

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Meeting held Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at Community College of Vermont, Montpelier, VT – APPROVED

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees met on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at CCV Montpelier

Board members present: Lynn Dickinson, Janette Bombardier, Megan Cluver, David Durfee, Bill Lippert, Karen Luneau, Jim Masland, Perry Ragouzis, Shawn Tester, Sue Zeller

Absent: Bob Flint, Shirley Jefferson, Mary Moran, David Silverman

Presidents: Parwinder Grewal, Joyce Judy

Chancellor's Office Staff: Kellie Campbell, Chief Information Officer
Katherine Levasseur, Director of External and Government Affairs
Pat Moulton, Executive Director, Workforce Development
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Sarah Potter, Chief Human Resources Officer
Kathryn Santiago, Associate General Counsel
Sharron Scott, Chief Financial/Operations Officer
Patty Turley, General Counsel
Meg Walz, Director, Project Management
Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Nolan Atkins, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Northern Vermont University
Eleanor Beltz, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Charles Bombard, Director, Enterprise Infrastructure, Community College of Vermont
Carl Brandon, Faculty, Vermont Technical College
Rich Clark, Faculty, Castleton University
Brad Coupe, Faculty, Castleton University
Sam Davis-Boyd, Faculty, Castleton University
Melissa DeBlois, Director, Office of Prior Learning Assessment, Community College of Vermont
Gretchen DeHart, Regional Director, Community College of Vermont
Lily Doton, Student, Castleton University
Mary Droege, Biology Laboratory & Greenhouse Manager, Part-time Faculty, Castleton University
Sue Generazzo, Faculty, Castleton University
Kate Gold, Associate Director of Advising, VSCUP Chair Lyndon Chapter, Northern Vermont University

Burnham Holmes, Faculty, Castleton University
Flo Keyes, Faculty, Castleton University
Jason Kaiser, Learning Spaces Technology Specialist, Northern Vermont University
Derell Merrett, Student, Vermont Technical College (Castleton University Alumni)
David Mook, Faculty, Castleton University
Billie Neathawk, Unit Chair, Staff Federation, Castleton University
Linda Olson, President, AFT VT, and Faculty, Castleton University
Maurice Ouimet, Vice President of Admissions, Castleton University
Louis Palmer, Faculty, Castleton University
Brady Rainville, Academic & Study Away Advisor, Northern Vermont University
Chris Reilly, President of Faculty Federation, and Faculty, Vermont Technical College
Joan Richmond-Hall, Faculty, Vermont Technical College
Oliver Schemm, Faculty, Castleton University
William Smith, Student, Castleton University
Michaela Stone, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Brandon Stroup, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Emily Tarleton, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Julie Theoret, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP, Northern Vermont University
Erin Wetherell, Advisor, Community College of Vermont

From the Public:

Glenda Bissex, Plainfield, VT
Eric Blaisdell, Reporter, Times Argus
Janet Clapp, Librarian, Vermont
Steve Howard, Executive Director, VSEA
Samantha Hayward, Resident, Castleton
Vince Illuzzi, VSEA Lobbyist
Brian Morse, Union Representative, VSEA
Shane Neathawk, Resident, Chester
Sarah Phillips, Photographer, Times Argus
Mark Waskow, Resident, Barre

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.
2. Comments from the public

The Trustees heard comments from the public for forty-five minutes. VSC faculty, staff, and students, as well as members from the community, shared their thoughts and comments on the proposed changes to the libraries and athletics at Vermont State University with the Board of Trustees.

3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. January 23, 2023

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to approve the January 23, 2023 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously with Trustee Lippert abstaining.

4. **Presentation from the Community College of Vermont on the continuum of students served**

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy introduced Natalie Searle, CCV's Director of Secondary Education Initiatives and Melissa DeBlois, CCV's Director for the Office of Prior Learning Assessment to share information on the continuum of students served at CCV, including outreach to K-12 students and adults. The presentations can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

5. Report from Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee
 - a. Motion/vote to approve Resolution 2022-018: *Northern Vermont University Conferral of Honorary Degree*

Trustee Cluver reported that the EPSL Committee met on March 13 where NVU Provost Nolan Atkins presented a proposed refined Libraries plan. The Committee also heard from Workforce Development Director Pat Moulton and Executive Director of Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation Adam Grinold on the importance of the workforce development system in Vermont and how the VSC contributes to it. Ms. Moulton congratulated the VSC on receiving the National Council for Continuing Education and Training Exemplary Program Award. CCV and Vermont Tech partnered with the University of Vermont Health Network to deliver the LPN Pathway Program as part of workforce development and continuing education.

Trustee Cluver then read the motion honoring Clair Diane Laferriere Duke in the conferral of an honorary degree from Northern Vermont University.

Trustee Cluver moved and Trustee Masland seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-018: *Northern Vermont University of Conferral of Honorary Degree*. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Report from the Executive Committee

Chair Dickinson shared a report from the March 23rd committee meeting, stating that input will be sought from the trustees regarding committee assignments and leadership roles.

Chair Dickinson then summarized the committee's recommendation that Resolution 2021-018: *COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement for Residential Colleges* expire on May 11, 2023, which is in line with CDC guidance. CCV also will no longer require COVID-19 vaccinations for students attending classes in person, effective for the upcoming summer term.

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Bombardier seconded the motion for the expiration of Resolution 2021-018: COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement for Residential Colleges on May 11, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Approval of VSC Faculty Fellow Nomination

Dr. Ziesler, introduced the faculty fellow nomination for faculty member Andrew Alexander. Further information can be found [here](#) on pages 22-34.

Trustee Cluver moved and Trustee Durfee seconded the motion to approve the Faculty Fellow nomination for Andrew Alexander. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Report from Finance & Facilities Committee

Chief Financial and Operating Officer Sharron Scott reported that the Finance & Facilities committee last met on February 13th and discussed the second quarter financial results, reviewed progress on the first pass FY2024 budget, and took action to reaffirm the investment subcommittee. Further information can be found [here](#) on page 13.

9. Report from Audit Committee

Trustee Zeller reported that the Audit committee last met on February 13th and reviewed and approved the Internal Audit Plan for FY2024, and reviewed progress regarding the FY2022 Internal Audit and the Uniform Guidance Single Audit Finding from 2022. Further information can be found [here](#) on page 15.

10. Legislative Update

Katherine Levasseur, Director of External and Governmental Affairs, provided an update on the VSC's Fiscal Year 2024 budget request and the Governor's budget proposal which includes significant funding for the VSC. Additionally, the workforce development bill and the capital bill are undergoing finalization in the House and incorporate significant funds for VSC institutions, programs, and students. Highlights include a total of \$76 million across all funds, including:

- **\$48 million** annual appropriation (an increase of \$2.5 million),
- **\$9 million** in one-time funding to address capital transformation needs,
- **\$9 million** in one-time bridge funding to help the system continue addressing the structural deficit as outlined in the Select Committee report,
- **\$4 million** in one-time funding to pilot a two-year tuition reduction at Community College of Vermont for students enrolled in specific programs relevant to Vermont business and industry needs,
- **\$700 thousand** to establish a Bachelor of Science in Restorative Justice at VTSU
- **\$1.5 million** to VTSU to establish a Certificate in 3D technology program for high school students in collaboration with the Advanced Manufacturing Center
- **\$3.8 million** for Critical Occupations Scholarships in early childhood education, nursing, clinical mental health counseling, criminal justice, and dental hygiene.

Trustee Luneau requested a follow-up communication with specific numbers for the trustees.

11. Presidents' Reports

VTSU President Parwinder Grewal provided an update to the trustees. His presentation can be found [here](#).

Trustee Lippert urged President Grewal to continue to hear the passionate feelings of those who spoke during public comment and to engage. He expressed his concern that this flashpoint could undermine the important work of transformation and he encouraged everyone to listen and engage with each other. He went on to acknowledge and thank his fellow trustees and everyone in the room for their work, commitment, and passion for the Vermont State Colleges.

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy thanked members of her team present at the meeting for their hard work and support at the Board meeting, and acknowledged the CCV presentation at the beginning of the meeting as a great representation of CCV. President Judy recognized two CCV students who received awards from Phi Theta Kappa recently – Crystal Martin and David Budnick.

12. Additional Business

There was no other business.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.