

**Orange Coast College Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Notes
Thursday, November 16, 2023, 5:30 pm
College Center Building, OCC Room 309**

Attendees: Jeff Hyder, Christina Amaral, Mark Denny, Lori Ginex-Orinion, Dave Grant, Shana Jenkins, Bill Wood, Rich Pagel, Blade Gillissen, Doug Bennett, Rene Kinn, Rena Quinonez, and Mary Hornbuckle

- A. Welcome & Introductions:** Jeff Hyder welcomed everyone to the meeting the week before Thanksgiving and commended the meal prepared by Chef Phi who also catered ASOCC's Friendsgiving next door and Thankfulness Thursday for the Guardian Scholars. Jeff wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- B. Approval of Minutes of September 28 Meeting:** Minutes were held off on being approved due to lack of a quorum.
- C. College Report:** Dr. Rich Pagel provided the College Report.
 - 1. Pirate Moment – Children's Book Festival:** A video was presented on the OC Children's Book Festival with the authors talking about what a wonderful experience they had and praising the OC Children's Book Festival at OCC. Jeff Hyder applauded the presence of the Board Members and Staff at the event as well as the organization and placement of the festival.
 - 2. Campus Beautification Effort – Possible Foundation Project:** Some of the older unused buildings on campus are going to be demolished, such as the Home Economics/Journalism Building and Writer's Row with the goal to be completed by the next Summer to proceed the opening of the new Chemistry Building. The plot of land has opportunity to be seeded with trees in an effort for campus beautification that Dr. Suarez is hoping that the OCC Foundation will assist with in a Fundraising effort. Jeff Hyder stated that there will be some renderings and costs to be provided in the future and that the Campus Beautification project is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen campus community.
 - 3. College Update:** Dr. Pagel announced that Michelle Grimes-Hillman who was OCC's Vice President of Instruction has taken an assignment at the State Chancellor's Office and will be moving north, so the college is looking to hire a new Vice President of Instruction. The application process will take place during the Spring with an Interim in place in January and a new VP of Instruction will be hired before next Fall semester. The campus was pink earlier in the week with a Barbie themed Interclub Council Club Rush. There was a Veteran's Day event with some of the District Board in attendance. With OCC coming up on finals, the campus will be very busy and Dr. Pagel closed by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- D. Executive Committee Report:** Jeff Hyder delivered the Executive Committee Report.
 - 1. Allocation of \$250,000 from Hilgendorf Endowment to OCC Softball Improvement Project:** The OCC Softball Field is currently being planned to be

brought up to speed with Title IX and renovations by adding a restroom facility. Renderings will be brought to the next meeting along with a greater overview of the construction project, so the Foundation Board can vote on the allocation at the next meeting.

2. Allocation of \$7,500 from General Endowment to Student Health Center:

The Executive Committee voted to allocate \$7,500 from the General Endowment to the Student Health Center following their presentation and the last Board Meeting. The Foundation is also assisting the Student Health Center in acquiring grants for further funding.

E. Orange County Children's Book Festival: Rena Quinonez and Doug Bennett spoke on the success of the Orange County Children's Book Festival.

1. Review of Income and Expenses: A Financial Statement was emailed out to the Board and given the resources and staff needed to establish the Orange County Children's Book Festival hosted by OCC, the Festival netted a loss of \$28,000 mostly due to a lack of sponsorships and the cost of \$24,000 for an advisor to attain those sponsorships. As the event was fully staffed, there were no issues that could not be covered at the festival and all vendors and authors walked away with a positive outlook of OCC's management of the event. The OC Children's Book Festival was originally hosted by the non-profit company Timeless Learning who Doug is requesting funds from that were acquired from previous Book Festival events at OCC to mediate the net loss.

2. Endorsement of Continued Support for the Festival: The buzz has already begun and more companies are looking to sponsor next year's Orange County Children's Book Festival hosted by Orange Coast College. Despite the net loss, the Foundation and patrons consider the festival a success and encourage further support of the event. The Foundation Board will vote on endorsement at a subsequent meeting.

F. Marine Programs: Doug Bennett delivered the Marine Programs Report. The sale of *Anacapa* was completed with the first payment having gone through at \$27,000 a month for the next 32 months. The search for the Director of the Waterfront Campus and is still ongoing with interviews taking place the week after Thanksgiving. Doug Bennett and Patrick Munoz will be part of the final hiring committee. In the meantime, the marine programs are running smoothly and Brad Avery is receiving several boat donations, despite turning away more than accepting. A Boat Auction is planned for the spring of next year.

G. Finance Report: Mark Denny gave the Finance Report. The good news/bad news is that the September/October results were at a loss (bad news), but at less of a loss than the Foundation Policy (good news). Closing on a positive note, since inception the finances are beating the policy net of fees at almost 6% since inception. With market reports, the Foundation should be recouping the losses from September and October. The Finance Committee had made a motion and approval to make a slight allocation to assets with a 2% reduction to hedge funds and a 2% increase to fixed income. Northern Trust provided the Finance Committee with a 10 year look ahead at the markets, our goals, and

investment policy and recommended a reduced exposure to hedge funds and increased exposure to fixed income as well as a 3% swap from equity to private equity. After an in-depth discussion over two days, the Finance Committee decided to follow the recommendations, which will take months to transition over and the Finance Committee will report back to the Board on the outcomes.

Full reports & Check Registers Available from Foundation Office upon request.

H. Planetarium Update: Dave Grant expounded upon the Planetarium Update.

- 1. Planetarium Committee Meeting:** The Planetarium operations have been running like clockwork with Planetarium shows on Saturdays from 1 – 5pm that gear towards progressively older audiences as the afternoon progresses. The Planetarium Committee is looking for more sponsors to support the shows and the endowment of the Planetarium, which is currently at \$1.5 million and Dave has the aim of getting it to \$10 million. The Skylark Lecture series has had excellent speakers and attendance during the fall. The Planetarium continues to treat elementary schools to astronomical field trips with over 15 schools visiting the Planetarium. Reduced rates are offered to underprivileged schools as well as support for transportation. Dave Grant presented the Board with info in their packets on day-to-day operations of a Planetarium by Bruce Cohen. Dave reminded the Board that the motto of the Planetarium is Imagine, Explore, Inspire.
- 2. Solar Eclipse Viewing – Saturday, October 14:** Doug Bennett announced that the Solar Eclipse Viewing on Saturday, October 14th drew over 1,000 people with telescopes in the parking lot and the telescope farm. A show on what a Solar Eclipse is presented by Rice University was run every 10 minutes for about 9 shows with the 125 seat Planetarium nearly full every show. There will be another Eclipse on April 8th and the Planetarium plans to do something similar. Dr. Rich Pagel followed up by saying that thanks to the efforts of Doug Bennett and his staff, the Planetarium Sign is now in place. Dr. Pagel showed photos of the sign.

I. Friends of the Library Report: The Friends of the Library had nothing to report.

J. ASOCC Report: Madison Harris sent an email and her apologies for being unable to attend the meeting as she studies for her finals but will keep the Board abreast of the ASOCC's activities in a future email/meeting.

K. Photography Program Update: Blade Gillissen shared a Photography Program Update about esteemed emeritus John Upton who passed away 2 years ago, about 2 years after having a show exhibited at OCC of his work, which the Photography staff compiled into a book that was presented. The Photography Department is planning an event to commemorate John Upton and establish a scholarship in his name with the goal of getting it to a 50-to-60-thousand-dollar endowment. Enrollment in Photography classes is up over 9% and Photography is in the process of receiving a large gift.

L. Executive Director's Report: Doug Bennett closed the meeting by delivering the Executive Director's Report.

1. **WaveRunner Drawing:** Raffle tickets are being sold to win a WaveRunner donated to the OCC Foundation to fundraise for a 75th Anniversary Scholarship. The drawing will be held on Giving Tuesday.
2. **Giving Tuesday – November 28:** Several departments and clubs on campus as well as donors off campus are getting ready for Giving Tuesday. The annual event generates a lot of interest with matching opportunities. The Foundation has sent out reminders via email to engage donors.
3. **Speech & Debate Eteams – November 30:** Eteams fundraising for the Speech & Debate Team launches on November 30th. Since the 1st of July, Eteams has raised over 121,000 with 13 different campaigns and 928 individual gifts averaging \$115 a gift and the largest gift being \$5,000. Rena has helped setup the video and mailing list for the Speech & Debate Eteam with the help of Kat Carroll. Doug presented the video and closed the meeting by thanking Christina Amaral who helped facilitate a donation of \$43,800 with an emeritus of OCC.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33pm

Future Meetings & Events:

- **Saturday, December 9, 7:30 pm, Moore Theatre – “El Mesias” Handel’s “Messiah” in Spanish, OCC Orchestra & Chamber Singers – Sponsored by Northgate Gonzalez Market**
- **Thursday, January 25, 5:30pm, Foundation Board Meeting, Location TBA**