

## MINUTES

### COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 4, 2014  
Douglas Campus  
6:00 p.m.

#### 1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

##### 1.01 Call to Order

Mr. DiPeso called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

##### **Board Members Present:**

Mr. David DiPeso  
Dr. John Eaton  
Mr. Dennis Nelson  
Mrs. Jane Strain

##### **Board Members Absent**

Mr. Don Hudgins

##### 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

##### 1.03 Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Rottweiler informed the Board of a placeholder on the agenda – Item 3.02. He provided the Action Item 3.02 as it relates to the placeholder, which will be addressed later in the meeting. The agenda was then adopted as published.

##### 1.04 Citizen's Interim

There were no requests to address the Board.

##### 1.05 Standing Reports

##### **1.05.1 Representative to the Arizona Association of District Governing Boards (AADGB)**

Mr. Nelson stated the AADGB still has not met; they are scheduled to meet December 5<sup>th</sup>. One of the topics expected to be discussed is actually on this meeting's agenda – Information Item 2.04, Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS). He would like to obtain feedback from the Board regarding their desire to participate in this program being sponsored by the ACCT. The institute will take place during the month of April, and the cost, for the most part, would be paid by ACCT. Mr. Nelson stated he may not be able to attend the AADGB meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>, (he will check to see if he may attend the meeting telephonically), so the alternate representative to AADGB (Mrs. Strain) may need to be available to attend.

### **1.05.2 Representative to the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)**

Mrs. Strain stated she spent six days in Chicago attending the ACCT Leadership Congress; Dr. Rottweiler, Dr. Eaton, and Mr. Nelson also attended the meetings. It is during this congress that internal governance meetings and elections take place. Also included are keynote speakers along with the normal breakout sessions. Prior to the beginning of the actual National Leadership Congress, Mrs. Strain attended the symposium on Income Inequality in Education and the Education Divide, which also included keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and panels. She shared some documents she collected at her meetings. Mrs. Strain added that, last summer, she agreed to participate on an ad hoc committee for the ACCT Mission and Vision Statement rework. That committee met in July in New York, and she presented to the Board a document representing the draft of the work they did. She anticipates this document being discussed at the February 2015 National Legislative Summit in Washington, DC.

### **1.05.3 Senate**

Wendy Davis, Vice President for Human Resources, stated the only item on the October 24<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting agenda was the college calendars, which the Board will be taking action on later this evening. The Senate took action and supported the calendars via emails.

### **1.05.4 Student Government Association (SGA)**

A Student Government Association report was not provided.

### **1.05.5 College President**

Dr. Rottweiler stated there's currently nothing happening legislatively; however, this will pick up when it's been determined who is in what position. There are some important decisions to be made, and AC4 will meet next week. Hopefully, there will be some clarity on who will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of the executive tower, as well as who will be in some key leadership roles as well as the makeup of the legislators. They have an enormous amount of work as it relates to the things happening in the k-12 lawsuit, as well as the declining projected deficit. The community colleges have done everything they were requested to do; they've turned in their FY '16 budget requests, which follow all statutory requirements. If the state were to fund to statutory requirements, we would just see a slight increase. We lose in some areas, and we gain in some areas – by and large it's a wash. Dr. Rottweiler added that, if things happen as they have in the past, he is not as confident that we will be at statutory levels, but we'll keep our fingers crossed.

Dr. Rottweiler made the Board aware that AC4 will be welcoming in their new CEO, Mr. Jack Lunsford, who has reached out to arrange visits with some of the presidents throughout November and early December. They are excited to have him come on board. He should be able to provide great leadership, and they are confident that he can fulfill everything they have been looking for.

Regarding master facilities planning, Dr. Rottweiler informed the Board that Cochise College filed a complaint in Superior Court on October 30, 2014. That complaint has been assigned to Division IV, under Judge Elledge.

We are currently working through the budgeting process for next fiscal year, and as part of that, we continue to work on master facilities planning. Dr. Rottweiler stated that a significant amount of time and energy will need to be spent on the Douglas campus, laying out a master facilities plan of not only what we currently have, but where we think we want to go, as well as doing some things in the area of landscaping – making it less labor intensive and much more water friendly. We will also do a number of things in continuing in our deferred maintenance and other requirements on the Douglas campus that is now over 50 years old.

In his general comments, Dr. Rottweiler informed the Board he has been a little busy the last couple weeks related to his serving on the Arizona State Board of Education. Yesterday, the State Board of Education approved a new assessment test for all of our k-12 students; it is referred to as AZ MERIT – Arizona’s Measurement of Educational Readiness to Inform Teaching. Some parts that Dr. Rottweiler thinks the Board may be interested in is that this falls in line with the Smarter Balance Consortium and not the PARCC Consortium, of which the State of Arizona was a member prior to pulling out. Dr. Rottweiler stated he feels good about the direction this is going; however, it will cause some turmoil in the state, and the State Board is talking about a “safe harbor” which he is supportive of, for at least the first year or so, as students take a new assessment test – scores are bound to go down based upon any type of new assessment. We’ll see where that goes.

Employee open forums were held on October 16<sup>th</sup>, on both the Sierra Vista campus and the Douglas campus, and Dr. Rottweiler stated it was probably one of the better forums held. Dr. Fick walked the employees through the upcoming Higher Learning Commission visit, which he will brief the Board on later this evening. They also talked about the things the college can do. He presented them in the sort of parameters that the college has resources to do anything it wants to do. The question is, what do we want to do? He allowed the employees to think a bit and talk about some things; some exciting discussions followed around possible things we could do. We’ll see where these play out. It worked perfect along with the Strategic Think Tank – we held our second meeting of the year on October 31<sup>st</sup>. We’re looking for programming and ideas that will truly move the needle – things we can do that will move the college and actually provide some strategies as we move forward.

Dr. Rottweiler stated it was a pleasure to attend the ACCT meetings with three Board members, adding that every time he attends, he realizes how blessed we are with a quality Board and a quality college. He appreciates the Board’s leadership and their willingness to obtain professional development and to learn the things that are required. The example they set for this Board radiates throughout our entire organization. Our employees look to that and recognize that they take their roles seriously, and it’s a good influence on our entire college.

Last week, Dr. Rottweiler had the wonderful opportunity to host a campus tour and lunch for Doris Dees, who was the assistant to eight of the eleven Cochise College presidents, and Sammy Howard-Paschal, who was the Cochise College housing director for 25 years. Ms. Paschal shared with him that she had not been back on the college campus since the day her moving van left the campus – and she has lived in Bisbee.

Dr. Rottweiler stated he was invited by Jim Phillips, Bisbee Unified School District Superintendent, to participate in what they’re calling “Connect to Achieve”. It was Dr. Rottweiler’s pleasure to attend, along with other community leaders, and to spend

time discussing ways they can partner together to improve the BUSD, to share their message, and help move them forward. They have some interesting opportunities, as well as some unique challenges; however, they are doing some amazing things. It will be a great opportunity to partner with them.

Dr. Rottweiler made the Board aware that he will attend a meeting tomorrow with Northern Arizona University's (NAU) Department of Strategic Partnerships and Businesses. They will be on our campus trying to reach out and form some strategic partnerships centered around the 90/30 bachelor's degree – 90 credits at a community college/30 credits at NAU for a bachelor's degree. He stated this is great news that they are now ready to work their way to Cochise County. We'll see what things we can arrange to benefit our students. Dr. Eaton inquired if there would be any roadblocks to that, to which Dr. Rottweiler stated that they would be meeting tomorrow. Mrs. Strain inquired if we knew what degree paths NAU will be talking about. Dr. Rottweiler stated he is not sure of the actual details. Mrs. Strain stated that Early Childhood and/or Elementary Education would be fabulous. Dr. Rottweiler stated he would convey this to NAU. Dr. Eaton said it would be interesting to know the statistics on the number of Cochise College students who go to NAU. Dr. Rottweiler stated he would put that on his agenda of items to talk about. This is the first time we have done anything with NAU.

#### **1.05.6 Monthly Financial Reports – October 2014**

The Financial Report for October 2014 was presented and accepted as submitted.

## **2. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **2.01 Communications**

- Dr. Rottweiler received a letter from Joe Farmer, Principal of Buena High School, commending the college's security detachment, and CPO Tracy Warner in particular, for the professional support provided at their Homecoming Parade held on October 24, 2014.
- Ms. Rose Berumen, Division Administrative Assistant for the Cochise College Foundation, received electronic correspondence from Mrs. Ruth Nichols Felske, thanking Ms. Berumen for her hospitality during Mr. and Mrs. Felske's visit to the Douglas campus while they were in town for the Douglas High School class reunion.

### **2.02 Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Update**

Dr. Rottweiler stated that, at the Board's request, he has placed on the agenda (and for at least for the next year), an update that will walk the Board through and prepare them for the different steps pertaining to the HLC accreditation process. Dr. Rottweiler turned the time over to Dr. Fick, Vice President for Instruction/Provost, for the presentation.

Dr. Fick greeted the Board and then directed their attention to the Master Chart of the Open Pathway Ten-Year Cycle document, a handout provided to them at the beginning of the meeting. He stated he looks at the entire accreditation process as an onion, where there is layer upon layer. This is the first layer of the process, and if the Board can tolerate it for the next year, he will try to provide them with the assessment layers one at a time. He pointed out year nine on the document, because that's the year we're in, 2014-2015. We are in the middle of the Assurance Process in preparing our assurance argument and all the documents needed to support that. As we continue forward to year ten – the year the visit occurs, there are several pieces to the overall part of the process. One of those is the

assurance review, which is submitted electronically, where the team looks at what we've written and determines if we are meeting the criteria. In the past, the team would do a lot of work, in terms of reading, ahead of time, and then have the discussion while at the location. Now, they do a lot more by telephone and other means to interact ahead of time. Another piece that also occurs in year ten is the Federal Compliance Review. Once every ten years, they are going to take a look at a number of things, such as our definition of a credit hour, or if we're meeting all of the Title IV financial aid requirements, etc. Then, they have the onsite visit, which is one day shorter than in previous years. Following is a multi-campus review, where the team splits up and visits all the college locations. They will try to accomplish all this with one team visit. This is part of the assurance process; he likes to think of this as the 'hard core/are you cutting it or not' part of the process. Year ten is the pinnacle of the process. When the team has completed the process, they will make their recommendation, and then an ultimate decision will be made as to our ongoing accreditation. Under this process, we can obtain a ten year approval, and hopefully, we will be in that ten year group.

Once the team leaves and makes their recommendation and the commission votes to approve, we then begin the cycle over again. Dr. Fick directed the Board's attention to column one on the handout, where the assurance process shows up every year, because we will need to provide them with our annual reports, and if we want to put ongoing evidence pieces into their electronic files, we can do that as well. He stated it's kind of low-key in the first couple years; in year three we will begin to be more serious about it because in year four we need to go through the assurance piece all over again. This is because the Department of Education has been putting a lot more emphasis on making sure we are 'cutting it' as an institution. Therefore, we need to do the entire assurance argument again in the fourth year of the process. There isn't a campus visit, and they don't vote to change our accreditation unless something severe shows up – it's all done electronically. However, we do have to redo our overall assurance argument, and make sure we have all the latest documents in the files, so they can do their part electronically from a distance. Once we get through year four, we continue along at the base level until we again reach year nine, when we ramp up the preparation to have the entire visit all over again.

Dr. Fick stated that this is the assurance piece of the cycle. The other part of the cycle begins about year five, where we begin to work on an improvement project. As a college, we get to choose what we'd like to work on. We would have three years to submit a proposal and have it approved, then we would have up to three years to complete the project and file a report. Dr. Fick stated that, because we were already in seven years (as we were transitioning from the old method to the new method), we didn't have to do this because they allowed us to come in as part of the pioneer cohort three and do the degree qualification profile study. That part is done, and now all we have to do is look forward to their evaluation of our assurance materials.

In the big picture, that's the process; it still has the ten-year cycle, but we don't get to relax for seven or eight years because in year four they will have us do another assurance argument and then in years five – nine, we have to do an improvement project. Information will continue to be brought to the Board in future meetings. Dr. Eaton inquired if there will be continuity in the examiners or will they change. Dr. Fick stated they will change.

Dr. Rottweiler stated there are five criteria, and we'll plan to go through those one at a time, along with the subcomponents. Dr. Rottweiler has been invited and will participate as a site evaluator in March. However, he will be participating in the old system. Colleges had to make a choice three years ago whether they wanted to go with the new system or stay with the old system. Cochise College didn't have a choice – they made the choice for us, we were on the new one. He feels confident about this process.

## **Math and Sciences Report**

Beth Krueger, Dean of Math, Science, and Health Sciences, stated she would like to showcase the research done by Science Department Chair and Biology Instructor, Edmund Priddis, along with two of his students, Blake Suarez and Oscar Diaz. (While they were setting up their presentation, Dr. Rottweiler reminded the Board of correspondence presented at the October Board meeting that was received from James A. Hewlett, Professor of Biology at Finger Lakes Community College, and Executive Director of the Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative (CCURI), acknowledging Cochise College's participation in the CCURI National Conference and Poster Session.) In conjunction with Dean Krueger, it was decided to showcase the student research and the things they are doing by presenting at this Board meeting.

Mr. Priddis provided information on undergraduate research; in the sciences this is an initiative they have to assist with student success. The classic model is when students are going into 'cookie cutter' science classes/labs, ones that are already set up, they know what they are going to do, and they know what the outcome is going to be. In the real world, that is not how it works. There has been a nationwide push for undergraduate research, but it hasn't really happened in community colleges until recently. Research has found that students who engage in undergraduate research in the first two years of college are ultimately more successful in their careers and in reaching their goals. Mr. Priddis stated that Cochise College is part of the first wave of community colleges that are trying to implement this undergraduate research into their institution. Regarding future goals, he is planning to continue the undergraduate research, trying to build the program and inviting more faculty involvement. He would also like more students to be exposed to undergraduate research, trying to work it into some of the classes, and have more students become involved.

Mr. Priddis introduced students Blake Suarez and Oscar Diaz, adding that both are amazing students, not only with their undergraduate research, but also with their involvement in numerous other activities. Mr. Suarez (who is also the president of the Student Government Association on the Sierra Vista campus), greeted the Board and presented on some of the research they are doing, as well as some of the places they have gone to present their research findings. Mr. Suarez presented a poster on their first project, "An Evaluation of Extracted Proteins from Bean Beetle". He stated that, at the beginning, it was a work in progress; they had an initial idea they wanted to bring forth and develop along the way. They went through testing many different protocols within a year, and getting to know each other. It builds up a sense of accountability, for him, that this is part of the research; in this way they can show they are actually progressing in their field, and these are steps they take every day to better themselves. They worked on this protocol for a year and a half, and initially presented it at the Phoenix Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative (CCURI), as a research finding, and then, most recently in Washington, DC. They were able to come up with data for identification of proteins, so they can begin taking the next step with fellow colleagues on the research team and professors, to actually identify the protein in the beetle, which no other research team has begun doing. This is groundbreaking as far as for the *Callosobruchus maculatus* specifically. Mr. Suarez stated he could go on and on about this. Entering college as a freshman, he had no idea what the college experience was going to be like. However, talking with students and learning about their experiences through college drove him to put forth more effort into actually doing what he can for his student body and getting other students to realize this type of research and public speaking opportunities should be taken – any time it's offered, take the opportunity! He then turned the time over to Mr. Diaz.

Mr. Diaz greeted and thanked the Board for having him and Mr. Suarez present, as it is a privilege and a pleasure. He stated he loves how different his story is from Mr. Suarez' story. Both of their stories are an equally good example of where undergraduate research has really been a springboard for them. He personally had a bit of a more rocky road; he's an older, more untraditional student, who probably represents a lot of community college students – where they are either part-time or full-time who have children, and try to make this thing work at an older age. He, at the time his biology instructor, Tasneem Ashraf, pulled him aside to encourage him to get into this research, was the typical community college student who was coming to class, doing well, and happy just to go to class. He knew he had to get home to change to go to work, he had a child to attend to, and just a lot of responsibilities outside of school. He stated he was hesitant to take on extra projects. However, it just became an addictive thing! He was exposed to extremely intelligent colleagues – everyone with whom he was involved were not only extremely intelligent and people he should be around who were successful, but he was also with people he really enjoyed being with. They were there to see him continue to succeed and to do whatever they could to help him be successful. They worked on two great projects, and had the chance to present them and go to bat for undergraduate research at the national level, with which he thinks they did a great job. They have the ability to isolate a protein that belongs to a crop pest, so they can lend a plant immunity from that particular pest through biotechnology at a community college level, which is 'exciting stuff'!

Mr. Diaz then spoke on his poster, "Wildlife Corridors on the San Pedro River", which is something relevant to our community, and obviously the life blood in this area. They have cameras placed over the San Pedro River area, thanks to Sandy Anderson, owner of the Gray Hawk Nature Center, who allows them access to the river. They have been able to take some wonderful pictures in order to track the corridors that animals are traveling through. By doing so, they can see trends and maybe conclude why these animals are taking these particular tracks, and how the city of Sierra Vista affects the corridors they are taking. All of these things are in the infancy stages, but it's really exciting. Mr. Diaz stated that, anyone who gets involved with this only becomes more involved, adding that Mr. Suarez is president of the Student Government, and he is president of Phi Theta Kappa; these are things that he didn't think about at first, and he certainly didn't dream about being as involved in everything that he is involved in now. At first he didn't think he had an extra minute to work on one project – now he has 20 projects, and doesn't know how he does it! Mr. Diaz stated he wouldn't have learned this if he hadn't been involved with such wonderful and inspiring people. He thanked the Board for giving them the opportunity to be able to do things like this, and thanked them for the opportunity to speak to them about it.

Dr. Rottweiler directed the Board's attention to the posters which were presented in both Phoenix and Washington, DC, outlining the research they are doing. It's a lot of work between both the students and the faculty, but our faculty get engaged because all of them were trained to do these types of things, and they can get really excited when they see things come alive for students. The two projects presented, while traditional-type research in its infancy, one of the long-term consequences is, if they can isolate that protein, they can save crops, and do it without having to spread herbicides and such. The other project finds critters walking down the San Pedro that we didn't know were even there. We don't know what effect that will have in future plans. They are getting lots of pictures of mountain lions walking through corridors that children and adults take.

Dr. Eaton inquired as to who chooses the projects. Mr. Priddis stated that these two projects were chosen by faculty members, but, in conjunction with the students, the direction of the projects is a collaborative effort, but driven by the students. Regarding the San Pedro project, faculty and students met this past week to make some decisions on where they will go from

here. He presented some ideas, but discovered that he hadn't even thought of some of the ideas the students came up with. Dr. Eaton stated that he attended a session while at ACCT on undergraduate research – Mr. Priddis and his students are ahead of them.

Dr. Rottweiler provided topics related to some of the projects happening at Cochise College about which he would like the Board to start thinking. When they go to ACCT, everyone showcases their 'stuff' – some of it good, some not so good. We have some real great things that would present a great opportunity, not only for them as the Board member to showcase happenings at their college, but also provide our faculty and staff the chance to travel with them and demonstrate the things taking place at the college. That's very important, rather it be undergraduate research, some of the research that Vice President Davis is doing, as well as academic research occurring at the college that people really don't think about.

Mr. Nelson inquired if the students have thought about publishing their findings. Mr. Suarez stated that the Bean Beetle research has been published on [beanbeetles.org](http://beanbeetles.org). Their main goal initially was to develop a protocol that any research facility could replicate and reproduce. Because the idea behind this was that without all the very expensive biotechnology tools you would find at university and graduate research institutions, you can perform this type of research and come up with your own experimented methodology and still be able to arrive at a result and observation that you can publish as your own work. Regarding the wildlife corridor, conservation is a major part of life in southern Arizona, and the San Pedro represents one of the most diverse places of species not only in all of Arizona, but the nation as well. By doing this research and giving a face to what species and animals, and even the panoramic picture of the area they worked in, it shows people that they should work to preserve the environment for others to enjoy. Mrs. Strain inquired if this information is provided to the different federal agencies involved, such as the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and USGS. Mr. Priddis stated that they are working on these partnerships, including BLM, and have also been in contact with the Coronado National Memorial. Some of these agencies have their own cameras in place and are doing similar work; Mr. Priddis would like to collaborate with them. He would also like to look at the effect the border fence has on wildlife movement. One of his classes in Douglas works with the Fish and Wildlife Service – they have the San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuge and they have cameras there on the border. It would be interesting to look at some of those aspects as well.

This research has been reported on by the Sierra Vista Herald. Also, while presenting in Washington, DC, both Mr. Suarez and Mr. Diaz had some very intelligent people approach them regarding some important opportunities. A gentleman named Bruce Jackson gave them the opportunity to apply for the Barry Goldwater Foundation Scholarship, which is known to be for a four-year university. Based on their research alone, Mr. Jackson was impressed enough to offer his personal guidance with the scholarships. The research is opening some serious doors for them, for which they are very appreciative.

Dr. Rottweiler stated that the fact they became involved in science allowed them to interact with faculty and provided them confidence; they've both been in the president's office, and now they've presented to the Governing Board – that's not a normal process for most students. They are starting to do things at the undergraduate level that they would have typically picked up at the graduate level; it becomes life-changing. These are part of the learning improvement processes that the Board has been talking about and trying to implement at the college. The second part is, we want to provide some things that are beneficial to our communities. We will most likely sign an agreement and request some funds from the Cochise Water Project in the coming weeks to become the operator of eight



micro-weather stations to be distributed across the greater Sierra Vista watershed. This will then allow us to track micro patterns of weather. Connected to that will be irrigation; we will have data showing how the weather effects irrigation, and will also be tied to water conservation. The college will be involved with this, and our undergraduate students will determine their own research projects based upon that data. They can then present their findings, not only to benefit their community, but for their academic careers, as well as research they may become interested in over the next twenty years. Mr. Nelson stated this could also be used as a recruiting tool.

#### **2.04 Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS)**

Mr. Nelson stated that, last Spring, ACCT put forth a proposal to the AADGB regarding a conference on establishing/proposing/promoting a Governance Institute on Student Success. There were numerous questions around the specifics of the conference. Just before their last meeting, ACCT had totally revised the proposal – they shortened the conference to a day and a half, Maricopa and Pima would basically pay the fee to ACCT, ACCT would share half the lodging costs for Board members attending, and it would be held on the Maricopa campus. The proposed dates were all day Friday, April 24, 2015, and half a day on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Individual Board members were directed to see what the feelings would be around Board attendance, as well as attendance by the presidents. Mr. Nelson stated he couldn't commit anyone, but he could venture a guess of 2 – 3 Board members; however, he couldn't speak for the president. They met while at the ACCT meeting in Chicago, and Dr. Rottweiler attended the entire meeting (Mr. Nelson requested Dr. Rottweiler speak about this as he had to leave the meeting early). Dr. Rottweiler stated that this was a symposium that has been done at other places, and there is a desire to do it state-wide. What they are looking for is that a minimum of two or three, but preferably all five Board members, along with the president, participate in a symposium, and to make commitments on what the board will do to increase student success. Concerns were shared by presidents and others related to this, but overall he feels it would be positive if the Board chooses to meet. The symposium was scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>; however, the dates may change as one of the main drivers for AADGB is their president, who is also a Governing Board member at Coconino – and that is the week of their largest fundraiser. Dr. Rottweiler stated that, if the Board deems this to be important to do, and they can get two or three members to attend, he will do his best to be there. To-date, neither Mr. Nelson nor Dr. Rottweiler have received any additional information regarding the GISS.

Mrs. Strain then provided information on how this all began. She stated this was a totally spontaneous ad hoc gathering of Arizona trustees during the ACCT Legislative Summit last February in Washington, DC. The discussion was driven by Maricopa and Pima wanting to involve themselves in GISS – it was not an ACCT initiative. As this discussion developed, it has gotten worse with the overlay of misinformation and misinterpretation, sometimes purposely and sometimes not. Her personal opinion is that she will support this and will attend, only because of Cochise College – this is what we do to continue our own self-improvement. This has nothing to do with ACCT, who's paying for it, or when the date is, or if we meet two days or two hours. Student success is THE national agenda. Cochise College is fostering student success with amazing academic and educational leadership. The trustee's job is to know student success conceptually so they can continue to have the integrity matching their mission with the goals of student success. The logistics are not as important to her as is supporting student success.

Dr. Rottweiler stated that some good things will come out of this, one of which will be a discussion around the complete re-write of Board agendas to include presentations about student success in areas such as undergraduate research. The very thing we saw today is what many people have tried to do. That said, are there other things the Board can do? If

the Board takes interest in it, direction comes to the CEO, direction then goes to the VP's and to the deans, and things begin to change. Basically, it takes a commitment. When they say they would like two or three, preferably three, but hopefully all five trustees to participate, the reasoning for that is, if the Board is unified in what they want to see happen, good things typically happen. If they are not unified, then it becomes just another conference they went to and someone came back with a good idea. Mrs. Strain stated she has a personal commitment to student success with or without attending an institute. Mr. Nelson stated one of the benefits that hasn't been mentioned is that it would be an opportunity to meet other trustees from around the state, as we all have the same problems and are dealing with the same legislature. It would be nice to touch base with people and to begin networking. A few Board members indicated they would attend; Dr. Rottweiler stated he would report back that Cochise will support the GISS at whatever level they can, and will do their very best to be there. He added it would be best if they could provide a date sooner rather than later.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **3.01 Consent Agenda \***

The following items were approved:

- 3.01.1 \* Classified; Appointment (*Sonia Leyva, Office Assistant II, Adult Education, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 3.01.2 \* Classified; Appointment (*Jennifer Wilson, Department Assistant, Willcox Center*)
- 3.01.3 \* Classified; Restructure (*Jack Petty, Data Specialist, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 3.01.4 \* Classified; Resignation (*Christopher Overlock, Position Budgeting Technician, Douglas Campus*)
- 3.01.5 \* Curriculum Changes
- 3.01.6 \* Acceptance of Minutes for October 14, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Mrs. Strain moved and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. There was no further discussion by the Board. The Board unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Jennifer Graeme, Director of Talent Management, introduced Sonia Leyva.

#### **3.02 Placeholder – Classified; Demotion**

The administration brought forward an action item requesting Board approval of the demotion of Daniel Wetstein from his current position of Maintenance/Security Technician II to Facility Services Technician III. Mr. Nelson moved and Dr. Eaton seconded a motion to approve the demotion. There was no further discussion by the Board. The Board unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **3.03 Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Cochise Technology District to Provide Additional College Level Credit Classes to an Existing IGA**

Dr. Rottweiler stated this is an IGA which, by state statute, requires Governing Board approval. The Board approved this IGA in July 2014, as our normal course of business. The JTED has been very successful, and is requesting additional programs that were not in the original agreement. He recommended the IGA for approval to include the programs set forth. Dr. Eaton moved and Mrs. Strain seconded a motion to approve the Amendment to

the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Cochise Technology District to Provide Additional College Level Credit classes to an Existing IGA. There was no further discussion by the Board. The Board unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

### **3.04 Academic Calendars**

Dr. Rottweiler stated two academic calendars are being presented – one for 2015-2016 and one for 2016-2017. The calendars outline all the holidays, campus closures, and include information pertinent to each semester; they are consistent with policy. He recommended them to the Board for approval, adding that any questions they may have should be directed to Dr. Fick or Wendy Davis, Vice President for Human Resources. Mrs. Strain moved and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to approve the academic calendars. There was no further discussion by the Board. The Board unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

## **4. COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS**

- Mr. Nelson stated he appreciated the opportunity to attend the ACCT meeting in Chicago. There were two seminars in particular that he enjoyed. One was presented by a community college located in northeastern Iowa, which basically deals with windmills. They have become a college that specializes in training technicians to tend to the windmills. They have sent their graduates all over the world and have become a leader in the field of maintenance and development for these electricity generating windmills. He added that a lot of community colleges are becoming very specialized in certain areas and becoming known for certain educational expertise. If we continue on our pattern and we are fortunate, Cochise College could become a leader in airline training, certification, and recertification. The other seminar he attended was presented by Chattanooga Community College. They revised their entire math program, where it was basically being self-taught using computers. He remarked to Dr. Rottweiler, "Isn't that a great idea?" to which Dr. Rottweiler replied, "Yes, we've been doing that for years!"

Dr. Rottweiler spoke to key things specific to programs of excellence – the work we're doing in aviation is one in which we may have an amazing chance. He shared two other programs that came out of our Strategic Think Tank (STT). One of them is around sustainability and water; we've been working on a water campus, but the STT says we need to look at doing some things around sustainability for residential and remodels. The other program ties into discussions we've been having around agriculture. We are looking into becoming one of the leaders in Chiltepin peppers; potentially growing our own peppers and seeing what we can do related to becoming the 'Salsa Institute of North America'. Dr. Rottweiler stated that this ties in with their trip to Walla Walla Community College, where they grow their own grapes and make their own wine. We're going to go for peppers and salsa! This would teach best practices in agriculture and water practices in our type of climate and environment. We could also do some manufacturing – cultivation, food science. We could create a facility that would then manufacture and make salsa. We could also do marketing, business modeling, planning, and other things around this. It would create a lot of excitement, particularly on the Douglas campus. Dr. Eaton stated, "It's a hot topic!" Dr. Rottweiler stated we need to find a center of excellence, whatever we can do to generate excitement, pull all educational programming in, and move us forward. Aviation is headed down that path, but he thinks there are some other areas that we can be exceptional in. We can do anything we want to do, it's just a matter of, 'What do we want to do?'

- Mrs. Strain shared newspaper articles; one on Dr. Spikes and one on the automotive center opening, which was an amazing event.

- Dr. Eaton stated he attended an ACCT session on undergraduate research, and was underwhelmed. Tonight's presentation by our students was much better. The other session he attended that is worth talking about was the student access and success model, which was presented by a college in Texas, where they brought the employment office onto their campus. This created a link between employers and students, and they could also adapt programs to fit local needs. Dr. Rottweiler is very pleased the Board members are willing to invest and share ideas; this will cause the college to respond and be positive. The college is proud of the leadership the Board provides. Dr. Rottweiler added that if there are topics they would like to take to ACCT and present, he will make sure to send those people. It will benefit them, as well as the Board, to showcase the college. He thinks we tend to be too humble in some of the things we do here at Cochise College.
- Mr. DiPeso stated this was a great meeting. He is overwhelmed with what this college is doing. The faculty and staff are to be commended – he has never seen a group of students and teachers interact in this way, and it's amazing to him. He is proud to be part of an organization that thinks outside the box.

## 5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. DiPeso adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Ms. Loretta Mountjoy, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

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Dr. John Eaton, Secretary of the Governing Board