

**Bristol Community College
Fall River, Massachusetts**

**Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes**

June 8, 2020

I. Call to Order

The three hundred and seventy-seventh regular meeting of the Bristol Community College Board of Trustees was held on Monday, June 8, 2020. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and Governor Charles Baker's order allowing remote participation, this meeting was conducted remotely via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.

Trustees present: Joan Medeiros, Chair; Samir Bhattacharyya; Valentina Videva Dufresne; Keith Hovan; Jeffrey Karam; Lynn Malasi; Sandra Saunders, Esq., Secretary; CJ Souza; and Steven Torres, Esq., Vice Chair.

Trustees absent: Frank Baptista and Diane Silvia.

Kathleen Wordell, Recording Secretary, announced that since all members of the Board of Trustees would be participating remotely at this Board meeting, all votes taken would be by

Steven Torres (Vice Chair) – Yes

Joan Medeiros (Chair) - Yes

The motion was approved.

V. President's Report

President Douglas introduced Michael Murphy, the new Dean of Online Learning who gave a brief update of himself to the Board and said he was happy to be a part of the Bristol team.

President Douglas gave a COVID-19 update to the Board of Trustees. The following are some of the highlights of the report:

Some spring semester students were unable to complete their courses because they needed additional face-to-face instructional or clinical hours. Because the Governor announced that Phase 2 had begun, we will commence with completion plans. Some of these students, we anticipate, will be able to complete by the end of June, others by the end of July and the last batch by the end of August or beginning of September. This plan will allow our students to be able to graduate or move on to the next year of their program.

We had postponed our commencement until we had more information to reschedule. A face-to-face commencement does not look possible this year. We surveyed our students and have decided to hold a virtual commencement, most likely at the end of summer, but we will also allow them to walk in commencement 2021.

Summer enrollment came in strong for the second year in a row. We are up 8% over last year.

Fall enrollment is 17.5% behind. We understand that many students have postponed their decision to attend college. However, we remain optimistic that enrollment will hold this fall. President Douglas wanted to note that students who are most at risk of stopping out are our current students, especially minoritized groups. The college is conducting special outreach to these groups to assist them with staying in school and staying the course.

Fall classes will be mostly online, and we will also have hybrid classes that are part online and part face-to-face. We have been directed that at any point we must be prepared to move classes online. We have also purchased and implemented new technology to support virtual services—placement testing, online orientation, electronic transcripts, CRM, etc.

The Coronavirus pandemic has disrupted the lives of many, both personally and professionally. Bristol Community College's Business Solutions & Partnerships area will be offering free webinars to the community that will provide support for job seekers, educators dealing with remote learning, and employers and employees looking to increase proficiency in remote work environments. The focus areas include: Virtual Career Exploration & Personal Branding, Upskilling for Distance and Remote Learning for Educators, and Professional and Organizational Virtual Training.

Last, yet certainly at the top of mind, we have built an action plan to combat racism and further our equity agenda in the wake of the death of George Floyd. We have constructed a pledge that individuals can sign online, and we are offering forums to

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