BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Minutes of the Tuesday, February 4, 2025
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bergen Community College was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, in the Technology Building Conference Rooms B and C at Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, New Jersey. Chairperson Dorothy Blakeslee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following announcement was made:

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by an annual notice, including the date, time, and place of this meeting posted in the first-floor main lobby of the Pitkin Education Center of Bergen Community College, e-mailed, and published in The Record and The Herald News on December 13, 2024, and filed with the Clerk of the County of Bergen.

ROLL CALL

Present
Mrs. Dorothy Blakeslee
Mr. Louis DeLisio
Mr. Damon Englese
Mr. Patrick Fletcher
Mr. Howard Haughton
Ms. Ana Marti
Dr. Sheetal Ranjan
Mr. Adam Silverstein
Alumni Trustee Kaylie Quezada

Absent
Mrs. Ritzy Moralez-Diaz
Mr. Mark Longo

Also Present
Dr. Eric M. Friedman
Mr. John Lyons, Esq., DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole, and Giblin, L.L.P.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairwoman Blakeslee led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment
Enrollment numbers are up 7.4% in headcount and 6.6% in credits.

The New Administration
Concerns and questions regarding issues of immigration, international students, inclusivity, and federal grant funds have been raised and shared with legal counsel, the County Sheriff, the NJCCC, and others. BCC continues to seek clarity through contacts and advocates at the federal, state and county level, as well as the Association of Community Colleges, the Assocation of Community College Trustees, the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, County Government, and others.

Middle States
The Middle States Self-Study report is near completion and on schedule to send to the Evaluation Team. The College continues to host a series of breakfast-lunch-dinner meetings to provide faculty and staff with opportunities to hear an executive summary of the contents of the Self-Study and to ask questions.

Paramedic Students
Dr. Friedman congratulated the paramedic science students and faculty for earning the *National Conference on EMS "Director's Award."* He thanked Professor Joanne Piccininni and the faculty and staff.

NJ Pathways Student
Dr. Friedman congratulated recent nursing school graduate Svetlana Vergili for being hired by Hackensack Meridian Health in their leukemia and lymphoma unit.

Child Development Center
The College was awarded a grant in the amount of $185,150 from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority Child Care Facilities Improvement Program. These funds will be used to enhance the safety and security of Bergen's Child Development Center.

Cerullo Learning Assistance Center
The Cerullo Learning Assistance Center was recently renovated.

Black History Month
The Black History Month opening ceremony will take place on Thursday, February 6. Trustee Haughton will be the keynote speaker. A series of College events will take place throughout the month. President Friedman recognized Dr. Deborah Manning, Dean of Multicultural Services and Activities, for providing the keynote address at Bergen County's Black History Month celebration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT, FINANCE, AND LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Trustee Fletcher, Chairperson of the Audit, Finance, and Legal Affairs Committee, reported that the Audit and Finance Committee met on January 22, 2025, and will recommend resolutions A/F1 to A/F6.

EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
Trustee DeLisio, Chairperson of the Education and Student Affairs Committee, reported that the Education and Student Affairs Committee met on January 21, 2025, and will recommend resolutions E/SA1 to E/SA3.

PERSONNEL
Trustee DeLisio, on behalf of Trustee Moralez-Diaz, Chairwoman of the Personnel Committee, reported that the Personnel Committee met on January 23, 2025, and will recommend resolutions P1 to P13.

SITE AND FACILITIES
Trustee DeLisio, on behalf of Trustee Longo, Chairperson of the Site and Facilities Committee, informed the board members that Site and Facilities met on January 23, 2025, and will recommend resolution SF1 and SF2.

ALUMNI TRUSTEE REPORT
Trustee Quezada reported that she attended the Martin Luther King Ceremony earlier this month, as well as the Education and Student Affairs Committee meeting on January 21, 2025. Trustee Quezada commented on the Tutoring Center renovations.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT
Chairwoman Blakeslee reported that she attended the Martin Luther King Ceremony. She thanked those who took part in the renovation of the Tutoring Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/BOARD MEMBERS
Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to open the Unfinished Business portion of the meeting.

Trustee Ranjan reported that she will attend the National Legislative Summit to advocate for college resources. She updated the board on the American Association of Community College Trustees "green sheet" guidance call.

Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to close the Unfinished Business portion of the meeting.
A motion was made by Trustee DeLisio and seconded by Trustee Silverstein. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS/BOARD MEMBERS
Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to open the New Business portion of the meeting.

No board members came forward.

Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to close the New Business portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Silverstein and seconded by Trustee DeLisio. All were in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to open to the Public. A motion was made by Trustee DeLisio and seconded by Trustee Silverstein.

No members of the public came forward.

Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to close the public portion of this meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Englese and seconded by Trustee Silverstein. All were in favor.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES
Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to approve the board meeting minutes dated January 7, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee DeLisio and seconded by Trustee Marti.

Roll Call Vote for approval of the board meeting minutes dated January 7, 2025.
Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee - Yes
Mr. Louis DeLisio - Yes
Mr. Damon Englese – Yes
Mr. Patrick Fletcher - Yes
Mr. Howard Haughton - Yes
Mr. Mark Longo – Absent
Ms. Ana Marti - Yes
Ms. Ritzy Moralez-Diaz – Absent
Dr. Sheetal Ranjan – Abstain
Mr. Adam Silverstein – Abstain
Ms. Kaylie Quezada - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absences, 2 Abstentions

Motion passed for approval of the January 7, 2025 board meeting minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA
Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for Tuesday, February 4, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee Fletcher and seconded by Trustee Quezada. Motion passed for Consent Agenda.

A/F1 to A/F6
E/SA1 to E/SA3
P1 to P13
SF1 to SF2

Roll Call Vote for approval of the Consent Agenda dated February 4, 2025
Ms. Dorothy Blakeslee - Yes
Mr. Louis DeLisio – Yes
Mr. Damon Englese – Yes
Mr. Patrick Fletcher - Yes
Mr. Howard Haughton - Yes
Mr. Mark Longo – Absent
Ms. Ana Marti - Yes
Ms. Ritzy Moralez-Diaz - Absent
Dr. Sheetal Ranjan - Yes
Mr. Adam Silverstein – Abstain on SF1, yes to rest
Ms. Kaylie Quezada - Yes

9 Yes on A/F1 to A/F6
9 Yes on E/SA1 to E/SA3
9 Yes on P1 to P13
8 Yes on SF1
9 Yes on SF2

An executive meeting was not held.

Approved resolutions:

A/F1 – Approval of Legal Vouchers – DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, L.L.P.
Approval is hereby granted for payment of the following legal vouchers: DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin. LLP.

December 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024 $ 20,350.44

A/F2 - To authorize the purchase of student and faculty support resources for nursing education from Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) to increase retention and student success on the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN).
Approval is hereby granted to purchase student and faculty support services for nursing education from ATI for an amount not to exceed $155,179.56 for the Spring 2025 semester.

A/F3 - To authorize the award of Public Bid P-2396 for fire protection equipment, maintenance, and repairs to United Fire Protection Corporation.
Approval is hereby granted to award Public Bid P-2396 Fire Protection Equipment Maintenance and Repairs, to United Fire Protection Corporation for the period of February 4, 2025, through February 3, 2027, for an estimated amount of 729,617.00. One-year option to extend (February 3, 2027, through February 2, 2028).

A/F4 - Authorization to exercise the option period to extend the HVAC P-2375 on-call and preventative maintenance services contract with In-Line Air Conditioning Co., Inc. for one year.
Approval is hereby granted to exercise the option period to extend on-call HVAC and preventative maintenance services to In-Line Air Conditioning Co., Inc. for a one-year period beginning February 10, 2025, through February 9, 2026, for an estimated amount of $910,405.

A/F5 - To authorize contracting with BSM Consultants LLC for academic year 2025/2026 for an amount not to exceed $50,000 to provide STEM enrichment programs for children on campus at Bergen Community College through the Continuing Education Division.
Approval is hereby granted to contract with BSM Consultants LLC for academic year 2025/2026 for an amount not to exceed $50,000 to provide up to 20 STEM enrichment courses for children on campus at Bergen Community College through the Continuing Education Division.

A/F6 - To authorize contracting with Black Rocket Productions for academic year 2025/2026 for an amount not to exceed $160,000 to provide Digital Arts and Enrichment Programs for children on campus at Bergen Community College through the Continuing Education Division.
Approval is hereby granted to contract with Black Rocket Productions for academic year 2025/2026 for an amount not to exceed $160,000 to provide up to 40 digital arts and enrichment courses for children on campus at Bergen Community College through the Continuing Education Division.

E/SA 1 - To approve the curriculum for the Associate of Arts (AA) Degree, Early Childhood Education (AA.EARLY.CHILD)
Approval is hereby granted to the Academic Affairs Division's recommendation of approval of the curriculum for the Associates of Arts in Early Childhood Education.

E/SA 2 – To authorize payment to the Association of Colleges and University Educators (ACUE) for professional development services under a sub-award of the Title V- Developing Hispanic Institutions Grant for the period 10/01/24 - 09/31/29.

Approval is hereby granted to authorize payment of $250,000 to ACUE for professional development services as a sub awardee of the Title V-Developing Hispanic Institutions Grant during the performance period 10/01/2024- 09/31/2029.

E/SA 3 – To authorize submission of a Creative Aging Initiative (CAI) Grant application to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and to authorize Dr. Eric M. Friedman, President, or his designee, to execute the required documents.

Approval is hereby granted to authorize submission of a CAI grant application for $10,000 annual funding for each year of the two-year grant cycle. The CAI performance period runs from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (Year 1) and July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (Year 2).

P1 – To approve the specified personnel separations.

Approval is hereby granted to accept the separation of the following individuals:

	Name	Reason	Position/Department/Division/Unit	Effective Date
1.	Monica Crespo	Resignation	Assistant Professor/Student Support Services/Student Affairs/Faculty	01/03/2025 (retroactive)
2.	Richard McMillan	Retirement	Public Safety Officer/Safety and Security/Support	03/01/2025

P2- To approve the appointment of the specified Confidential personnel.

Approval is hereby granted to approve the appointment of the following individual to the vacant position and annual salary indicated below:

Name	Position/Division	Unit	Salary (pro-rated)	Effective Dates
Erin Van Nostrand	Interim Director of Athletics/ Student Affairs	Confidential	$99,500.00	12/21/2024 – 06/30/2025 (retroactive)

P3 - To approve the appointments of Academic Chairs and Academic Coordinators.

Approval is hereby granted to appoint the individual listed below to the position of Academic Chair at the stipend and release time shown for the period February 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025.

ACADEMIC CHAIR

Name	Department//Division	Annual Stipend (pro-rated)	Annual Release Time (pro-rated)
Lawrence Joel	Criminal Justice and Legal Studies/ Business and Social Sciences	$3,000.00	13 credit hours

P4 – To approve the appointment of the specified Professional personnel.

Approval is hereby granted to approve the appointment of the following individual to the vacant position and annual salary indicated below:

Name	Position/Division	Unit	Salary (pro-rated)	Effective Date
Mehta Nimtrakul	Process Automation Specialist/ Information Technology	Professional	$60,000.00	02/05/2025

P5 – To approve the appointments of the specified Support personnel.

Approval is hereby granted for the appointment of the following individuals to the vacant position and annual salary indicated below:

	Name	Position/Division	Unit	Salary (pro-rated)	Effective Date
1.	Alusine Bangura	Custodian/Facilities	Support	$33,999.00	02/17/2025
2.	Julio Carino	Custodian/Facilities	Support	$33,999.00	02/17/2025
3.	Richard Dunkley	Custodian/Facilities	Support	$33,999.00	02/17/2025
4.	Linda Naula Rodriguez	Custodian/Facilities	Support	$33,999.00	02/17/2025
5.	Raphael Reig	Custodian/Facilities	Support	$33,999.00	02/17/2025

P6 - To approve the appointments of the specified Lecturers for the Spring 2025 Semester.

Approval is hereby granted for the appointment of the following individuals as Lecturers for the Spring 2025 semester at the salary indicated:

Name	Discipline/Division	Salary (retroactive)
George Chudyk	Computer Science/Math, Science and Technology	$22,558.06
Polikseni Hysi	Dental Hygiene/Health Professions	$22,558.06
Goli Kocharian	Dental Hygiene/Health Professions	$21,484.26
Antoinette Mucha	Dental Hygiene/Health Professions	$21,484.26
Philip G. Ross III	WEX/Health Professions	$22,558.06

P7 – Reappointment Faculty – Fifth Reappointment (with tenure)

Approval is hereby granted to reappoint the following individuals for their fifth year with tenure to the indicated division and rank for the period September 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, unless otherwise noted.

Fifth Reappointment

	Name	Rank	Discipline/Division
1.	Song Chung	Associate Professor	Physical Sciences/Mathematics, Science and Technology/Academic Affairs
2.	Christina Mouser	Associate Professor	College Mathematics/Mathematics, Science

and Technology/Academic Affairs

P8 - To approve Sabbatical Leave of Absence

Approval is hereby granted for the following Sabbatical Leave of Absence with pay for the period indicated to the faculty members listed below, subject to financial allocations from the State of New Jersey and Bergen County, as indicated in the 2025-2026 proposed College budget:

Name	Rank	Discipline	Period
Marie McCrary	Associate Professor	Physical Sciences	Fall 2025-Spring 2026

Purpose

To research the effects of climate change on two river basins, as an extension of her doctoral work, and develop related activities to incorporate in her Earth Science courses and STEM student research projects.

Name	Rank	Discipline	Period
Denise Budd	Professor	Visual and Performing Arts	Fall 2025

Purpose

To complete research and writing of a book-length publication.

P/9 - To approve stipends for Nursing Clinical Faculty for the Spring 2025 semester.

Approval is hereby granted for the payment of stipends for the following individuals in the Nursing Clinical Faculty in the amounts indicated for the Spring 2025 semester.

Spring 2025

Name	Semester stipend amount
Full time	
Marites Alconis	$2,400.00
Diana Constantino	$2,400.00
Joana Constantino***	$2,400.00
Claire Cyriax	$2,400.00
Joanne Diamantidis***	$3,600.00
Sharon Mancini**	$1,200.00
Tiffany Cuello-Siegel	$1,200.00
Adjuncts	
Edward Acquah	$2,400.00
Christina Bancroft**	$1,200.00
Jessica Brown**	$1,200.00
Cyndi Chiulli	$2,400.00
Nicole Cofini	$1,200.00
Dahiana Defina	$2,400.00
Corazon Dumalagan**	$1,200.00
Ceki Fox**	$1,200.00
Natalie Hanikeh	$2,400.00
Elizabeth Plange-Kaye**	$1,200.00
Maureen Imbrogno	$2,400.00
Siew Jackson	$2,400.00
Laleh Jamshidi	$2,400.00

Rommel Jimenez	$2,400.00
Reny Joseph	$2,400.00
James Keogh	$2,400.00
Saideh Labibi	$2,400.00
Theresa LaFlam**	$1,200.00
Tenzin Lama-Tamang	$2,400.00
Michael Lang	$2,400.00
Shelley Larsen**	$1,200.00
Easter Grace Mana-ay-Rio	$1,200.00
Sherry-Ann Munroe**	$1,200.00
Lilleth Okossi	$2,400.00
Issac Oppong	$2,400.00
Mark Petesa	$2,400.00
Esteban Ramirez-Orta	$2,400.00
Josephine Rodriguez	$2,400.00
Kristi Rioux **	$1,200.00
Kristi Schmidt	$2,400.00
Mary Jo Sharples	$2,400.00
T. Dolma Siphur	$2,400.00
Robelisa Sistoso	$2,400.00
Tara Spruill	$2,400.00
Patricia Strickland	$2,400.00
Krysbelle Alconis-Vo	$2,400.00
Vesna Vidojevikj	$2,400.00
Mandelia Williamson (N)	$2,400.00

Unpaid Stipends for the Fall 2024 semester due to last minute clinical coverage needed.

Faculty (Full time)	**Course**	**Stipend amount**
Joana Constantino	NUR 290-602	$1,200.00
Tiffany Cuello-Siegel	NUR 284-002	$1,200.00

***** for additional ½ semester clinical
** for ½ semester clinical only
***for additional full semester clinical
(N) New adjunct clinical faculty

P/10 - Appointment: To approve the appointment of the specified personnel to a stipend position.
Approval is hereby granted to approve the appointment of the following individual to a budgeted stipend position at the amount indicated:

Name	**Position**	**Stipend (pro-rated)**	**Unit**	**Effective Dates (retroactive)**
Edward Sanchez	Site Coordinator for the NSF B2B Grant	$5,000.00	Grant	January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

P/11 - To rescind and appoint stipends for Clinical Coordinators for the Spring 2025 semester.
Approval is hereby granted to rescind and appoint stipends for the following individuals for the Spring 2025 semester, effective January 15, 2025 - June 30, 2025.

CLINICAL COORDINATORS

Rescind

Name	Department/Division	Stipend (prorated)
Elizabeth Romano	Radiography/Health Professions	$2,375.00

Appointment

Name	Department/Division	Stipend (prorated)
Joseph Mamatz	Radiography/Health Professions	$2,375.00

P/12 - To approve the job description for the specified position.
Approval is hereby granted for the following action:

Title	Action	Unit
Success Coordinator/ Student Affairs	Revised Job Description	Confidential

P/13 - To extend the appointment of the specified temporary full-time (TFT) personnel.
Approval is hereby granted to approve the following individual for the temporary full-time position and annual salary indicated below:

	Name	Position/Division	Unit	Salary (pro-rated)	Effective Dates
1.	Rey Miller	Athletic Supervisor/ (TFT) Student Affairs	N/A	$45,000.00	03/01/2025 – 06/30/2025

S/F1 - To authorize Change Order #3 for additional engineering design services necessary to support the replacement of emergency generators for the Pitkin Buildings to RSC Architects.
Approval is hereby granted to issue Change Order #3 to RSC Architects for $19,574.20 for additional engineering design services necessary to support the replacement of emergency generators.

Current Contract Amount	$ 106,007.00
Change Order #3	$ 19,574.20
Revised Contract Amount	$ 125,581.20

S/F2 – To reject all bids received for Public Bid P-2402 for the Pitkin Second Floor Cafeteria Renovation.
Approval is hereby granted to reject all bids received for Public Bid P-2402 for the Pitkin Second Floor Cafeteria Renovation.

ADJOURNMENT
As no further business was brought before the Board of Trustees, Chairwoman Blakeslee requested a motion to adjourn the board meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Longo, seconded by Trustee DeLisio. All trustees were in favor.

The board meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Thank you,

Trustee Ritzy Moralez-Diaz, Secretary, Board of Trustees
Bergen Community College