



Meeting Minutes

NSCC

Board of Trustees

Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Lynn Campus, Lynn Community Board Room, LS 328

In Person Attendees-President Bill Heineman, Trustee AnhDao Tran-Moseman, VP of Administration and Finance Jan Forsstrom, Senior Executive Officer Kathryn Nielsen, AVP Of Strategic Employer Relations Jenn Price, Provost Chris Bednar, Dean of Enrollment Jason Marsala, Strategic Project Manager for the President Kristine Goodwin, AVP of Strategic Finance Eileen Gerenz, Staff Associate to the President/Board Liaison Jill Palermo, Student Trustee Dominic Tolentino, Executive Director of Institutional Research Melissa Christensen, SGA President Mina Merere, Director of Student Engagement & Leadership Development Frederic MacDonald-Dennis, Dean of Liberal Studies Stephanie Seketa, Media Technical Support Josiah Bourgeois, Director of Facilities Operations Scott Washburn, Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Development Amanda Dooling, Comptroller Dennis Abruzzese

Zoom Attendees-AVP of Institutional Belonging & Employee Development Nikki Pelonia, Trustee Rich Yagjian, Trustee Andrea Gayle Bennett, Trustee Ubiera-Minaya, Vice Chair Francesca Purcell, MCCC Chapter President Torry Dukes, Academic Coordinator Sara Hilinski

1. 5:00pm Call to Order
Vice Chair Purcell called the meeting to order at 5:07pm
2. 5:05pm Introduction of [New Members of the North Shore Community](#)
President Heineman introduced new employees at North Shore Community College.
 - Joyce Brandon, Scott Washburn and Stephanie Seketa were all present and introduced themselves to the Board
3. 5:10pm Public Comments
 - There were no public comments
4. 5:20pm Student Trustee Report
Trustee Tolentino gave an update on SGA Activities planned for the Fall semester
 - Haunted House

- NSCC's got talent
- LGBTQ Lecture
- Fall Fest

5. 5:30pm Education Report: [Deep Belonging Through Co-Curricular Engagement at North Shore Community College](#)

- Frederic MacDonald-Dennis introduced the Education Report
- It was noted that 65% of students who have no co curricular contact end up as stop outs
- Examples of how NSCC facilitates the sense of belonging
 - Welcome Week activities
 - Social activities
 - Campaigns of awareness
 - Athletic and Recreational Opportunities
 - NSCC March Madness
 - Milestone events to celebrate our students

Frederic introduced 2 students to share their experiences at NSCC

- Trustee Tolentino shared seeing herself as a member of the community helped her gain a sense of belonging
- Being encouraged to run for an SGA office helped her find confidence and realize that her voice can make a difference for others
- SGA President Mina Merere shared that after a NSCC Admissions Representative called her to check on her registration status made her realize that she was seen
- This interaction prompted her to register for classes and pursue her education
- Co-curricular activities have helped Mina realize that school and her education goes beyond the classroom
- Trustee Tran-Moseman shared her experience as an alumn of NSCC and how getting involved helped her succeed beyond NSCC
- Frederic noted the work ethic of the SGA Board Members and all the hard work they are doing
- Frederic invited the Trustees to participate in the Community Art Project being led by SGA
- Trustee Ubiera-Minaya noted that it's activities like these that bring students together and form a sense of belonging

6. 5:55pm Chair's Report

a. Review [minutes of 9/16/25 meeting](#)

*Motion 26:10 to accept the minutes of 9/16/25

Motion-Trustee Yagjian

Second:Trustee Gayle-Bennett

Motion Passed

b. Finance Committee Update

1) [FY25 Audit Report](#)

- The Withum Auditors joined the meeting to review the summary of the Audit Report
- After meeting with the Finance Committee a clean report was issued
- The audit went very well with no issues to report

- Trustee Tran-Moseman noted the months of hard work that goes into receiving a clean audit

*Motion 26:11 to accept FY25 Audit Report

Motion: Trustee Gayle-Bennett Second: Trustee Ubiera-Minaya

Motion Passed

2) [FY25 4th Quarter Update](#)

- Trustee Tran-Moseman introduced the 4th Quarter FY25 Budget Update
- VP Forsstrom noted that Trustee Tolentino attended the last Finance Committee meeting
- VP Fosstrom made note of the positive audit received
- VP Forsstrom thanked everyone at the college for making it a successful budget year
- AVP Gerenz reviewed the budget lines noting savings, revenues and expenses
- Grant support was very well aligned
- Contingencies funds originally budgeted were not needed

*Motion 26:12 to accept FY25 4th Quarter Update

Motion: Trustee Yagjian Second: Trustee Gayle-Bennett

Motion Passed

c. Implementing Board Committee participation policy

Vice Chair Purcell reminded the Trustees to explore the various committees on campus to help determine which committee they would like to serve on

7. 6:25pm President's Report

a. [NSCC Employer Partnerships Update](#)

- AVP Price provided an update on building strategic employer partnerships
- The spotlight of the report was on Manufacturing/Microelectronics
- The CPED Department works with approximately 2 thousand students and 30 companies per year
- Free Community College is having a slight negative effect on CPED enrollment
- AVP Price spent the 1st year of her tenure at NSCC exploring the needs of the workforce on the North Shore and how we can grow the current seat capacity at NSCC to support those needs
- The strategic partnership focus is aligned to the job demand in the region
- Articulation agreements are built in to many of the programs allowing students to receive credits for prior knowledge
- AVP Price brought Raytheon and other companies together to determine what the most critical job skills and knowledge are needed and how can NSCC build a program to support those needs
- Funds are needed to teach and support these initiatives
- AVP Price introduced Carrie Huguenin from MIT Lincoln Labs to talk about the needs of the industry
- Carrie noted that a sustainable solution is needed to support the industry
- A 1.3 million dollar grant was awarded to support the work of building labs to train workers
- AVP Price asked for the Board's feelings about the risks that could be associated with these uncharted waters

- Trustee Gayle-Bennett noted the wide scope of service to our students this initiative will provide
 - Both Trustee Gayle-Bennett and Trustee Purcell noted the intentional relationship building with the companies on the north shore
 - The Trustees noted they want to hear more about all of the details and receive updates around this work
 - AVP Price noted that the next generation of working with local employers has begun
- b. [Impact of Federal Actions on NSCC Update](#)
- President Heineman shared with the Trustees that the NSCC Reconsideration Letter that was submitted to support the TRiO Upward Bound program was approved and the money was returned to the college
 - He reminded the room that things could change at any moment
- c. [Discussion of Federal Compact and Public Statements](#)
- President Heineman shared the above mentioned compact with the Trustees
 - This compact has been presented to many colleges and universities, none of which have accepted the compact
 - NSCC has not received official word that we have been offered this compact
It was noted however that it is possible it could come our way and with a deadline
 - The Board's reaction to the compact is being sought
 - President Heineman asked the Board to please review and give insight on how to move forward if NSCC is presented with the compact
 - He noted to keep in mind student, employee and faculty rights could be effected
 - Important legal questions would need to be addressed if NSCC considers accepting this compact
 - Trustee Tran-Moseman said she needs more time to review and consider the compact and the repercussions that may come with whatever decision NSCC makes
 - Trustee Ubiera-Minaya thanked President Heineman for thinking ahead and wanting to be prepared for if and when NSCC is presented with the compact
 - Trustee Purcell noted many of the aspects of the compact are deeply concerning
 - President Heineman will keep the Board up to date on the matter and welcomes questions and input as the Trustees review the document

8. 6:55pm Other Business

There was no other business

9. 7:00pm Adjournment

Motion-Trustee Tran-Moseman

Second:Trustee Ubiera-Minaya

Vice Chair Purcell adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm