

WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #512  
COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE, AND McHENRY, STATE OF ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Board Meeting of Wednesday, April 17, 2024

I CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 was called to order by Chair Kelley on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wojcik Amphitheater.

Student Trustee Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II ROLL CALL

Present: Student Trustee Kei Smith, Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Absent: None.

Also present: Theresa Abrahams, Faculty; Dr. Stephanie Adair, Faculty; Paula Akialis, Faculty; Marjorie Allen, Faculty; Joseph Angermeier, Faculty; Nikolay Arcos, Network Specialist; Lisa Ayers, Faculty; Dr. Yolonda Barnes, Dean, Business and Social Science; Mike Barzacchini, Director, Marketing Services; Getachew Begashaw, Faculty; Chris Benshoof, Faculty; Michael Bentley, Faculty; Amber Blake, Manager, Internal Communications; Lisa Blaylock, Faculty; Dr. Susanne Brock, Senior Director, Innovation and Development; Helen Burroughs, Faculty; Monica Busser, Faculty; Lisa Busto, Faculty; Tony Butler, Director of Risk Management; Orlando Cabrera, Technical Support Specialist; Dr. Carol Carlson-Nofsinger, Faculty; Dr. Scott Cashman, Senior Manager, Community, Career and Corporate Education; Jeremy Chamberlain, Faculty; Tong Cheng, Faculty; Ana Contreras, Faculty; Dr. Maria Coons, Vice President of Strategic Alliances and Innovation/Board Liaison; Dr. Kathy Coy, Director of Institutional Research; Brian Cremins, Faculty; Dr. Karen Dailey, Faculty; Megan Dillon, Faculty; Amanda Duval, Chief Human Resource Officer; Jim Edstrom, Faculty; Monica Edwards, Faculty; Dr. Sandi Ferencz, Faculty; Amaziah Finley, Faculty; Kathy Fischer, Faculty; Patricia Gandor, Faculty; John Garcia, Faculty; Dr. Mary Gawienowski, Faculty; Maggie Geppert, Faculty; Thomas Goetz, Faculty; Jim Gramlich, Faculty; Bob Grapenthien, Controller; Esmeralda Guerrero Lopez, Coordinator, Student Diversity Initiatives; Dr. Rita Gura, Interim Dean Health Careers; Kelly Hamontree, Faculty; Michael Harkins, Faculty; Erika Hartman, Administrative Coordinator; Mary Kay Harton, Dean of Students; Kim Heinz, Faculty; Dr. Kurt Hemmer, Faculty; Kathi Hock, Faculty; Katie Hollis, Faculty; Mary Hood, Faculty; Dr. Stephanie Horton, Faculty; Roger House, Faculty; Dr. Joanne Ivory, Interim Associate Provost & Dean Career and Technical Programs; Kim Jaeger, Faculty; Keith Jensen, Faculty; Kate Johnson, Faculty; Dr.

Tamara Johnson, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Jeff Julian, Chief of Staff and VP of External Affairs; Rick Kellerman, Network Specialist; Nellie Khalil, Faculty; Andy Kidwell, Faculty; Maria Knuth, Faculty; Aaron Kolb, Faculty; Christine Kuffel, Faculty; Terri Lake, Faculty; Marie Lapidus, Faculty; Jeanne Leifheit, Faculty; Dr. Luisel Lemkau, Faculty; Jeannine Lombardi, Faculty; Kevin Long, Faculty; Jonathan Loos, Faculty; Virginia McHugh-Kurtz, Faculty; Dawn McKinley, Faculty; Dr. Maggie McKinley, Faculty; Nicole Mancha, Faculty; America Masaros, Faculty; Dane Matthews, Faculty; Kirsten Matthews, Faculty; Sheila Mazzuca, Faculty; Nancy Medina, Executive Director of Facilities Management; Kristyn Meyer, Associate Executive Director - Foundation and Major Gifts; Jeremy Miller, Faculty; Dr. Pardess Mitchell, Faculty; Cara Mullen, Faculty; Ranjani Murali, Faculty; Dr. Alina Pajtek, Faculty; Stefan Pajtek, Faculty; Bob Parzy, Associate Provost Enrollment Services; Karen Patterson, Faculty; Crystal Peirce, Faculty; Paul Peterson, Faculty; Kris Piepenburg, Faculty; Kim Pohl, Director of Communications; Dr. Avis Proctor, President; Dr. Dan Ranieri, Faculty; Mian Raza, Faculty; Regina Rector, Faculty; Kathleen Reynolds, Faculty; David Richmond, Faculty; Jaime Riewerts, Dean Liberal Arts; Jace Robinson, Faculty; Charles Roderick, Faculty; Mella Rovani, Faculty; Robert Russ, Faculty; Rebecca Scott, Faculty; Nupur Sharma, Faculty; Silky Sharma, Faculty; Monica Shirley, Diverse Faculty Fellow; Dr. Michelé Smith, Vice President of Workforce Solutions; Leslye Smith, Faculty; Lisa Smith, Faculty; Bethanie Statler, Faculty; Jane Suarez del Real, Faculty; Bobby Summers, Faculty; Dominique Svarc, Faculty; Kelly Taylor, Faculty; Michele Thoele, Faculty; Elayne Thompson, Faculty; Dr. Alicia Tomasian, Faculty; Darice Trout, Senior Director, Workforce Solutions and Job Placement; Joseph Wachter, Faculty; Dr. Mark Wahlers, Interim Associate Provost, Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Jessica Walsh, Faculty; Bryan Wawzenek, Manager, Communications; Dr. Cammy Wayne, Faculty; Traci Wessel, Faculty; Dr. Stephanie Whalen, Faculty; Dr. Ruth Williams, Provost; Joyce Wisniewski, Faculty; Riaz Yusuff, Chief Information Officer; Heather Zoldak, Chief Advancement Officer.

Guests: Emily Bothfeld, Robbins Schwartz; Scott Charmelo, Citizen; Lorah De Jesus, Student; Puamuh Ghogomu, Citizen; Barbara Howard, Citizen; Don Leifheit, Citizen; James Meyer, Citizen; Pat Noonan, Citizen; Matt Oclon, Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council; Jeffrey Smith, Citizen; Ricky Song, Student; Ralph Spindler, Citizen.

### III AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Dowell moved, Member Mundt seconded, approval of the agenda.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Kei Smith advisory vote: aye.

#### IV STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

##### Swearing in of the New Student Trustee

Student Trustee Smith reflected on her time in this role and the entirety of her three-year journey at Harper College and the invaluable lessons acquired along the way. The collegiate experience at Harper has been a gateway to countless opportunities that Student Trustee Smith never imagined existed. From founding the Asian Student Association to advocating for the rights of LGBTQ+ students and working on sustainability initiatives, each achievement represents a goal that once seemed beyond reach during high school. Engaging both within and beyond the classroom, Student Trustee Smith has had the privilege to delve into subjects and projects such as conducting interviews with climate management researchers in Kenya and Costa Rica and establishing community gardens on campus. None of this would have been possible without the unwavering dedication of the faculty and staff who tirelessly cultivate these remarkable programs.

Prior to assuming this role, Student Trustee Smith did not realize the magnitude of effort required to cultivate not just a functional, but a thriving college community. Through experiences like representing Harper in Washington, DC, networking with fellow student trustees, and advocating for the diverse needs of the student body, she has gained a profound appreciation for the collaborative endeavors behind the scenes. Yet, amidst the myriad highlights of this position, what resonates most deeply are the connections forged and the impact, no matter how seemingly small, that she has been privileged to make.

Transitioning to a reflection on her interactions with Harper's leadership, Student Trustee Smith has come to understand the extensive behind-the-scenes efforts essential for the college's operation. Getting to know the Board of Trustees, Dr. Proctor, and the Executive Cabinet has provided invaluable insights into the collective vision driving Harper's advancement and she expressed her gratitude for their warm reception and guidance, especially for the mentorship of Dr. Maria Coons and Meg Coney.

Harper College has fundamentally altered the trajectory of Student Trustee Smith's life. Without this community, she may not have pursued higher education. Thanks to Harper, she is completing her associate degree while preparing to transfer to DePaul University this fall. She offered her heartfelt thanks to all for all the incredible work that they do.

V PRESENTATION  
Academic Programming

Dr. Proctor asked Provost Dr. Ruth Williams, Interim Associate Provost and Dean of Career and Technical Programs Dr. Joanne Ivory, and Dean of Business and Social Science Dr. Yolonda Barnes, to provide an overview of how Harper identifies new career programs using labor market analytics, what the makings of high-quality programs are, how program curriculum is kept current and how faculty stay relevant in their fields.

Drs. Williams, Ivory and Barnes presented on the college's academic programming. This effort aligns with the college's strategic goal of implementing innovative and inclusive teaching and learning, as well as its commitment to providing quality education, and fostering economic mobility for students.

The presentation outlines three main areas of academic programming: general education and transfer programs, career and technical programs, and adult education and continuing professional education. Faculty expertise plays a crucial role in shaping the curriculum, supported by data analysis, engagement with advisory committees, and partnerships with industry stakeholders. The college utilizes tools such as the Modern Campus platform to provide students with information on program offerings, labor market demand, and salary expectations.

Dr. Ivory emphasized the importance of data-driven decision-making and faculty engagement in program development and updates. Faculty members, often with industry experience, collaborate with industry partners to ensure program relevance and effectiveness. Financial considerations and program analysis also inform decision-making to maintain high-quality offerings.

Dr. Barnes highlighted the significance of faculty professional development in maintaining program quality and relevance. The college invests in resources such as the Academy for Teaching and Excellence and provides professional development funds to support faculty growth. Additionally, program viability assessments are conducted to evaluate factors such as enrollment trends, student outcomes, and alignment with institutional goals.

Decisions to discontinue programs are made through Shared Governance and involve careful consideration of various factors, including student needs, market demand, and budgetary constraints. Communication plans and teach-out strategies are implemented to ensure a smooth transition for affected students. In closing, the collaborative nature of decision-making in academic program management was emphasized.

Trustees thanked them for the incredibly insightful presentation of the innovative, creative, and collaborative ways that Harper develops the career path.

#### VI FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Faculty Senate President Richmond began by extending a warm welcome to the new student trustee on behalf of the faculty, expressing gratitude for his commitment to Harper College. He acknowledged Ms. Kris Howard's significant contributions to the college's mission and community, noting her role in hiring many faculty members, including himself.

He highlighted the joyous occasion of faculty promotions, emphasizing the rigorous and collaborative nature of Harper's promotion system, which reflects the institution's core values of excellence and collaboration. He commended the Board for their recognition of faculty achievements and extends congratulations to colleagues recommended for promotion. In conclusion, he expressed anticipation and excitement for the end of the semester and upcoming graduation.

#### VII PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Proctor began by highlighting the college's involvement in Women's History Month and Disability Awareness Month, along with hosting the International Education and Social Justice Summit and the Foundation's Realizing Dreams events. Dr. Proctor expressed pride in the successful organization of the campus event for observing the total solar eclipse, which attracted approximately 3,500 people and involved distributing over 5,500 eclipse glasses. She extended special thanks to Associate Professor Raeghan Graessle and Community Relations Manager Amie Granger for their leadership in coordinating the event.

Dr. Proctor also discussed Harper College's role in Governor Pritzker's proposed \$500 million investment in quantum and its collaboration with City Colleges to prepare the future quantum workforce in the Chicago MSA. The official name is the Bloch Quantum Tech Hub. More information is available at [chicagoquantum.org/bloch](http://chicagoquantum.org/bloch). If funded, Harper will co-lead that implementation of the workforce development component. She emphasized the significance of quantum information science and technology in shaping the future of work and enhancing national security and global competitiveness.

The report continued with highlights from the fourth annual Professional Development Day (PDD), which featured sessions on equitable teaching practices, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), health and wellness, and workplace best practices. Dr. Proctor underscored the importance of fostering a supportive and collaborative environment within the Harper College community, as demonstrated by the improv

tradition of saying "I have your back" before going on stage, which was practiced backstage during PDD.

Additionally, Dr. Proctor discussed the college's updated Hate Has No Home at Harper messaging, emphasizing the commitment to standing against discriminatory behavior and promoting our core values of respect, integrity, collaboration, and excellence. She acknowledged the recent loss of two faculty members, William Tony Porter and Tim Filliman, along with former Board member Kris Howard and former Schaumburg Mayor Al Larson, expressing condolences to their families and recognizing their contributions to the Harper College legacy.

Dr. Proctor concluded her report, affirming the college's commitment to ongoing initiatives and the well-being of its community members.

### STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT

Guiding Learners to  
Intentionally Develop  
Efficacy (GLIDE) Student  
Mentoring

Dr. Proctor asked Coordinators for Student Diversity Initiatives, Monica Shirley and Esmeralda Guerrero Lopez to discuss the impact of the GLIDE mentorship program on equity gaps as it related to the persistence and completion of Black and Latine students in the program.

Ms. Shirley and Ms. Guerrero Lopez began by outlining the GLIDE mentorship program, an acronym for Guiding Learners Intentionally to Develop Efficacy. They explained that the program specifically targets incoming Black and Latine students with the goal of enhancing their academic persistence and completion rates, thereby addressing existing equity gaps within the student body.

The coordinators delved into a detailed overview of the program's objectives and structure, emphasizing its multifaceted approach to student support. They highlighted the group mentorship model, which assigns one mentor to every four mentees, ensuring personalized guidance and support. Moreover, they stress the significance of financial assistance provided through stipends, which aims to alleviate financial burdens and enable students to fully engage in the program without the added stress of financial constraints.

Throughout the presentation, Ms. Shirley and Ms. Guerrero Lopez provided comprehensive insights into various program components, such as mentorship check-ins, academic and cultural sessions, campus event participation, and faculty-student connections. They explained how these components collectively contribute to enhancing students' sense of belonging, academic readiness, and overall success at Harper College.

The coordinators offered compelling success stories and data to illustrate the program's effectiveness. They shared statistics indicating high GPA achievements among GLIDE participants, increased persistence rates, and overwhelmingly positive feedback from students regarding the program's impact on their academic and personal development.

Concluding their presentation, they expressed heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Proctor, the Board, and all staff members for their unwavering support and collaboration in advancing diversity and equity initiatives at Harper College.

In response to Trustee Stack, Ms. Shirley confirmed that it was the end of the two-year pilot for the program and Dr. Proctor noted that they are reviewing a request to continue this program amongst others.

Trustees thanked Ms. Shirley and Ms. Guerrero Lopez for an excellent presentation and acknowledged the great impact of programs that include mentor/mentee relationships.

#### VIII HARPER EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

There were no Harper employee comments.

#### IX PUBLIC COMMENTS

Palatine resident Jim Meyer stated that he wrote a letter to the Board in February regarding specific concerns and receipt of the letter was acknowledged by Dr. Proctor, but he stated that he did not receive a response to his concerns and hopes for a prompt reply. He stated that within the letter he detailed questionable expenses involving a Harper employee's conference attendance in October. Mr. Meyer stated that he attempted to corroborate his suspicions through Freedom of Information requests. Mr. Meyer further stated that he is awaiting further information regarding the conference because of concerns the employee violated policy and is seeking a resolution.

#### X CONSENT AGENDA

Member Stack moved, Member Dowell seconded, approval of the Consent Agenda.

Upon roll call for approval of the Consent Agenda, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Abstain: Member Herb Johnson

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

The Consent Agenda included:

The minutes for February 14, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting, February 21, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting; accounts payable; student disbursements; payroll for January 26, 2024, February 9, 2024, February 23, 2024 and March 8, 2024; estimated payroll for March 22, 2024 and April 5, 2024; bid awards; requests for proposals; purchase orders; personnel actions; Board travel; approval of travel expense exceptions; resolution for former trustee and Board Chair Kris Howard, resolution for Student Trustee Kei Smith, proposed academic calendar for FY2026-2027, non-tenured faculty leave of absence, monthly financial statements; Board committee and liaison reports; grants and gifts status report; review of consortiums, cooperatives and State of Illinois contracts purchasing status report, March consent agenda Items previously approved; as outlined in Exhibits X-A.1 through X-B.5.

Minutes February 14, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting, February 21, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting.

Fund Expenditures	Accounts Payable	\$10,754,084.64
	Student Disbursements	\$4,698,165.57

The payroll of January 26, 2024, in the amount of \$3,309,901.38, February 9, 2024, in the amount of \$3,139,249.16, February 23, 2024, in the amount of \$3,311,137.11, and March 8, 2024, in the amount of \$3,232,581.74; estimated payroll of March 22, 2024, in the amount of \$3,200,000.00 and April 5, 2024, in the amount of \$3,200,000.00.

Bid Awards Ex. X-A.3.a Accept bid and award contract for the Audio-Visual Arts Lab Remodeling Project to Stuckey Construction Company Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$491,880.00 including a base bid of \$409,900.00, and a 20% construction contingency of \$81,980.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Audio-Visual Arts Lab budget.

Ex. X-A.3.b Accept bid and award contract for the Building E Restroom Remodeling Project to Stuckey Construction Company Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$475,200.00 including a base bid of \$396,000.00, and a 20% construction contingency of \$79,200.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Building E Restroom Remodeling Project budget.



- Ex. X-A.3.c Accept bid and award contract for the asbestos abatement at Building P to ECH Industries Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$28,541.00 including a base bid of \$14,650.00, 10% construction contingency of \$1,465.00, and project management and air monitoring (Hygieneering, Inc.) fee of \$12,426.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Building P Remodeling Project budget.
- Ex. X-A.3.d Accept bid and award contract for Building R Roofing Replacement Project. to Metalmaster Roofmaster Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$469,471.00 including a base bid of \$426,792.00, 10% construction contingency of \$42,679.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Building R Roofing Replacement Project budget.
- Ex. X-A.3.e Accept bid and award contract for the Building X Massage Therapy Renovation Project to Stuckey Construction Company Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$370,542.50 including a base bid of \$336,857.50, 10% construction contingency of \$33,685.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Building X Massage Therapy Renovation Project budget.
- Ex. X-A.3.f Accept bid and award contract for the Building X Office Remodeling Project to Stuckey Construction Company, Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the total amount of \$122,590.00 including a base bid of \$89,900.00, 10% construction contingency of \$8,990.00, professional services fee (Ratio Architects) of \$22,860.00, and reimbursables fee of \$840.00 as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget and contained in the Building X Office Remodeling Project budget.
- Request for Proposals Ex. X-A.4.a Approve a proposal and award a contract to BrightEdge Technologies, Inc. to provide search engine optimization (SEO) software and support to Harper College, in the amount of \$48,000.00, as funded by prior years surplus

reserves established to support the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. The term of the agreement is for one (1) year with three annual renewal options should the College receive additional funding for future years.

Purchase Orders

- Ex. X-A.5.a Approve a purchase order to Cage Civil Engineering for professional services for the 2024 Parking Lot Maintenance Project, in the amount of \$36,000.00, as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget.
- Ex. X-A.5.b Approve a purchase order to Cage Civil Engineering for professional services for the 2024 Sidewalk Maintenance Project, in the amount of \$33,000.00, as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget.
- Ex. X-A.5.c Approve a purchase order to Cage Civil Engineering for professional services for the 2024 Exterior Stair and Retaining Wall Maintenance Project, in the amount of \$34,000.00, as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget.
- Ex. X-A.5.d Approve a purchase order to NurseAchieve, Corp. for computer adaptive tests for RN students in the Nursing Program, in the amount of \$26,640.00, as provided in the IBHE Grant Fund (Restricted Purposes Fund).
- Ex. X-A.5.e Approve a purchase order to Heidelberg USA for a Polar D66 Plus Guillotine Cutter to replace the existing cutter in the Graphic Arts Design and Technology Laboratory in Building Y, in the amount of \$34,200.00, as provided in the FY24 Perkins Grant budget and the Career & Technical Programs Division Educational Fund.

Personnel Actions

Appointments

- Cervantes, Sarah, Supervisory/Management, Senior Manager - Illinois Small Business Development Center, Business Development, 3/25/2024, \$80,532.00/year
- Rocio Coonich, ProTech, Lab Assistant - DHY Clinic, Health Careers, 3/11/2024, \$56,000.00/year
- Syed Johar, ProTech, Technical Support Specialist, Client Systems, 3/25/2024, \$65,505.00/year
- Stephanie Dardon Paz, ProTech, Childcare Case Manager, Hawks Care Resource Center, 3/25/2024, \$50,898.00/year
- Sonnet Gabbard, ProTech, Coordinator for Student Diversity Initiatives, LGBTQ+, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, 3/25/2024, \$70,000.00/year

Katherine Thomson, ProTech, CPE Program Coordinator, Career & Technical Programs, 3/25/2024, \$84,480.00/year  
 Sydney Anderson, Classified Staff, Clerk/Receptionist, P/T, Academic Support Center, 3/4/2024, \$23,520.00/year  
 Kylee Higgins, Classified Staff, Library Assistant I, Library Services, 3/25/2024, \$33,560.00/year  
 Stuart Swanson, Classified Staff, Associate, Publishing and Distribution, Publishing & Distribution, 3/4/2024, \$42,081.00/year  
 Colleen Rice, Classified Staff, Assistant - Front Desk, P/T, President's Office, 3/18/2024, \$29,250.00/year  
 Jennifer Sahinoglu, Classified Staff, Clerk/Receptionist, P/T, Assessment Center, 3/19/2024, \$21,979.68/year  
 Raquel Cabrera, IEA-NEA, Custodian - 3rd Shift, Operations Services, 3/10/2024, \$37,772.80/year  
 Juan Reyes, IEA-NEA, Custodian - 3rd Shift, Operations Services, 3/10/2024, \$37,772.80/year  
 Edris Rashidi, IEA-NEA, Custodian - 3rd Shift, Operations Services, 3/24/2024, \$37,772.80/year

#### Position Changes

Kristyn Meyer, Administrator, Associate Executive Director – Foundation & Major Gifts, Advancement and Foundation, 3/11/2024, \$100,000.00/year  
 Deena Ata, ProTech, Coordinator of Advising Systems, Advising Services, 3/11/2024, \$71,620/year  
 Kaitlin Miles, Classified Staff, Program Assistant - IBT Grant, Career and Technical Programs, 3/12/2024, \$42,900/year

#### Separations

Megan Dallianis, Administrator, Interim Associate Provost – Student Success, Student Success, 3/22/2024, Resignation, 13 years 1 month  
 Katherine Coy, Administrator, Director of Institutional Research, Institutional Research, 6/30/2024, Retirement, 10 years 8 months  
 Barbara Levin, ProTech, Compliance and Project Strategist, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 6/30/2024, Retirement, 10 years 9 months  
 David Hoops, Classified Staff, Specialist - Client Services & Distribution, Publishing & Distribution Services, 3/22/2024, Resignation, 2 years  
 Chelsey Vambute, Classified Staff, Receptionist - Office Assistant, P/T, Center for New Students and Orientation, 3/27/2024, Resignation, 10 months

#### Board Travel

Approval of travel related charges for the Board of Trustees, as presented in Exhibit X-A.7.

#### Travel Expense Exceptions

There were no Travel Expense Exceptions.

Resolution for former Trustee and Board Chair Kris Howard Approval of the recommendation for the resolution honoring former Trustee Kris Howard who also served on the Board for 24 years, and twice as Board Chair, as presented in Exhibit X-A.9.

Resolution

Whereas, Kris Howard dedicated her life to volunteering and was highly respected for her leadership, intelligence, wisdom, integrity, compassion and commitment to the community prompting Harper to name the road that encircles the Palatine campus as Kris Howard Drive; and

Whereas, she led and organized the first women-in-history celebration at Harper College in 1980 which became an annual event; and

Whereas, she served as the founder and chairperson of the Friends of Harper to help promote the college and solicit ideas from the community; and

Whereas, she was first elected by the community to the Board of Trustees in 1981, where she served with honor and grace for 24 years; and

Whereas, she used her exemplary leadership skills as she served twice as Chair during her tenure on the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, during her time on the Board of Trustees Harper experienced tremendous enrollment growth and expansion including the construction of Building L, the Observatory, Performing Arts Center, Wojcik Conference Center and Avanté and the acquisition of the Learning and Career Center and Harper Professional Center; and

Whereas, under her leadership on the Board, Harper hired two presidents, and twice reaffirmed its accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission; and

Whereas, she then served on the Harper College Educational Foundation Board of Directors for six years where she assisted in raising funds that supported the college and student scholarships; and

Whereas, in 2010 she was selected as the winner of the James J. McGrath Award which acknowledges those who have unselfishly given time, effort and/or funds to uphold the excellence of the institution; Now, Therefore Be It

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Harper College honors Kris Howard for her deep commitment to the community and in her service as Board Chair, Trustee, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Educational Foundation. We honor her many contributions to Harper College and the community.

Attested the Seventeenth Day of April in the Year 2024, by William F. Kelley, Board of Trustees Chair and Dr. Avis Proctor, President.

Resolution for Student Trustee Kei Smith      Approval of the recommendation for the resolution honoring Student Trustee Kei Smith's service to the College, as presented in Exhibit X-A.10.

Resolution

Whereas, Kei Smith was elected by her peers to serve as the student representative on the Harper College Board of Trustees for the 2023-2024 academic year, where she always put the student perspective first and brought a sense of purpose and responsibility to her service through hard work and dedication; and

Whereas, as Student Trustee, she advocated for Harper students, eloquently communicated student concerns and suggestions, kept the Board informed about issues that affect students, and participated in a variety of student advocacy initiatives; and

Whereas, she actively committed to opening lines of communication among students, student leaders, student employees, and with faculty and staff through collaborative ideas and events; and

Whereas, she represented Harper College while attending the annual Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress in Las Vegas, where she met with other student trustees as well as the ACCT National Legislative Summit, in Washington D.C., where she met with congressional leaders and admirably represented the value of a community college education; and

Whereas, as a student aide for the Academic Support Center she furthered her commitment to assisting students and their academic success; and

Whereas, she was an active proponent in supporting PRIDE and other student groups in their missions of acknowledging the importance of listening and responding to all student voices; and

Whereas, as a member of the Environmental Club, she advocated for a stronger focus on sustainability at Harper as well as environmental issues that impact our local and global communities to ensure a strong and healthy environment for all;

Now, Therefore Be It

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Harper College honors Kei Smith in her service as Student Trustee. We thank her for her contributions to Harper College and its community.

Attested the Seventeenth Day of April in the Year 2024, by William F. Kelley, Board of Trustees Chair and Dr. Avis Proctor, President.

Proposed Academic Calendar for FY2026-2027      Approval of the recommendation for the proposed academic calendar for the 2026-2027 academic year, as presented in Exhibit X-A.11.

Non-Tenured Faculty Leave of Absence      Approval of the recommendation for employee #20175 to take a short parental leave in the fall, from August 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024,

per Article IV. Leaves. E. Parental Leaves 6 of the 2017-2022 Agreement with Extension Between Board of Trustees of Community College District 512, County of Cook and State of Illinois and William Rainey Harper College Faculty Senate, A Chapter of The Cook County College Teachers Union Local 1600, AFT, AFL-CIO, as presented in Exhibit X-A.12.

Monthly Financial Statements

Review of monthly financial statement as outlined in Exhibit X-B.1.

Board Committee and Liaison Reports

Alumni Liaison Report:

Member Stack reported that in March, Harper Alumni Relations, in collaboration with Student Engagement and the Job Placement Resource Center, organized the second annual Career Connections with Harper Alumni. This event featured alumni panelists who shared valuable insights on leadership, transitioning from college to career, and job readiness. The Professional Leadership Dinner, held at Chicago Prime Italian, facilitated interactions between alumni professionals and Harper students, focusing on professionalism, etiquette, and networking. A total of 75 students participated in these events over two days, with 30 alumni volunteering their time.

The HOPE Giving Circle at Harper College hosted its annual Women at the Table panel discussion event on April 5, attracting over 50 women to explore themes of women's leadership. HOPE also announced plans to award five \$10,000 scholarships for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Harper College Alumni Relations organized the third annual Alumni and Friends Social at TopGolf Schaumburg on March 20th, where 35 alumni gathered to reconnect and enjoy golf and appetizers.

Lastly, the Harper Talks Alumni Podcast highlighted the journeys of Dr. Ruth Morales and Luigi De Matteo in its March and April episodes. Dr. Morales shared her path from a single anatomy class at Harper College to graduating with honors from Northwestern University's physical therapy program, while Luigi De Matteo recounted his immigration journey and rise to District Manager at Jewel Osco. With 36 episodes to date, the podcast continues to showcase the success stories of Harper College alumni, accessible through [harpercollege.edu/alumni](http://harpercollege.edu/alumni) or on podcast streaming platforms.

Foundation Liaison Report:

Member Hill shared that as of March 31, the Inspire campaign has successfully secured \$32,745,866 in donations and has established 72 new scholarships. With the campaign concluding on June 30, 2024, it has achieved 109% of its goal.

The 10th Annual Realizing Dreams event took place over the weekend, where nearly 200 scholarship recipients and donors gathered to share their experiences and insights. Donors took the opportunity to express their connection to Harper and their reasons for supporting students, while students shared their educational aspirations and how the scholarships contributed to their dreams.

During the March 5 Foundation Board meeting, the Foundation Board appointed Marcela Melendez, Chief Lending Officer at Lease Financial Group for First Bank Chicago, as a new member to the Board of Directors.

The James J. McGrath Award, established in 1986 by former Harper College President James McGrath, honors individuals who have generously contributed time, effort, and funds to uphold the institution's excellence. With 40 recipients since its inception, Trustee Greg Dowell was named the 2024 awardee. He will be recognized at the May 7 convocation ceremony.

ICCTA/ACCT Liaison Report:

Member Kelley reported that he is scheduled to attend Lobby Day on May 1 and May 2. Additionally, he provided a report to the Board regarding an AI seminar and the Future of Higher Education, which was exceptionally informative and well-received.

Grants and Gifts Status Report

Current status of operational public and private grants to the College, and status of cash donations and in-kind gifts to the Educational Foundation, as outlined in Exhibit X-B.3.

Review of Consortiums, Cooperatives and State of Illinois Contracts Purchasing Status Report

Review of the monthly Consortium, Cooperative and State of Illinois Contract Purchasing Status Report, as outlined in Exhibit X-B.4.

March Consent Agenda Items Previously Approved

Ex. X-B.5.a March Personnel:

Appointments

Martins Nwoseh, ProTech, Network Specialist, Infrastructure Services, 2/13/2024, \$110,000.00/year  
 Orlando Cabrera, Classified Staff, Information Receptionist, P/T, Advising Services, 2/26/2024, \$18,820.00/year  
 Dennis Bonilla Palacios, IEA-NEA, Custodian, Operations Services, 2/4/2024, \$37,772.80/year

Position Changes

Aline Leipprandt, ProTech, Senior Admissions Specialist, Admissions Outreach, 2/26/2024, \$56,857.00/year  
 Cristian Pennington, Classified Staff, Executive Assistant, Information Technology, 2/26/2024, \$59,377.50/year  
 Teagen Reid, Classified Staff, Office Coordinator and HR Generalist, Human Resources, 2/26/2024, \$46,624.50/year  
 Adam Stevens, Classified Staff, Administrative Assistant, Liberal Arts, 2/26/2024, \$49,159.50/year

#### Separations

Barbara Levin, ProTech, Compliance and Project Strategist, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 6/30/2024, Retirement, 10 years 9 months  
 TsuiYun McCoy, ProTech, Specialist - Purchasing, Purchasing, 2/16/2024, Resignation, 1 year 3 months  
 Jeanette Boysen, Classified Staff, Administrative Assistant, Workforce Solutions, 2/2/2024, Resignation, 3 years 1 month  
 Faith Herrera, Classified Staff, One-Stop Phone Representative, One-Stop Center, 1/5/2024, Resignation, 1 year 1 month  
 Donna Racher-Cazares, Classified Staff, Production Graphics Associate, P/T, Marketing Services, 1/2/2024, Resignation, 1 year 4 months  
 E21955, Classified Staff, Specialist - Financial Aid, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 2/21/2024, Separation, 1 year 8 months  
 Daniel Vargas, ICOPS, Police Officer, Harper College Police Department, 2/1/2024, Resignation, 4 years 5 months  
 Juvenal Aguinaga, IEA-NEA, Maintenance Mechanic, Buildings and Grounds, 2/9/2024, Retirement, 19 years 6 months  
 Dmitry Bruhn, IEA-NEA, Custodian, Operations Services, 2/14/2024, Resignation, 6 years 7 months

Ex. X-B.5.b Approval of Contract for Temporary Emergency Boiler Rental Extension:

Approve a purchase order to extend the contract for two months to Sendra Service Corporation for the temporary emergency boiler rental and approve a change order for service calls, in the amount of \$65,390.00, as provided in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund budget.

#### XI NEW BUSINESS

Exhibit XI-A: Awarding of Faculty Promotions for 2024-2025 Academic Year

Dr. Proctor noted that faculty promotions were assessed based on various dimensions including professional, institutional, and community service, as well as professional development, with evaluations conducted by the dean and provost.



Dr. Williams highlighted the rigorous commitment of the promoted faculty to the institution, community, and students, emphasizing their dedication to the mission and values of the institution. Particularly notable was the focus on centering students and the commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion evident in their applications.

Upon approval of the Board, the following promotions will be granted for the 2024-25 academic year:

Early Promotion to Assistant Professor

Ana Contreras Charmelo, English  
William Lucio, Speech  
Ranjani Murali, English  
Bethanie-Michelle Statler, Biology  
Michele Thoele, Math

Early Promotion to Associate Professor

Paula Akialis, Health Information Technology  
Michael Bentley, Humanities  
Aaron Kolb, Manufacturing  
Margritte Rovani, Biology  
Silky Sharma, Dental Hygiene  
Lisa Smith, Supply Chain Management  
Christine Wayne, Accounting

Promotion to Professor

Karen Dailey, Chemistry  
Jeanne Leifheit, Nursing  
Mukila Maitha, Geography  
Kris Piepenburg, English  
Kathleen Reynolds, English as a Second Language/Linguistics  
Charles Roderick, Art  
Nupur Sharma, Fashion Design

Member Robb moved, Member Johnson seconded, to approve the recommendation being made by the Promotions Committee and the College President to award promotions to faculty members who have met the performance criteria of excellence in teaching, service, and professional development expected for early promotion to assistant or associate professor or for promotion to full professor, as outlined in Exhibit XI-A.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Exhibit XI-B: Hiring of the Dean of Health Careers      Member Hill moved, Member Dowell seconded, to approve the recommendation to hire Dr. Derek Leiter as Dean of Health Careers with a start date of May 28, 2024, as outlined in Exhibit XI-B.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Exhibit XI-C: Approval of Certificate of Hospitality and Tourism      Member Dowell moved, Member Stack seconded, to approve the recommendation for the new Hospitality and Tourism Certificate Program, to be effective beginning with the fall 2024 semester, as outlined in Exhibit XI-C.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Exhibit XI-D: Approval of Certificate Psychiatric Technician      Member Robb moved, Member Dowell seconded, to approve the recommendation for the new Psychiatric Technician Certificate Program, to be effective beginning with the fall 2024 semester as outlined in Exhibit XI-D.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Exhibit XI-E: Board of Trustees Meeting Dates for FY2024-2025      Member Johnson moved, Member Hill seconded, to approve the recommendation for the Board meeting schedule, which is decided annually for the coming year, as outlined in Exhibit XI-E.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512, Counties of Cook, Kane, Lake and McHenry, State of Illinois, the Regular Meetings of said Board of Trustees will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Wojcik Conference Center Amphitheater, Room W-120, 1200 West Algonquin Road, Palatine, Illinois, as noted below.

The Committee of the Whole meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. the Wojcik Conference Center Amphitheater, Room W-120, 1200 West Algonquin Road, Palatine, Illinois, as noted below.

Following are the Regular Board meeting and Committee of the Whole dates for 2024-2025:

Wednesday July 10 or 17, 2024 Board Workshop  
 Wednesday August 14, 2024 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday August 21, 2024 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday September 11, 2024 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday September 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday October 9, 2024 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday October 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday November 6, 2024\* Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday November 13, 2024\* Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday December 11, 2024 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday December 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday January 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole  
 & Financial Workshop  
 Wednesday January 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday February 19, 2025\* Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday February 26, 2025\* Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday March 12 or 19, 2025 Board Workshop  
 Wednesday April 23, 2025\* Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday April 30, 2025\* Board Meeting/Organizational  
 Wednesday May 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday May 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting  
 Wednesday June 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole  
 Wednesday June 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

\*November changed due to Harper winter break & Board schedule  
 February changed due to Lincoln's Birthday holiday-campus closed  
 April changed due to April 1 Consolidated Election

Attested the Seventeenth Day of April in the Year 2024, by Nancy Robb, Board of Trustees Secretary.

XII ANNOUNCEMENTS  
BY CHAIR

Communications

There were no communications.

Calendar

Calendar dates are printed on the Agenda for Board information. The next Committee of the Whole Meeting will be Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Wojcik Amphitheater. The next Board of Trustees

Meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wojcik Amphitheater.

XIII OTHER BUSINESS

Member Robb motioned, Member Dowell seconded, to enter closed session per 2C1 of the Open Meetings Act under 2C2 at 7:17 p.m.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

Member Dowell motioned, Member Robb seconded, to adjourn the closed session and re-enter the regular Board meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Herb Johnson, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Liman Lei advisory vote: aye.

XIV ADJOURNMENT

Member Robb moved, Member Dowell seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

In a voice vote, motion carried at 8:19 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary