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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

February 21, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on February 21, 2019, at 5:33 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board Members present were Ms. Adela Garza, Chair, Mr. Trey Mendez; Vice Chair, Mr. Ruben Herrera, Secretary, Ms. Eva Alejandro, Mr. Art Rendon, and Mr. J.J. De Leon, Jr. Absent was Dr. Antonio Zavaleta. Also present was Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Adela Garza at 5:33 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Art Rendon led the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment.

There were no speakers.

4. Consideration and possible action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 31, 2019

**Consideration and possible action on the
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 31, 2019**

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 31, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried with six votes in favor and one absent.

5. **President's Report**

Chair Garza called on President Rodriguez to give his report. Dr. Rodriguez reported on the following items.

- **Spring 2019 Enrollment**

The college's total enrollment for the spring 2019 semester is 7,550 students. This represents an approximate 12.4% increase over last year's spring enrollment. Furthermore, on-campus enrollment is 3,447 students, a 1.6% increase over the spring 2018 on-campus enrollment. Dual and Early College High School enrollment is 4,103 students, a 22.37% increase over the spring 2018 enrollment.

The spring 2019 enrollment sets the record as the highest enrollment for Texas Southmost College since we reopened in the fall of 2013.

Dr. Rodriguez thanked the Board of Trustees for their leadership and everyone from the campus community and community partners for their efforts and support in growing the college.

- **SACSCOC Reaffirmation Update**

The SACSCOC Compliance Certification document is in the mail and on its way to the Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee members. The Off-Site Committee must receive this Compliance Certification by March 1st. The President thanked all who were involved in putting together the report. Special recognition was given to Mr. Oscar Hernandez, Executive Director of Institutional Research and Compliance and SACSCOC Accreditation Liaison, and to Dr. Angelica Fuentes, Associate Vice President for Instruction – Academic Success, for their support in this endeavor.

- **Upcoming Events**

A list of upcoming meetings and events was provided to the Trustees. President Rodriguez made special note of the TSC Amigofest, which is scheduled to take place on February 28, 2019, at 11 a.m., at the TSC Performing Arts Center.

- **Video Presentation**

The President concluded his report by sharing the month's video presentation, which highlighted several events and activities that occurred since the last Board Meeting. He thanked everyone for their hard work and commitment during the start of the spring semester.

6. **Executive Session**

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:45 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:56 p.m.

7. Action on Executive Matters**a. Consultation with Attorney on Pending or Contemplated Litigation,
Section 551.071, Texas Government Code**

No action was taken in open session.

**b. Consultation with Attorney on Pending Real Estate Issues,
Section 551.072, Texas Government Code**

No action was taken in open session.

**c. Deliberation on Personnel Matters,
Section 551.074, Texas Government Code**

No action was taken in open session.

8. Report on marketing efforts for new student recruitment

Chair Garza called on Dr. Rodriguez to introduce the item. Dr. Rodriguez remarked that since his arrival at TSC approximately a year and a half ago, he has been working very diligently with the faculty, staff and administration to create a welcoming environment that provides a sense of belonging for our students and community. He added that the marketing and recruitment efforts are focused on creating awareness about the college and the multiple educational opportunities available to them in their own backyard, here, at Texas Southmost College.

President Rodriguez introduced Dr. Larry Rideaux, Vice President of Student Services, Ms. Melinda Rodriguez, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Community Relations, and Dr. Joanna Kile, Vice President of Instruction, to make a presentation on the efforts each of their areas are undergoing for the purposes of marketing and recruitment at the college.

This item was for information purposes only. No action was taken.

9. Academic Committee Report

Chair Garza called on Ms. Eva Alejandro to make the report. Ms. Alejandro stated that the committee met Thursday, February 14th and discussed several items. Dr. Zavaleta, who serves as the Chair of the Academic Committee, was unable to attend.

**a. Consideration and possible action on
approval of a Clinical Affiliation Agreement with
Valley Doctors Clinic in Brownsville for
the EMS, LVN, and ADN programs**

**c. Consideration and possible action on
approval of a new Associate of Applied Science in Industrial
Mechanics and Maintenance Technology (AAS.IMMT) degree**

Ms. Alejandro called on Dr. Joanna Kile, Vice President of Instruction, and Dr. Murad Abusalim, Dean of STEM/CTE, to present the item. Dr. Abusalim gave an overview of the data collected for the development of the proposal for a new Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance degree at TSC. The information included the proposed curriculum, statistics for job availability, and the resources needed to implement the proposed degree.

Mr. Herrera raised a question about the requirement of a speech and composition courses due to the nature of this technical degree. Dr. Abusalim explained that this type of course is required by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to assist the students in the development of soft skills, such as interpersonal communication.

Dr. Kile explained that the proposed curriculum has been approved by the college's curriculum and instruction committee and the program's advisory committee. If approved by the Board, the proposal would next go to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and finally to SACSCOC for approval. The earliest anticipated date that the program would be offered is the spring of 2020.

Mr. Rendon asked how many students were expected in the first cohort. Dr. Abusalim responded that they are planning to start with a cohort of 15 students, conservatively speaking, but if more students register, the department is prepared to accommodate them.

