

**BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RETREAT**

September 24, 1999  
3:00 P.M.

Barbados Rm., Holiday Inn Oceanfront  
Melbourne Beach

**PRESENT:** Eugene C. Johnson, Chairman; Betts O. Silvernail, Vice Chairman; James W. Handley; Miriam E. Martinez; Dr. Alexandra M. Penn Williams; Thomas E. Gamble, Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Johnson, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

**2. WELCOMING REMARKS:**

a. Dr. Thomas E. Gamble, District President

(1) Welcome

Dr. Gamble welcomed the students to the Board of Trustees/Student Government Workshop. Dr. Gamble reported this meeting would provide open dialogue between the Student Government officers, the administration and members of the Board of Trustees of the college. The college is responsive to students and their needs, while meeting the State of Florida requirements. Dr. Gamble reported the first part of the meeting will provide information on the organization and role of the college. Dinner will provide an opportunity for socializing and getting a sense of the people at the college. On Saturday morning the students and administration of the college will pursue goals in their own areas and the Board of Trustees will meet in a workshop session.

(1) Role of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Gamble reported the Board of Trustees are appointed by the Governor for a four-year term for a total of five trustees at Brevard Community College. Some colleges have six, seven and even nine trustees depending on the size of the college. The members of the Board of Trustees are community leaders. Dr. Gamble introduced the Board of Trustee members and provided a brief description of their background. The Board of Trustee meetings are rotated among the four campuses. The primary role of the Board is to set policy in broad statements which deal with how to carry out the business of the college. The budget of the college is approved by the Board of Trustees. Dr. Gamble reported on the current strategic planning efforts of the college.

Board of Trustees Retreat  
September 24, 1999  
Page -2-

(1) President's District Cabinet

Dr. Gamble reported the District Cabinet meets weekly and rotates its meetings among the campuses as well. The District Cabinet is the college leadership team and shares leadership and management skills. Dr. Gamble reported the cabinet consists of Ms. Judy Bilsky, Associate Vice President of Educational Services, Mr. Al Little, Vice President of Business/Financial Affairs; Mr. Robert Lawton, Vice President of Human Resources; Ms. Ingrid Bradley, Associate Vice President of Community Relations and Marketing; Mr. Walter Gilfilen, Associate Vice President of Development and Grants; and the Campus Presidents. The Campus Presidents are responsible for their respective campuses and also have certain other collegewide responsibilities. Dr. Gamble reported as District President, he is responsible for everything including keeping the faculty, staff

and administration moving toward specific goals to ensure the college stays up with the state requirements, attending required meetings and keeping abreast of regulations, etc. regarding the budget. Dr. Gamble reported there is a continuous effort for quality improvement and to maintain an outstanding institution through the continual efforts to improve, develop and change.

Dr. Gamble reported the Campus Deans focus on campus issues and serve as the second person in charge on each campus.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

a. Introduction of Attendees

Ms. Bilsky asked those attending the workshop to introduce themselves and state their campus or area of service (list attached).

b. The Student Government Association at BCC - Mr. Aldridge

Mr. Aldridge reported on the history of the Student Government Association (SGA) at Brevard Community College. He discussed student activities and the involvement of SGA at BCC. Mr. Aldridge reported on the Florida Junior College Student Government Association which is a state association of all student government associations in the state. He reported the SGA charge is the commitment to do the best work to help move the institution forward in a positive fashion. There are over 15,000 students at BCC.

c. Questions and Answers

The representatives of the Student Government Association discussed activities that their respective campus SGA's will sponsor during the year. A question/answer session was held at this time. Listed below are comments/concerns expressed by the students.

- (1) Lack of spectators/support at basketball games.
- (2) Need for tutors.
- (3) Students need a dedicated place to study without distractions.
- (4) Need for a covered area for students adjacent to the Cocoa Bookstore where they can meet between classes.
- (5) Newsletter or way to communicate information to students, i.e., cafeteria availability, etc.
- (6) High cost of textbooks. Discussed ways to decrease cost to students, i.e., selling books to other students, setting up common website, etc.
- (7) Concern regarding financial aid check going directly to the bookstore so that the students cannot take advantage of purchasing books from other students, or buying the books from a less expensive vendor.
- (8) Lack of good marketing for BCC.
- (9) Concern about the lack of positive marketing for the community college by high school counselors.
- (10) Concern with financial assistance being provided for only 60 credit hours at the community college and if they still require certain courses from the community college they are unable to get financial aid.
- (11) Concern due to the lack of child care services for evening classes.
- (12) Suggestion to obtain a discount card for students for utilizing area businesses, i.e., art exhibits, etc. The possibility was discussed of using the BCC student I.D. to receive these discounts.
- (13) Photo ID for students.
- (14) Concern expressed regarding evaluations of instructors and if they were negative that an instructor may take retribution later if the student had to take another class from the instructor.
- (15) Concern about lack of visibility of security on the Cocoa Campus at night. Never sees security after classes. Has to walk behind the math/science building and it is dark behind the building.
- (16) Suggestion of emergency phones being placed in visible areas.

- (17) Felt bookstore on the Cocoa Campus needs some picnic tables as students congregate in that area and there is no place for them to sit except on the concrete wall.

Board of Trustees Retreat  
September 24, 1999  
Page -4-

- (14) Concern that evening students have nowhere to go on campus for food.  
(15) Concern over the lack of availability of computer labs (Melbourne).  
(16) Suggestion that a covered walk be placed on the Melbourne Campus from the Science Building to the gym.  
(17) Promotion of faculty/student involvement.  
(18) Suggestion to have a "Spirit Award" for deserving individual to promote involvement.  
(19) Suggestion to bring a college committee into the school system to promote BCC.  
(20) Suggestion to invite some of the local political leaders to attend meetings with students to hear concerns.  
(21) There are plenty of tutors for math and foreign language, but there is a need for higher level science, i.e., Physics and Chemistry tutors at the Melbourne Campus.  
(22) Concern that facts are not being presented at the high school, i.e., statistics of BCC students and their success rate entering junior year at universities compared to students who began their first year at the university and the success level for their third year.  
(23) Suggestion to change the color of the Melbourne Campus. Do not like the stark gray color of the buildings. Also suggested having students from the art department paint murals on the walls to display art.  
(24) Suggestion that "suggestion boxes" be placed at campuses in front of the libraries and that small cards be available to write suggestions on and place in the boxes.  
(25) Concern that not more literature classes are offered.

Administrators, staff and Board members addressed the students' concerns and provided suggestions, as well as explained future plans for improvement in certain areas.

### 3. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. for dinner.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman, District Board of Trustees**

**ATTESTED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary, District Board of Trustees**