

MINUTES
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North Shore Community College
Board of Trustees Retreat
Monday, December 21st, 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Virtual via Zoom

In Attendance

Alex Stone; Andrea Gayle-Bennett; Andao Tran-Moseman, Barbara Heinemann; Dr. J.D. LaRock; Dr. Dharma Cortes, Elijah Alouidor; Joseph Riley; Maria Vega-Viera

Not In Attendance

Nicole Bluefort

Chair LaRock called the meeting to order at 2:32pm.

Chair LaRock outlined three framing points of discussion to include the Parthenon analysis, enrollment and leadership.

Chair LaRock shared the Parthenon analysis of NSCC, which validated that the budget was well balanced by holding costs in check and making moderate increases to student fees. NSCC is in the upper tier of working cash position in comparison to peers. This was achieved through cost cutting and passing some costs to students. Chair LaRock reported concern as to how much longer those strategies will be effective in the face of enrollment challenges.

Trustees discussed the following:

Unsustainability of the current trajectory

Immediate strategies and long-term reimagining

Specific action plans

Marketing

Return on capital investment

Impact of the quality of education

Online learning challenges

Upscaling the workforce with a digital skill set

Supporting students in an online environment

Community partners, including employers, beginning with healthcare

Risk taking

Partnering with best in class online institutions

Mergers with other institutions

State leadership and support of innovation that includes union leadership and investment of college staff in the process

Anhdao Tran-Moseman left the meeting at 3:37pm

There was broad consensus that now is the time to depart from established strategies by taking calculated risks, exploring partnerships and mergers, while engaging state leadership and the college community.

Miranda Gualtieri left the meeting at 4:00pm.

Trustees moved on to a discussion of leadership.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32pm.