



MIRACOSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WORKSHOP MINUTES One Barnard Drive, Oceanside, CA

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING / WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 23, 2023
(Approved March 16, 2023)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of the MiraCosta Community College District met in a regular meeting/workshop on Thursday, February 23, 2023, in Conference Room 1054 on the Oceanside Campus. President Merchat called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE / ROLL CALL

Board members present:

Rick Cassar	Frank Merchat
Raye Clendening	Anna Pedroza
William Fischer	Jacqueline Simon
George McNeil	

Administrators present:

Superintendent/President Sunny Cooke
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Tim Flood
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Charlie Ng
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Denée Pescarmona
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Alketa Wojcik

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON AND NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

IV. CHANGES IN AGENDA ORDER

None.

V. WORKSHOP

A. BioScience Hub Update

Dean Mike Fino, Executive Director Terri Quenzer, and Director Keau Wong provided an overview of the work of the Bioscience Workforce Development Hub, with a focus on how the Hub is supporting MiraCosta students as well as students throughout California.

The statewide and regional director sector funding associated with the Strong Workforce Program ended in 2021. The CCCCCO provided seed funding for the Hub to pursue extramural funding for on-going sustainability. MiraCosta had hosted two regional directors and took opportunity to host the Hub. Five grant applications were

sent out in spring 2022, and all five were successful due to strong relationships and the incredible partnerships MiraCosta has created.

The biotechnology background and needs were reviewed, and it was noted that California is the birthplace of and has the largest biotechnology employment base in the nation. Current Bioscience programs in California include 33 active programs for certificates or AS degrees, and three that offer BS degree programs. The first apprenticeship program in Biotech is with InnovATEBIO, currently located in Austin, Texas, and they noted they would like to move their national center to MiraCosta in the future.

The road to success from high school through college were reviewed, which includes the five pillars of Guided Pathways and equity work, along with the five grants that were awarded and pending and future grants that are being considered for the program.

Initiatives and outcomes were reviewed, which include work-based learning expansion, new and innovative sector apprenticeships, faculty support and professional development, to name a few.

Mike Fino concluded with how proud he is about the progress of the program and how we are “growing our own” as graduates are coming back to help current students. He added how excited he is to hear from former students wanting to further their education to graduate degrees, and he is currently trying to establish funding for students to pursue this goal.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The board workshop adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Frank Merchat
President

Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President