

**Orange Coast College Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 31, 2023, 5:30 pm
College Center, Room 309**

Attendees: Jeff Hyder, Bill Wood, Eileen Lewis, Rich Pagel, Blade Gillessen, Madjid Niroumand, Rene Kinn, Christina Amaral, Mark Kenny, Shana Jenkins, Sean Wellengard, Rena Quinonez, Michelle Grimes-Hillman, Doug Bennett, Angelica Suarez, Patrick Munoz, Rush Hill, and Mary Hornbuckle

Guests: Sean Connor, Sydney Do, River Mishow

- A. Welcome & Introductions:** Jeff Hyder welcomed everyone, and all the members and guests went around the room and introduced themselves.
- B. Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2023 Meeting:** Minutes were approved as emailed.
- C. College Report:** Dr. Suarez delivered the College Report as OCC has begun celebrations for its 75th Anniversary. Among the events was the OCC Champions Event celebrating OCC's Speech & Debate Team as National Champions thus making their 13th National Champions title. The Athletic Teams and Coast Report News Team were also celebrated for their awards and accolades. This was the first time OCC held the Champions Event. Other 75th Anniversary themed events included Honors Night, EOPS End of the Year Celebration, Puente Event, Guardian Scholars Celebration, and Night at the Angels Game where Dr. Suarez threw out the first pitch. The End of the Year Pinning Ceremony for the Allied Health Programs saw 129 graduates from 9 different Allied Health Programs. The Diamond Anniversary Commencement closed out the Spring semester celebrations last Friday. Nearly 3,000 OCC students graduated receiving over 5,000 degrees and certificates with the largest class ever participating in Commencement with roughly 800 student graduates walking across the stage in front of a packed Pacific Amphitheatre. There were 163 International student graduates representing 31 countries cementing that OCC is a global institution. The Student Keynote Speaker for the Diamond Anniversary Commencement was Nancy Estrada, who worked 2 jobs while being a mother to 9 children (adopting 5 from Foster Care) and her son was diagnosed with an untreatable brain malformation giving him a limited time to live. Nancy spoke on how her son was her inspiration as she completed her degree/education alongside him and they walked the stage having graduated together. Kelli Elliot was recognized as the Faculty Member of the Year for OCC as well as being selected as the 2024 Teacher of the Year by the Orange County Department of Education. The Inductee to the OCC Alumni Hall of Fame, Patrick Warburton, gave a hilariously inspirational speech to everyone in attendance much to the students' joy. Summer enrollment at OCC is up 2% compared to last year with classes starting June 12th and Fall 2023 enrollment is already up 2% and it is still early in the registration process. All in all, there was much celebration to be had at OCC throughout the month of May.
- D. Presentation by Members of OCC Speech & Debate Team/Program Overview:** Sean Connor introduced Sydney Do who delivered an excerpt from her award-winning Prose Interpretation on informal caregivers "G and Me" by Anthony Donahue. Sean Connor

then gave a brief overview of how the OCC Speech & Debate Team as a full-service Speech & Debate Team where students can compete in all 13 events in speech, debate, and theatre, not just having one area of focus. The OCC Speech & Debate Team has received the title of National Champions 13 times with 8 of the times being since 2000 (with a 4-peat from 2015 to 2018, receiving both State and National Champion titles). Sean then introduced River Mishow who was named Top Speaker in the Nation (tied with another OCC student for Top Speaker in the Nation, Campbell Gorklinski). The OCC Speech & Debate Team has open enrollment and does not have auditions or try-outs like other institutions and thus the OCC Speech & Debate Team can serve 60 – 80 students every semester. The OCC Speech & Debate Team has been working to fundraiser and publicize to make their presence more known on campus and their team more sustainable. River spoke on how the fact that OCC Speech and Debate Team's open enrollment has allowed them and many other students the opportunity to learn and grow, nurtured by funding and time from the coaches, who would not have made it onto a try-out team. River concluded with how the Speech and Debate Team benefits students beyond being champions in national forensics competitions but helped them as people: presenting themselves, taking up space, articulating their thoughts and opinions. Sydney and River emphasized how the team and the coaches reinforced their ability to improve themselves and be engaged on campus.

E. Executive Committee Report: Jeff Hyder began the Executive Committee Report and turned it over to Doug Bennett to elaborate on the points below:

- 1. Nomination of Dan Stefano, Fire Chief, Costa Mesa:** Doug presented information on Dan Stefano who attended OCC in the 70's, playing football coached by Dick Tucker, and as Fire Chief of Costa Mesa has been very active in the community. Dan Stefano's resume was presented to the Board and the Foundation Board moved to appoint Dan Stefano to the OCC Foundation Board. The motion was seconded and carried.
- 2. 2023 – 24 Officers:** Jeff Hyder announced himself as Chair for the upcoming year and that a slate of new officers will be presented to the Board in the coming meeting. The 3 positions that the Board is looking to fill are the Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 3. Gift Report - \$1 million+ in Gifts & Grants since last mtg:** Doug announced that the Mary McChesney Trust named Orange Coast College as a 1/5 beneficiary of the remainder of her trust. Other notable gifts include donations from the Foundation for the Carolinas to renovate the Technology Center classrooms and donations from the Samueli Foundation to further develop Integrative Health Care Coaching classes via a 3-year grant of \$730,000 with an initial payment of \$257,000. A \$120,000 gift was received from the Linda and Tod White Fund at the Orange County Community Foundation with a pledge of \$100,000 to the Doyle Arts Pavilion next year following the Doyle's presentation of the Linda White Art Exhibition. Bob J. Hall gifted \$100,000 for 10 or 12 scholarships a year to assist students in the vocational programs at OCC lasting 4 semesters. Joe Pechulis, an HB resident, gifted \$20,000 in memory of his wife for a culinary arts scholarship. The Rallis Foundation gave \$20,000 for Guardian Scholars and

Veteran Scholarships. Adding up the gifts and pledges since March 25th, it totals to a little over \$2 million.

- F. Mary McChesney Scholarship Bequest:** Doug Bennett thought that 20% of the Mary McChesney Trust would be around \$100,000, only to be told by the trustee that the share would be between \$500,000 and \$700,000 to go towards scholarships at the discretion of the Foundation Board.
- G. Scholarship Update:** Jeff Hyder and Doug Bennett requested approval from the Board for the Scholarship Awards.
- 1. Endorsement of the Scholarship Awards as Emailed:** The motion was made to approve the over \$650,000 awarded in OCC Scholarships at Honors Night. The motion was seconded and approved.
 - 2. Future Honors Night Programs:** Jeff Hyder announced plans to break up/shorten Honors Night to have a faster more efficient award ceremony focused on scholarships thus benefitting the awardees, donors, and guests. Jeff stated that while this will break tradition, it is long overdue, and all will benefit from it.
- H. Marine Programs Update:** Patrick Munoz discussed the Marine Programs Update.
- 1. Resignation of Sarah Hirsch & New Director Search:** The Director of the Waterfront Campus, Sarah Hirsch, resigned and a search has begun for someone to fill the role. The Marine Committee hopes to be involved in the process.
 - 2. Boats for Sale & General Market:** Doug stated that the Boat Market has been a little slow recently. There were hopes that offers would be made after the Newport Harbor Boat Show, but Brad has not been receiving as many prospective phone calls as usual. The Marine Committee will be reviewing Brad Avery's contract in June.
- I. Finance Report:** The Finance Report was presented by Doug Bennett as Marc Harper is out of the country.
- 1. Endowment Performance Report:** The report shows that we are within the target performance amounts and asset allocation is close to where we want to be. The Finance Committee will meet at the end of June to look at asset allocation as we have been doing well in private equity and Northern Trust seeks approval to add more in that area. Doug is working with Northern Trust to receive a donation of shares through Vanguard in the amount of \$40,000.
 - 2. Foundation Financials – Quarter Ending 3/31:** Doug reviewed the Financials with the Foundation.
 - i. Revenue & Expenses:** Full reports & Check Registers Available from Foundation Office upon request. Revenue & Expense reports are available every quarter. A 3-year snapshot was given to the Board.
 - ii. Summary of Checks Disbursed:** Full reports & Check Registers Available from Foundation Office upon request.
 - iii. 309 checks for \$1,202,152:** Full reports & Check Registers Available from Foundation Office upon request.

- J. Friends of the Library Report:** Eileen Lewis delivered the Friends of the Library Report as the FOTL funded their scholarships with their events and are looking into ways to recycle books that are not sold at the Book Sale. Eileen closed by wishing everyone a happy summer. Doug talked about how Mary McChesney left her book collection to the FOTL in her trust and Doug and Carl Morgan collected 30 boxes of books from the estate.
- K. ASOCC Report:** Dr. Angelica Suarez gave the ASOCC Report as former student body president Mason Espinosa graduated and is transferring to UC Berkley and newly elected Madison Harris will be joining the board meetings in the coming academic year.
- L. Executive Director's Report:** Doug Bennett closed the meeting by stating that it has been a great semester/year and the office has been busy with all the staff in full swing.
- M. Other Business:** Jeff Hyder brought up the prospect of better managing our liquid funds current in the East/West bank checking account. Also, Jeff asked that future campus events be posted at the bottom of the Board Agendas.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm

Next Foundation Board Meeting:

- **Wednesday, July 12 at 5:30pm at the Santa Ana Country Club (20382 Newport Blvd.)**
- **Emeritus Luncheon on Wednesday, June 28 from 11:30am – 1pm at the Aquatics Pavilion with Campus tours to follow.**