May through August, 2022. The evaluation included an assessment of Dr. Royal's performance in FY 2022 relating to the college's internal goals and the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education's (BOE's) system-wide priorities. The evaluation had four components:

- A survey of Trustees and Direct Reports, in total of whom 15 (79%) participated
- . A review of benchmark data provided by BOE
- · A review of relevant HCC internal data
- Dr. Royal's self-evaluation

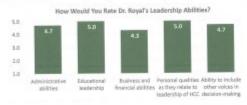
OVERALL SUMMARY

In FY 2022, Dr. Royal continues to receive very positive reviews for not only her leadership abilities but also for her relationships with students, faculty, staff, frustees, and the communities served by HCC. She is seen as a highly competent, passionate leader with a strong commitment to diversity and equity, and any concerns about her performance have more to do with the college's ability to meet her needs than with any deficits in her.

"Dr. Royal is thoughtful, planful, and strategic ... (she) has high expectations of and dreams for HCC, and the energy that comes with this is inspiring to those around her."

When stakeholders are asked to rate Dr. Royal's abilities, she receives high marks for:

- relationships staff, faculty, students, Board of Trustees members, and the larger community, and especially her ability to include diverse voices in decision-making processes
- administrative, business, and financial abilities, and educational leadership
- leadership in managing the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the college community
- leadership relating to the college's response to BHE's Equity Agenda



- Employees returned to rotating on-campus schedules
- A safe educational learning environment was provided for students and employees

HCC Strategic Planning Process is Ongoing

HCC is in the final year of its current strategic plan. Due to the constraints of time and bandwidth throughout the pandemic, work relating to the strategic plan was streamlined into project-based work effective in FY 2021, and continued in FY 2022. In the face of these challenges, under Dr. Royal's leadership, the college met 13 of its metrics, 5 are in-progress, and 4 are at risk. Despite the continued effects of the pandemic, HCC improved performance in several key areas as compared to last year:

The Strategic Plan FY 2019-22 currently in effect represents the first college-wide strategic plan for the institution. This plan represented the work of the institution in 2017-2018 and reflected a new chapter in the College's history with a greater focus on inquiry and exploration using data, and collaboration and inclusion to achieve results. As the college entered the final year of the strategic plan, during COVID-19, the college realized that 1) the pandemic necessitated a review of its institutional priorities, given how much has changed in the past few years, and 2) employees were overextended as they prioritized supporting students (many of whom have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic) and did not have the bandwidth for a comprehensive strategic planning process. Ultimately, the college decided to refresh its current strategic plan, which would allow it to update its institutional priorities without overburdening faculty, staff, and students.

The HCC mission and vision statements remain the same. The College focused on adding greater definition to its values statements, revising the student experience statement, and identifying multiple objectives on student success.

In December 2020, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee created a proposal to hire a leader at the Cabinet level to provide strategic direction of its EDI work. The College engaged in community-wide discussions about the need for and level of this position. In June 2021, Dr. Royal communicated college-wide that HCC would be creating a new office of EDI, adjusting reporting structures to have the Ombudsperson & Chief Culture Officer and the Title IX/Affirmative Action Officer report to the new Vice President of EDI. They had a failed search in the Spring in hiring a vice president, however, an announcement will be made in the Fall to move the work forward until a permanent person is named. The college is well-positioned to welcome a strategic leader to support the Equity Agenda.

Long-Term Enrollment Planning and Budget Alignment

The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center reported that nationwide, the Fall 2019 cohort returned at 2 percentage points lower in the second year which is an important early student success indicator. This rate represents a pandemic-related unprecedented one-year drop. HCC also saw the decline in the second-year retention rate for the cohort of Fall 2019, down 3 percentage points.

Even though HCC is experiencing a consistent decline in enrollment year after year, and a decline in second year retention rates due to the pandemic for the Fall 2019 cohort, the College has seen an increase in the Fall-to-Fall retention rate of its Fall 2020 first-time degree seeking students. The Fall 2020 cohort returned at a rate of 54%, the highest in seven years. The first-time, full-time student retention rate was even higher at 63%, the highest in 10 years. The equity gap between students of color and white students also narrowed to an all-time low of 10 points. Metrics related to graduation and transfer rates within 150% of time showed outstanding progress from the baseline data point.

Now, in the second straight year of the pandemic, the college is also seeing its negative impact on adult students and students of color. Despite making progress on graduation and transfer rates, equity gaps persist. HCC is graduating and transferring students of color at a lower rate compared to white students. The retention rates of adult students and first-generation students decreased from prepandemic years. There is still more work to be done to address equity gaps and improve success rates for first generation, adult, and minoritized students:

- In the past two decades, Hampden and Hampshire counties experienced slower growth in the region's population and are projected to decline further over the next decade.
- The population of the region is aging, and the school-age population is declining.
- The top-feeder school districts have shrinking high school class sizes resulting in fewer high school graduates which is impacting HCC's enrollment.

BHE's three priority objectives for the Presidential Evaluation focus on HCC's progress relating to the Equity Agenda, HCC's progress as measured in the Performance Measurement Reporting System (PMRS), and HCC's pandemic response. As discussed earlier, responding to the pandemic and managing its impact on students, faculty, staff, and HCC's relationship to the community has been a top priority in FY 2022. Dr. Royal's leadership in managing a very challenging health crisis that continues to impact the college, students, and the larger community is widely viewed as exemplary. Apprenticeship Program).

options for adult learners and those currently employed at Beystate. HCC also formed a new partnership with Western New England University to create a pathway within the Pharmacy Technical occupation by adding Compound Pharmacy Training (a National Certification and

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 HCC's Office of Student Disability & Deaf Services (OSDDS) created the college's first Sensory Safe Space in the former Health Services suite as was a space for MAICEI Students and Staff. Related programming included partnership between OSDDS and Western Mass Job Collaborative, which will increase meaningful job opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

PMRS: All metrics vs. Massachusetts Community College Segment unless otherwise noted:	Holyake Community College	Massachusetts Community College Segment
Tuition and fees as % of household income:		
Of MA Median household income	8%	n/a
Of County median household income	12%	n/a
Of M. west quintile household income	21%	n/a
Of County lowest quintile household income	30%	n/a
Affordability and student debt:		
Unmet financial need on direct costs	1%	3%
Student loan default rate	10%	10%
Student success and completion:		
Timely completion of gateway courses	2%	n/a
On-time credit accumulation	35%	30%
Retention after first year (vs. national peers)	50%	46%
Six-year comprehensive student success (VHA model)	60%	64%
Eight-year comprehensive student success (IPEDS, vs. national peers)	56%	61%

Source: PRMS (https://www.mass.edu/datacenter/PMRS/halyoke.asp).

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Board of Trustees of Holyoke Community College considers Dr. Royal's performance in the past year to be exemplary. Of particular note are:

- Her leadership in continuing to implement and refine the college's strategic plan
- Her leadership with respect to equity, diversity, and inclusion at all levels of the college
- Her rapid, thoughtful, and effective responses to the COVID-19 pandemic

We are confident in Dr. Royal's continued success in the future.

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MOTION: The Board of Trustees accepts the report of the evaluation committee, including its recommendation to award Dr. Royal a merit-based salary increase at the maximum percentage authorized by the Board of Higher Education. This recommendation shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Higher Education for approval and immediate implementation.

A motion was made by Trustee Vanessa Smith and seconded by Trustee Ted Hebert to approve the Presidential Evaluation.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee George	Yes
Ted Hebert	Yes
Yolanda Johnson	Yes
Evan Plotkin	Yes
Nayroby Rosa	Yes
Vanessa Smith	Yes
Ivonne Vidal	Yes
Eleanor Williams	Yes
Robert W. Gilbert	Yes

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Gilbert shared highlights since the last meeting.

- Provided a brief overview of the Presidential Search
- Spoke at the staff Town Hall meeting on September1st to discuss the Presidential search process
- On September 2nd, the Presidential Evaluation Committee met to conclude their report.
- Amanda Sbriscia and her department created a successful golf

tournament, raising over \$ 35,000.

The Board will be attending a Trustee Retreat on September 30, 2022. Attorney Gina Yarbrough, employed by Commonwealth, will be speaking about governance and judiciary responsibilities.

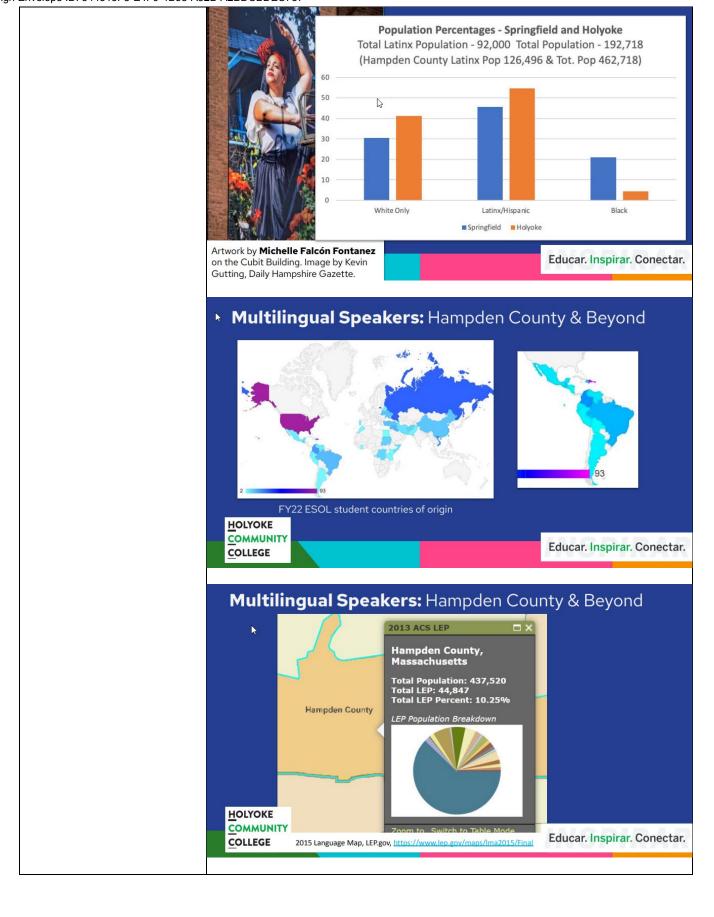
PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

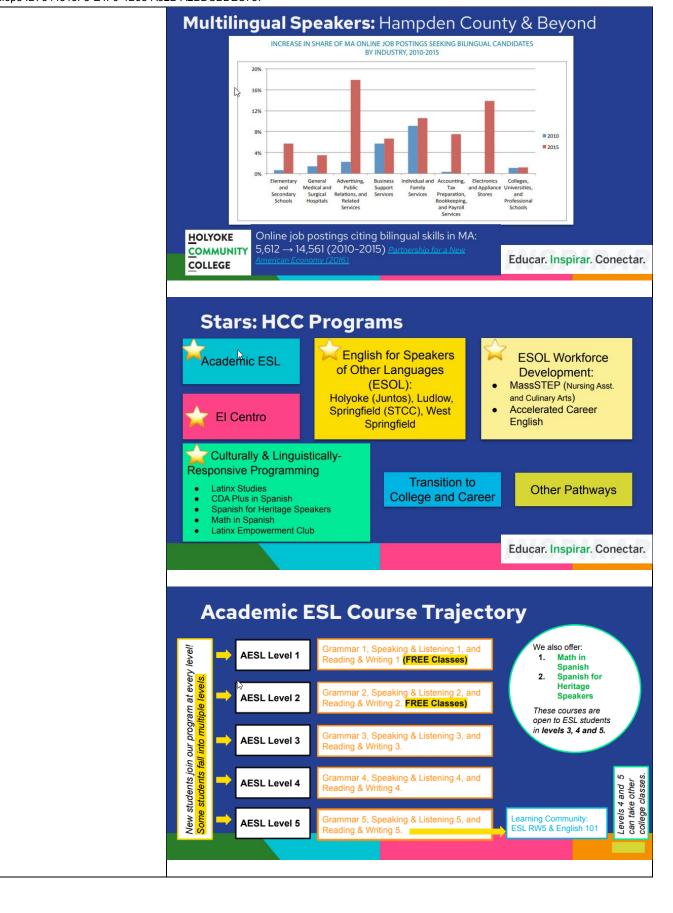
- Welcomed Anne Mistivar as the new Director of ABE and the Transition to College and Career Programs.
- Upcoming presentations at the Board Meetings:
 - October 2022 Dr. Mathis will lead a presentation on academic partnerships.
 - November 2022 Amanda Sbriscia will lead a presentation on philanthropy
 - December 2022 meeting typically gets canceled.
 - January 2023 Narayan Sampath will present on flexible workspace.
- The College will continue the vaccine mandate through the spring semester.

Vice President Jeffrey Hayden and his Team presented the following presentation:









*Academic ESL Support Services

- New student orientation
- · Bilingual, English and Spanish staff
- Free ESL Tutoring for all ESL Level students
- ESL level placement test and assessment on site
- Supplemental Instruction provided to faculty
- Opportunities for students to participate in the many college clubs and go on school trips

HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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ACADEMIC ESL





STOC 1 Armery Square
Springfield Adult Learning Center Springfield, MA 03105
English for Speakers of 43.755.3765

₽STCC

English for Speakers of Other Languages

- Largest ESOL provider in region
- Ludlow, Springfield, West Springfield, and fully-remote classes serving 485 students in FY22
- Recognized for innovation and quality: **Innovative Remote ESOL** profile (World Education, 2021) **Transforming Digital Immigrant Equity** (World Education, 1 of 3 sites nationally)

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Collaboration

- MassHire advisors
- Libraries, Public Schools, Refugee Resettlement
- STCC & Juntos
- Internal HCC

High-Touch

- Proactive, relationship-centered
- Asset-based advising
- Focus on culturally-responsive practices



Pathways-<u>builder</u> for multilingual students



Accelerated Career English

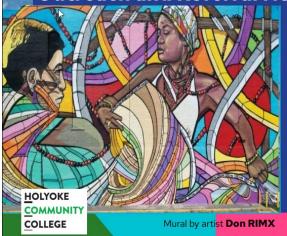
- Pay for Performance contract
- Contextualized language, wrap-around support, scholarships to follow personalized pathways

Collaboration with AESL

- Pathways
- Messaging

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Outreach and Referral Networks



- Bilingual Outreach and Recruitment Specialist
- Referral networks with over 50 organizations, including:
 - Enlace de Familias
 - New North Citizens Council
- ESOL/ESL pathways for career programs

Educar, Inspirar, Conectar,

Juntos Collaborative Transition to College & Careers



- Holyoke Community College (lead agency since
- - HCC ESOL (Ludlow, W Springfield)
 - Community Education Project
 - ESOL (downtown Holyoke),
 - Native Language Literacy Holyoke Tutor Mentor
- ABE (Adult Basic Education & High School Equivalency)

 O HCC Adult Learning Center

 - The Care Center
 - Holyoke Public Schools Opportunity Academy
- MassHire Holyoke Career Center
- HCC Transition to College and Careers

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Link to the Video:

Nicole Rodriguez HCC ALC & TCC BoT version 3 - YouTube



El Centro

El Centro aspires to provide a Hispanic Thriving learning community to meet the needs of Latinx students, where they can receive culturally responsive guidance and support essential to achieve academic success, advancement, and a sense of belonging.

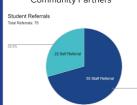
Community **Engagement**

Wellness, & **Wraparound Support** Belonging & Placemaking

El Centro

COLLABORATION

Developing connections with internal & external partners: **AESL ESOL** Latinx Studies Gateway to College Community Partners



HIGH TOUCH

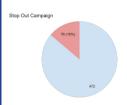
Consistent reach & relationship building via: Proactive advising Recognition of strengths Celebration & Placemaking College connections



PATHWAYS

Multiple entry points for all students: Use our collective knowledge to reach students where they are

and guide them forward



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Constellation: Making the Vision Happen

Collaboration

High-Touch

Pathways

Strategic Framework 2: EQUITY & STUDENT SUCCESS

Collaborate with the communities we serve to increase equity.

Strategic Framework 3: WORKFORCE **DEVELOPMENT & TRANSFER**

Align program outcomes with workforce demands and student needs for employment and transfer.

Strategic Framework 1: TEACHING & LEARNING

Enhance and expand innovative teaching and learning practices that result in a quality education for all.

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HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Outline

Vision: Invite you to the vision (3 minutes)

Intro (Jeff) (2 minutes)

Stars: Who are we? (Knowing) Stars "brass tacks included" (Academic ESL, ESOL, ESOL workforce development, El Centro, Juntos)

Constellation: (the real practical ways we are making the vision happen): (3 minutes)

How incredible that all these things exist! That's the result of conscious building, growing, LEARNING, take a deep breath, do better – STRUCTURE SUPPORTS SUCCESS, result of our best thinking. Change the system so we don't have to keep "helping"

How do we see ourselves working together on behalf of students:

- Mapping pathways
- Intentionality of collaborations

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ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On a motion by Trustee Vidal and seconded by Trustee Hebert, it was **VOTED** to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee George Yes
Trustee Ted Hebert Yes

Trustee Yolanda Johnson Left at 9:00 am

Trustee Evan Plotkin Yes
Trustee Nayroby Rosa Yes
Trustee Vanessa Smith Yes
Trustee Ivonne Vidal Yes
Trustee Eleanor Williams Yes
Robert W. Gilbert, Chair Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 09:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

11/25/2022

CDAC0916A5464E4... Ivonne Vidal,

Secretary Board of Trustees

DocuSigned by:

Robert Gilbert 11/25/2022

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Approved: Robert W. Gilbert, Jr., Chair