



Texas Southmost College

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 20, 2018

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on September 20, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board Members present were Ms. Adela Garza, Chair, Mr. Trey Mendez; Vice Chair, Mr. Ruben Herrera; Secretary, Dr. Antonio Zavaleta, Mr. Art Rendon, Ms. Eva Alejandro, and Mr. J.J. De Leon, Jr. Also present was Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Adela Garza at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Tony Zavaleta led the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Public Comment. No presentation will exceed three minutes.**

There were no speakers.

4. **Consideration and possible action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 23, 2018**

Consideration and possible action on the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2018, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta and carried unanimously.

5. **President's Report**

Chair Garza called on President Rodriguez to give his report. Dr. Rodriguez reported on the following items.

- **Fall 2018 Enrollment Update**

As of today, the college has registered 3,909 on-campus students for the fall 2018 semester, which represents a 2.4% increase over fall 2017. Additionally, there are 1,635 dual enrollment students, a 52% increase over fall 2017; and 1,595 early college high school students, a 20% increase over fall 2017. The total fall enrollment is 7,132; a 14.7% increase over fall 2017. The President explained that this is not only our largest fall semester enrollment since TSC reopened, but is the largest total enrollment for any semester.

- **Advising Month**

Academic Advising Month begins October 1st and will be available throughout the entire month. The goal will be to impress upon currently enrolled students the importance of seeking advising early and often. In addition, select students who take advantage of this support service will be empowered to register on their own or in an Open Lab with support of an academic advisor. The aim of this strategy is to alleviate the lengthy wait periods experienced during peak registration and encourage a more positive student experience.

- **Priority Registration Month**

Priority Registration will begin on November 5th and wrap up at the end of the month. Students with 30-plus semester credit hours will be allowed to register between November 5th and 9th; while students with 29 semester credit hours or less will register beginning November 10th to the 30th. The focus of this strategy is to help students who are close to graduating and/or transferring to a four-year institution to have a good selection of courses to continue their advancement towards completing their degree at TSC. Registration for all students begins on December 3rd.

- **Student Activities**

Since the start of the academic year, Student Life has organized 16 events with the participation of approximately 1,500 students. Some of the events held were Pizza with the President, the 9/11 Remembrance Day Ceremony, Dieciseis de Septiembre and Constitution Day. As we continue to plan and host more events, we are also reviewing the student's feedback on the events and listening to their comments and suggestions.

- **Fall 2018 Convocation**

On August 20th the college held Convocation for faculty and staff to kick-off the Fall 2018 Convocation Week. Dr. Rodriguez thanked our Madam Chair for welcoming our faculty and staff at Convocation and thanked each of our board members for their continued support. During Convocation, the State of the College and other pertinent updates were shared with our faculty and staff.

- **Respiratory Care Program Update**

Dr. Rodriguez asked Dr. Joanna Kile, Vice President of Instruction, and Mr. Scott Nelson, Acting Dean of Health Professions, to provide a brief presentation on the progress for meeting the passing rate for the Respiratory Care Program. They reported that the Respiratory Care Program and the Division of College Preparatory Studies continue to assist in the preparation of one 2015 graduate and two 2016 graduates to take the exam for the previous reporting periods of 2014 through 2016. In addition, a few weeks ago, the most recent Respiratory Care student to take the exam passed with a 96%, making him Registry eligible (the highest possible license level). 88% is required to pass. The Respiratory Care Program has met the threshold of the 80 percent pass rate for students graduating from 2015 thru 2017.

- **Upcoming Events**

Dr. Rodriguez provided a list of upcoming meetings and events for the board members; as well as, the schedule for the upcoming soccer games. This weekend, the team will be traveling to Prairie View A&M University. The next home game is will be on Saturday, October 6th against UTSA. Dr. Rodriguez encouraged everyone to come support our soccer team.

- **Video Presentation**

Dr. Rodriguez announced that the college had an active summer of community outreach efforts and college events into the new fall semester. He presented this month's video highlight, which included the following activities:

- RGV Focus Leadership Team Retreat
- China TV Network Interview with Dr. Zavaleta
- Transfer Students Say Thank You & Goodbye
- VPSS Open Forum
- Biotechnology Workshop
- South Texas Manufacturers Association Meeting
- Free Gear Up Toolkit for Students
- HACB Youth Group
- Learning to Lead Graduation
- LVN Pinning Ceremony
- Star Network Summer Bootcamp
- Texas A&M-Chevron Engineering Academy at TSC Orientation
- New Student Orientation
- Faculty and Staff Convocation
- Final days of registration
- Scorpion Connection
- Welcome Week
- HACB Scholarship Awards Ceremony
- Wellness Wednesday
- Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence Dedication
- Pizza with the President
- Swag Station Grand Opening
- Scorpion Alumni Stinger
- TSC Soccer Club vs. Incarnate Word

At the conclusion of Dr. Rodriguez's report, he thanked everyone for their effort and commitment as well as the Board for their leadership and support as the college moves forward into the new Fall 2018 semester.

Chair Garza thanked President Rodriguez on behalf of the Board for his efforts, commitment, and participation at all the college and community events.

6. Legislative Update

Chair Garza called on Mr. Joe Garcia, of The Garcia Group, to present the item. Mr. Garcia gave an in depth presentation to update the board on recent and up-coming legislative activity. This item was for information purposes only. No action was taken

7. Academic Subcommittee Report

Chair Gaza called on Dr. Zavaleta, to present the items. He stated that the Academic Committee met on August 13th and discussed the following items:

a. Consideration and possible action on approval of Clinical Affiliation Agreement Rio Grande State Center for the Medical Laboratory Technology Program

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to approve the Clinical Affiliation Agreement with the Rio Grande State Center and authorize President Rodriguez to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

b. Consideration and possible action on approval of Articulation Agreements with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley for the articulation of TSC's Associates of Arts, Criminal Justice Teaching (EC-6), and Social Work

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to approve the Clinical Affiliation Agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and authorize President Rodriguez to sign the agreements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.

c. Consideration and possible action on approval of Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin, for and on behalf of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD), for the offering of a professional development event

Dr. Joanna Kile, Vice President of Instruction, explained that this professional development opportunity will be available to faculty and staff from across the region. Attendance to this

event is not mandatory. She also noted that TSC employees have access to professional development funds that can be utilized to pay the reduced cost registration fee available to TSC for hosting the event.

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to approve the Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin, and authorize President Rodriguez to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried unanimously.

**d. Consideration and possible action on
approval of an Academic Agreement for Dual Credit
between TSC and school districts within TSC's service area**

A question arose regarding the participation by IDEA Schools in dual enrollment programs. Mr. Donald Crouse, Associate Vice President of Instruction, stated that IDEA Schools have elected not to participate in the dual credit programs and focus on Advanced Placement Programs for their students.

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to approve the Academic Agreement for dual credit, and authorize President Rodriguez to enter into the agreement with all partnering school districts. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Leon and carried unanimously.

**e. Consideration and possible action on
approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the
Brownsville Independent School District for the Texas 21st Century Community
Learning Centers Grant Program**

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Brownsville Independent School District for the Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Leon and carried unanimously.

8. Budget / Finance Subcommittee Report

Mrs. Garza called on Mr. Herrera, to present the items. He stated that the Budget/Finance Committee met on August 11th and discussed the following items:

**a. Consideration and possible action on
approval of Agreement for Legal Services with Mr. Ruben R. Peña**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the legal services with Mr. Ruben R. Peña and authorize President Rodriguez to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Leon and carried unanimously.

**b. Report on the Monthly Financial Statement
for the Month Ending July 31, 2018**

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, gave an overview of the Financial Statements for the month ending July 31, 2018. This item was for information purposes only. No action was taken.

9. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:09 p.m.

10. Action on Executive Matters

**a. Consultation with Attorney on
Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code**

No action was taken in open session.

**b. Consultation with Attorney on
Pending Real Estate Issues, Section 551.072, Texas Government Code**

No action was taken in open session.

**c. Deliberation on
Personnel Matters, Section 551.074, Texas Government Code**

i. FY2018-2019 Salary Schedule

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the salary schedule as presented by the President in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried unanimously.

ii. Board of Trustees Self Evaluation

No action was taken in open session.

11. Announcement of Proposed Meeting Dates

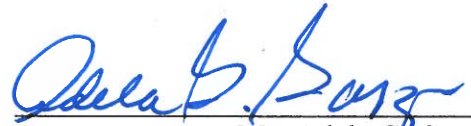
Chair Garza announced the following proposed meeting dates:

Thursday, October 18, 2018, 5:30 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, November 15, 2018, 5:30 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting

12. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Mendez. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Ms. Adela G. Garza
Chair, Board of Trustees



Ruben Herrera, J.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees