

May 15, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees
Vermont State Colleges

FROM: Martha O'Connor, VSC Board of Trustees
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor



SUBJECT: Notice of VSC Board of Trustees Meeting

Attached are the materials for the Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2015 at the Williston Campus of Vermont Technical College.

Directions to the Williston Campus

Take I-89 (north or south) to Exit 12 (Williston/Essex Junction). Go north on Route 2A for .6 miles, and turn left onto Route 2 W (at Tafts Corner). Make the first right onto Helena Drive. Turn left onto Lawrence Place, and left again to stay on Lawrence Place. The meeting will be in building 400. A campus map is attached. Here is a link to a map: <http://bit.ly/1e5Tq6B>

Please note we will be starting at 1 p.m.

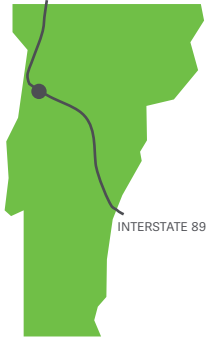
We look forward to seeing everyone next Thursday.

cc: Council of Presidents

VERMONT TECH

Williston Campus

201 Lawrence Place | Williston, VT 05495
802.879.2323 | vtc.edu/williston



- 1 Williston North**
BUILDING 100
 - Nursing
 - Respiratory Therapy
 - Classrooms & Labs
 - Student Lounge & Kitchen

- 2 Williston West**
BUILDING 200
 - Admissions
 - Administration
 - Classrooms & Labs
 - Student Lounge & Kitchen

- 3 Williston South**
BUILDING 300
 - Dental Clinic
 - Dental Hygiene
 - Classrooms & Labs
 - Student Lounge & Kitchen

- 4 Williston East**
BUILDING 400
 - Library
 - Center for Academic Success
 - Machine Shop
 - Science Lab
 - Student Lounge & Kitchen
 - Vermont Interactive Technologies

- 5 Williston Hall**
BUILDING 700
 - Student Residence
 - Fitness Center
 - Student Lounge & Kitchen
 - Continuing Education & Workforce Development



Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees

May 21, 2015

*Vermont Technical College
Williston, Vermont*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Martha O'Connor, Chair
(2/28/17)

M. Jerome "Jerry" Diamond
(2/28/19)
Rep. Eileen "Lynn" Dickinson
(2/28/16)
Kraig Hannum
(2/28/17)
J. Churchill Hinds
(2/28/21)
Rep. Tim Jerman, Vice Chair
(2/28/18)
Rep. Bill Lippert, Jr.
(2/18/16)
Karen Luneau, Treasurer
(2/28/17)

Chris Macfarlane
(2/28/19)
Rep. Jim Masland
(2/28/18)
Linda Milne
(2/28/15)
Heidi Pelletier, Secretary
(2/28/19)
Michael Pieciak
(2/28/21)
Alyssa Slaimen
(5/31/15)
Governor Peter Shumlin
(*ex officio*)

Board Committees

Audit

Linda Milne, Chair
Lynn Dickinson
Tim Jerman
Karen Luneau
Chris Macfarlane

Education, Personnel & Student Life

Kraig Hannum, Chair
Jim Masland, Vice-Chair
Lynn Dickinson
Karen Luneau
Mike Pieciak
Alyssa Slaimen

Executive

Martha O'Connor, Chair
Tim Jerman
Karen Luneau
Heidi Pelletier

Finance & Facilities

Chris Macfarlane, Chair
Bill Lippert, Vice-Chair
Jerry Diamond
Church Hinds
Tim Jerman
Linda Milne
Heidi Pelletier

Long Range Planning

Jerry Diamond, Chair
Kraig Hannum
Church Hinds
Tim Jerman
Karen Luneau
Heidi Pelletier

Board Meeting Dates

July 31, 2014
September 23 & 24, 2014
October 30, 2014
December 11, 2014
February 19, 2015
April 9, 2015
May 21, 2015
July 30, 2015
September 22 & 23, 2015

Chancellor's Office, Montpelier, VT
Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, VT
Community College of Vermont – Brattleboro
Castleton State College
Lyndon State College
Johnson State College
Vermont Technical College - Williston
Chancellor's Office, Montpelier, VT
TBD

VSC Chancellor's Office **Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor**

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Vice President and General Counsel
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor
Chief Academic and Academic Technology Officer
Chief Information Officer
Director of External and Governmental Affairs
Director of Facilities
Director of Human Resources
Director of Institutional Research
Director of Payroll and Benefits
Chief Technology Officer
Controller

Thomas Robbins
William Reedy
Elaine Sopchak
Yasmine Ziesler
Dianne Pollak
Tricia Coates
Richard Ethier
Nancy Shaw
Hope Baker-Carr
Tracy Sweet
Richard Blood
Deborah Robinson

**VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
May 21, 2015 1:00 p.m.**

**Vermont Technical College
Williston, Vermont**

AGENDA

A. PRESENTATION

Vermont Tech: Williston Campus Growth and Future

B. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2015 Meeting
2. Report of the Meeting of the Nominating Committee and the Election of the Officers of the Board of Trustees and Audit Committee
3. Preliminary Approval of FY2016 Board Meeting Schedule
4. Personnel Actions: Presidents and Chancellor Reappointments
5. Approval of FY2016 Budgets
 - a. VSC Budget
 - b. VIT Budget
 - c. Workforce Development Budget
6. Approval of Additional VTC Operating Loan Commitment
7. Approval of OPEB Fund Usage
8. Approval of Annual Banking and Investment Resolution
9. Endorsement of Grant Proposal
10. Lyndon State College: Resolution in Support of Partnership between Lyndon State College and Northern Essex Community College
11. Real Estate Matter
12. Personnel Matter

C. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

1. Report of the Meeting of the Executive Committee
2. Report of the Meeting of the Audit Committee
3. Report of the Meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee
4. Report of the Meeting of the Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee
5. Report of the Vermont State Colleges Student Association
6. Legislative Update
7. Report of the Chancellor
8. Reports of the College Presidents
9. Other Business
10. Comments from the Public
11. Date and Place of Next Meeting
Thursday, July 23, 2015
Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, VT

B. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2015 Meeting

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees conducted a regular meeting Thursday, April 9, 2015 at Johnson State College in Johnson, Vermont.

The following were present:

Trustees: Jerry Diamond (by phone), Lynn Dickinson, Church Hindes, Tim Jerman, Karen Luneau, Chris Macfarlane, Jim Masland, Linda Milne, Martha O'Connor, Heidi Pelletier

Absent: Kraig Hannum, Bill Lippert, Mike Pieciak, Alyssa Slaimen

Presidents: Joe Bertolino (by phone), Joyce Judy, Barbara Murphy, Dan Smith, Dave Wolk

Office of the Chancellor:

Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs

Tom Robbins, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Bill Reedy, Vice President and General Counsel

Nancy Shaw, Director of Human Resources

Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor

Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor

Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel

Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic and Academic Technology Officer

From the Colleges:

Nolan Atkins, LSC Interim Academic Dean

Dave Bergh, JSC Dean of Students

Deb Bouton, JSC Director of Marketing

Tess Conant, VSC UP President

Scott Dikeman, CSC Dean of Administration

Doug Eastman, JSC Registrar, Director of Institutional Research

Valerie Edwards, Director, JSC External Degree Program

Joe Farara, JSC Faculty Librarian

Cathy Higley, JSC Administrative Assistant for Graduate Programs

Penny Howrigan, JSC Director of Admissions

Loren Loomis Hubbell, LSC Dean of Administration

Items for Discussion and Action

Ben Johnson, AFT VT President
Sara Kinerson, JSC Director of Advising
Jo Ann Lamore, JSC Assistant Academic Dean
John Miller, JSC Professor of Fine Arts
Sandra Noyes, Staff Unit Vice Chair
Dan Regan, JSC Academic Dean
Sharron Scott, JSC Dean of Administration
Tyrone Shaw, JSC Professor of Literature and Writing
Paul Silver, JSC Professor of Humanities
Dotty Spoerl, JSC Assistant Chief Technology Officer
Danielle Spring, JSC Conferences Coordinator
Toby Stewart, JSC Controller
Julie Theoret, JSC Professor of Mathematics
Jamey Ventura, JSC Director of Athletics
Beth Walsh, JSC Coordinator of Career Development
Margo Warden, Director of First-Year Experiences
Michelle Whitmore, JSC Associate Dean of Students

Members of the Public:

Tom Garrett
Tim O'Connor

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Tom Meredith, Consultant for the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities and Former Commissioner of Higher Education, Mississippi State University System, presented a slide show entitled *Best Practices and Upcoming Issues for Twenty-First Century Boards*.

Dr. Meredith engaged the Board in a conversation about best practices for governance. He referred to several articles which were shared with the Board:

- “10 Habits of Highly Effective Boards”
- “In the Board Room Culture Counts”
- “Consequential Boards: Adding Value Where it Matters Most”
- “The Leadership Dynamic in Public College and University Systems”

A video recording of Dr. Meredith’s presentation was made and will be available for viewing soon. (Additional note: [video](#) is available now.) At the conclusion of the presentation Trustee Diamond left the meeting.

C. PRESENTATIONS

Johnson State College Partnerships & Community Relationships

JSC Dean of Students Dave Bergh and Johnson State College President Barbara Murphy presented an overview of the many initiatives and partnerships the college has with the Johnson and Lamoille County community. Programs including Upward Bound, internships, environmental research, early college, mentorship, and many more combine to make Johnson State an enormous economic and cultural resource for the entire community.

Chair O' Connor called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. and requested a motion to add a personnel matter to the agenda, before agenda item 6, Consideration of Real Estate matter. Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Macfarlane seconded the agenda addition.

Chair O'Connor recognized and commended members of the JSC presidential search committee members who were present. Chancellor Spaulding announced that incoming President Elaine Collins will be visiting campus later in the month.

D. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

2. Approval of the Minutes of the February 19, 2015 Board of Trustees Meeting
Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the approval of the February 19, 2015 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee: Consent Agenda
VSC Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler gave a brief report on the items under consideration in the consent agenda. President Smith and President Wolk briefly described their programs submitted for approval that have been recommended to the full Board by the Committee.

Trustee Pelletier moved and Trustee Macfarlane seconded the resolution. No items were removed from the consent agenda. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

President Murphy presented Professor Tyrone Shaw with a plaque in honor of his Faculty Fellowship. Professor Shaw shared that his 23 years at JSC have been the best of his life. He thanked the Board for their leadership during the recent presidential search process.

4. Distribution of Stafford Community Grant for Spartan Dome Installation

Trustee Masland moved and Trustee Jerman seconded the resolution Distribution of Stafford Community Grant for Spartan Dome Installation. Castleton State College President Wolk gave a brief description of the source of the funds from Senator Jim Jeffords, and the plans the college has in store for the Spartan Dome. He described plans the college has to provide transportation for students to get to the facility, and emphasized that the Rutland community will use and benefit from the facility.

Chancellor Spaulding explained to the Board that this item was discussed last week, but because there was no quorum the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting was not held and the item was simply discussed, with no resolution recommended to the full Board. The resolution passed unanimously.

5. Adoption of New Charge for the Executive Committee

Chancellor Spaulding handed out the minutes of the March 9, 2015 Executive Committee meeting. He stated that he supports the resolution to reorganize the Executive Committee. Chair O'Connor reminded the Board that all Board members are able to attend Executive Committee meetings. Trustee Hinds asked if "significant expenditure of resources" as stated in the proposed committee charge is defined. After discussion the Board agreed to leave the language of the new charge as is unless they deem it necessary to change it. Chair O'Connor confirmed with General Counsel Reedy that the new charge can be implemented immediately. The next Executive Committee will be held on Monday, April 27th at 1 p.m. at the Chancellor's Office, Room 103.

Trustee Pelletier moved and Trustee Masland seconded the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

6. Establishment of Long Range Planning Standing Committee and Adoption of Committee Charge

Chancellor Spaulding explained that the Board needs a forum where it can discuss strategic issues that may not ever reach the full Board level but still require discussion in a more informal setting. The Board does not have an active strategic plan currently. A strategic inquiry process had recently been held, and this committee could continue that conversation. The Chancellor reviewed the charge for this committee with the Board.

Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the resolution. Trustee Hinds asked whether this would be a standing committee or an *ad hoc* committee; Chair O'Connor stated that it is a standing committee that will sunset in 2017 unless it is reconstituted. Chancellor Spaulding

said it is possible that some committee members could sit on this committee as well as another. The resolution passed unanimously.

6. President Emerita Status for Johnson State College President Barbara E. Murphy
Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy read aloud a resolution conferring President Emerita Status on JSC President Murphy. Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

President Murphy thanked the Board for the honor and accepted it on the behalf of the students.

7. Consideration of Real Estate Matter

Trustee Pelletier moved and Trustee Masland seconded a motion, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(2), that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss, and if warranted to act on, the negotiating or securing of real estate purchase options. In addition to the Board, the Chancellor, President Smith, CFO Robbins, and General Counsel Reedy were asked to attend the Executive Session.

The Board voted unanimously to enter executive session at 4:14 p.m. The Board exited executive session at 4:57 p.m. and took no action.

C. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

1. Proposed Changes to Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

Chancellor Spaulding described the proposed new schedule for the Board and shared the Executive Committee's recommendation that the Board shift to a schedule of five, two-day meetings over the course of a year. The suggested calendar in the materials is for discussion only at this point.

Trustee Milne reminded the Board that the audited financials must be submitted to the state by October 15th, so there should be a meeting in October. CFO Robbins stated that the Board submits draft audited financials in October. A possibility is that the Audit Committee could meet in October, in order to approve the financials in time.

Trustee Luneau expressed concern that last-minute events might keep a trustee away, and with fewer meetings an absence can mean missing a significant amount of information. Trustee Jerman asked that the February meeting be earlier, to avoid conflict with Town Meeting Day and crossover day in the legislature.

Items for Discussion and Action

2. Rescheduling of July 30, 2015 Board of Trustees Meeting

This meeting is now to be held July 23rd at the Chancellor's Office, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

3. Report of the April 1, 2015 Meeting of the Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee

No further information was discussed.

4. Report of the April 1, 2015 Meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee

Trustee Macfarlane stated he and the Committee are continuing to review the newly created dashboard metrics discussed at the meeting.

5. Report of the Vermont State Colleges Student Association

In Trustee Slaimen's absence JSC Dean of Students Dave Bergh shared that the VSCSA will be meeting and electing a new student trustee next week. He confirmed that included in the Board governance bill moving through the legislature right now, the language preventing a college from being represented by a student trustee for more than two consecutive terms has been removed.

6. Report of the Chancellor

Chancellor Spaulding shared that the VSC is having a good legislative session in spite of the state's current financial situation. He is expecting level funding for the system. He thanked Trustee Dickinson for help and support obtaining funding for lab equipment for Vermont Tech. He reported that the bill on Board governance is moving through the legislature.

Chancellor Spaulding stated that the May Board meeting will have a full agenda and encouraged all Board members to attend. Chair O'Connor suggested that the May meeting start at 1 p.m. to give the Board more time. Chancellor's Office staff will ensure that the committees also have enough time to do their business. Staff are currently updating the Board handbook and it may be ready for review at the May meeting. Director of External and Governmental Affairs Tricia Coates reported that dual enrollment finding is holding steady in the legislature.

7. Reports of the College Presidents

Castleton State College President Dave Wolk shared that Castleton ads appeared on television during the March Madness basketball games.

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy called the Board's attention to the work the college does with its faculty and invited trustees to their summer faculty gathering at Lake Morey.

Items for Discussion and Action

Vermont Technical College President Dan Smith thanked Chancellor Spaulding for attending an all-college meeting this week. He also thanked Trustee Dickinson for her support in obtaining funding for Vermont Tech lab equipment. He shared that the college is working closely with GW Plastics on scholarships, internships, and job placement for graduates. The first community meeting about the proposed Agency of Natural Resources lab to be build on the Randolph campus was held recently. This lab will overlap with multiple Vermont Tech programs and offer many opportunities for students and faculty. It is slated to be completed by June 2018.

Johnson State College President Barbara Murphy introduced many staff members present. She announced that on April 15th the college is hosting the entire sophomore class of Lamoille UHS as part of commitment to raising post high school aspiration rates.

Lyndon State College President Joe Bertolino thanked Interim Academic Dean Nolan Atkins and Dean of Administration Loren Loomis Hubbell for attending the meeting in his place. Chancellor Spaulding shared that President Bertolino is finishing a week-long fundraising trip. President Bertolino stated that the college's third annual veterans summit last month was a success. The college will be hosting 350 eighth graders for Kingdom Career Day to help students think about high school and college planning.

8. Other Business

Trustee Macfarlane told President Smith that his company, Hood Industries of Milton, VT, hired a Vermont Tech student in the engineering department and asked all the presidents to share with students that his company is looking to hire. Chair O'Connor asked trustees to inform the Chancellor's Office about commencement plans.

9. Comments from the Public

VSCUP President Tess Conant notified the Board that the VSCUP have elections next week and she will be stepping down as president. Beth Walsh is currently only nominee for president.

LSC Dean of Administration Loren Loomis Hubbell shared that the LSC annual wellness event will raise funds for student scholarships.

10. Date and Place of Next Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Vermont Technical College, Williston Campus

Trustee Macfarlane moved and Trustee Milne seconded a motion to adjourn. Chair O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

2. Report of the Meeting of the Nominating Committee and the Election of the Officers of the Board of Trustees and Audit Committee

The By-laws of the Board of Trustees provide the following: Article II, Section 1, “the annual meeting of the Board shall be the last regular meeting of the fiscal year...” Article II, Section 2 states, “The officers of the Board shall be elected at each annual meeting from among the members of the Board.” Article III, Section 1 states, “The officers of the Board shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The same person may serve as Secretary and Treasurer.”

The VSC Audit Committee Charter provides the following: Section II, “Committee members shall be elected by the Board of Trustees at the annual organizational meeting on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee...The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board from the elected members of the Committee.” The Nominating Committee will present a slate of nominations to the Board for its consideration.

3. Preliminary Approval of FY2016 Board Meeting Schedule

Board By-Laws state that “Following each annual meeting, the Chair of the Board shall propose a planned schedule of regular meetings for the fiscal year and the first two meetings of the following fiscal year. At its first regular meeting of the new fiscal year, the Board shall adopt a schedule of its meetings for the remainder of the fiscal year and for the first two regular meetings of the following fiscal year.”

At its April 9th meeting the Board discussed a new meeting format. The following proposed schedule goes through September 2016 and reflects a change in the Board meeting cycle from the current Wednesday/following Thursday cycle to a two-day, overnight cycle. The dates proposed are preliminary. Board members should consult their personal calendars to ensure avoiding conflicts. The Board will vote on the final meeting dates at its July meeting.

Proposed Dates for FY2016-FY2017 Board of Trustees Meetings**FY2016**

July 23, 2015	1 st meeting of FY2016
September 22 & 23, 2015	BOT Annual Retreat
Wednesday 12/2/15 – Thursday 12/3/15	
Friday 2/19/16 – Saturday 2/20/16 OR Friday 2/26/16 – Saturday 2/27/16 OR Friday 3/4/16 – Saturday 3/5/16	Friday/Saturday to accommodate Legislative trustees
Wednesday 5/25/16 – Thursday 5/26/16	FY2016 Annual Meeting

FY2017

Wednesday 7/20/16 – Thursday 7/21/16	1 st meeting of FY2017
Wednesday 9/21/16 – Thursday 9/22/16	BOT Annual Retreat

	Audit	EPSL	Executive	F&F	Long Range	Full Board
September					Discuss strategic directions at annual retreat	
October	Review Audited Financial Statements					Approve Audited Financial Statements
December		Policy 101 Review of Academic Programs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review use of Carryover Funds • Review Preliminary Operating Budget Assumptions • Review and approve Campus Capital Budget Proposals and State Appropriation Request 		
February		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 109 Review • Honorary degree/emeritus requests 		Approval of Tuition, Fees, Room & Board Rates		Elect three Board members to Nominating Committee
May	Review Audit Schedule	Review Nominations for Faculty Fellows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of Presidents & Vice Presidents • Evaluation of Chancellor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review & Approve Budgets • Annual Banking & Investment Resolution 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reappointment of Presidents • Reappointment of Chancellor • Election of Officers of the Board
July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review IT Annual Services Report • Review Annual Legal Affairs Reports 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule of Board Meetings • Board self-assessments (biannually)
Ongoing, as needed	Whistleblower reports	Policy 102 Program Proposals	Addressing business items as needed	Grant and endowment approvals; real estate transactions	Planning initiatives	

4. Personnel Actions: Presidents and Chancellor Reappointments

The Chancellor completed annual evaluations of the presidents, which he discussed with the Executive Committee. He will bring recommendations to the Board.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTION

Personnel Actions: Reappointment of the College Presidents

BE IT RESOLVED,

That upon recommendation of the Chancellor, the following personnel actions are approved, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the letters of reappointment, to be signed by the Chancellor.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>
Joseph Bertolino	President	7/1/2015 – 6/30/2017
Joyce Judy	President	7/1/2015 – 6/30/2017
Dan Smith	President	7/1/2015 – 6/30/2017
David Wolk	President	7/1/2015 – 6/30/2017

May 21, 2015

VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTION

Personnel Action: Reappointment of the Chancellor

BE IT RESOLVED, That upon recommendation of the VSC Board Executive Committee, the following personnel action is approved, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the letter of reappointment, to be signed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>
Jeb Spaulding	Chancellor	7/1/2015 – 6/30/2017

May 21, 2015

5. Approval of FY2016 Budgets

a. VSC Budget

Adopting the upcoming fiscal year's operating budget is among the most important annual activities of the Board of Trustees. The FY2016 budget proposed incorporates the FY2016 student charges set at the February 19, 2015 meeting.

Immediately after the resolution are the FY2016 operating budget spreadsheets for the VSC aggregated, and then each college plus the system office, along with corresponding narratives. Each college/entity used the approved assumptions while creating their budgets. Any additional assumptions were added in the "College Adjustment" column. These additional assumptions are detailed in the narrative accompanying the budgets.

The budget proposals are characterized by the following key elements:

- Full Paying Equivalent (FPE) Student Enrollments
Tuition and fees from FPE students constitute revenue to the college's operating budgets, and for FY2016 FPEs are projected to be down from FY2015 budget levels at CCV, CSC, JSC, LSC and VTC. Within these projections, the mix of in-state versus out-of-state students is continually shifting.
- Tuition & Fees
The colleges used the tuition and fee rates approved at the February 19th Board of Trustees meeting.
- State Operating Appropriation
The state operating appropriation for FY2016 is anticipated at the governor's recommended amount of \$23,872,565 for the VSC colleges and \$1,157,775 for N&AHP.
- Salaries/Benefits
Unless otherwise stipulated by union contract VSC employees generally received a 2% pay increase. Health insurance will increase ~ 8%. Our experience and trend line for FY2016 lead us to believe this is the appropriate increase to maintain a balance of covering predicted costs and maintaining a sufficient cushion for unanticipated increases.

Wages and attendant costs continue to dominate our expense structure accounting for 67% of our unrestricted operating expenses. A large majority of the VSC full time employees belong to one

Items for Discussion and Action

of the five unions. The union contracts contain agreed upon pay increases over the life of the contracts.

The total VSC GASB 45 annual accrual (Other Post-Employment Benefits) impact on FY2016 is approximately \$5,901,000. The total VSC liability for the GASB 45 liability, which includes both past and future obligations Medical/Dental/Life, is \$171,121,000. This amount includes medical and life insurance for all employees. This is being allocated according to employee headcount.

- Other Operating

Throughout the budget, colleges have undertaken substantial adjustments and realignments in order to mitigate the impact of inflation on expenses, enrollment and other priorities.

The State of Vermont's FY2016 budget included the following appropriations:

VSC Appropriations	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Base	\$22,679,349	\$23,372,565	\$23,372,565
Addition to Base	\$693,216	\$0	\$0
Transfer of Next Gen Scholarships into Base	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Total	\$23,872,565	\$23,872,565	\$23,872,565

VSC Appropriations	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Allied Health General Fund	\$744,591	\$748,314	\$748,314
Allied Health Global Commitment	\$405,407	\$409,461	\$409,461
Allied Health Total	\$1,149,998	\$1,157,775	\$1,157,775

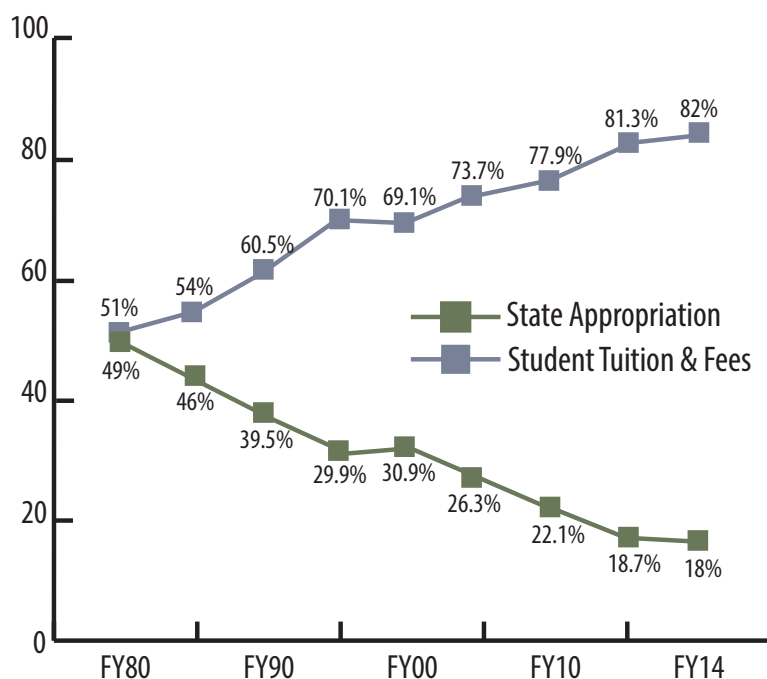
Targeted Appropriations

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
VSC-Capital	\$1,392,000	\$1,392,000	\$1,392,000
VMEC	\$427,898	\$427,898	\$427,898
VIT-Operating	\$809,249	\$817,341	\$440,000
VIT-Capital	\$286,285	\$286,285	\$0
Dual Enrollment	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000

Items for Discussion and Action

Higher education appropriations in Vermont per FTE continue to rank either last or second to last in the country by a substantial margin. In FY2014, the state of Vermont provided \$2,816 per FTE. The only state with less appropriation per FTE was New Hampshire. In FY2014, New York provided \$8,454 per FTE and Massachusetts provided \$6,073 per FTE. The top five states per FTE in FY2014: Wyoming - \$15,561; Alaska - \$13,978; Illinois - \$12,293; North Carolina - \$8,562 and New York - \$8,454. (Source: SHEEO, *State Higher Education Finance Report*, FY 2014).

The graph below tracks VSC revenue streams over ~ thirty-years.



It is worth noting that in 1980, the state operating appropriation contributed more than tuition and fees. The current mix is more than \$4 of tuition and fees to \$1 of state appropriation. The lack of state funding puts a significant amount of pressure on the VSC mission of maintaining affordability through low levels of tuitions and fees. These five colleges are the access institutions for many Vermonters. Eighty-four percent of all VSC students are Vermonters and 50% of the Vermont students enrolled in the VSC are the first in their families to attend college.

Items for Discussion and Action

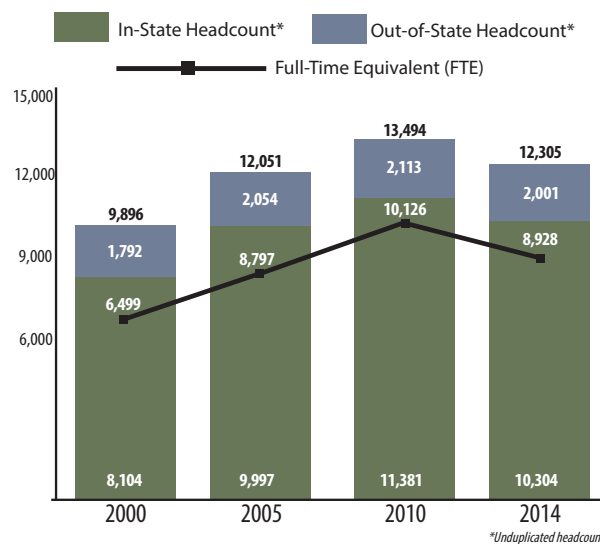
Operating and capital funding levels continue to put our colleges at a competitive disadvantage with regards to facilities, building maintenance and academic equipment purchases.

Despite these challenges, the colleges continue to have an impact in every region of our state. During 2015, the VSC served ~9,000 full time equivalent students.

In spite of the financial challenges faced by the VSC we remain highly cognizant and sensitive to the burden of tuition and fees on our students. We strive to keep our increases to a minimum. The Vermont State Colleges continue to be the most affordable colleges in Vermont.

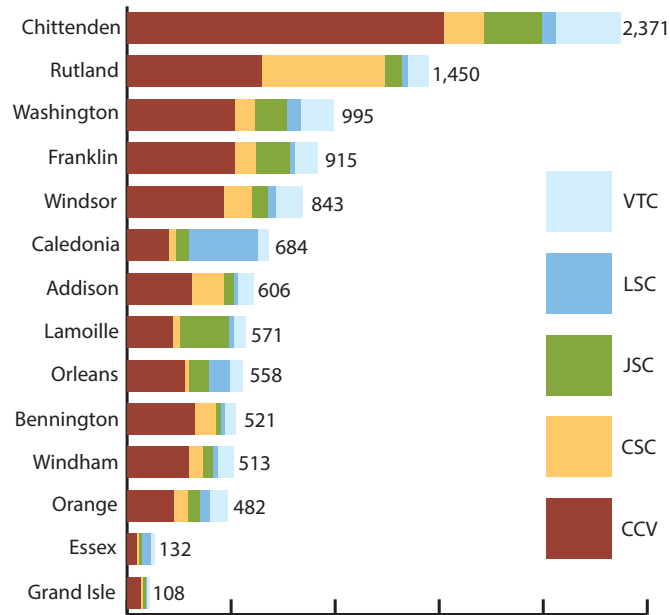
We are entering the seventh year of a significant reduction in the number of high school graduates in Vermont. Our extensive work with high schools, dual enrollment, and the PreK-16 continuum should contribute to an increase in college continuation rates in Vermont and increased affiliation with the state colleges. For the past few years more than 900 high school students per year participated in our dual enrollment programs. The guidance counselor perception of quality at the VSC is high.

VSC Fall Enrollment



Items for Discussion and Action

VSC Headcount Enrollment by County of Residence, Fall 2014



VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTIONFY2016 VSC Budget

WHEREAS, The Finance & Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the FY2016 budget information presented for the Vermont State Colleges, has discussed individual aspects of the proposals with institutional representatives, and endorses approval by the full Board; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges hereby approves the pre-GASB 45 FY2016 Operating Budget of \$168,473,872. These budgets are consistent with the attached material and subject to final determination of fund balances available on June 30, 2015, and with the use of available carry-over funds to be approved at a later date.

May 21, 2015

b. VIT Budget

In FY2016, VIT will be closing down its services after the State of Vermont canceled its appropriation.

- *Sales & Service*
VIT will only be operating for the first half of FY2016. Due to that and lagging reservations going into Fall 2015 revenue is expected to be down by \$230,000.
- *Salary & Wages*
VIT will be phasing out employees between July 1 and December 31st. The objective is to continue to meet need through the conclusion of calendar year 2015, in keeping with legislative intent, while aggressively taking action to ensure a balanced final-year budget.
- *State Appropriation*
VIT will be receiving one-time funds of \$440K to finance continued service through December 31st. There will be no further appropriation after that time.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTIONFY2016 VIT Budget

- WHEREAS, The Finance & Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the FY2016 budget information presented for the Vermont Interactive Technologies, has discussed individual aspects of the proposal with institutional representatives, and endorses approval by the full Board, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges hereby approves the pre-GASB 45 FY2016 balanced Operating Budget of \$657,900 for Vermont Interactive Technologies. This budget is consistent with the attached material and subject to final determination of fund balances available on June 30, 2015, and with the use of available carry-over funds to be approved at a later date.

May 21, 2015

c. Workforce Development Budget

Workforce Development includes activities of the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC), Technology Extension Division (TED) and Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

Sales & Services:

Sales and Services FY16 budget has slightly from FY15. The decrease is the net of:

- CEWD is projecting 5% higher sales and services in their non-credit bearing training activities for FY16. (CEWD also anticipates increased activity in their credit-bearing courses that are reflected in the inter-entity transfer line rather than in sales and services.)
- The SBDC is projecting level contract revenue and program income.
- The VMEC income is reduced to reflect current manufacturing training funds.

Salary/Wage Line thru Transfer Line:

The increase in the operating expenditures reflects contract and program changes for CEWD, SBDC, and VMEC combined. VMEC intra-entity transfer expense is now reflected in supplies/services and travel.

VMEC state appropriation funding is the same as FY2015.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

FY2016 Workforce Development Budget

WHEREAS, The Finance & Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the FY2016 budget information presented for VSC Workforce Development programs, has discussed individual aspects of the proposals with institutional representatives, and endorses approval by the full Board, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges hereby approves the pre-GASB 45 FY2016 balanced Operating Budget of \$1,581,621 for Workforce Development. This budget is consistent with the attached material and subject to final determination of fund balances available on June 30, 2015, and with the use of available carry-over funds to be approved at a later date.

May 21, 2015

6. Approval of Additional VTC Operating Loan Commitment

During FY2013 and FY2014 VTC borrowed \$818,000 and \$2,283,000 respectively to cover their operating deficit. The collateral for these loans are the 2.5% Board-required reserve and the VTC quasi endowment. For FY2015 the VSC Board approved an additional credit line of \$2,500,000 to cover their operating deficit. The collateral for this loan are the assets of VTC. The preliminary indications, according to the VTC 3rd quarter operating results, are that VTC will utilize ~ \$2,192,507 of this loan commitment.

The requirement for these loan commitments was that VTC had to make demonstrable progress towards getting its finances back in order. VTC has made progress in program review and consolidation, marketing development and outreach, recruitment and retention efforts, as well as expense restructuring. The Board has recognized that this would be a multi-year initiative.

For FY2016 VTC is projecting a budgeted loss of \$1,834,335. This budget is felt to be accurate and achievable and reflects current trend lines in the FY2016 assumptions. VTC will spend FY2016 continuing to focus on strengthening enrollment and its core business. FY2016 will also be spent increasing revenues, minimizing expenses and maximizing efficiencies throughout the college, at all locations. VTC continues to review every academic program to determine its profitability on both a direct and a direct plus overhead cost basis. These initiatives, and others, will continue throughout FY2016. Budget managers receive monthly reports and are held accountable for spending.

VTC is seeking a supplemental commitment of \$1,900,000 to cover the projected FY2016 deficit. This loan will carry the same terms of an annual interest rate of 4.5% and take priority for repayment after the college reaches profitability. The collateral for this loan will be the assets of VTC. These funds are made available from VSC system cash flows that are linked to long term assets and reserves.

While it is the objective of management to reach financial balance as soon as possible, it is likely that VTC will need another loan for FY2017, albeit smaller than this one, while it executes its financial turnaround.

Items for Discussion and Action

Below is a table of the loans granted to VTC – this includes the unapproved FY2016 loan for reference.

<u>VSC Loans to VTC</u>	
FY2013	\$818,000
FY2014	2,283,000
FY2015	2,192,507
FY2016 (projected)	<u>1,900,000</u>
Total	<u>\$7,193,507</u>

VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTIONVermont Tech Internal Loan Commitment

- WHEREAS, Vermont Tech is projecting an FY2016 operating deficit of \$1,834,335; and
- WHEREAS, For FY2013 the VSC loaned VTC \$818,000 to cover its operating deficit and that loan was collateralized by the 2.5% Board-required reserve; and
- WHEREAS, For FY2014 the VSC loaned VTC \$2,283,000 to cover its operating deficit and that loan was collateralized by VTC's quasi endowments; and
- WHEREAS, For FY2015 the VSC loaned VTC \$2,192,507 to cover its operating deficit and that loan was collateralized by VTC's assets; and
- WHEREAS, It is proposed that the VSC will loan VTC up to \$1,900,000 to cover its FY2016 operating deficit and will use VTC's assets as collateral for this loan; and
- WHEREAS, The Finance & Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees has considered the loan and endorses approval up to \$1,900,000 by the full Board; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges hereby authorizes the VTC Internal Loan of up to \$1,900,000 for FY2016.

May 21, 2015

7. Approval of OPEB Fund Usage

At the April 1st Finance and Facilities Committee meeting the college presidents discussed their preliminary thoughts about the utilization of the FY2013 and FY2014 OPEB funds. These funds should be used to increase revenues, reduce expenses and/or increase efficiencies. At this meeting the presidents will review their final plans for the OPEB funds and seek authorization to use the OPEB funds for those plans. The distribution of those funds will be noted in the Approved Carry Forward column in the colleges operating budgets.

The plans, which are attached for your review, vary according to the college and its particular strategic focus and needs. The timing of the plans range from the immediate to over the next couple of years.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Return of Previously Collected OPEB Funds Back to the Colleges

- WHEREAS, As part of a comprehensive plan to fund the VSC OPEB obligations the colleges set money aside for FY2013 and FY2014; and
- WHEREAS, The same type of funds set aside in FY2015 have already been returned to the colleges; and
- WHEREAS, In order to have the FY2013 and FY2014 funds returned to the colleges, they needed to demonstrate how they would use these funds to increase revenues, decrease costs, and/or increase efficiencies; and
- WHEREAS, The colleges have submitted and reviewed plans with the Board that satisfies the above requirements; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges authorizes the Chancellor to return the FY2013 and FY2014 funds collected from the colleges to enable them to execute the plans reviewed with the Board.

May 21, 2015

8. Approval of Annual Banking and Investment Resolution

The VSC's Banking and Investment Resolution prescribes what financial activities are empowered to the Chancellor and/or Chief Financial Officer on behalf of the system, and what are empowered to the Presidents and/or Deans of Administration on behalf of the individual colleges. Financial institutions with which we deal desire to see such a document endorsed periodically by the Trustees, to assure the Board is currently comfortable with its implications. To accommodate this desire, now presented for review and approval is the following resolution, which is unchanged from the one passed by the Board last year.

While resolution wording is in necessary legal language, essentially it: (a) empowers the Chancellor and/or Vice President, Chief Financial Officer to establish bank or other accounts for VSC operations as well as system cash management and investment activities; to secure financing consistent with applicable Board or legislative authority; to pledge collateral as may be necessary for certain financing; and to handle virtually all other aspects relevant to financial matters of the VSC; and (b) empowers college Presidents and/or Deans of Administration to establish bank or other accounts for respective college operations as well as college cash management activities.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Banking and Investment

- WHEREAS, The conduct of the business affairs of the Vermont State Colleges and each of its constituent members requires the establishment of banking relations and investment of funds; and
- WHEREAS, The selected officials of the Vermont State Colleges should be empowered to conduct banking and investment affairs in keeping with the organization of Vermont State Colleges; and
- WHEREAS, The term “bank” throughout this resolution also refers to credit unions and other depository or lending institutions that are licensed by the state of Vermont; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Chancellor and/or Chief Financial Officer are authorized to do the following:
1. Establish accounts with banks and authorized brokers/dealers (safekeeping, trust, checking, savings, money market, time or demand deposit) through which to transact the cash management and investment business of the Vermont State Colleges, and delegate authority for initiation of related wire transfers;
 2. Borrow money and obtain credit from banks, authorized brokers/dealers, or other lending agencies in conformity with Board of Trustees approved budgets: and execute and deliver notes, draft acceptances, instruments of guaranty, and any other legal obligations of Vermont State Colleges, therefore, in form satisfactory to the lending agency;
 3. Pledge or assign and deliver, as security for money borrowed or credit obtained, stocks, bonds, bills receivable, accounts, mortgages,

merchandise, bills of lading or other shipping documents, warehouse receipts, insurance policies, certificates and any other property held by, or belonging to, this corporation, with full authority to endorse, assign, transfer or guarantee the same in the name of this corporation, except as restricted by Vermont Statute;

4. Discount any bills receivable or any paper held by this corporation, with full authority to endorse the same in the name of this corporation;
5. Withdraw from banks or authorized brokers/dealers and give receipt for, or authorize banks or authorized brokers/dealers to deliver to bearer or to one or more designated persons, all or any documents and securities or other property held by it, whether held as collateral security or for safekeeping or for any other purpose;
6. Invest funds of Vermont State Colleges in legal investments as established by Board of Trustees policy;
7. Sell or authorize and request banks, or authorized brokers/dealers to purchase or sell, for the account of this corporation, foreign exchange, stocks, bonds, and other securities;
8. Apply for and receive letters of credit, and execute and deliver all necessary or proper documents for that purpose;
9. Execute and deliver all instruments and documents required in connection with any of the foregoing matters, and to affix the seal of this corporation; and, be it further

RESOLVED,

That the President and/or Dean of Administration of each college of the Vermont State Colleges (Community College of Vermont, Castleton State College, Johnson State College, Lyndon State College, and Vermont Technical College) are authorized to do the following:

1. Establish bank or accounts (safekeeping, trust, checking, savings, money market, time or demand deposit) through which to transact the banking business of the college in which they are officers.

May 21, 2015

9. Endorsement of Grant Proposal

Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center is seeking endorsement of the renewal of its National Institute of Standards and Technology five-year Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership grant from the US Department of Commerce. The attached budget analysis includes figures for the first year of the five-year cycle; figures for additional years are not provided as NIST MEP provides funding approval only one year at a time. The grant amount is \$650,000, with other funding in the amount of \$1.3M coming from program revenue, state appropriation, and in-kind donated time and services.

The Finance & Facilities Committee has reviewed the grant proposal and recommends the following resolution for the Board's consideration.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGESBOARD OF TRUSTEESRESOLUTIONEndorsement of Grant Proposal

WHEREAS, Revised VSC Policy 408 requires Board approval for grants requesting \$750,000 or more per fiscal year, or involve annual matching or cost sharing of \$375,000 or more even though budget changes are not required; and

WHEREAS, The VSC Finance & Facilities Committee has appropriately reviewed the current grant proposal and recommends it to the full Board; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees hereby endorses the following grant proposal titled, in the amount, and from the specific granting entity as indicated:

- Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center NIST Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership grant from the US Department of Commerce in the amount of \$650,000 with \$1,300,000 in other funding sources over five years.

May 21, 2015

10. Lyndon State College: Resolution in Support of Partnership between Lyndon State College and Northern Essex Community College

Lyndon State College (LSC) is interested in entering into a cooperative agreement with Northern Essex Community College (NECC) in Lawrence, Massachusetts to provide three educational programs for a baccalaureate degree in Massachusetts. LSC plans to offer existing programs in Computer Information Systems, Music Business Industry, and Visual Communications, in Lawrence, for participating students, either in person or through distance learning technologies. While this structure is designed primarily for the education of students already resident in Massachusetts, LSC also envisions that the partnership with NECC will expand opportunities for Vermont-based LSC students, particularly in the Music Business Industry major. Among other things, LSC/VSC would have to form a Massachusetts corporation in order to receive state approval for operating higher education programs in Massachusetts. In order to make this initiative work, students would be attracted, in part, by offering Massachusetts students Vermont in-state tuition rates. Further, the educational programs would be offered in a building adjacent to NECC facilities that is leased to an organization known as Higher Education Partners (HEP). The building would also be occupied by NECC and another higher education institution. Because the Board sets tuition rates under Policy 403 and defines in-state tuition under Policy 301, Board approval would be appropriate given the plan to offer in-state rates to Massachusetts residents. Further, although there will be no formal lease or sublease agreement between LSC and HEP, and technically no property interest created, the effect of this arrangement is in essence to create a long-term lease that would bind LSC to occupy a portion of the building in Lawrence for 10 or more years. Accordingly, to the extent required by Policy 426, approval of this arrangement by the Board should be secured.

The Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee has considered the partnership and recommends the following resolution for the Board's consideration, along with supporting materials.

Partnership between Lyndon State College and Northern Essex Community College

Lyndon State College (LSC) is working with Northern Essex Community College (NECC; just north of Boston, MA) to deliver four-year bachelor's degrees on the NECC campus. Beginning in the fall 2015 semester, LSC will offer its current degree programs in Visual Communications, Music Business Industry, and Computer Information Systems. These degree programs are presently not easily accessible to NECC students.

NECC students who earn an A.S. degree with a GPA of 2.0 or greater will be accepted into an LSC degree program. After completing their A.S., a student will take a combination of NECC and LSC courses (with at least 30 credits coming from LSC) to complete a LSC degree. The LSC courses will be taught with a variety of delivery methods including face-to-face, hybrid, online, and video conferencing. LSC students at NECC will pay the Vermont resident tuition rate for the LSC courses. NECC and LSC will work collaboratively to provide LSC students the support they need to be successful. A full-time LSC site director will administer many of the requisite services for students including advising, registration, billing, and financial aid.

The degree programs will be offered at the NECC Lawrence, MA campus. The facilities in which the programs will be offered introduce a second partner to the mix: Higher Education Partners (HEP). HEP will provide the built-out classroom and office space and support for our marketing efforts in the Lawrence area. HEP also provides a financial backstop for LSC, covering early years losses until the program runs at a surplus. In exchange, when the cash flows reach a sufficient level LSC pays HEP 15% of the tuition revenue for the programs offered. It is a 10-year proposed contract that is currently under legal review. Note that NECC and HEP already operate quite successfully under a comparable contract.

LSC has submitted an application to the MA Department of Higher Education to offer the aforementioned degree programs at NECC. It is presently in review.

**Lyndon State College
NECC / HEP Site
Preliminary Budget Model**

Overview

The financial drivers for the LSC degree program in Lawrence, MA resemble any education start up. There are front loaded costs in accreditation, marketing, program development, early personnel expense, and the like. Enrollments won't start with a bang but will ramp up over time, so early tuition revenues aren't high. There is the steady march of normal operating expenses for the educational facility. And then there are the capital costs of the "build out" and "fit up" of the space including classroom construction, furnishings, and equipment.

All these would normally lead to a profitability curve that shows a negative in the first year or so, trending upward to a strong return on investment in later years. What makes this start up different are the financial role of LSC's partner, Higher Education Partners (HEP) and the operational role of our educational partner, Northern Essex Community College (NECC).

HEP will bear the capital cost of the build out and fit up of the space. They will pay basic operating costs such as heat, light, electricity, network access, maintenance, and custodial. Additionally they will participate in certain marketing endeavors. LSC will pay direct costs for our personnel, supplies, etc. and an allowance to NECC for the provision of certain support services for our students. Lastly there is a payment of 15% of tuition revenues to HEP. We will jointly plan and budget with HEP for all of the operational costs and expected revenues for the program. Revenues will first pay LSC's direct costs, then HEP's direct costs, then the 15%. Any surplus after the expense waterfall stays with LSC. *Any shortfall along the way will be paid by HEP.* That means that LSC does not have a financial risk but is positioned to enjoy surpluses after the early years.

Not included in the projections for LSC are the incremental revenues for NECC. Because the baccalaureate degree completion program is a combination of courses offered by LSC and NECC, NECC will have additional student revenue. This is not reflected in attached projections.

The attached budget demonstrates the LSC flow of enrollment, expense growth, subsidy and surplus. Further detail on precise assumptions by line, follow the summary budget.

Lyndon State College
NECC / HEP Site
Preliminary Budget Model

page 2

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Student headcount	50	108	147	190	239	293
Rate per course						
LSC	1,248	1,248	1,285	1,324	1,364	1,405
NECC						
Number of NECC courses	18	37	39	43	50	62
Number of LSC courses	16	36	42	45	54	63
LSC course enrollments	195	446	632	782	1,021	1,244
LSC tuition revenue	243,360	556,608	812,120	1,035,368	1,392,644	1,747,820
LSC fee revenue	9,750	22,300	31,600	39,100	51,050	62,200
Total revenue	253,110	578,908	843,720	1,074,468	1,443,694	1,810,020
Course expenses						
Faculty per course	4,950	5,099	5,252	5,410	5,572	5,739
Total faculty cost	79,200	183,564	220,584	243,450	300,888	361,557
Office and other expense	5,000	5,150	5,305	5,464	5,628	5,797
Course fee expense	9,750	22,300	31,600	39,100	51,050	62,200
Allowance for NECC expense	12,500	27,000	36,750	47,500	59,750	73,250
Allowance for HEP direct exp	12,500	27,000	36,750	47,500	59,750	73,250
Allowance for LSC home exp	25,000	54,000	73,500	95,000	119,500	146,500
Site director	67,000	69,010	71,080	73,212	75,408	77,670
Studio rental	0	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Marketing/Recruiting	63,000	33,540	34,546	35,582	36,649	37,748
Accreditation	25,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	3,000	3,000
Library materials	5,000	5,150	5,305	5,464	5,628	5,797
Total expenses	303,950	433,714	522,420	601,272	721,251	850,769
Operating surplus	-50,840	145,194	321,300	473,196	722,443	959,251
Partnership fee	0	83,491	121,818	155,305	208,897	262,173
HEP contribution (payback)	50,840	-61,703	-81,091	-15,914	-16,391	-16,883
Net return	0	0	118,391	301,977	497,155	680,195

Lyndon State College
NECC / HEP Site
Preliminary Budget Model

page 3

Detail on Selected Budget Lines

- Enrollment numbers are built from entering students assumptions that start with 40 full time entrants per year plus 10 part time, and grow over the course of the next six years to 150 and 25 respectively. The entrant assumptions are overlaid with retention assumptions to produce the headcount numbers on the top line of the budget projection.
- Tuition for LSC courses is charged at the in state Vermont rate. Course fees were assumed to average \$50 per course.
- In order to provide an appropriate array of courses to support the major, we assumed that LSC would offer 34 courses in year 1 and 70 courses thereafter, until such time as enrollment pressure required the creation of additional sections. An enrollment cap of 20 was used for this calculation.
- Instructional costs were estimated using the Faculty Federation rates and applicable taxes.
- LSC will hire a dedicated site director. The estimate for this line includes salary, family benefits, and applicable taxes.
- Students will receive certain support services from NECC. While we don't yet have a negotiated rate, an allowance of \$250 per student was built into the budget. This may alternatively be used to support an additional LSC staff person.
- HEP needs to be paid for the direct costs of running the facility. As our enrollment grows so will our space needs. While we don't yet have a budget for these expenses, this preliminary budget includes an allowance of \$250 per student for those costs.
- While this cohort of LSC students will be in Lawrence, MA, and not in Vermont, serving them will increase costs at the home campus. We've put in an allowance of \$500 per student to cover this.
- Accreditation is an up front cost. The filing fees in MA are high and this line reflects the impact of that investment. Going forward the costs will be much lower.
- The marketing line includes traditional marketing costs as well as the expense of creating web sites, course catalogs, admissions materials, etc.
- The library materials line reflects only the incremental materials that will need to be purchased for the Lawrence campus. Because we are offering existing programs, the Lyndonville campus already possesses the appropriate materials, most of them in electronic format. The library allowance provides for an expansion of our use licenses to cover Lawrence students and for the purchase of materials uniquely found in physical format.
- The surplus section contains the original operating surplus, the partnership fee (15%) when it can be paid, the HEP contribution (+) when there is a deficit or payback (-) for prior deficits and missed partnership fees when there is sufficient surplus, and lastly the net return to LSC. Under these assumptions there is a positive return starting in year three.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Partnership between Lyndon State College and
Northern Essex Community College

- WHEREAS, Lyndon State College (LSC) would like to collaborate with Northern Essex Community College (NECC) in Lawrence, Massachusetts to offer educational programming in three areas (Computer Information Systems, Music Business Industry, and Visual Communications) to NECC students in hopes of such students finishing their baccalaureate education through LSC; and
- WHEREAS, To make the program attractive to NECC students, courses would be offered at Vermont in-state tuition rates; and
- WHEREAS, The courses would be offered in a building leased by HEP to be occupied by NECC, another college, and LSC; and
- WHEREAS, The influx of new students could provide significant new revenues to LSC; and
- WHEREAS, The initial term of this arrangement would be ten years; and
- WHEREAS, This arrangement would allow the offering of day and evening courses, online distance learning opportunities, and other best practices to maximize student success; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Trustees approve the offering of in-state tuition rates to NECC students taking courses through the NECC/LSC collaboration; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Trustees approve, to the extent necessary, the arrangement for occupying the HEP building in Lawrence, Massachusetts for the term set forth in the Collaboration Agreement between LSC and HEP; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Trustees authorize the VSC/LSC to form a Massachusetts corporation for the purpose of receiving Massachusetts approval for the operation of its programs in Massachusetts and to complete any other activities that are necessary and incidental to the operations of higher education programs in Massachusetts.

May 21, 2015

Items for Discussion and Action

11. Real Estate Matter

The Board will discuss a real estate matter.

12. Personnel Matter

The Board will discuss a personnel matter.

C. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

1. Report of the Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Executive Committee conducted a Committee meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 at the Office of the Chancellor in Montpelier, Vermont.

The following were present:

Trustees: Tim Jerman, Karen Luneau, Martha O'Connor, Heidi Pelletier

Office of the Chancellor:

Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor

Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor

Chair O'Connor called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 6, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting
2. Approval of the Minutes of the March 9, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting

Trustee Jerman moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the approval of both sets of minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Personnel Matters

Trustee Luneau moved that the Committee go into executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(3) to consider the employment of a public officer of the Vermont State Colleges. In addition to the Committee, attendance in executive session included Chancellor Spaulding. Trustee Pelletier seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The Committee entered executive session at 1:05 p.m. The Committee exited executive session at 3:30 p.m. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

2. Report of the Meeting of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee met on May 13, 2015 at the Chancellor's Office in Montpelier.

Committee members present: Lynn Dickinson, Tim Jerman, Linda Milne (Chair), Christopher Macfarlane, Jeff Kellar (Office of the Vermont State Auditor)

Absent: Karen Luneau

Other trustees present: Church Hindes, Martha O'Connor, Mike Pieciak

Guests: Dave DiIulis, Kieth Goldie, O'Connor & Drew

From the Chancellor's Office: Rick Bourassa, VSC Senior Accountant
Bill Reedy, General Counsel
Tom Robbins, CFO
Deb Robinson, Controller
Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel

Presidents: Joe Bertolino, Joyce Judy, Barbara Murphy, Dan Smith, Dave Wolk

From the Colleges: Scott Dikeman, Dean of Administration, Castleton State College
Janis Henderson, Staff Federation Unit Chair
Loren Loomis Hubbell, Dean of Administration, Lyndon State College
Barbara Martin, Dean of Administration, Community College of VT
Maurice Ouimet, CSC Dean of Enrollment
Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Johnson State College
Lit Tyler, Dean of Administration, Vermont Technical College
Beth Walsh, VSCUP President-Elect

Chair Milne called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

Items for Information and Discussion

A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**1. Minutes of the February 11, 2015 Meeting of the Audit Committee**

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Jerman seconded the approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

B. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

The Committee chose to start with Item #3 on the agenda.

1. Discuss FY2014 Internal Audit

- a. Cash and Cash Controls
- b. Internal Control Questionnaire

CFO Robbins stated that this year's internal audit focused on cash and cash controls. The Committee reviewed the steps taken, results, and the internal control questionnaire used in the process. Each college has a report of results that has been shared with staff, and these will also be shared with the auditors. Next steps will be to implement recommendations generated from the reports. The Committee noted that personal information included in the audit reports should be made anonymous before becoming part of the meeting materials.

2. Review FY2015 Audit Plan with O'Connor & Drew

Dave DiIulis and Kieth Goldie of O'Connor & Drew joined the meeting and stated that they have started the audit planning process at the colleges. In the planning phase they will assess the processes and internal controls of each individual college to finalize how they will audit the yearend balance sheet, income statement, and overall internal controls. They will test at the individual college level and again at the Chancellor's Office level. Fieldwork will happen in August for about three weeks and in September they will audit the financial statements the Chancellor's Office prepares. The audit will include student financial aid and federal grants (the A-133 component) and they will issue an opinion at the same time.

3. Discuss FY2014 Audit Advisory Comments

There was no discussion of this item.

Trustee Macfarlane moved and Trustee Dickinson seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

3. Report of the Meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Finance & Facilities Committee conducted a meeting Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at the Office of the Chancellor in Montpelier, Vermont.

Committee members present: Jerry Diamond (by phone), Church Hinds, Christopher Macfarlane (Chair), Linda Milne, Heidi Pelletier

Absent: Bill Lippert

Other Trustees Present: Lynn Dickinson, Martha O'Connor

College Presidents: Joe Bertolino, Joyce Judy, Barbara Murphy, Dan Smith, Dave Wolk

From the Chancellor's Office: Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
Dick Ethier, Director of Facilities
Bill Reedy, General Counsel
Tom Robbins, CFO
Elaine Sopchak, Executive Asst. to the Chancellor
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic & Academic Tech Officer

From the Colleges:

Scott Dikeman, Dean of Administration, Castleton State College
Janis Henderson, Staff Federation Unit Chair
Loren Loomis Hubbell, Dean of Administration, Lyndon State College
Barbara Martin, Dean of Administration, Community College of VT
Maurice Ouimet, CSC Dean of Enrollment
Phil Petty, Academic Dean, Vermont Technical College
Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Johnson State College
Lit Tyler, Dean of Administration, Vermont Technical College
Beth Walsh, VSC United Professionals

Chair Macfarlane called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Minutes of the April 1, 2015 Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting
2. Minutes of the February 11, 2015 Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

Trustee Jerman moved both sets of minutes; Trustee Pelletier seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Review and Recommend Approval of FY2016 Budget

Trustee Jerman moved and Trustee Hindes seconded the motion Review and Recommend Approval of FY2016 Budget.

a. VSC Budget

CFO Robbins provided an overview of the FY16 budgets. Financial stresses on the budgets include lower enrollment at each college, increases in healthcare costs, contractually mandated increases for unions, and increases in utilities. On the revenue side, tuition increased between 3-5%, with any increases over 3% on in-state tuition being directed to scholarships. The state operating appropriation is level with last year. The VIT appropriation was halved. Wages and benefits account for 70% of expenses.

The presidents each provided an overview to the Committee of their colleges' financial positions at the end of FY15 and projections for FY16 and FY17.

Castleton State College President Dave Wolk thanked the trustees who attended commencement and provided the following update:

- Returning students are down by about 50 FTE, new first year enrollment is projected to be up 30-50 students, with the increase in out-of-state students. Overall enrollment is down 1-2%. Persistence is at or better than last year.
- The college will need to use reserves to balance the FY15 budget. Retirements and departures will result in 15 fewer positions next year.
- The college is reducing overloads and the use of part time faculty; implementing new class minimums; and eliminating most out of state travel not connected with recruitment. There has also been a rescission.
- Increasing revenues are anticipated from the Polling Institute, Spartan Dome, and Castleton Downtown. They have launched a new athletic fundraising effort.

Items for Information and Discussion

- Challenges next year will be enrollment and deferred maintenance. They will continue to look at ways to increase enrollment. Summer conferences and courses bring in a lot of revenue.
- Allocations for need-based aid have helped enormously but the number of students who use it increases.

Chair O'Connor requested that each of the presidents in the near future provide the Board with a report of deferred maintenance and fleet needs. Chancellor Spaulding stated that VSC Director of Facilities Dick Ethier would be able to present that information to the Board.

Chancellor Spaulding stated that there will be no pay increases for the VSC presidents. There will also not be increases for some senior staff at the colleges and all the senior staff at the Chancellor's Office.

Johnson State College President Barbara Murphy shared the following update:

- The college will end FY15 with a \$26,000 surplus. In FY15 they did not use any of the strategic reserves requested of the Board.
- For FY16 they project a slight increase in tuition and fees, and a higher increase in room and board and dining.
- Wages and benefits are increasing about 1%. There are few retirements this year but otherwise little turnover; they are leaving some positions open.
- Returning OPEB funds have allowed the college to reach a balanced . One-time revenue was generated by the sale of some property, timber harvesting, and ongoing adjustments to expenses for the student health center.
- The FY16 budget includes the use of up to \$175,000 of strategic reserves.
- Retention is slowly improving; the plans submitted for returning OPEB funds are intended for continuing to improve retention.
- They are budgeting for a 2.5% downturn in enrollment.
- There will be some fundraising around athletics.
- Challenges include recruitment and sustaining enrollment.

At this time Trustees Dickinson and Jerman departed, and Trustee Milne arrived.

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy stated that the college is on budget for ending 2015.

- Summer registration is on target.
- Strategic reserves remain untouched.
- Entrepreneurial ventures focusing on younger students and the middle majority of VT high school graduates who haven't enrolled in college, as well as workforce needs. The

Items for Information and Discussion

TAACCCT grant is helping the college reach out to manufacturers. The state of Vermont received a significant SNAP grant and CCV is a major partner in this grant.

- The biggest challenge is maintaining and growing enrollments.
- The college is ramping up philanthropy, a new focus for CCV. The operating budget used to be 2% funded by philanthropy; that percentage is now 4-5%.
- President Judy expressed deep concern about the 2017 budget process. A level or lower revenue stream coupled with lower enrollment means future savings may include personnel changes.

Lyndon State College President Joe Bertolino stated that the college entered 2015 with a \$1.5M gap, covered it, and will end with a small surplus. The college is not touching its strategic reserves.

- They are budgeting for 355 new students and 801 returning students. They have budgeted for a 10% decline in enrollment. Currently they are at 318 deposits.
- It is very difficult to predict admissions; the usual predictors have changed within the VSC and nationally. Their return retention rate is modestly higher.
- Overall they have budgeted a decline of 8%.
- They have decreased part time faculty by 30% and are lowering course offerings. There have been five layoffs.
- President Bertolino stated how proud he is of how the college handled the challenging year.
- They will use \$755,000 of one-time internal reserves to close the 2016 gap.
- A focus on generating revenue includes new men's and women's track teams and a new women's lacrosse team.
- Plans submitted for the use of OPEB funds are for improved retention. A curricular task force is underway. No layoffs are planned going into next year. The 2017 budget will be extremely difficult.
- Fundraising has been very successful: up 247% from 2 years ago. The college earns about \$500K from summer programming.

Vermont Technical College President Dan Smith stated that the college anticipates a \$2.1-\$2.2M loss for 2015, which is less than projected.

- The 2016 loss is projected to be \$1.83M, with a line of credit requested from the system of \$1.9M. Reductions in salary and wages come from retirements, attrition, layoffs, and curriculum redesign.
- Enrollment is anticipated to be down 2% overall.
- New enrollments are down 7%. There has been an increase in transfer deposits and the BS in nursing program represents new enrollment.

Items for Information and Discussion

- The revenue from conferences and events is about \$300,000 and is included in the Sales and Services line. Biodigester performance is improving. The college lost a maintenance contract with the VA cemetery due to its new federal contract.
- The college is now highly focused on a positive recruiting cycle. Their submitted OPEB funds strategy will help fund this.
- The TAACCCT grant will provide an advisor for CCV-to-VTC transfers in manufacturing programs.

Trustee Diamond requested that the resolution for the approval of the VSC budget not include the decrease in net assets currently included. Trustee Milne moved that the resolution be amended so that the phrase “, and the post-GASB 45 and VTC deficit decrease in net assets of \$7,443,483” be deleted. Trustee Pelletier seconded the amendment. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the amendment. The Committee approved the resolution as amended unanimously. The Committee also authorized Chancellor Spaulding to finalize the resolution if necessary prior to bringing it to the Board. Chair O’Connor requested that the amended resolution be sent to the Committee before the Board meeting.

b. VIT Budget

Trustee Hinds moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the resolution to approve the FY16 Vermont Interactive Technologies budget. President Smith reminded the Board that Vermont Tech is the fiscal agent for VIT and updated them on the status of the VIT appropriation. VIT is funded 75% by state appropriation and 25% by fees for service. Of that 25%, Vermont Tech accounts for approximately half as its nursing and continuing education programs have a large distance learning component. The current appropriation under consideration in the legislature is six month’s worth of funding to carry VIT through to its closure in December 2015. The legislature has included language in the budget indicating a need to research ownership of VIT equipment. Trustee Hinds asked that the Board consider passing a resolution indicating the great value that VIT and its services have brought to Vermont over its decades of service.

Trustee Diamond requested that the resolution be amended to remove the phrase “and the post-GASB 45 decrease in net assets of \$108,000.” Trustee Pelletier moved and Trustee Milne seconded the amendment. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the amendment. The Committee approved the amended resolution unanimously.

At this time Trustee Masland arrived.

c. Workforce Development Budget

Trustee Diamond moved that the resolution to approve the FY16 Workforce Development budget be amended to remove the phrase “and the post-GASB 45 decrease in net assets of \$184,000.” Trustee Milne seconded the amended resolution. President Smith explained that the budget represents the aggregate of three entities at Vermont Tech: Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC), Technology Extension Division (TED), and the Vermont Small Business Development Center (VtSBDC). A substantial portion of all of their revenue comes from federal grants. The state appropriation for VMEC comes out of the VSC base and is a match to funds from a National Institute of Science and Technology interim grant. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the amended resolution.

4. Review and Recommend Approval of Additional VTC Operating Loan Commitment

Chancellor Spaulding stated that this resolution will need a similar review to the previous resolutions prior to coming before the Board. He proposed, along with General Counsel Reedy, that further research be done in consultation with bond attorneys and that a revised resolution be brought to the full Board.

Trustee Hindes moved and Trustee Milne seconded the resolution as worded, with the understanding that the resolution may be revised before coming to the full Board. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

5. Review and Recommend Approval of OPEB Funds Usage

The presidents confirmed that there have been no substantial changes to their originally submitted plans for use of the returning OPEB funds, with the exception of Lyndon State College. President Bertolino stated that they have removed a proposal to renovate a building on campus and are requesting \$460,000 of \$508,000 for three primary projects.

Trustee Pelletier moved and Trustee Hindes seconded the resolution. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

6. Review and Recommend Approval of Annual Banking and Investment Resolution

Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Diamond seconded approval of the annual banking and investment resolution. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

Items for Information and Discussion

7. Endorsement of Grant Proposal

Trustee Hindes moved and Trustee Pelletier seconded the motion to approve the grant proposal. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

8. Real Estate Matter

Trustee Milne moved that the Committee enter executive session pursuant to 1 VSA §313 (2) to discuss a real estate matter, and to include other Board members, the Chancellor, President Smith, CFO Robbins, General Counsel Reedy, and VT Tech Dean of Administration Lit Tyler. Trustee Hindes seconded the motion. The Committee approved the motion unanimously. The Committee entered executive session at 3:30 p.m. While in executive session the Committee approved a resolution, the results of which are on file at the Vermont State Colleges. The Board exited executive session at 4 p.m.

B. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

1. Review Q3 Financials
2. Update on Legislative Issues
3. LSC Solar Farm Partnership
4. Update on Ongoing VSC Construction
5. Review Capital Projects Report

There was no discussion of these items.

C. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

1. Monthly Grant Activity Report
2. VSC Q3 Endowment Report
3. Monthly Cash Report

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

4. Report of the Meeting of the Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Education, Personnel & Student Life Committee conducted a meeting Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at the Office of the Chancellor in Montpelier, Vermont.

Committee members present: Lynn Dickinson, Kraig Hannum (Chair), Jim Masland, Mike Pieciak

Absent: Karen Luneau, Alyssa Slaimen

Other trustees present: Church Hinds, Linda Milne, Martha O'Connor

From the Chancellor's Office: Tricia Coates, Director, External & Governmental Affairs
Bill Reedy, General Counsel
Tom Robbins, CFO
Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic/Academic Technology Officer

College Presidents: Joe Bertolino, Dan Smith, Joyce Judy, Barbara Murphy, Dave Wolk

From the Colleges: Scott Dikeman, Dean of Administration, Castleton State College
Maurice Ouimet, CSC Dean of Enrollment
Tony Pepper, Academic Dean, Castleton State College
Phil Petty, Academic Dean, Vermont Technical College
Beth Walsh, VSC United Professionals President-Elect
Jeff Weld, Director of Marketing, Castleton State College

Chair Hannum called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. He started the meeting with public comments.

VSCUP President-Elect Beth Walsh wished her comments to address the previous Finance and Facilities Committee. She asked that when the colleges consider increasing international student enrollment that they also make sure these students are taught English skills, and that faculty and staff are trained to work with foreign students. She stated that the VSCUP would be glad to help with advocating for VSC funding at the state level.

A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Update on AGB Conference

Chair Hannum updated the Committee on his attendance at the Association of Governing Boards' annual conference on trusteeship. Video and downloadable handouts from the conference are now available online [here](#).

2. Lyndon: Update on Northern Essex Community College partnership

President Bertolino described a new venture the college is undertaking with Northern Essex Community College in Lawrence, Massachusetts, in which Lyndon State will enroll NECC associate's degree students in BA programs but will teach the courses on site in Massachusetts. This is a new opportunity that will benefit NECC students but also LSC students who will have internship opportunities in the Boston area. LSC is in the process of working with the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, and also incorporating in the state of Massachusetts. General Counsel Reedy explained that Board support of the venture is appropriate due to its uniqueness, the fact that LSC must form an out-of-state corporation, and the fact that a contract including a lease of more than five years is involved. President Bertolino explained that for the program to be viable for NECC students, the tuition rate needed to be at Vermont in-state rates, and that this rate would be limited to students at the NECC location only.

Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Masland seconded the approval of the resolution. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

At this time Trustee Masland left the meeting.

3. Castleton: Strategic Plan Update

President Wolk shared with the Committee that Castleton State College has created a ten-year strategic plan for growth, the Castleton Plan. With the creation of many masters programs, and the intention of presenting to the Board in the near future a proposal for a doctoral program, and with the growth anticipated in the new ten-year plan, it is time to consider changing the name of the college to Castleton University. He emphasized that the entire Castleton community is ready for this change, and that he is bringing the idea to the Board at this time for its support. Becoming a university is a way to launch Castleton into the future.

Chancellor Spaulding stated that the VSC enabling statutes allow the Board to change the name of a VSC institution. Legislation going through the state house currently will allow the Board to

change the name of the Vermont State Colleges. He suggested the Board make a decision on the name change at the July meeting in order to allow Castleton to prepare to market its new name. The presidents agreed that the name change would not have a negative impact on the other VSC colleges, although President Murphy suggested that Johnson State, as a master's granting institution, may feel an impact. President Judy suggested that with this name change the system name may need to be reconsidered.

4. Vermont Tech: Update on financial watch status for Equine Studies

President Smith reminded the Committee that the Equine Studies BA program had been put on financial watch in December. The plan now is not to enroll students in the BA program for Equine Studies in the fall; there were 9 deposited students in that program. Total enrollment has dropped and the program is expensive to run. They are exploring the viability of offering an alternative associate's degree to teach out the students currently enrolled; this will depend on commitments from new deposited students to remain in the alternative associate's program.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Items for Information and Discussion

5. Report of the Vermont State Colleges Student Association
6. Legislative Update
7. Report of the Chancellor
8. Reports of the College Presidents



Castleton

Commencement

Our 228th commencement ceremony saw 432 students proudly process across the stage under the Castleton Pavilion, in front of thousands of proud family members and friends. The largest class in our history, with 508 degree applicants, enjoyed a beautiful Vermont day filled with pride, community spirit, and the warm feelings of our tight-knit family.

Former Chancellor Tim Donovan provided the address, and the capacity crowd also heard from class president Cassie Pinaire, an Arizona native who stated: "Castleton just felt like home. And that's all I wanted. Castleton has turned out to provide me with much more than just an education. It gave me an additional group of people to call family."

The Alumni Association honored retiring professor John Feenick as its Outstanding Faculty Award winner, and Rachel Orr earned the Leonard C. Goldman Distinguished Senior award, while J. Douglas Sinclair was named the Outstanding Part Time Faculty Award winner.

"First in their class."

When the Castleton women's lacrosse team received its pairing for the NCAA Division III National Tournament, there was a notable issue. The first round game would be played on May 9, the same date as the Castleton graduation ceremony.

With three student-athletes set to graduate, it was a difficult decision - stay and participate in graduation, or represent the college alongside their teammates on the national stage.

The solution? Present diplomas and hold a brief ceremony during rehearsal for those choosing to travel with the team.

Kate Auer and Mariah Lesure were both honored as graduates in front of their families and their classmates, complete with President Wolk in his full regalia.

For Auer, it was especially meaningful as the South Glens Falls native is the first in her family to graduate from college.

"It's very significant to my family, especially my parents and grandparents, to see me graduate," said Auer. "It's something that we've always talked about, and I was really looking forward to it."

Lesure added; "It feels really awesome that they went out of their way to make it happen for us. I am just really excited that they were able to make it happen."

Public Service

Community Engagement fueling student opportunities.

Since moving to its current location at Castleton Downtown, the Center for Community Engagement has expanded its list of community partners by 88, bringing the total to over 400.

"The goal of Castleton, and the Castleton Downtown office, is to connect students with meaningful learning experiences with local businesses, nonprofits, schools and local and regional municipalities and community organizations," said Director of Community Engagement Chrispin White, who is spearheading internship efforts from the new office. "Our partnerships also provide our students with networking and mentoring opportunities, while providing our community partners with a fresh and insightful talent base from which to draw."

Rotaract club serves near and far.

Over February break students from the Castleton Rotaract Club had the opportunity to step outside the U.S. borders as they participated in a service trip to Honduras. Marking the group's first international mission trip since its inception in the fall of 2013, students returned to campus with a fresh perspective on third world countries and renewed appreciation for amenities back home.

"I liked the work we did down there. The best part is hanging out with locals," said Rotaract Club President Maria Burt, adding that the club has completed several other community service projects such as a stuff-a-van event and fundraising efforts for Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

The group of eight students was accompanied by Caren Helm, a Fair Haven Rotarian, and trip leader Douglas Bohlman a Rotarian from New Hampshire.

The club recently received its national charter from Rotary International.

Becker honored by AAPOR.

Castleton Polling Institute Manager Christopher Becker was recently recognized for his work with the institute, receiving the 2015 Burns "Bud" Roper Fellow Award from the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Recipients of this highly competitive award must be nominated by a member of the AAPOR for their demonstration of responsibilities related to survey research or public opinion and have recently started their careers.



Castleton

Academic Affairs

Kareckas earns Fulbright Scholarship.

Taking his Castleton degree overseas shortly after walking across the stage at graduation, graduate student Kevin Kareckas will head to Poland to teach English at a local university for a full academic year after earning a spot in the prestigious Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Program.

"I have always had a passion for teaching," said Kareckas who will be graduating in May with a Master of Art in Education with a focus in Curriculum and Instruction.

The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Program places recent college graduates and young professionals as English teaching assistants in primary and secondary schools and universities overseas.

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright program has provided more than 300,000 participants, chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential, with the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

"This is a highly prestigious award," said Assistant Professor of Education Monica McEnery, one of several department faculty who helped Kareckas prepare his submission and assisted him through the application process. "We are very proud of Kevin."

Kareckas is the second student out of the Castleton education department in as many years to be awarded this distinguished honor, and plans to use this opportunity to improve international relations by serving as an exemplary ambassador for Castleton and the United States.

Trio of students earn competitive internships.

Castleton students Catherine Wielgasz, Emily Giddings, and Sebastian Comas will not be heading home for the summer like many other students. Instead they will be participating in paid internships focused around their major concentrations to better prepare for a successful career after college.

A chemistry major, Wielgasz received an internship at the University of Montana where she will spend two months performing chemistry research as a part of the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Program, which works to further promote the field of science and advance the overall well being of the nation.

Biology major Emily Giddings, who received a spot in a highly competitive summer internship through the National Institute of Health, will be traveling to Baltimore, Maryland

where she will spend 10 weeks immersed in science research, working for the National Institute on Aging, the Intramural Research Program and the Laboratory of Neurosciences on the molecular and biochemical changes that occur during aging and in disorders such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases and stroke.

Nursing student Sebastian Comas will spend the summer months gaining valuable hands-on field experience after securing one of three spots as an intern in the Veterans Affairs Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) program.

The program gives outstanding registered nursing students who have completed their junior year in an accredited clinical program the opportunity to develop competencies in clinical nursing while at a VA approved health care facility. The full-time, paid position will include competency-based clinical practice with a qualified RN preceptor and participation in nursing-focused clinical conferences.

Student Life

A banner spring for the Spartans.

The Castleton baseball, men's lacrosse, and women's lacrosse teams each won their respective North Atlantic Conference championship in grand fashion, celebrating wins in front of their home crowds.

BASEBALL:

Castleton recorded 14 runs from 15 hits to capture its second straight North Atlantic Conference Championship and third in the last four seasons with a 14-2 victory over the Thomas Terriers at Spartan Field. The Spartans were perfect in tournament play with an opening day win over Maine-Farmington before defeating the Terriers twice, 12-1 and 14-2.

MEN'S LACROSSE:

After falling short a year ago, the Spartans left no doubt in 2015 as they scored the first six goals of the game on the way to a 10-6 victory over New England College in the North Atlantic Conference Championship.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE:

The Spartans scored just 1:08 into the contest and never looked back as they won their fourth consecutive North Atlantic Conference Championship with a 16-3 victory over Thomas on a beautiful afternoon at Spartan Stadium. Castleton dominated from start to finish to earn their 15th consecutive victory and advance to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth straight year.

For more Castleton News: www.castleton.edu/news
For more Castleton Sports News: www.castletonsports.com



President's Report

May 2015

Although spring semester has now officially come to a close at CCV we will enjoy only a short reprieve as summer courses are set to begin in just a few weeks and we continue working to wind down the fiscal year. Even though these tasks compete for our attention, we at the College are finalizing details for our biggest event of the year, commencement.

The College's 48th commencement ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 in Norwich University's Shapiro Field House. I hope you will consider joining us and spend time meeting some members of the Class of 2015 as this is a remarkable group of students who, I'm certain, will go on to achieve great things. Each year I am in awe at the leadership, the perseverance, and the dedication that we bear witness to as we confer degrees on our graduates. This year, CCV will be graduating over 600 students representing all 14 Vermont counties, 15 states, and ten countries.

Eva Sollberger, will deliver this year's commencement address. As a multimedia producer and the creator and host of Seven Days' video blog series Stuck In Vermont, Eva has experienced and interacted with the people of Vermont in a way few others have. She's interviewed thousands, from all walks of life and from all corners of the state, bringing their quirky, unique, and fascinating stories into the public view. While quite successful—her video series has tallied over three million views online—we at CCV asked Eva to speak not because of her success, but because we believe her work with the people of Vermont grants her a unique connection to our students. In getting to know more about Eva I have learned that the name of her series is a tongue-in-cheek reflection of her excitement for meeting and telling the stories of people who are deeply rooted in this state. Eva was raised in Johnson, but left for college in Massachusetts before moving to California as a young adult. Her time on the West Coast was spent learning to edit and shoot video, skills she's used to develop Stuck In Vermont. I believe Eva's love for our state and her ability to create her own success here will resonate, inspire, and stick with CCV's Class of 2015.

Our student speaker this year, CCV-Montpelier's Ashlee Brady-Kelly, has a remarkable personal story that has led her to this point. Ashlee has spent much of her life battling a medical condition that has her in and out of the hospital. In fact as I write this, Ashlee is undergoing major surgery. Ashlee was born and raised in Bermuda but spent time with family here in Vermont. After graduating high school and beginning her college studies on the island, she chose to uproot herself and move to Barre where she now lives with family members. She is a lover of languages and has devoted herself to helping others, spending time as an interpreter for the hearing impaired. She will be graduating with a degree in liberal studies and will be continuing on at Champlain College where she plans to pursue a degree in social work. Ashlee is an inspiration to all of us at CCV; her forge-ahead spirit, despite the major challenges life has presented her, is inspiring and I look forward to hearing her message.

We will also be awarding three community service awards during the ceremony to one student, one faculty member, and one community member. Each year we give these awards to members of the CCV community and to one Vermonter whom we feel have displayed high-level dedication to community service. Student Wayne Miller, instructor Rebecca Caum, and school counselor at Essex's Center for Technology, Lynn Vera, have all shown this commitment to service. In working against domestic violence and sexual assault, helping others overcome addiction, working on issues of freedom, oppression and access to higher education, and performing many, many other selfless acts, these three individuals have shown that service to others is the most noble of acts, and I will be honored to recognize them as 2015's Community Service Award recipients.

In a previous report I discussed the College's strategic goal of increasing new-student participation in orientation to 60 percent college-wide by the fall 2015 semester. We set this goal for ourselves based on the overwhelmingly positive data connecting enrollment in orientation to student persistence and graduation rates. With the close of spring courses, I thought this would be a good opportunity to provide you with an update on our work in this area. To date, three of our academic centers have surpassed the 60 percent goal. For the spring semester we've seen a five percent uptick in orientation enrollment college-wide, which leaves us 12 percent shy of our overall goal. The positive trend here is a strong signal that the steps we've taken to drive this number up are working and I am confident that we will surpass our goal by the target date.



Bellows Falls ICS instructor Rachel Edens works with students during the final class.

The end of a semester always brings to a close special events and happenings at the College and this spring is no exception. We have had our regular visual and performing art shows at various centers, Winooski's International Food Festival set a record for attendees, and we've had numerous service learning projects all over the state come to completion. But I am especially pleased to report that after years of work on the part of CCV staff members, the first Introduction to College Studies section has been successfully completed in Bellows Falls. This past week the eight ICS students and their instructor, Rachel Edens, held a short ceremony to thank the community members, high school staff, and CCV coordinators who were able to make the class happen. It really took a protracted and proactive effort by many in the community to bring ICS to the area, and so this ceremony is a very touching and meaningful close to an important development in that region. You can [read more about the ceremony](#) on CCV Now.

And finally, I'd like to draw your attention to a front-page Rutland Herald article that was published on May 3. The article is a perfect depiction of the credentials gap, wherein a person's level of education does not meet the minimum-level of education required by employers for positions previously requiring a lower-level of credentialing. The article tells the story of one CCV-Rutland student, 49-year-old Julie Williams, and the work she's doing to earn a college degree and move forward in her career. You can [read the full article](#) and learn more about what's happening at the College on [CCV Now](#).



JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

to the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees

MAY 21, 2015



As we wrap up the academic year, and as I move toward completing my tenure as president, I am struck by how much we have so much to note and celebrate at JSC, starting first and foremost with the accomplishments of our students.

As this report is written, we are preparing to celebrate more than 400 undergraduate and graduate students who will earn their degrees Saturday, May 16, at our 148th Commencement Ceremony. We will be presenting an honorary doctorate of humane letters to our keynote speaker, Camille Holmes, director of leadership and racial equity for the National Legal Aid & Defender Association in Washington, D.C., and hearing from three members of the Class of 2015: **Dalton Gomez** (B.S., Environmental Science with teaching endorsement); **Lindsay Haley** (B.A., Professional Studies, External Degree Program) and **Kyle Reardon** (M.A., Special Education).



Camille Holmes



Many of our graduates have impressive plans — including acceptance directly into the *doctorate* physical therapy program at UVM, teaching high school chemistry and physics, taking on new work in New Zealand, graduate work in engineering and more.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NOTE

As our [May 2015 Supplement of Activities & Accomplishments](#) illustrates, much rich work is accomplished daily at Johnson State College. The following items from that supplement are singled out here for special mention:



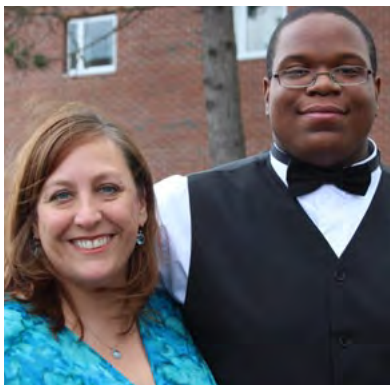
- Sophomore **Heather Murphy**, junior **Shayna Bennett** and graduating senior **Erika English** won an “Outstanding Undergraduate Poster” award at the Geological Society of America Northeastern Section meeting in March. Only nine students — the top 5% of 192



L-R: Erika English, Heather Murphy and Shayna Bennett

undergraduate poster presentations — were selected by 46 judges for an award. JSC bested the presentation from Middlebury College, the only other Vermont institution to receive an award. The faculty advisor for the group effort (for which Heather served as lead author) was Dr. **Liz Dolci**. The students’ poster was titled “Bacterial Adaptation to an Anthropogenically Altered, Serpentine-Rich Aquatic Environment.” Heather and Shayna are START science scholars — recipients of major scholarships from JSC funded by the National Science Foundation.

- Juniors **Steven Lamonde** and **Shayna Bennett** have been inducted into Sigma Xi, the prestigious scientific research society for undergraduates who show promise by the research conducted early in their careers. Einstein, Crick and Watson, and our own Liz Dolci and Les Kanat have been members of this elite group.





- Graduating senior **Daniel Hill** is one of 240 college students nationwide selected to travel to NASA's Johnson Space Center as part of the five-week NASA College Aerospace Scholars project (NCAS). While at NASA, students interact with NASA engineers and establish fictional companies that develop and test a prototype Mars rover, establish a company infrastructure, manage a budget and develop communications plans.



- The Johnson State College **Chamber Singers**, under the direction of **Bethany Plissey** and accompanied by **Tim Saeed** of our Department of Fine & Performing Arts recently completed their spring tour and have performed at numerous campus events since. One of the venues on the tour was a church community in Massachusetts, whose minister wrote us this note: "Last night the church I serve had the pleasure of hosting a concert with the Johnson State College Chamber Singers. What a delight!! They are such great ambassadors for your school, and their director, Bethany, was outstanding not only in pulling a great sound and musicianship from her choir but also in how she treated and honored their personhood."
- Sophomore men's lacrosse goalkeeper **Jay Palmisano**, an art education major, concluded the 2014-15 season ranked No. 2 nationally in NCAA Division III for saves per game and No. 11 in goals-against average. His outstanding performance this year also earned him a spot on the North Atlantic Conference's second team all-conference squad.

PREVENTION & OUTREACH SHOWS CONTINUED VALUE

The 2014-15 school year marks the second year we have required all first-year students to complete the online "AlcoholEdu" and "Haven" modules. These educational programs, supported by grant funding through a partnership with the Healthy Lamoille Valley Coalition, focus on preventing problematic behaviors associated with excessive alcohol and drug use and sexual misconduct. Most important, they provide incoming students with knowledge and tools to succeed in college, and we believe they are a contributing factor in our improved first- to second-

year retention rates. Data from our most recent report show the following:

- Student knowledge of the risks associated with alcohol use increased 24% after course completion.
- 39% of students changed their drinking behavior after completing the course.
- 87% of students reported that the course prepared them to make responsible decisions about their own drinking decisions.
- 88% of students report that AlcoholEdu prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning.

We are extremely gratified to see that the attention we have devoted to the issue of substance abuse, as well as sexual misconduct, is having a positive effect.

CELEBRATING OUR 'EARLY COLLEGE' & 'THINK COLLEGE' COMPLETERS

Thursday evening, May 7, we hosted a dinner and recognition ceremony for our first class of "Early College" students and their families. Each of the 19 students received a certificate in recognition of their accomplishments at JSC and the dedication it took to complete their final year of high school by taking college courses at Johnson State College. We were pleased to have Chancellor Spaulding join us for the event.



The previous afternoon, we presented certificates to the four students who are completing our "Think College" program this year. Launched at JSC in 2011, Think College is a two-year program that provides 18- to 26-year-old students with intellectual disabilities an opportunity to earn a Certificate of Higher Education from JSC. The first year of the program focuses on academics as well as social, vocational and independent-living skills. The second year continues the focus on coursework and independent-living skills and adds an internship tied to vocational goals. We are grateful to the faculty, staff and students who make this rewarding program possible. Those who complete this program take great pride in their college experience, knowing that they have achieved something they may have never imagined.



The President's Report

MAY 21, 2015 | LYNDON STATE COLLEGE



LSC One of 100 Most Affordable Small Colleges in U.S.



The website Best Value Schools has ranked Lyndon 55th in their 2015 list of the 100 Most Affordable Small Colleges in America. Colleges were ranked based on their "net price," calculated by the National Center for Education Statistics by subtracting the average amount of federal, state/local government, or institutional grant or scholarship aid from the total cost of attendance. Castleton and Johnson also made the list.



Some of LSC's recent NATAS award recipients.

EJA Wins Big in Latest New England Awards

Students in Lyndon's Electronic Journalism Arts program won three Awards for Excellence and two honorable mentions from the Boston/New England Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences—besting larger schools including Emerson College, Northeastern, and Boston University.

- Winner, Newscast: "News 7 at 5:30 p.m."
Katrina Floranza, producer; Adam Donnelly, director
- Winner, General Assignment, Serious News: "911 Failure."
Tyler Dumont, reporter
- Winner, Sports: "CircumBurke Challenge."
Kevin Kelleher, video journalist
- Honorable Mention, General Assignment, Serious News: "Remembering Melissa." Camille Delongis, reporter;
RJ Kauffman, photographer
- Honorable Mention: General Assignment, Light News: "Hunter's Delight." Taylor Young, video journalist

Four Society of Professional Journalist (SPJ) Region 1 Mark of Excellence awards were picked up by Kevin Kelleher, Taylor Young, Tyler Dumont, and Nathan Rivard on April 18.

Spring(?) Dip

Despite bracing, near freezing temperatures and Library Pond's icy waters, VSC Chancellor Jeb Spaulding took the plunge at Lyndon's Annual Spring Dip on April 24. The event raised more than \$3,000 for Lyndon student scholarships. President Joe, a veteran jumper and cheerleader, joined Spaulding.



Shining a Light @ greenandgoldspirit.com

President Joe has been tireless in spreading the good news about what's happening at LSC. Now he's asking others to share *their* Lyndon stories: to tell how they turned their passions into professions.

In April, Joe posted a video message to the entire LSC community to remind everyone of significant recent accomplishments, share exciting plans for our future, and to invite viewers to visit a new web page to share their stories. To date, more than a dozen current students and alumni have posted lengthy narratives about how this small college enlarged their lives. Visit greenandgoldspirit.com to read the comments, see the video, or share your story.

"Tomorrow's earners..." Business/Ed Summit

LSC's fourth annual Business/Education Summit was held May 1. The summit brings together educators, employers, and community leaders to help prepare "today's learners to become tomorrow's earners." Afternoon discussion panelists were Jay Peak CEO Bill Stenger; John Goodrich, operations vice president at Weidmann; Linda Shiller, VSAC's career and education outreach director; Shawn Straffin, Lyndon Furniture's head of product development and a member of the Vt. Economic Progress Council; and Gwen Bailey-Rowe, adult education director at North Country Career Center.

Commencement: Picturing Social Justice

In a fitting culmination of the College's Year of Social Justice, a selection from Robert Shetterly's "Americans Who Tell the Truth" portrait series is on view in the theatre lobby. Faculty from each academic department chose an image that reflects their view of social justice.

Artist Robert Shetterly was the keynote speaker at Lyndon's 103rd commencement on May 17. Shetterly is widely known for his painted etchings based on William Blake's "Proverbs of Hell" and for the series now on display at LSC—paintings that honor champions of social justice. He was joined on the dais by student speaker Mason Brewer '15.

Micheline Auger was awarded an honorary Bachelor of Humane >

Streaming, flaxen, waxen: Hair!

Lyndon's Twilight Players performed the iconic sixties-era musical *Hair* April 23 through 26 to enthusiastic crowds. The ambitious production with its large cast was co-directed by adjunct faculty member Gianna Fregosi and Elizabeth Sousa '16.



The President's Report

MAY 21, 2015 | LYNDON STATE COLLEGE



Letters degree for her services and contribution to the Newport community. Auger was a student at Lyndon in the 1960s.

Bertolino presented a Presidential Medal of Distinction to community organizer, educator, and artist Sha'an Moulert. St. Johnsbury-based Umbrella also received a medal for "exemplifying social justice" by offering safety and support for women and families. Renee (Kelly) Swain '09 is Umbrella's executive director.

LSC Students Host Annual Science Fair

Lyndon's Sigma Zeta Honor Society sponsored a science fair on April 27. More than 100 science projects by 3rd through 8th grade students from around the Northeast Kingdom were on display in the Stannard Gym. The projects were judged by Lyndon students, faculty, and staff.



Breakout Season for Men's Lacrosse Team and Coach

Lyndon's first-year head lacrosse coach, Kevin Pezanowski, has been named the North Atlantic Conference's 2015 Coach of the Year. The team made the NAC tournament for the first time since 2012 and brought home the NAC Lacrosse Team Sportsmanship Award.

Healing and Remembering...

A campus-wide memorial service to honor four Lyndon students and a recent graduate who passed away this year was held May 5. The deaths of Holly Cannon, Todd Spaulding, Alex Duranleau, Jake Gregg, and Ed Horan '14 shook the Lyndon community, leaving behind grieving family members, friends, fellow students, advisors, professors, and staff. Hundreds gathered in the Alexander Twilight Theatre to share remembrances and help in healing. **The second annual GreggFest music festival was held May 8 and 9** at Lyndon's Skate Park Amphitheater. All proceeds went to raise scholarship money in Jake Gregg's name. Gregg was a talented musician whose life was cut short by acute myeloid leukemia. **On May 14, a memorial service was held to honor the life of Maintenance Supervisor Art Peake**, a beloved, hard-working, and long-serving member of our community who died May 10.

FACULTY+STAFF

Faculty tenure, promotions, and sabbaticals were announced by President Bertolino on May 5. Promotions take effect September 1, 2015.

Promoted:

- Kevin Farrell, *Professor of Mathematics*
- Meaghan Meachem, *Associate Professor of Electronic Journalism Arts*
- Elizabeth Norris, *Professor of Music Business and Industry*
- Pat Shine, *Professor of Psychology*

Tenure:

- Joe Gittleman, *Music Business and Industry*

Sabbaticals:

- James Bozeman, *Mathematics, fall 2015 and spring 2016*
- Deborah Hughes, *Computer Sciences, fall 2015 and spring 2016*
- Rodney Jacobson, *Business Administration, fall 2015*

Retirements:

We wish the best to these faculty members who will retire this year, representing more than 190 years combined service to LSC.

- David "Buck" Beliles, *English*
- Bruce Berryman, *Atmospheric Sciences*
- Ernest Broadwater, *Education*
- John DeLeo, *Mountain Recreation Management*
- Garet Nelson, *Library Director*
- Ron Rossi, *Psychology*

Anthropology/Sociology Professor Janet Bennion

received one of two Faculty Fellow awards given each semester by the VSC Board of Trustees. Bennion's fellowship will focus on launching her latest publication, "The Polygamy Question." This project is the culmination of the international conferences on polygamy that Bennion has attended in the last five years; scheduled release is fall 2015.

Assistant Professor of Visual Arts Robby Gilbert was featured in two Vermont Department of Education videos promoting education in the arts. The videos were filmed during a claymation workshop for 7–14-year-olds that Gilbert conducted at Catamount Arts in St. Johnsbury. The videos can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3KTUAJjAZQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRBgxOjZFq4>



John Kascenska, an adjunct faculty member in Mountain Recreation Management, helped lead an Everest Basecamp Trek in Nepal from April 13–May 5—an adventure that included ascents of Gokyo Ri and Kala Patthar and the April 25th earthquake.

Kascenska's group was hiking along a lateral moraine of the Khumbu Glacier en route to Everest Basecamp when the earthquake hit. Fortunately, all trekkers and their porters remained safe through the initial earthquake and aftershocks.

**Kascenska
Witness to Nepal
Earthquake**

VERMONT TECH

End of Year Senior Projects

As the academic year wound up, our **annual Senior Projects** calendar was in full swing. Students from every major were required to present on their senior projects with guest faculty in the audience, judging their content and communication skills. Student projects included a virtual tour of the Randolph Center campus, design and construction of a robocar microcontroller, the benefits of diversity in the workplace, changes in business language and an HVAC system for a concrete administrative building in Doha, Qatar. It is with great pride that we watch our students make highly professional and thoughtful presentations in their last days as Vermont Tech undergraduates.

FY2016 \$1M Lab Renovation Funding

The Vermont State Legislature is including Vermont Tech in its Capital Bill for FY2016 and FY2017. As of this report, the **\$1,000,000 appropriation** is provided in FY16 with the intent of the General Assembly to fund an additional \$500,000 in FY17 as a challenge grant to raise additional funds to upgrade engineering technology laboratories at the college. **Vermont Tech will be required to raise matching funds of an additional \$500,000.**

Certificate in Paramedicine

While developed in 2014, the Paramedicine Certificate was the **first in Vermont** to apply for and receive **Gainful Employment** approval to afford students eligibility for federal financial aid during their studies in the program. Enrolling for fall 2015, the program can be offered from the Williston or Randolph campuses, as well as at the Bennington extended site. Early enrollment figures suggest that the first cohort will likely be exclusive to the Williston campus.

Applications and Deposits

Following the national **Decision Day** on May 1st, Vermont Tech applications and deposits are trending to be on par with last year's enrollment in our non-nursing programs, though all of higher education is dealing with a high degree of unpredictability. With the addition of the online BSN program enrollment figures, the college should be welcoming a larger class size than in the fall of 2014 with the largest gains in our allied health programs. Incoming students have been invited to join the Facebook group, where they are meeting their peers, asking questions of Admissions staff and being invited to orientation events.

VERMONT TECH

Try a Major Day

Vermont Tech hosted the second annual “**Try a Major Day**” in Randolph for high school sophomores and juniors on **May 1, 2015**. Over 300 students took part in hands-on activities for academic programs. In addition to students, nearly 60 parents, chaperones and guidance counselors attended the event with their students. The Randolph Center campus welcomed participants from as far away as the Northeast Kingdom, Bennington and Essex, as well as in our own backyard. Photos from the day are available on our [Flickr](#) site.

Continuing Education and Workforce Development Activities

- S License for PV installers was approved by the State of Vermont Electrical Board.
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council has approved the Solar training program for accreditation—the College is now a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Certified training provider for Solar PV installers and ***the only Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN) member in Vermont.***
- AEROCamp will be offered Summer 2015 in Williston.
- Electrical and Plumbing Apprenticeship—we had 521 students statewide and 91 Graduates in April.
- Increased Dual Enrollment and concurrent enrollment for high school students to 314.
- Teacher Preparation for Career and Technical Education has grown to 58 students.

Items for Information and Discussion

9. Other Business
10. Comments from the Public
11. Date and Place of Next Meeting
Thursday, July 23, 2015
Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, VT