The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College
Illinois Community College District #525 held at, Joliet Junior College, 1215 Houbolt
Road, Board Room, Joliet, IL was called to order by Chairman Wunderlich at 5:30 p.m.
on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

Trusted Maureen Broderick Patty Deiters
Roll Call Present: Jake Mahalik Alicia Morales (arrived 5:33 p.m.)
Dan O’Connell Mike O’Connell
Bob Wunderlich
Student
Trustee Present: Alonso Rodriguez

Chairman Wunderlich welcomed the guests to the Joliet Junior College regular
monthly Board meeting.

Ms. Judy Connelly led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Wunderlich indicated that we do not have any requests to speak before the Board
this evening.

President Mitchell requested that Mr. Rob Galick come to the podium to address the Board
regarding the TIF request from the Village of Romeoville. Mr. Galick indicated that the
Village of Romeoville has requested to extend the terms of the TIF Agreement out to 2040
from 2023. The Illinois House and Senate must approve the TIF extension request, and to
be considered, the Village of Romeoville has to receive letters of support from all taxing
bodies. Mr. Galick gave the definition of a TIF which is usually for a 23 year period. At the
start of the TIF there is a base property tax level that is generated on the first year of the TIF
and remains the same throughout the TIF agreement. In theory, the EAV will increase and
so will tax levels, so the difference is retained by the Village to fund the improvements and
projects. Mr. Galick indicated that the board does not approve a TIF agreement rather signs
a letter of support. Mr. Galick introduced Nathan Darga who is a planner from the Village
of Romeoville. Mr. Darga presented a power point to the Board which consisted of the
following: map of downtown area for the TIF agreement; existing conditions of the
downtown area TIF agreement; TIF base year began in 2003 with base EAV of $11.46
million and as of 2016 the base EAV is $14.32 million; very little growth amounting to
$2.86 million; and JJC’s TIF tax revenue is 3% amounting to $14,649. Trustee Broderick
commented that 2040 is quite far into the future and asked if there was a reason they were
looking that far out. Mr. Darga indicated that the current growth over the EAV base has
been $2.6 million, but the general rule is that a successful TIF will double the EAV. One of
the criteria to create a TIF is that the EAV is stagnant or falling. The theory is that the TIF
area is revitalized and the EAV increases so at the end of the TIF everyone receives higher dollars on the property. Trustee Broderick inquired as to what has been done and what the future plans are to accelerate growth in this TIF district. Mr. Darga stated that there has been an athletics and events center built on the old Jewel property which has been very successful and is fully leased. This has also spurred interest in outlets, but because of the recession it really didn’t get started until 10 years into the TIF agreement. Trustee Broderick asked if rather than going out to 2040, could we shorten the length of time for the TIF agreement. Mr. Darga indicated that the legislation permits an initial TIF agreement for 23 years, with an opportunity for one 12 year extension and these numbers are not negotiable as far as he is aware. Trustee Broderick indicated that is helpful information for the Board. Trustee Broderick asked which taxing bodies have agreed to the extension of the TIF agreement. Mr. Darga indicated that the largest taxing body is the Valley View school district and they have agreed to the extension. After JJC, we will need letters of support from the forest preserve and the white oak library district. Trustee Mike O’Connell indicated that he remembers how dilapidated this area was and we could not have been getting too much money because of the low EAV in the TIF district. Trustee Mike O’Connell commented that earlier it was indicated that we are currently receiving $14,649, but 2040 is very far into the future. Mr. Darga stated that is correct and represents 3% of EAV. Chairman Wunderlich indicated that this is not on the agenda for approval this evening; however, it will be on the agenda for approval in February. Chairman Wunderlich thanked Mr. Darga for his presentation this evening.

1.2 A moment of silence was observed for members of the College family, students, community leaders, or relatives thereof, who had passed away since the last meeting.

1.3 Chairman Wunderlich recognized everyone in the audience this evening as special guests.

1.4.1 President Mitchell indicated that Dean, Patty Zuccarello come to the podium to read the CTE proclamation. Dean Zuccarello read the proclamation designating February as Career and Technical Education Month in Illinois Community College District 525. Trustee Mike O’Connell moved, seconded by Trustee Deiters that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the Career and Technical Education month proclamation as read. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Mike O’Connell, Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

1.4.2 President Mitchell indicated that we have a proclamation designating February 2019 as African American History Month in Illinois Community College District 525. The proclamation will be read by one of JJC’s Students, Shannah Faith Triplett. Ms. Shannah Faith Triplett read the proclamation designating February 2019 as African American History Month in Illinois Community College District 525. Trustee Mike O’Connell moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the African American History month proclamation as read. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Mike O’Connell, Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

1.4.3 Dr. Bob Marcink, President of the Faculty Union, thanked the Board for the opportunity to address them this evening. Dr. Marcink indicated that he hopes that everyone had a nice Christmas and enjoyed the break. The Faculty is looking forward to another great semester and they are very happy to be back to begin their work with the students. Dr. Marcink stated that he hopes everyone will take some time to attend some of the events for the African American History month happening throughout the college. We had our first
contract negotiation meeting and it went well. The Faculty is looking forward to smooth negotiations and hopes to complete the process of union negotiations quickly.

1.4.4 Ms. Laurel Dieskow commented that adjunct faculty is also happy to be back and ready to begin the new semester. The department chairs have been very responsive to their questions on assignments and worked with them to take care of the situations. Ms. Dieskow thanked the board for the opportunity to speak this evening.

1.5.1 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik that the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held on December 12, 2018 be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

1.6 Ms. Tierney stated that she had not received any further communications.

1.7 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mike O’Connell that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell, and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

1.8 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mike O’Connell that the items identified as consent agenda items be approved. Trustee Deiters requested that agenda items 2.8.1, 2.8.2. and 4.2.2 be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Trustee Morales asked if there was an item on agenda that she did not want discussion on but was not in support of, would it be pulled at this point. Chairman Wunderlich indicated that was correct and the agenda item pulled would be a separate vote. Trustee Morales indicated that she would like to pull agenda item 2.1.4. from the consent agenda.

2.1.1 President requests acceptance of resignation of director, technology support
2.1.2 President requests acceptance of resignation of chief information security officer, information security
2.1.3 President recommends appointment of director, financial aid
2.1.5 President recommends appointment of interim director, technology support
2.9.1 President requests acceptance of the report on replacement of full-and part-time classified employees, as presented
4.1 The President recommends approval to pay the listing of bills for the period ending December 31, 2018 as presented
4.2 The President recommends approval to award bids/contracts as follows:
   4.2.1 Contractual Service WIOA Training Services – Genesis Healthcare
   4.2.3 Professional Services Contract Tanesha Johnson
   4.2.4 Sole Source Scholarly Teaching (increase over 10%)
   4.2.5 Sole Source ZenDesk, Inc.

4.3 Treasurer’s Report
4.4 Financial Report
8.11 Approval and Third Reading Board Policy 2.04.03 Overtime, Compensatory Time and Other Time Worked (modification #2.2.1) The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell, and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.
2.1.4 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Deiters that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the president’s contract extension. Trustee Morales commented that we have had a private meeting to discuss this contract; however, she is not sure of everyone’s support or lack thereof. Trustee Morales indicated that she is not in favor of all of the details of the contract. Trustee Morales stated that she will not go into all of the specifics at this time, but she is unable to support the contract. The motion carried. Ayes Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Nays: Morales. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

2.8.1 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Deiters that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the new salary structure for administrative, professional and non-union support staff. Trustee Deiters indicated that we have had very lengthy discussions on this agenda item. The HR department and Dr. Mitchell have gone through the process and have given a very thorough explanation of this proposal. Trustee Deiters stated that she agrees that 20 years is way too long to not have the proper structure for administrative staff as well as the competitive salaries. Trustee Deiters commented that she is unable to support the salary increases that would be over the 3% rule imposed by the state that would result in fines to the college. Trustee Deiters stated that she understands that the 3% overage is for a few of the positions and not all of the positions; however, she cannot support any increases over the 3% because of the state fines. It is not that she disagrees that staff should be fairly compensated, rather the 3% rule that results in fines to the college. Trustee Deiters is hopeful that our state legislators revisit the 3% rule and corrects it and then she would be very happy to revisit these recommendations. Trustee Morales indicated that she concurs with Trustee Deiters comments and feels that we have great staff at the college. HR has done a great job in putting this information together. Trustee Morales stated that looking at this study carefully, we are not too far out on salary. We just had a TIF discussion where they touched on the fact that people are still going through the recession and feeling the effects of it. Trustee Morales commented that staff employed at JJC are very fortunate to have a career here not only because of the salary that they do receive, but also because of the perks and benefits that they receive. The Friday’s off in the summer are enough to get everyone to come to work at the college, even though people work four ten hour days. Most likely staff would work those long hours anyway because they work hard and are dedicated to the success of the college. Trustee Morales stated that this is good work by HR and she is not saying no, rather she is saying not now and will be unable to support this agenda item at this time. Trustee Broderick indicated that this agenda item is for approval of the structure of the quartiles and the levels that allow us to correct 20 years of this not happening at the college, not the salaries. We need to make sure that the college has a proper structure for these staff members and for the hiring of future staff members. Trustee Morales commented that if this is approved, it will go into effect immediately. Trustee Broderick indicated that this something that has been needed for 20 years and all institutions and corporations should have this for their staff members. The motion carried. Ayes: Broderick, Mahalik, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Nays: Deiters and Morales. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

2.8.2 Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the compensation study salary increases for full-time administrators, professional and non-union support staff. Trustee Morales stated that her comments on agenda item 2.8.1 are also related to this agenda item. Trustee Morales feels that staff are earning a very fair salary for what they are doing. There are a few areas, salary grades 7, 8, 9, 10, that definitely need to be looked at for compensation. Trustee Morales would like to see this request presented at a later date because at this time she cannot support the increase of salary due to where we
are at with the economy. The motion carried. Ayes: Broderick, Mahalik, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Nays: Deiters and Morales. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

4.2.2 Contractual Service

Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Deiters that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the Contractual Service for Martin Whalen maintenance agreement. Trustee Deiters indicated that the first contract stated that it included maintenance, so does it not contain maintenance. President Mitchell asked that Mr. Rob Galick respond to this question. Mr. Galick indicated that the Board had approved this contract a few months ago for lease agreements on all of the copiers that we have on campus. A component of the contract is for the lease of the copiers themselves and another component is the maintenance of the copiers. The maintenance element is a variable piece with an estimate of $8500 for repairs and upkeep of the copiers. When we had presented the contract that the Board initially approved, we failed to include the maintenance piece of the contract for which he takes responsibility. Two things have happened since the initial contract approval. We engaged Martin Whalen who did an assessment and they were able to save a significant amount of money on the lease portion of the contract. We then realized that the Board had not approved the maintenance piece of the contract. The outcome of the awarding of the contract to Martin Whalen would have been the same with the maintenance piece included and there will be over $500,000 in savings over the life of the contract. Because adding the maintenance piece takes us over the 10% excess, we must get Board approval. Trustee Deiters indicated that she sees the lease amount is now $11,000 but we now add the $8,500 for maintenance and asked if that would skew the cost savings numbers. Mr. Galick indicated that the savings numbers were accurate and will not change with the addition of the maintenance contract. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

6.0 Board Business

Trustee Deiters commented that everyone should celebrate Martin Luther King Day.

7. & 8. There were first and second board policy readings in the packet.

9.1 Foundation Report

Trustee Broderick indicated that there is no report this evening as the Foundation Board has not yet met this month.

9.2 ICCTA Report

Trustee Broderick indicated that ICCTA will be meeting on March 7-9 at the Marriott in Naperville and encouraged the board members to attend the meeting. We have a new Governor and ICCTA is awaiting information regarding community colleges. Trustee Broderick indicated that part of protocol for the Board when attending conventions is to share information garnered from the conference with the board within a month of the convention. The Board had a busy November and December so we did not get this information reported by board at those times, but Trustee Broderick would like to do so at this meeting. Trustee Broderick is the appointed delegate and did the voting at the convention. Trustees Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell, Wunderlich, Student Trustee Rodriguez and President Mitchell all attended and if they would like to, to please share their experiences from the conference as well. Trustee Broderick further recommended that our attorney, Carl Buck, attend the annual ACCT Leadership conferences in the future as there are many legal issues that are discussed at these conventions. Trustee Broderick indicated that she went to the opening session on
unleashing leadership. The keynote speaker was Dr. DeRionne Pollard, President of Montgomery College in Maryland, who gave a very empowering and stimulating speech. She spoke on the importance of getting to know and spend time with our legislators and becoming involved in our communities so that we know what they want and need from our community colleges. There was a closing session on putting students first that focused on making sure their needs are met and dealing with our students now and in the future. Trustee Broderick indicated that she attended classes on the following:

Effective ethical board governance - Board Ethics, By-Laws and Policies - There was much discussion on ensuring that all trustees uphold the by-laws and ethical principles and how to deal with those trustees that don’t.

Why to hold a Board Retreat - information will be passed on to all board members on this issue. Discussed was: board retreats are useful for new board members and experienced board members. There are different personalities and some members possibly have hidden agendas. Discussion focused on the impact to the Board to function properly with everyone tuned to the same channel.

Accreditation: a View from the Board Room - we as Trustees, are held accountable for our College to have a sound accreditation. Discussion was on how Trustees votes are looked at on critical issues. Also if the Trustees are clear and understand their roles as being policy makers and staying in the balcony and letting their President (CEO) run the college while making the President accountable for running the college. We are not to micromanage and go off rail. Our roles are to be policy makers. If we were to lose accreditation, we will lose our Board seats as well.

Connecting Students with Services - How Corporate Partnerships help students succeed. Incorporating our partnerships with our students plays a key role in developing our community college students.

Decision Time: Why Trust the Management of One of Your Most Important Strategic Assets, Information Technology, to an Outside Partner. We all know that technology is constantly changing and we need to meet and provide the tools, technology expertise and resources to support student and college success and meet faculty expectations. We need to be cost sensitive, yet efficient, with this matter. Trustee Broderick commented that is why Mr. Serr is doing the improvements that he needs to do to satisfy this need.

Trustee Broderick indicated that the common elements that she got from this conference were: creating a common vision; build a team spirit; foster productive engagement; address any conflict (conflict with CEO must be known right away and improved to enable all to be on the same page); retreats are needed to make our team better; trustees should be policing each other not the CEO; no trustee should micromanage; nurture positive working relationships for the students and the work environment for the college and the community; and support stable leadership.

Trustee Mike O’Connell indicated that he attended a session on Lessons on Community College Survival without State Support. This session was sponsored by Parkland College and while they did quite a bit, JJC has done more in this area. Another session Trustee Mike O’Connell attended talked about nine week courses, which JJC does as well as offering hybrid courses; and one college offers a three week course. Trustee Mike O’Connell indicated that he also attended a session on Mentoring and believes Trustee Morales was also in this session. This session talked about the success of African American Male Students. A young man spoke about at risk students coming to the
college which was an outstanding presentation. The mentoring program really made a
difference for these at risk students because they had someone to guide them along their
college journey. The mentoring program would direct them to many different resources
depending on which areas the student needed help with to succeed. Many students were
not prepared properly academically and just needed the extra guidance. This might be
something that we could look into for JJC.

Trustee Mahalik indicated that he felt that this was a very good conference and it had
very useful knowledge. Trustee Mahalik attended a session on Culture, Communication
and Commitment equals student success. This session focused on how a community
college in Florida increased their enrollment by about 18 percent. One of things they did
was to advertise on their Web Page the cost of going to a community college versus
attending a four year institution to compare the costs and show the savings by attending
the community college. This is something we should consider for JJC. They also had a
student call center, but Joliet Junior College already has this in place. For the top ten
percent feeder schools, they did a Board of Trustees scholarship which may be something
that we can consider doing as well. Trustee Mahalik attended the Board Self-Assessment
and CEO Evaluation. President Mitchell and Trustee Morales were also in attendance at
the session. Trustee Mahalik commented that he learned that the President and the Board
need to communicate with one another to come up with core values and how to put in a
systems evaluation so that even if there is board turnover the evaluation system is
constant. Trustee Mahalik also attended a session on Ensuring Successes with the ERP
and the SIS Implementation.

Trustee Morales stated that she also attended the ERP session and it was very interesting.
She learned that although the school will be getting a new system that is supposed to help
them be more efficient, more effective and more productive it can cause stress to the
staff. Sometimes what we have to do for the employees that have been in their positions
for a long period of time who do not adapt very well, is a change of mindset. The staff
needs to understand that when the system goes live, it is like walking into a new job and
they have to be ready to embrace the change. Trustee Morales commented that knowing
the culture of JJC from her perspective as a former employee, she feels that will be the
biggest challenge when we bring forth this change. Trustee Morales also attended a
session which dealt with how the board can work more effectively and collectively in
evaluating our President. There were tools and resources discussed and it would be good
if we could use these soon. Trustee Morales commented that she learned a lot from this
session and it was an area that she needed help with to better understand the process.
Trustee Morales also attended a session on Making Student Success a Financial Priority.
This helped her to understand how the decisions that the Board vote on today affect us
down the line. We need to keep the student centered at all times. When we make a
decision on an expense such as raising tuition and fees. Even though we say that we are
not raising tuition, when we raise fees ultimately the student will be paying for this
expense, so to them it is money out of their pockets. These were some of the sessions that
Trustee Morales enjoyed at the conference.

Trustee Dan O’Connell indicated that he attended some of the legal meetings on dual
credit which Attorney Buck might find valuable. One of the sessions he attended was on
Board Policy Prospective on Campus Security that was put on by Dr. Barbara Gabba
from Atlanta Cape Community College and another rural college near the community
college. They had an active shooter situation and ten people were killed. This college did
not have any armed security and immediately had to bring in this type of security.
Trustee Dan O’Connell indicated that JJC has had armed security for 15 years so we
already have that in place. Trustee Dan O’Connell stated that he remembers when he was
the Physical Plant Director at Lewis College where the only security they had was student security. At that time, there had been a couple of murders just across the street and he was very thankful that nothing happened on campus. Trustee Dan O’Connell indicated that he also attended a session on Dual Credit Enrollment. This session was done by a college in Texas that is in the same type of situation that we are in by trying to attract more students to the program. Some of their solutions were: put a full court press on high school student enrollment potential, just as we have done here at JJC; developed or streamlined processes; engaged high schools from the superintendents to the support staff; partnered with county high schools to form an early middle school college EMC in 2015; served as fiscal agent for the EMC and Career Tech Education. The faculty had to agree to this initiative. One thing that they did that was different from JJC was that instead of a $50 dual credit course fee, they charged a $10 enrollment fee. They had good cooperation from high schools because the high schools paid for the books for the students who were unable to afford the cost.

Student Trustee Rodriguez indicated that he attended a session on Enrollment and Keeping Students in School. There was much talk about having open diversity with different types of classes held. They talked about having nontraditional times for classes and different lengths of semesters such as the eight week courses. Discussion was held on successful class enrollment numbers and also those courses that have low enrollment numbers which should not be supported. Retaining students was also discussed and the need to be watchful for students appearing to be struggling. It is important to help those students so that they do not just give up. With more direction and help, students succeed rather than just give up. Student Trustee Rodriguez also met with the Student Trustee Advisory Committee and they talked about the different types of Student Trustee positions across the country. We also talked about how we can help prepare an incoming new student trustee for the position. One of the things discussed was keeping a log to pass on to the new Student Trustee which Student Trustee Rodriguez plans on doing to help them get a better understanding of what their role entails. When we first begin our term President Mitchell holds an orientation session which goes over everything, but with actual notes from the previous Student Trustee that should be even more helpful.

Chairman Wunderlich indicated that he attended the Dual Credit Session with Trustee Dan O’Connell and went to the session given by Parkland with Trustee Mike O’Connell. Chairman Wunderlich indicated that he also attended a session given by Attorney Ira Shepherd of ACCT. There was quite a bit of discussion on First Amendment rights and certain stipulations of those rights. Chairman Wunderlich commented that it is our policy that after a board member attends a conference a report is to be given at the next meeting. There was a good deal of business to deal with in November and December so that is the reason we did not report earlier on the conference sessions.

Trustee Broderick commented that she thought that this might be a good time to do the reports as we are in the midst of a new Governor who is still in the process of making his appointments. We met with Representative Margo McDermed recently to express our needs and she was not aware of who would be appointed to the Higher Education Board Chair. Trustee Morales commented that her friend was going to be on that committee. She is a former Joliet Township High School Central graduate and is a principal in a local high school and she is on that committee. Trustee Broderick indicated that completes her report and thanked everyone for their contributions.

9.3 Student Trustee Rodriguez indicated that he does not have a report this evening as the semester is just beginning. He hopes to have a report next month. Student Government Trustee Report is reaching out to the legislators to host a forum and will report back to the Board as soon
as he has additional information.

9.4 Buildings & Grounds Report

Trustee Mike O’Connell indicated that the committee met before the meeting tonight. There was some work performed over the winter break and some will be done on Monday. We replaced some light fixtures with LED’s; some electrical panels have been replaced; no bids for this meeting but there will be some for the next meeting; we have deferred two roofing projects for one more year. We will have a large project for air handlers that were installed in 1971 that will cost approximately $1 million. We will be more energy efficient with the installation of these air handlers so we should realize some cost savings. Between ComEd and Nicor Gas we have had over three-quarters of a million dollars in rebates. We should see more savings once we begin our solar project in May. Mr. Pat Van Duyne and his staff have done a great job.

9.5 President’s Report

President Mitchell indicated that she would like to echo Trustee Broderick’s comments. Typically twice a year, she and Kelly Rohder-Tonelli are out meeting with our legislators to share our interests with upcoming bills. During our spring visits will ask for support of the budget which will include a capital bill and the 3% rule reconsideration.

President Mitchell provided the Board with an update from General Session: This semester we wanted to put an emphasis on our students.

• I had opportunities to meet with students throughout the fall semester at Main, City Center, and Romeoville in order to learn about their needs, interests and ideas. We coordinated opportunities like Pizza with the Prez and Donuts with the Doc, to gather students in an informal setting to hear their ideas and listen to their experiences.
• Those experiences were the inspiration behind the student panel. I wanted to give our students the opportunity to share with you who they are, where they come from, and where they want to go.
• Also, on Oct. 11, I participated in a full day of classes when I became student for the day. It was a day of learning, a day of discovery, and a day to make some new friends, and I’m thankful to the following professors who volunteered to have me visit their classes that day and take part in their curriculum:
  • Nataliya Marchenko, economics class
  • Maria Rafac, architecture class
  • Debbie Fitzgerald, nursing 250 class
  • Wayne Gawlik, finance class
  • David Huber, psychology class
  • Laura Michelson, health information management technology
  • Khaja Basheeruddin, biology class

When I shared the student for a day idea with our faculty last semester, I was pleasantly surprised to receive an overwhelming response and so I plan to do this again this spring semester, with an emphasis on visiting our extended campuses. It was such a great opportunity, that we created a video diary to chronicle my experiences, which I’d like to show you now. Student for a Day Video https://youtu.be/2q-tX8Cu4MI

Following my update, the following students participated in the Student Panel (James Chavez, Jefferson Cherrington, Javonna Stepney, Cailie Rohrbacher, Sobia Khatton, DeJonte Lincoln, Alyssa Zadel, and Devin Jon Cooley) and our very own Dr. Deb Fitzgerald was the moderator, doing an amazing job.

Students shared their stories about their positive experiences from our admissions office, GED and adult student advisors, stories from their classroom experiences highlighting many of our amazing faculty, and so much more. This next screen represents a few
photos from that day! Student Panel Photos
https://www.flickr.com/photos/jolietjuniorcollege/sets/72157705621272964/with/45765445975/

Finally, wishing Trustees Morales and Dan O’Connell a very happy birthday!

Trustee Morales thanked President Mitchell for doing this and feels it will really change the morale around the college and increase the retention rates. Trustee Morales challenged President Mitchell to be a student for the day and go through enrollment, go through admissions and go through the payment system just as our students do. President Mitchell indicated that she will be visiting Romeoville and City Center Campus this semester, but will consider what Trustee Morales has suggested.

President Mitchell commented that she attended a finance class with Professor Wayne Galick and was partnered with one of the students in the front of the class. This student was very proud of his work and even though we were working as a team, he kept his work to himself. So he looked at the number that President Mitchell had and he said that her number did not agree with his, so she must have looked at the wrong template. When Professor Gawlik put the answer on the Board President Mitchell was right.

Chairman Wunderlich indicated that he does not have a Chairman’s Report this evening. We do have need for an executive session this evening for 2 (c) (1).

Trustee Mike O’Connell moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College go into closed session (6:45 p.m.) under open meetings act 2 (c) 1. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Mike O’Connell, Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik to return to regular session of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College at 7:34 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Broderick, Deiters, Mahalik, Morales, Dan O’Connell, Mike O’Connell and Wunderlich. Student Trustee Rodriguez favored the motion.

Trustee Broderick moved, seconded by Trustee Mahalik for the meeting to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. A voice vote was taken and carried unanimously.