



SEWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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News Release

NOVEMBER 7, 2022 : BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board approves debt reallocation, meets goats

LIBERAL — The November meeting of the Seward County Community College Board of Trustees started with a list of reasons to be thankful, from national championships to plans for the future and the addition of warm and fuzzy animals to the campus family.

Director of Athletics Dan Artamenko started things off with the news that women's tennis player Carol Mora won the individual ITA national championship. She wasn't the only winner: Women's volleyball claimed its ninth regional championship in history and is headed to nationals with the newly named "Coach of the Year" Gino Frugoli.

More good news arrived in the form of the college's Strategic Plan for 2022-2025, completed just in time for the end of the calendar year. President Brad Bennett provided copies of the document, which he wrote "focuses on the progress and sustainability of Seward County Community College over the next three years, from 2022-2025. SCCC is dedicated to this ongoing, inclusive planning process, which reflects an aspiration to be the best possible institution of higher learning in this place, at this time, for these community members — and an example to our peers across the nation."

On a lighter note, agriculture instructors Will and Rachael Sirek-Milashoski provided an update about the addition of goats to the program. The Ag Department purchased the goats to utilize as a teaching tool. The live animals give students more hands-on opportunities to further their education in reproduction, nutrition, and management.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Luke Dowell praised Rachael Sirek-Milashoski for her attention to detail in setting up the goat program component.

"She made sure we are following the rules and regulations. USDA rules and policies," he said. Bennett added that the goats had already gained popularity on campus after participating in the Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event at the agriculture campus, and are slated to appear in the upcoming Christmas parade.

In new business, the board accepted the personnel report, including the resignation of Dennis Sander, former Vice President of Finance and Operations, effective Oct. 31, 2022. Madalen Day was appointed interim Chief Financial Officer. Genesis Martinez joins the nursing faculty as instructor.

The board approved updates to series 500 policies for business function, and accepted the strategic plan. Other business included a division update from the Dean of Allied Health, Dr. Suzanne Campbell, and agreement to employ the board attorney.

The contract for College legal counsel is reviewed annually. Ms. Shirla McQueen of Sharp McQueen, P.A., requested the increase of the monthly retainer to be \$2,250.00 per month. Litigation and administrative fees will remain the same for FY2022. The hourly fee is \$250. Administration will be diligent in utilizing legal counsel to a minimum beyond the monthly retainer.

Board reclassifies \$1.7 million in delinquent accounts

The board heard a request to reclassify a significant sum of bad debt accrued between 2000 and 2016. The Accounts Receivable balance as of Sept. 30, 2022 is \$3,886,543.74, of which 46.31% is bad debt dating as far back as 2000.

"We last reclassified delinquent accounts in 2000," noted Madalen Day. "We will still pursue recovery of the money through collections, but this changes the picture for accounts receivable." The board voted unanimously to approve the reclassification.

College receives \$20,000 in funding for pantry supplies, student needs

Day reported an unexpected windfall for the SaintsUP Pantry thanks to KBOR. Following a routine meeting she was able to apply for a grant that can be used to purchase food, supplies, “and even winter coats for students who need the help,” she said.

In the following discussion, Bennett noted that the establishment of the pantry has been popular with students on campus.

“I’m glad we chose the location we did,” he said, noting that “students have told me they appreciate the help, and the discreet location.

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