MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
January 25, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board was held in Open Session via teleconference on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, and called to order by Chairperson Olson at 4:03 p.m.

ITEM 1 a. ROLL CALL


Excused: None

ITEM 1 b. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Discussion

Chairperson Olson asked if proper notice of the meeting had been given in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Ms. Gwendolyn Green, board liaison, confirmed proper notice was given.

ITEM 3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Joanne Lange, community member, spoke MATC level 400 courses, such as the upholstery class, being moved to the 600 level, requiring additional costs. Ms. Lange requested a review of this coding change and the effect on the cost of these classes to seniors.

Dr. Michael Rosen, retired economics instructor, spoke to his work with Dr. Sarah Goldrick-Rab, a national leader in the free college movement, to initiate a MATC FAST Fund, a faculty led fund that provides emergency assistance to MATC students. Dr. Rosen introduced Ms. Elizabeth Franczyk, executive director, Local 212/MATC Believe in Students FAST Fund.
Ms. Elizabeth Franczyk stated financial aid for students is not sufficient and reported Pell Grants are paying less than 60 percent of cost for a student to attend a two-year college, and mentioned the benefits of FAST Fund for MATC students. Ms. Franczyk urged the administration to continue to use the emergency HEERF funds to pay the COVID related debts for the students.

Mr. Kevin Mulvenna, executive vice president, AFT Local 212, spoke to his concerns with the implementation of Guided Pathways; he stated the college lost essential middle manager associate deans, pushing more work to lead faculty and their deans. Mr. Mulvenna stated the college needs to commit to correcting the errors made in the implementation of Guided Pathways.

Ms. Jennifer Wayd, transcription associate, Library, expressed her thoughts on the COVID protocols and inequities in the procedures of the new flexible work arrangement procedures.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3 a. Regular Board Meeting: December 14, 2021

Motion It was moved by Mr. Foley, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting: December 14, 2021.

Action Motion approved.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

4 a. Bills – December 2021
4 c. Human Resources Report
4 d. Procurement Report
4 e. Construction Report

Motion It was moved by Ms. Baker, seconded by Mr. Foley, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Action Motion approved.

ITEM 5. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Action Items

5 a. Resolution (F0215-01-22) Authorizing the Sale of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021-2022H of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin
Motion

It was moved by Mr. Foley, seconded by Ms. Mendieta-Ramos, to approve Resolution (F0215-01-22) Authorizing the Sale of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021-2022H of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Discussion

Mr. John Mehan, managing director, Robert W. Baird & Co., reviewed the Final Pricing Summary for the $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021-2022H.

Action

Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Case, Diaz, Foley, Hamilton, Mendieta-Ramos, Moews, Baker, Olson and Wilson - 9

Noes: None.

5 b. Resolution (F0216-01-22) Authorizing the Issuance of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021-2022I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin

Motion

It was moved by Mr. Foley, seconded by Ms. Wilson, to approve Resolution (F0216-01-22) Authorizing the Issuance of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021-2022I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin

Action

Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Diaz, Foley, Hamilton, Mendieta-Ramos, Moews, Wilson, Baker, Case, and Olson - 9

Noes: None.

5 c. Resolution (F0217-01-22) to Approve Apprenticeship Program Implementation for Program Titled Freight Forwarding Apprenticeship (50-182-X)

Motion

It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, to approve Resolution (F0217-01-22) to Approve Apprenticeship Program Implementation for Program Titled Freight Forwarding Apprenticeship (50-182-X).

Action

Motion approved.
ITEM 6  Reports

6 a.  Chairperson’s Report

Discussion  Chairperson Olson:

- Welcomed MATC Faculty and Students to the second semester.
- Announced the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit will be held in person in Washington, DC on February 6 – 9, 2022.
- Stated the annual America’s Public Television Stations (APTS) Public Media Summit, which is to be held February 28 and 29, will be held virtual-only. This is a two-day event in Washington, DC that culminates on the final day with visits to Wisconsin state legislators, to make the case for continued funding for public broadcasting.
- Mentioned Elizabeth Schultz sent a new doodle poll for the winter retreat to the board. The retreat was pushed further out from the original date of February 4 due to the increase in COVID cases. Dr. Olson requested the board complete the poll with new availability dates.

6 b.  President’s Report

Discussion  Dr. Martin:

- Reported that on December 17, 2021, MATC celebrated its first in-person commencement since COVID began. More than 600 students were eligible to graduate from associate degree, technical diploma, apprentice and Adult High School programs. Directors Olson, Case, Mendieta-Ramos and Moews attended the commencement on behalf of the board.
- Stated activist and scholar Dr. Angela Davis joined the college on January 18, 2022 as part of the college’s celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Martin thanked Dr. Myra George, Eva Martinez-Powless, Kyle Hayden and other members of MATC’s Black Student Union and DEI Committee for bringing Dr. Davis to the college.
- Mentioned WTMJ Channel 4 spotlighted the January 21, 2022 graduation of 25 students earning degrees through the Second Chance Pell program. Dr. Martin thanked Dr. Sadique Ishahaku, Jenny McGilligan, their teams and the college faculty for making this a successful program.
- Congratulated MATC District Board Member Citlali Mendieta-Ramos and her husband Nicolas who were recognized as Distinguished Mexicans abroad by the Mexican consulate.
6 c. District Student Senate Report

Discussion

Mr. Patrick Casper:

- Introduced himself as the new Student Board Representative of District Student Government and representing the MATC student body. Mr. Casper is a first year student in MATC’s Associates of Science Transfer program.
- Shared a concern regarding faculty preparedness in HyFlex modalities and the use of technology such as Blackboard Ultra.
- Attended an online improve workshop event, which he noted was very engaging and rewarding. Student Government is currently working with Student Life to promote these engagement events and increase student knowledge about Campus Labs, the college’s engagement online program.

6 d. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report

Discussion

Eva Martinez-Powless, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Officer, presented the DEI Report.

- In 2021, 1300 full-time and part-time employees participated in an anti-bias workshop “Managing a Transformative Culture”; in 2022 the college will continue to build on this work by providing anti-discrimination and harassment training in partnership with Human Resources.
- The college continues to develop the DEI Plan and the Office of DEI Structure through the work of the president’s DEI Task Force. The Task Force will be delivering the recommendations and DEI Plan to the president and cabinet in mid-March.
- The creation of employee affinity groups continues to build on the culture of inclusion, sense of community support and the community already at MATC. The largest MATC employee affinity groups include women’s, interfaith, Latinx and LGBTQ plus and allies.
- DEI continues to collaborate with Human Resources at MATC regarding EEO, equal opportunity and harassment and non-discrimination policies and procedures, affirmative action plan and Title IX. For the last six months, the DEI office has focused on process improvement in the area of systemic change.
- DEI partnered with a faculty member and a staff member to continue to expand the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) efforts within the academics and student services. The climate and DEI Committee at West Allis and Oak Creek continue to affect the subcultures of those particular locations and contribute to the overall culture at MATC.
The DEI Committee, led by Dr. Myra George, in partnership with Black Student Council and former advisor Kyle Hayden, joined efforts to bring Dr. Angela Davis to MATC.

6 e. Enrollment Report

Discussion

Dr. Sarah Adams, interim vice president, Enrollment Services, presented the Enrollment Report and shared the current FTE YTD attainment by period. Mr. Jeffrey Hollow, vice president, Finance, spoke to the enrollment numbers impact on the college’s budget and what steps are being taken to balance the budget. Dr. Adams stated the enrollment department is helping students apply for financial aid and enroll in classes.

6 f. Milwaukee PBS VP General Manager’s Report

Discussion

Mr. Bohdan Zachary:

- Reported “Finding Your Roots with Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.” launched its eighth season and Milwaukee PBS has the highest ratings for Finding Your Roots of any PBS station in the country. Milwaukee PBS ranked sixth in the country in overall ratings the night of January 11.
- Announced Dale Palecek was promoted to Chief Programming Officer. Mr. Palecek will guide the on-air programming efforts as well as work with local filmmakers and creatives on bringing their work to Milwaukee PBS.
- Stated Milwaukee PBS welcomed Dan Mueller as the station’s new Chief Development Officer. Mr. Muller will lead Milwaukee PBS’ development team and fundraising efforts.
- Reported Milwaukee PBS is partnering with WUWM 89.7 Milwaukee’s NPR to present two final candidates for Mayor in an hour-long discussion. One producer reporter from Milwaukee PBS and one from WUWM will conduct the interview. The special will air on Channel 10 and WUWM on Thursday, March 31 from 7 to 8 pm.
- Shared a video of a new podcast Milwaukee PBS will launch featuring three producer reporters. The podcast is called “Speaking Of” and it features Alexandria Mack from Black Nouveau, Mariano Avila from Adelante, and Scottie Lee Myers from 10thirty six.
- Paid tribute to Susan Loris, executive vice president of Institutional Advancement at the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Loris passed away suddenly just days after meeting with Mr. Zachary. The station will celebrate her when they produce the next MSO special.
Milwaukee PBS Master Control Operations

- Reported Milwaukee PBS entered into a partnership about ten years ago with eleven other PBS stations to create a shared master control operation, an initiative made possible with a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.
- Announced the possibility of the master control operation being moved to Madison, where the station would partner with ECB, the Educational Communications Board of WI.

6 g. Legislative Matters Report

Discussion

Ms. Ramie Zelenkova, lobbyist, Hubbard Wilson & Zelenkova, presented the Legislative Matters Report on recent legislative matters impacting higher education, such as:

- Redistricting – State and federal legislative elections will be contested under new maps in 2022. The Republican-controlled legislature passed its version of the maps late last year, and the Governor, who is seeking to have his own version of the maps adopted and implemented by a court, promptly vetoed them.
- Wisconsin Assembly Bill 475/Senate Bill 448 relating to including a referendum question for issuing bonds, a statement of the estimated interest accruing on the amount of the bonds. Assembly hearing; Senate hearing scheduled.
- Wisconsin Assembly Bill 741/Senate Bill 711 relating to tuition and fees at UW System institutions and technical colleges and COVID-19 vaccine requirements. This bill would require tuition and fees be refunded if a vaccine mandate is required for participation/enrollment.
- Legislative Republicans unveiled a package of bills aimed at public safety and law enforcement at the beginning of January. There is one bill of interest: Wisconsin Assembly Bill 836/Senate Bill 847 relating to technical college police academy programs.
- Federal – House Democrats passed the Build Back Better Act, but with a lack of consensus among all Democratic Senators on passage the bill is currently stalled.

ITEM 7. BOARD MONITORING

7 a. Pathway Presentation/Creative Arts, Design & Media

Information

Dr. Mohammad Dakwar, vice president, Learning and Dr. Brian Carlson, dean, Creative Arts, Design & Media presented the Creative Arts, Design & Media Pathway report.

7 b. Health and Safety Update and COVID Risk Mitigation Strategies
Dr. Josie Veal, Public Health Officer, presented the Health and Safety Update and COVID Risk Mitigation Strategies report. Dr. Veal shared as the college approached December, it was recommended for students and employees who were leaving for the break to use rapid screening tools to complete screening tests 3 days before returning to campus. Effective February 1, employees and students must wear a surgical/medical mask, KN95 mask or N95 mask while on campus.

ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS
Ms. Baker requested additional information from administration be given to the board on the four concerns expressed in the meeting.

Faculty training in hybrid teaching tools.
Senior access to classes without cost.
Flexible work arrangement equity.
Assessment of the Guided Pathways reorganization and its effect on the lead faculty model.

ITEM 9. Future Agenda Items/Events

9 a. January 27 – 29, 2022, WTCDBA Winter Quarterly Meeting, Osthoff Resort at Elkhart Lake, WI
9 b. February 6 – 9, 2022, ACCT National Legislative Summit, Marriott Marquis, Washington, DC
9 c. February 22, 2022, MATC District Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
9 d. February 28 – March 1, 2022, APTS Public Media Summit (Virtual)

ITEM 10. Closed Session

10 a. President’s Semi-Annual Evaluation***

Motion It was moved by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Foley to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss Item 10 a. President’s Semi-Annual Evaluation to consider performance evaluation data of the President over whom the Board exercises responsibility. The Board may reconvene into Open Session to take action on matters discussed in Closed Session under Item 10 a.

Action Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Foley, Hamilton, Wilson, Baker, Case, Diaz and Olson – 7
ITEM 11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwendolyn S. Green

On behalf of Board Secretary Citlali Mendieta-Ramos

* This meeting may be conducted in part by telephone. Telephone speakers will be available to allow the public to hear those parts of the proceedings that are open to the public.

** Action may be taken on any agenda item, whether designated as an action item or not. Agenda items may be moved into Closed Session for discussion when it becomes apparent that a Closed Session is appropriate under Section 19.85 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The board may return to Open Session to take action on any item discussed in Closed Session.

*** It is anticipated that this item may be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85(1) (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Reasonable accommodations are available through the ADA Office for individuals who need assistance. Please call 414-297-6610 to schedule services at least 48 hours before the meeting.