



Essex County College

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2022 | 4:30pm

Virtual Meeting

In Attendance

M. Bolden; J. Grimes; L. Guyton; A. Lewis; B. Robinson; J. Wright; J. Zarra; A. Boakye, President; M. Townes, Board Counsel

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair M. Bolden called the meeting to order at 4:33PM. 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 NJ, 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 virtual 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 the Governor of NJ's Executive Order 244, and N.J.A.C. 5:39-1 Emergency Regulations: Remote Public Meetings held During a Declared Emergency) regarding COVID 19 Emergency Actions.

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.

Minutes

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

Communications

Trustee Grimes reported that there were no communications.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

The following public comment on the agenda items was read into the record:

Lev Zilbermints wrote:

Dear Board of Trustees, President Boakye, Student Government Association, ECC Community,

My name is Lev D. Zilbermints, Class of 1993. These are my personal comments for agenda items.

I see that Samantha Roberts has resigned from her post as Director of Learning Center. It is a pity she no longer works at ECC. I have known her for more than a quarter century, back when she attended this school. Samantha used to be the editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, ECCO.

That said, I would like to wish Samantha the best in her future endeavors and thank her for everything she did for Essex County College and its students over the decades.

Congratulations to all who were appointed and promoted. You are doing a great job here at ECC. Keep up the good work! The same goes for those who received supplements.

To those who are retiring, we would like to wish you the best and thank you for your service to the school.

Now, about 3.1-7/10-2022. I see that you are approving a subscription to ProQuest for the MLK Library. These include newspapers, black fiction, pamphlets, etc. My question is, will students be able to borrow textbooks from the library? In the past, students could rent textbooks from the bookstore and borrow older versions from the library. I am not sure what the situation is now. What does the Board and the President think about this issue?

Lastly, I see repairs are being done to the pedestrian bridge adjacent to the Clasher Center. How about connecting the ECC Cafeteria and the Dasher Center with another pedestrian bridge? Something worth looking at, in my opinion.

That covers everything. Thank you for your attention.

Lev D. Zilbermints, '93

Finance Committee Report

Trustee Zarra advised that the Finance Committee met during the previous week. He added that the actions were reviewed and all questions about the actions were answered by the administration. He read the following actions that were recommended for approval by the Board:

3-1.1/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Two-Year Contract for Snow Removal Services Lizza Construction & Paving, Inc., Pine Brook, NJ College Funded – Operating Expense	\$256,400.00
3-1.2/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Change Order for the Pedestrian Bridge Repairs M&M Construction Co., Inc., Union, NJ Chapter XII Funded – Capital Expense	\$65,780.00
3-1.3/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Payment for Legal Services MSBE, Fernandez Garcia, LLC.; SBE, and O'Toole Scrivo, LLC., Fernandez Garcia, LLC. O'Toole Scrivo, LLC. Morristown, NJ College Funded – Operating Expense	\$11,325.00 \$7,640.00 \$18,965.00
3-1.4/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award to provide networking technologies solutions for West Essex Campus Johnston GP, Inc. DBA Johnston Communications (JCT Solutions), Springfield, NJ	Amount Not to Exceed \$1,010,543.58
3-1.5/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a License for Turnitin Plagiarism Checking System Turnitin, LLC, Oakland, CA College Funded – Operating Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$23,301.04
3-1.6/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Change Order for Advertisement Services Intersection Media, LLC, New York, NY Mentoring, Alignment, Preparedness, Support (M.A.P.S.) Grant Funded – Capital Expense	\$2,052.50
3-1.7/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of one-Year Subscription for ProQuest Library Services ProQuest, LLC, Chicago, IL College Funded – Operating Expense	\$58,993.08

3-1.8/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Change Order for Parking Lot “D” Column Repair Services DGB Technologies, LLC., Wykoff, NJ Chapter XII Funded – Capital Expense	\$30,000.00
3-1.9/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services Netta Architects, Mountainside, NJ Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Grant – Capital Expense	\$152,500.00
3-1.10/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Purchase for Nursing Program and License Assessment Technology Institute, LLC. (ATI), Leawood, Kansas Carl G. Perkins Grant Funded – Capital Expense	Amount Not to Exceed \$188,940.00
3-1.11/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award for Second Amendment Medicat Software Licenses and Immunization Compliance Solution Medicat, LLC., Atlanta, GA CRRSAA Funded – Cares Act II	Amount Not to Exceed \$31,000.00
3-1.12/10-2022	Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Owner Representative Services Jingoli Contractors Construction Manager, Lawrence, NJ County of Essex Funded - \$120,000.00 – Capital Expense Building Our Future Bond Act Funded - \$105,000.00 – Capital Expense	\$225,000.00

The motion to move the actions was made by Trustee Wright. Trustee Grimes seconded it and the motion 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:

A. Appointment

4-1/10-2022 Professional Level IV
Shirlgandy Saint Jean (SH-ERL-GAN-DEE SAINT-JEAN)
Assistant Director – Career and Transfer Services, Student Development and Counseling
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$55,000

4-2/10-2022 Professional Level II
Ernest Dimbo (ER-NEST DIM-BO)
Alumni Liaison Officer, Institutional Advancement
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$43,000

4-3/10-2022 Professional Level II
May Whyte-Squires (MAY WHITE-SQY-ERS)
Advisor – Center for Adult Transition, Student Development and Counseling
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$42,000 Grant Funded

4-4/10-2022 Professional Level I
Melissa Malagi (MEL-LIS-SAH MA-LA-GEE)
Administrative Assistant, Humanities and Bilingual Studies
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$35,900

4-5/10-2022 Professional Level I
Stephen Pringle (STEV-EN PRING-GUL)
Computer Support Assistant, Information Technology
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$40,000

4-6/10-2022 Security
Deon Webb (DEE-ON WEB)
Security Officer, Public Safety
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$27,040

4-7/10-2022 Security
Phillip Wells-Cobb (FILL-IP WELLS-COB)
Security Officer, Public Safety
Effective October 19, 2022
Salary \$27,040

B. Promotion

4-8/10-2022 Professional Level II
Judy Ortiz (JU-DEE OR-TEEZ)
Accounts Receivable Officer, Bursar
Effective October 31, 2022
Salary \$66,345

C. Supplement

4-9/10-2022 Faculty
Emmanuel Aouad (EM-MAN-U-EL AH-OOD)
Recruitment, Mentoring and Student Support
National Science Foundation (NSF) STEM Grant
Effective October 6, 2022 to April 14, 2023
Amount \$5,556

Faculty
Kanji Ojelade (KAN-GEE OH-GEE-LAH-DEE)
Recruitment, Mentoring and Student Support
National Science Foundation (NSF) STEM Grant
Effective October 6, 2022 to April 14, 2023
Amount \$5,556

D. Retirement

4-10/10-2022 Support Staff
Sandra Joseph (SAN-DRAH JO-SEF)
Custodian, Facilities Management
Effective December 31, 2022

Support Staff Grade 6
Evelyn LaSalle (EV-AH-LIN LA-SAL-EE)
Technical Assistant, Welcome Center
Effective December 31, 2022

E. Resignation

4-11/10-2022 Administrative
Samantha Roberts (SA-MAN-THA ROB-BERTS)
Director, Learning Center
Effective October 7, 2022

Professional Level IV
Samantha Brannigan (SA-MAN-THA BRAN-NI-GAN)
Assistant Director, Institutional Effectiveness
Effective September 30, 2022

Professional Level I
Nabil Kabakibi (NAH-BIL KA-BA-KEE-BEE)
Lab Specialist, Biology Chemistry and Physics
Effective September 30, 2022

Security
Martha Puca (MAR-THA PUC-CAH)
Security Officer, Public Safety
Effective September 14, 2022

The motion to move the actions was made by Trustee Lewis. Trustee Zara seconded it and the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Grimes stated that item 4-12/10-2022 for the Memorandum of Agreement: Essex County College Security Association will be voted on next month. The security Administration needed more time.

Trustee Lewis asked Board Counsel if they have to vote to strike it from the agenda. Mr. Townes, the Board Counsel, said it was not necessary.

Educational Programs Committee Report

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

7-1.1/10-2022 Contract for Services - Newark Daycare Center

7-1.2/10-2022 Grant Award: Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership Agreement

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

Site Facilities and Equipment Committee Report

Trustee Robinson advised that the Site Facilities and Equipment Committee did not meet last week. There were no actions to report.

Policy and Governance Committee Report

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

Actions – Submitted for Recommendation to the Board

7-3.1/10-2022 Revised Board Policy 3-9: Authorization of Signatures for Expenditures

7-3.2/10-2022 Revised Board Policy 3-10: Salary Supplements

7-3.3/10-2022 Revised Board Policy 3-14: Honoraria

Board Counsel Mr. Townes advised that the items needed to be amended before voting. The submission dates were incorrect. They should have read October 18th and not September 20th.

The motion to amend the dates was made by Trustee Lewis. Trustee Robinson seconded it and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Community Relations Committee Report

Trustee Wright advised that the Community Relations Committee met last week and did not have any actions to report. She stated there were three topics of conversation about the 22nd Annual Golf and Tennis Scholarship. The tournament was postponed. The Athletic Hall of Fame will be looking for members. The foundation board was also discussed for restructuring.

Alumni Association Report

The Alumni Association report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Ms. Story. The report is attached in Appendix A.

Student Government Association Report

The Student Government Association report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Ms. Ige. The report is attached in Appendix B.

Faculty Association Report

The Faculty Association report submitted to the Board of Trustees was read into the record of the meeting by Prof. Jean-Wilner Alexandre. The report is attached in Appendix C.

Professor Michael Pekarofski gave his comments about being in the Faculty Association. He introduced himself as the current President of the Faculty Association. He was thankful for being able to teach the students. He talked about the experience of having an election of the faculty senate. He stated that the main purpose of the faculty senate is to address issues relating to teaching students. They want to make the connection between the faculty senate and the administration to make changes. He considers himself so fortunate in coming to Essex County College to help students as well as to teach students. He enjoys using his creativity and energy.

He always thinks of the alternative if he had not entered into a community college many years ago, how different his life would be. When he sees the students with different struggles sitting before him, he can empathize with them on what the experience means to them. He feels that part of his role as a union leader is heading up collective bargaining, and also supporting the contract that they have in place. He wants to hear new or younger voices, and include elders and faculty. He wants to be more inclusive in terms of our demographics that are represented. He says that the faculty are hopeful and glad to see the initiatives that the president has underway. He reached out to the faculty members and some have concerns. He says he does not want to sweep issues under the rug and wants to address those issues systematically and fairly. He looks forward to engaging with the board and other staff.

President's Report

Dr. Augustine A. Boakye read and submitted the President's report. It is attached as Appendix D.

Dr. Boakye also addressed the comments that Lev made about if students can borrow text books from the library. He said that textbooks were converted to digital files during Covid-19. Students could reach out to faculty or come into the library for help.

New Business

Trustees Bolden stated there was no new business. She made a comment on the Faculty Association report. She stated that it was good that the crime reports were down and makes the school feel safer.

Public Comments

Public comments were submitted by Lev D. Zilbermints and Trustee Grimes was read into the record as follows:

Lev Zilbermints wrote:

I would like to bring the attention of the Board of Trustees to several matters that affect the college. It has come to our attention that there are areas at ECC where cell phone signal reception is poor. For example, in Information Commons we cannot get good cell phone reception. This is something you need to look at. There are other areas in school where cell phone reception is not good.

Next, Cafeteria. When is new Cafeteria Management taking place? Right now we have a kiosk. Previously we had more variety, i.e. pizza, salad bar, etc. Vending machines do not sell hot food. Speaking of which, some vending machines are not in proper working order. Given that vending machines are an important source of food supply, we submit that there should be a central place where the college community can submit their concerns/complaints about vending machines.

Also, College Bookstore does not offer refunds for purchases. I have mentioned this to Joseph Ott, who liaisons with the SGA. Not sure what they are doing about this problem, but it is a concern. If students buy the wrong textbook for a class, they cannot exchange it? Mr. Ott and I both agreed this is wrong and needs to be addressed.

I also think we need to bring back the ECCOLOG, Essex County College's yearbook. We have not had one in twenty years. Maybe we could do one for the 55th anniversary? ECC opened its doors October 1, 1968 at 31 Clinton Street in Newark. If we spend multiple millions of dollars to build a new building for West Essex Campus, surely we can allocate some thousands of dollars for a yearbook? Maybe an electronic version at first, then a printed version?

Thank you for your attention.

Lev D. Zilbermints, '93

Trustee Bolden commented on Lev's comment. She was surprised there was no longer a yearbook for the College.

Trustee Bolden asked if there were any other concerns.

Notice of Executive Session/Voting

Trustee Grimes read the Notice of Executive Session into the record. It reads 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 November 15, 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.

The motion to open Executive Session was made by Trustee Lewis. Trustee Robinson seconded it and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm by acclamation.

Alumni Association Report:

Dear Madam Chair, Board of Trustees, President Boakye, College Community,

My name is Lev D. Zilbermints, Class of 1993. I am a Member-at-Large of the Essex County College Alumni Association. The Alumni Association has asked me to be their representative at the October 18 Board of Trustees meeting and I accepted. That said, here is our report.

On September 20 - 21, the ECCAA participated in the Student Club Showcase, organized by the Student Affairs department. The event was held on the 2nd floor of the A. Zachary Yamba building. We signed up a lot of students and alumni. Most importantly, the ECCAA made its presence known. It was visible, so graduating seniors will know that there is an alumni association here for them.

The Alumni Association is planning a mixer for later in the year and we are currently working to get things in order for the November 22nd event for the food pantry.

We are scheduled to attend the Golfing and Tennis Scholarship Tournament fundraiser this month. There are four tickets to a Brunch which we have purchased. Initially, the event was scheduled for October 13, however, bad weather caused it to be rescheduled. We expect to attend the event on October 20, 2022, from 10:30 am to 11:45 a.m.

In conclusion, we would like to thank Dr. Boakye for his capable leadership. This college is moving forward and making progress. Thank you to everyone who made this happen.

Lev D. Zilbermints, '93

Member-at-Large

ECCAA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FALL 2022 (OCTOBER) REPORT

Good Afternoon to all Faculty, Administration and Board of Trustees

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE ICC CLUB MEETING UPDATE/EXECUTIVE BOARD UPDATE

Vice President Dami Ige and Parliamentarian Zachary Miller held an ICC club meeting earlier this month. During the meeting, nine representatives from six clubs out of 24 total, attended the meeting in general. The representatives that attended, requested funding for their clubs to execute their planned fundraising events. On Thursday September 29, 2022 the Executive Board met with Dr. Boyake, Dean Bello, Dean Kirkland, Mr. Graham as well as Mr. Ott to discuss the upcoming plans and goals for SGA. The following issues were also brought to the attention of College Administration: the 3rd level entrance not being open and the issues of pricing and food served in the cafeteria. During the meeting we also requested funding for all active clubs to be able to conduct fundraisers and acquire supplies needed for their clubs.

NJ COMMUNITY COLLEGE SGA FORUM

As of October 13, 2022, NJCCSGA still has not had their meeting for the fall semester. Information for the first meeting will be provided in the next BOT report.

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE REOPENING PLAN/SGA CARE FOR COVID INITIATIVE

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

ASGA CONFERENCE OCTOBER 7-9, 2022

The weekend of October 7, 2022 the Executive Board of the SGA, was escorted to Washington D.C. by Dean Bello to partake in the American Student Government Association Leadership Conference. During the conference we all learned great skills to elevate our leadership skills to be more productive as an executive board. Prime examples of the workshops attended are transforming apathy into action, resolving conflict within SGA, how to set realistic goals and executing them, and the ability to improve student body participation all while building strong relationships. We are grateful for the experience and look forward to implementing what we learned during the conference.

SGA ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

SGA had our first general member's meeting on October 6th on Zoom, with three people attending. We introduced ourselves and discussed our plans for the rest of the month. We interviewed four people who were interested in being an officer for the SGA. One of them is

interested in being the Secretary and three want to be a Senator. The interviews went well and we hope to appoint them by the end of this month.

INITIATIVES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

- Meet and greet table to interact with students more
- We have acquired two pairs of Nicki Manaj tickets and will be hosting a two-week long raffle consisting of volunteering and other forms of student interaction
- Fundraiser
- Another student forum

We look forward to having more student participation this month and we appreciate any support the Board and the College Community may give us.

Respectfully submitted,

SGA Executive Board
Essex County College
Student Government Association

Thank you, Madame Chair,

Good Afternoon Members of the Board of Trustees

It is my greatest pleasure to present my second report about the state of Essex County College Faculty Association. I would like to mention that my report from today and on will be standardized and will have 4 sections: A Brief summary, Faculty

A Brief summary

The majority of our members, based on casual conversations, still feel confident on the new direction the college is moving under Dr. Boakye's leadership. They are optimistic because of many positive actions they have seen lately such as faculty promotions that were very seldom before, the transparency in the promotion and retention process and the open communication channel between the faculty and the administration. Our sincere hope is to continue on that path for the success of the college and our students.

Faculty

The faculty members continue to improve their skills by earning advanced degrees, undertaking researches. Also, they have been recognized for their active roles in the community. I would like to start by sharing with the board that we have two newly minted "Doctors" among us which our very dear Faculty Association President Mike Pekarofsky and our corresponding Secretary Dr. Su (Sujatha) Ramakrishnan. Dr. Pekarofsky received his doctorate exactly a year ago and has been very quiet about it. I feel it is my duty as the representative of the faculty association to the board of trustees to highlight this great accomplishment of our esteem faculty members.

It was such an amazing initiative of the Biology and Chemistry Division to encourage Dr. Su to share her dissertation in a presentation to the college community. I can report that she had done an excellent job linking Bloom Taxonomy to our method of teaching and evaluating our students. I would suggest that during the next convocation a session should be organized for faculty

The executive committee organized an orientation for all the new faculty members that just joined our rank to help understand the requirement to navigate the tenure track process requirement and how the faculty association can support them in this journey

Three members of the Executive Committee Mike Pekarofski, Jean-Wilner Alexandre, and Eileen DeFreece attended a special NJEA training session for Higher Education in Princeton on September 30 and October 1

Dr. DeFreece was honored by the Oranges & Maplewood branch of the NAACP in April 2022. In July, Dr. Charles Pinderhughes conducted two workshops at the African Unity Movement Conference: "Political Lessons from the Black Panther Party" & "A Scientific Socialist Examination of Intercommunalism."

Dr. Margaret Stevens has published a new book, A Star to Steer By, released in 2022 by International Press.

I (Professor Alexandre) have spent one month in three African countries (South Africa, Mozambique and Eswatini) research the challenges and opportunities of doing business in Africa after receiving

\$7,500 grant from US Department of Education. This research was selected for presentation at the ACBSP Region 1 conference.

I (Professor Alexandre) spent three weeks in Colombia as a visiting professor at the Adventist University of Colombia

Finally, after 16 months of training with FEMA, I received my badge as economist that will support the federal government in case of major disaster. I will serve as a Federal Emergency Response Official which duty is to evaluate damages when disasters strike.

Administration

Other items that are worth highlighting in this report are:

First item was the 2022 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report: The analysis of the 2022 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report indicates that crime on campus is very low to nonexistent. This is such a great news when we know that crime is increasing in the us in general and in some university campuses. On behalf of the members of the faculty we would like to thank the Director of the Public safety and its staff for keeping us safe.

The second, our members that are applying for promotion were very pleased to be invited by the office of Academic affairs in a meeting to discuss the most important point related to the criteria in order promoted. We commend the Office of Academic affairs and the President Office for the meeting that brings a great level of transparency in the promotion process.

Memorandum

To: Ms. M. Bolden & the Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Augustine A. Boakye, President, Essex County College
Date: October 18, 2022
Re: President's Monthly Report

General:

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

Academics / Enrollment:

Our Fall 2022 semester is progressing very well. We were able to meet the Fall 2022 enrollment target of 65,000 credit hours.

Dr. Boakye held successful meeting with the SGA (Student Government Association) Leaders and also with the Social Justice Council to discuss opportunities to advance our institution.

Finances

Dr. Boakye is fully engaged with the Senior Comptroller and the Finance Council in executing finance stabilization protocols for the College. Our Audit for the FY (Fiscal Year) '22 with PFK O'Connor is progressing well.

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 begun. Here are a few photos of the project as of October 17, 2022: [The West Essex Campus New Academic Building #1 OxBlue Construction Time-Lapse Camera in West Caldwell, NJ](#)

Community Relations:

Dr. Boakye continues his strategic engagement with the NJ Presidents Council to advocate for funds and develop sector leading processes to advance education in the state. On September 19, 2022, Trustee A. Lewis joined Dr. Boakye at the NJCC Presidents meeting for his presentation on ECC's Dual Enrollment program.

On September 22, 2022, Dr. Boakye had a successful meeting with the Newark Interfaith Clergy at Zion Hill Baptist and highlighted the opportunities at the College as well as encouraged the clergy to promote the College in their communities.

The Foundation Board had its quarterly meeting on September 27, 2022. Unfortunately, only 3 voting members attended the meeting. The Foundation Board's website project and fundraising activities remain a big challenge.

On September 30, 2022, Dr. Boakye and Dr. Vieira attended the Essex County Superintendents' meeting at Donald Payne School of Technology in Newark. They shared engagement strategies and best practices related to the ECC High School Dual Enrollment program.

Essex County College participated in the Caldwell Street Fair on October 2, 2022. The rendition of the soon to be completed West Essex campus and program offerings were well received.

Trustee I. Cruz was honored for her extraordinary service to the community at the Latino Heritage Month, organized by the County Executive on October 4, 2022. Dr. Boakye and Trustee Zarra were there to support her.

Dr. Boakye joined New Jersey college and university Presidents on October 14, 2022 to honor the investiture of Dr. Cyndy R. Jebb, the 5th President of Ramapo College.

[Save the dates - Upcoming Events.](#)

- The Annual Golf and Tennis Scholarship Tournament is **rescheduled to Thursday, October 20, 2022**, at Maplewood Country Club.
- The Middle States Accreditation *Preliminary Site Visit* is scheduled for **October 18-19, 2022**.
- The Trustee Leadership Conference is scheduled for **Saturday, November 19, 2022**, at Middlesex College.
- The Middle States Accreditation *Full-team Site Visit* is scheduled for **March 19-22, 2023**.
- We encourage the campus community members to exercise their franchise by registering and voting in the **November 8th elections**. Let your voices be heard.

Madam Chair, this ends my report. Thank you.