



Essex County College
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2022 | 4:30pm
Virtual Meeting

In Attendance:

I. Cruz; J. Grimes; A. Lewis; C. Morales; B. Robinson; J. Wright; J. Zarra; A. Boakye, President; M. Townes, Board Counsel

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Vice Chair Trustee Lewis called the meeting to order at 4:34PM. A quorum was achieved with 7 trustees in attendance.

Open Public Meetings Act Announcement:

Trustee Grimes read the Open Public Meetings Act into the record. It reads as follows:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Essex County College was provided in the following manner:

Advance written notice of this meeting was filed on January 4, 2022, and written notice for this meeting was provided to the Essex County College Community, indicating that the meeting will be held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 2020 c. 11) and Board Policy 1-1. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the College website at www.essex.edu. According to records of Essex County College, we have not received written requests or prepayment from any parties for advance notice of meetings.

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Minutes:

Trustee Grimes moved that the minutes of the October 20th Board meeting be approved. Her motion was seconded by Trustee Cruz. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications:

Trustee Grimes stated that there were no communications for this month.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

The following public comments on the agenda were read into the record:

Lev Zilbermints wrote:

Hello, everyone,

Thanksgiving is around the corner, and so is a mini-vacation. Here is hoping everyone does well!

Now let me comment on the agenda items.

First, when is the Board going to have in-person or Hybrid meetings? I think we have more people coming to in-person meetings than online.

Second, 3.1.6/11-2022: I would like to see the "general repair services" take care of places on campus where cell phone reception is poor. Go around with a cell phone on campus and you will find such places.

Third, 3-1.10/11-2022: I would like to see the college website updated with current information about clubs and organizations. How about having webpages for clubs and organizations?

Fourth, congratulations to all new appointees, faculty emeritus. Best wishes to those leaving and retiring.

Madam Chair, this concludes my Agenda Comments for this month.

Lev D. Zilbermints, '93

Annual Organization of the Board of Trustees:

Board Counsel Townes advised that under the board policy, every November the Board of Trustees has to have its annual election for officers.

Trustee Morales presented the candidates for the positions. The nomination for the Chair position was Trustee Bolden. The nomination for the Vice Chair position was Trustee Lewis. The nomination for the Secretary position was Trustee Grimes. The nomination for the Treasurer position was Trustee Zara.

Trustee Morales moved that the trustees vote on the nominations. Trustee Robinson motioned and it was second by Trustee Cruz.

The nominated trustees thanked the each other and the college for nominating them.

Finance Committee Report:

Trustee Zarra advised that the Finance Committee met during the previous week. He read the following actions that were recommended for approval by the Board:

3-1.1/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Furniture to the New West Essex Building	
	Commercial Furniture Interiors (CFI)	\$423,867.52
	Creative Library Concepts (CLC)	<u>\$38,235.00</u>
	Minor Capital Funded– Capital Expenses	\$462,102.52
3-1.2/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Stationery & Office Supplies	Amount Not to Exceed
	WB Mason Co., Inc., Secaucus, NJ	\$115,000.00
	College Funded – Operating Expense	

3-1.3/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Vending Services for Snacks Paramount Vending Services, Inc. dba Culinary Ventures Vending, Union, NJ College Revenue	\$30,000.00
3-1.4/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Vending Services for Cold Beverages Paramount Vending Services, Inc. dba Culinary Ventures Vending, Union, NJ College Revenue	\$22,000.00
3-1.5/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services DMR Architects, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ Go Build Our Future Bond Funded Info Commons – Capital Expense	\$90,000.00
3-1.6/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of an Increase of Allowances for General Repair Services at the Newark Campus McCloskey Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Blackwood, NJ College Funded – Operating Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000.00
3-1.7/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Pole Banners JCM Associates LLC., Middletown, NJ College Funded – Operating Expense	\$28,250.00
3-1.8/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing Award for a Blanket Order for Accuplacer Testing Materials College Board, London, KY College Funded – Operating Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$36,000.00
3-1.9/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award for a Subscription Renewal of PeopleAdmin Talent Management System Power School Holdings, LLC. dba PowerSchool Group, LLC. College Funded – Operating Expense	\$30,296.22
3-1.10/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Web Hosting Services Hubspire Corporation, Matawan, NJ Hosting, support, and maintenance of College’s website Web services and system development College Funded – Operating Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$4,200.00 \$15,000.00

3-1.11/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Additional Payment for FEMA Premium IMAC Insurance Agency, LLC, Belleville, NJ College Funded – Operating Expense	\$2,143.00
3-1.12/11-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of an Increase of a Contract for Athletic Travel and Charter Bus Services Coach USA Panorama Tours College Funded – Operating Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$25,000.00 <u>\$25,000.00</u> \$50,000.00

Trustee Zarra asked for a motion to approve items 3-1.1 to 3-1.12.

The motion to move was made by Trustee Morales. Trustee Grimes seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee Report:

Trustee Grimes advised that the Personnel Committee met the previous week and read into the record the following actions recommended for approval:

Actions – Submitted for Recommendation to the Board

A. Appointment

- 4-1/11-2022 Professional Level II
Noushig Ohanian
Research Coordinator, Academic Assessment
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$53,000

- 4-2/11-2022 Professional Level II
Lisa Padilla
Senior Assessment Coordinator, Academic Assessment
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$69,690.14

- 4-3/11-2022 Professional Level I
Angela Akwaah
Administrative Assistant, Student Development and Counseling
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$35,900

4-4/11-2022 Professional Level I
Gertrude Arthur
Administrative Assistant – Center for Adult Transition, Student Development and
Counseling
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$35,900 *Grant Funded*

4-5/11-2022 Professional Level I
Lilian Palacios
Human Resources Representative, Human Resources
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$45,000

B. Promotion

4-6/11-2022 Jayson Hull
Web Designer, Marketing and Communications
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$52,630

C. Change in Salary

4-7/11-2022 Joseph Ott
Program Coordinator – Student Life and Activities
Effective November 16, 2022
Salary \$55,796.52

D. Professor Emeritus Status

4-8/11-2022 Faculty Emeritus
Allen Singleton
Professor Emeritus, Business
Effective November 1, 2022

4-9/11-2022 Faculty Emeritus
Ned Wilson
Professor Emeritus, Computer Sciences
Effective November 1, 2022

E. Supplement

4-10/11-2022 Ledawn Hall
Additional Responsibilities
Men and Women of Excellence Scholarship Grant
Effective November 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024
Amount \$10,000

Yasser Kabakibi
Faculty Mentor Lead
Mentoring, Alignment, Preparedness, Support (MAPS) Grant
Effective November 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
Amount \$4,500

Samuel Lumbsden
Faculty Mentor Lead
Mentoring, Alignment, Preparedness, Support (MAPS) Grant
Effective November 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
Amount \$4,500

F. Retirement

4-11/11-2022 Cynthia Lewis-Parson
Benefits Manager, Human Resources
Effective December 31, 2022

Doris Colon
Benefits Specialist, Human Resources
Effective December 31, 2022

Lisa Lomax
Senior Cashier, Bursar
Effective December 31, 2022

G. Resignation

4-12/11-2022 Larrae Bethea
Compliance Associate, Compliance
Effective October 11, 2022

Michael Ferris
Coordinator – Circulation and Library Information Services, Martin Luther King
Jr. Library
Effective October 31, 2022

Floyd Hutchinson
Computer Laboratory Coordinator, Academic Affairs
Effective November 4, 2022

Tanya Black
Junior Buyer, Purchasing
Effective October 21, 2022

Byron Amaya Ortega
Student Support Services Representative, Welcome Center
Effective October 28, 2022

Pedro Burbano
Custodian, Facilities Management
Effective October 28, 2022

Trustee Lewis asked for a motion to approve items 4-1 to 4-12.

The motion to move was made by Trustee Morales. Trustee Zarra seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Educational Programs Committee Report:

Trustee Lewis stated that the Educational Programs Committee met the previous week and read into the record the following action recommended for approval:

7-1.1/11-2022 College Readiness Now IX Project Agreement of The New Jersey Council of
Community Colleges

Trustee Lewis asked for a motion to approve item 7-1.1.

The motion to move was made by Trustee Cruz. Trustee Robinson seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Site Facilities and Equipment Committee Report:

Trustee Morales stated that the Site Facilities and Equipment Committee met the previous week and read into the record the following action recommended for approval:

7-2.1/11-2022	Amendment: Approved and Authorized Terms of the Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act County College Career and Technical	Amount not to Exceed \$5,333,333.00
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The motion to move was made by Trustee Cruz. Trustee Zarra seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Policy and Governance Committee Report:

Trustee Cruz stated that the Policy and Governance Committee met the previous week and read into the record the following actions recommended for approval:

7-3.1/11-2022	Revised Board Policy 4-4: Affirmative Action Policy
7-3.2/11-2022	Revised Board Policy 4-6: Granting of Multi-Year Contracts to Members of Professional Staff Not Holding Academic Rank
7-3.3/11-2022	Revised Board Policy 4-14: Preventing the Spread of Infectious Diseases in the College

The motion to move was made by Trustee Grimes. Trustee Robinson seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Board Counsel Mr. Townes read the goldenrod action into the record:

7-3.4/11-2022 Board Action Plan

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Essex County College recently had its annual retreat on November 5, 2022 and discussed the Board's self-evaluation; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy 1-5 (3) requires the Board of Trustees of Essex County College to discuss its self-evaluation at the annual retreat and to vote on a plan at the next regularly scheduled meeting following the annual retreat; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Board Policy 1-5 (3), the attached board action plan has been developed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: by the Board of Trustees of Essex County College as follows:

1. The Board of Trustees of Essex County College hereby approves the attached board action plan in accordance with Board Policy 1-5 (3).

The motion to move was made by Trustee Zarra. Trustee Robinson seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

Community Relations Committee Report:

Trustee Wright stated that the Policy and Community Relations Committee met the previous week and conversed about the Gold outing. She thanked Dr. Bello, Dr. Kirkland and volunteers who contributed their efforts into making the tournament a success. She also mentioned that the committee discussed the ECC Athletic Hall of Fame.

Alumni Association Report:

The Alumni Association report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Mr. R. Saturne. The report is attached at [Appendix A](#).

Student Government Association Report:

Ms. Yadhira Rosales submitted the report for the Student Government Association and Ms. Story read the report which is attached at [Appendix B](#).

Faculty Association Report:

The Faculty Association report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Professor J. Alexandre. The report is attached at [Appendix C](#).

President's Report:

The President's report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Dr. A. Boakye. The report is attached at [Appendix D](#).

Dr. Boakye introduced the new student representative, Ms. Simon. She said she was eager to attend the meeting and looks forward to communicating with the students.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comments:

Lev Zilbermints wrote:

Hello everyone,

Here are my public comments.

First, we need to get more personal interaction. We cannot be dependent on the Internet all the time. When people speak, they also convey their feelings through body language. Yes, you can see the faces of those you are speaking to, but you cannot always see the body language.

Second, if we are to get more students, I suggest we recruit in as many cities in Essex County as possible. We cannot depend on Newark, East Orange, Orange, and the surrounding areas. I propose we try Millburn, Summit, Essex Fells, Roselle, Westfield, Cranford, Garwood, and places beyond. The argument should be made that ECC offers cheap and affordable education as compared to other colleges.

Keep in touch.

Have a happy Thanksgiving

Lev D. Zilbermints, '93

Notice of Executive Session/Voting:

Trustee Grimes read the Notice of Executive Session into the record. It read as follows:

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, 1975 (N.J. Law Chapter 231) permits a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain topics are discussed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Essex County College shall hold, following this meeting and prior to its next scheduled meeting on December 13, 2022 at 4:30 PM, an Executive Session to discuss the following topics, the general nature of which is limited to Collective Bargaining Agreements, Pending and Existing Contractual Negotiations, Litigation and Personnel Matters. The discussion of these said topics shall be disclosed to the public as soon as reasonable.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36pm by acclamation.

**Essex County College Alumni Association
Report to the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, November 15, 2022**

Good evening, Madam Chair, Board Members and fellow ECC Alumni,
My name is Rolguens Saturne, and I am the ECC Alumni Association Member at large. It is my pleasure to join you all this evening and provide another update on behalf of the Executive Alumni Association.

- ❖ We were able to donate to the Golf and Tennis Tournament Scholarship and a few of the board members attended the brunch portion of the event (on October 20th). We were thrilled to take in some of the beautiful scenery the Maplewood Golf Club had to offer. If any of you have not been there, we highly recommended you check it out.
- ❖ We are assisting with the tabling event for the **Can - Can Food Drive: Hunger & Homelessness awareness Week**. The event begun earlier today (Nov. 15th) and will run until Thursday, Nov. 17th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm each day on the 2nd Floor Forum
- ❖ We will be co-sponsoring the **Thanksgiving Food Giveaway** with the Student Food Pantry at the Claire E. Dasher Student Center on Nov. 22nd from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. The ECC Student Food Pantry provides food for students who are facing food insecurity, especially during the holiday season, one of the most stressful times of the year. As Thanksgiving is approaching, we want to ensure that students can have warm dinners for themselves and their families. The Alumni Association would appreciate any donations the B.O.T members would donate if possible.
- ❖ The Alumni association will be bringing back our time-honored traditional Angel tree and invite the board to donate to help provide for families in need. We will provide more information at the December meeting. Donations can be left with our Alumni Liaison **Ernest Dimbo** in his office **Rm. 4120** or **Bertheleau Ngakam** (our Advisor) **Rm. 2183**.
- ❖ Thank you for allowing me time to speak tonight. Please email the Alumni Association at (Alumni@essex.edu) for any questions, concerns, or collaborations for upcoming programs and projects.

Report by Rolguens Saturne, ECC Alumni Member at large.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FALL 2022 (NOVEMBER) REPORT

Good afternoon to all faculty, Administration and Board of trustees

105.1 POWERHOUSE NICKI MINAJ TICKET GIVEAWAY

SGA hosted a ticket raffle and giveaway for the 105.1 Powerhouse Concert. To facilitate this raffle, we hosted a table in the second-floor forum. The table lasted from October 19th to October 26th. It consisted of SGA officers interacting with students to spread awareness of SGA and increase interest in the concert. Some ways in which officers interacted with students included: asking students to show their love for any artist featured in the concert; fill out a survey about any complaints in general, signing up to be a general member of SGA and getting to know the officers. By the end of the event, we had given out over 80 raffle tickets, we then drew two winners for the raffle and gave them their tickets.

MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

On October 18th, under the guidance of Dean Bello, 10 students and 1 alum answered questions from Dr. Williams during her site visit on various issues they face on campus. With the diverse backgrounds of the students present we answered the questions well and represented Essex County College. During the following town hall on November 3rd SGA sat in and received updates on the process ahead.

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE REOPENING PLAN/SGA CARE FOR COVID INITIATIVE

SGA continues to advise students of the rules and regulations of the college reopening plan. Students are advised of the CDC guidelines, mask mandates and COVID-19 vaccination requirements for those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated.

SGA ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

We appointed all three applicants for senators as well as the secretary. Additionally, we interviewed another student interested in being a senator. The new senators have already started working on their committee assignments and supporting SGA initiatives. The secretary has worked hard and updated all email lists and created new documents for our use.

INITIATIVES FOR THE REST OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

- Destress event including yoga and a party
- Fundraiser
- Clothing and food drive
- Another student forum
- Increased action of the senate through club audits and departmental interviews

We look forward to enacting our initiatives and we appreciate any support the board may give us.

Respectfully submitted,
SGA Executive Board, Essex County College Student Government Association

Faculty Association Report

Thank you, Mr. Vice Chair,

Good Afternoon Members of the Board of Trustees and the college community

It is again my greatest pleasure to present the November report about Essex County College Faculty Association. This report is entitled being thankful and grateful.

A Brief summary

In this thanksgiving holiday period the majority of our members are thankful, grateful and still feel confident that the college is moving in the right direction under the current administration. Therefore, this report will highlight the administration actions during the past month that inspire this confidence. Also, I will highlight the faculty members' actions to support the work of the administration. Our sincere hope is to continue on that path for the success of the college and our students.

Faculty

While the goal of this report is to share why we are grateful and thankful, it is unfortunate to inform that the faculty association had lost a wonderful faculty member Professor Shoreh Shirvany Andresky after 25 years of service to the college. We still want to be grateful and thankful for a great person and faculty she was. She was loved by students, colleagues and administrators.

I am kindly asking the college community to keep her friends and family in your thoughts and prayers as they are going through this difficult time. Many faculty members are planning to pay final respects to her on Saturday November 19th, 2022.

The faculty association executive board voted to continue to support the golf tournament by purchasing a full table. In addition, our faculty members have attended the event to show support for this initiative.

In the September report, I mentioned that one of the worries that many of our retirees felt as they are transitioning to another stage of life that they are cut out totally after leaving the college after spending decades serving the institution. The faculty association is very grateful and thankful to notice that two of our former colleagues have received the status of professor emeritus (Professor Singleton and Dr. Ned Wilson. On behalf of the association, I would like to welcome them and also thank the administration for listening to our suggestion. We hope to see many more staying active in the ECC family.

Most of the executive members attended NJEA 2022 convention. The main two themes that we take away from the convention and we would like to share with the board and the college community is the importance of De-escalation in this climate of violence and the inclusiveness. According to the Washington Post, School shootings rose to highest number in 20 years. <https://www.washingtonpost.com> › 2022/06/28.

Administration

The effort to be transparent has caught the attention of our members

The two main actions of the administration that inspire confidence during last month and we are thankful and grateful for them. There was a meeting held with the executive of the seven bargaining units with the president to discuss the state of the college. Also, there was the publication by academic affairs of the Retention/ Tenure Packet for non-tenured faculty members.

Worries

While we are very grateful and thankful for the direction the college is moving, the faculty members are somewhat worried about surviving in this current economic environment. Our cost of healthcare will increase by 16% and the current inflation rate is at 7.7 %. In other words, our faculty members are getting poorer by more than 20%. In the age of the great resignation, we would be more thankful or grateful if our leaders could seat with us and find ways to improve the life of our faculty members. 6 resignations

Final Words

First, on behalf of our esteemed faculty members, I would like to congratulate the reappointed board of trustees' officers. We appreciate your hard work and also the fact that you have been taking your fiduciary duty seriously and professionally which allow the college to be back on its feet.

Second, we would like to wish each of you members of the board of trustees, the administration and the whole college community to have a great thanksgiving holiday with friends and family.

Thank you kindly
End of the report

Memorandum

To: Ms. M. Bolden & the Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Augustine A. Boakye, President, Essex County College
Date: November 15, 2022
Re: President's Monthly Report

General:

I am pleased to announce that Covid-19 cases have significantly dropped on our campus.

Academics / Enrollment:

- ❖ We are fully engaged in implementing Winter/Spring 2023 Recruitment and Enrollment initiatives.
- ❖ A review of our Academic Programs is underway with a view to upgrading program offerings based on market demand and student needs.
- ❖ The review includes agreements that streamline the transfer process to 4-year institutions.
- ❖ Our college-wide initiatives to improve enrollment, retention, and graduation are paying off.

Table (1) below shows the total number of students and total credit hours for the last 3 Fall semesters.

Table (1)

	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
Total number of students	6,360	6,131	6,466
Total credit hours	62,844.50	63,421.50	65,082.50

Our Fall-to-Fall Retention rate for this semester is **averaging 60%**, indicating a significant increase from the semesters prior to Fall 2021.

Our Graduation rate has increased to an all-time high i.e. Fall 17 Cohort = **11.1%**; Fall 18 = **14.4%** and Fall 19 = **16.7%**.

College Events/ Important Meetings:

- ❖ October 19, 2022 - Dr. Falecia Williams, Middle States Evaluation Team Leader assigned to ECC, completed her preliminary site visit to our college. Dr. Williams also serves as the President of Prince Georges Community College in Maryland.
- ❖ October 25, 2022 - Dr. Boakye held a successful meeting with our Union Leaders to discuss the State of the College and strategies to expand and enhance the student experience.
- ❖ November 2, 2022 - the Business Division held its Annual Business Week events which attracted several 4-year institutions, publishers, students, and alumni.
- ❖ November 3, 2022 - Dr. Boakye was joined by Dean M. Seddiki, Dean K. Kirkland, Mr. J. Shapiro, Mr. P. Jalloh, Mr. M. Doughtie, and Mr. A. Cromartie on a visit to our athletes' residence. The students appreciated the visit and we made note of areas for improvement.

- ❖ November 3, 2022 - Dr. Boakye and the administrative leaders welcomed our new employees to ECC using the **Meet and Greet** session to share our passion for the mission, vision, and values of ECC.
- ❖ November 3, 2022 - Our Middle States Steering Committee continued its series of Town Hall meetings to update the College community on our reaccreditation process and provide opportunities for questions and feedback.
- ❖ November 3, 2022 - Dr. Boakye participated in the Pan Africana Exhibition organized by Dr. Akil Khalfani, Director of the Africana Institute. The event attracted several community members to the College.
- ❖ November 5, 2022 - Dr. Boakye participated in the Board of Trustees retreat with Mr. J. Runfeldt.
The event provided an opportunity to discuss progress on our reaccreditation, the President and BOT Annual Evaluations, and ensuring that the needs of students continue to be our primary objective.
- ❖ November 10, 2022 - Dr. Boakye attended the ECC Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Summer / Fall 2022 Induction Ceremony. In his address, Dr. Boakye encouraged students to value their experiences at ECC and assured all attendees of the College's commitment to student success. In all, 154 students were inducted into the Honor Society.
- ❖ November 12, 2022 - Dr. Boakye participated in the Financial Freedom Literacy Conference organized by Rev. Dr. DeForest Soares and hosted by Dr. Lamont Repollet - President of Kean University. Dr. Boakye used the platform to highlight ECC as a *college that promotes debt free education*.

Finances

Our FY (Fiscal Year) 22 Audit is in progress. The Enrollment Audit portion is now complete. The appropriate report was submitted to the State's Treasury Department in October 2022.

The President's Finance Council continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss best practices and execute appropriate financial controls.

Projects:

Capital projects at the College are progressing well and future projects are under review and discussion. The West Essex campus construction project is on schedule to be completed in June 2023. Construction of the Parking Deck has started.

November 1, 2022 - Ms. Bolden - Board Chair and Trustee Grimes - Board Secretary, paid a visit to the West Essex Project Site.

Community Relations:

Dr. Boakye continues to participate in all NJ Presidents Council Meetings to advocate for funds and contribute to the success of our state colleges/universities.

On October 15, Dr. Boakye joined the NJ Presidents' Council for a meeting at Rutgers University, New Brunswick.

On October 20, 2022, the College completed a successful Scholarship Golf Tournament at Maplewood Country Club. We appreciate the tremendous support of the community.

On October 27, 2022, Dr. Boakye met with Superintendent Roger Leon, Newark Public Schools, to discuss how best we could jointly support K-12 education by refocusing on the Middle School level.

On October 29, 2022, Dr. Boakye joined Chancellor N. Cantor - Rutgers University; President L. Teik - NJIT and President R. Hayles - Pillar College; as panelists on Mayor Baraka's Roadmap to Educational Equity Conference held at NJIT.

On November 1, 2022, Ms. M. Bolden and Dr. Boakye attended a dedication event organized by the Essex County Executive in honor and memory of *Ruth Bader Ginsburg* and *Peter Rodino*. Their bronze busts are currently placed in the lobby of Essex County's Martin Luther King, Jr. Justice Building.

On November 1, 2022, Dr. Boakye and Dean Williams met with Chancellor N. Cantor at Rutgers - Newark campus to discuss ECC / Rutgers articulation and transfer acceleration.

On November 4, 2022, Dr. Boakye attended the NJCCC President's retreat at Middlesex College.

On November 9, 2022, a team of ECC administrators, led by Dean Elvy Vieira, attended a conference at Brookdale Community College where Dean Vieira presented on the topic of *Health Informatics and Health Management* as part of ECC-NJCCC Collaborative projects.

On November 10, 2022, Dr. Boakye participated in Middle States Presidents, Provost, and ALO's webinar. This workshop focused on the Commission's new standards and accreditation protocols.

Acknowledgments:

The College Community thanks all its retirees for their many years of dedicated service. We also honor Professor Ned Wilson, former President of the Faculty Association who also served the College for over fifty years as well as Professor Allen J. Singleton, who after serving the College for over 23 years, continued his dedication and contributions to the College at his retirement. We wish them well.

It is my pleasure to introduce **Ms. Juanita Simon** as the 2022-2023 Board of Trustees Student Representative. Ms. Simon is a member of the ECC Class of 2022 who is currently at Montclair State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree. Congratulations to Ms. Simon.

Save the dates - Upcoming Events.

The Trustee Leadership Conference is scheduled for **Saturday, November 19, 2022**, at Middlesex College.

ECC Employee Recognition is scheduled for **Thursday, December 15, 2022**.

The Middle States Accreditation *Full-team Site Visit* is scheduled for **March 19-22, 2023**.

Madam Chair, this ends my report. Thank you.