REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Stark State College District held its regular monthly meeting at Stark State College at 6200 Frank Avenue NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720 on Friday, June 29, 2012.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Michael Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

The following visitors were present: Marcia Addison, Thomas Campbell, Lada Gibson-Shreve, Pam Janson, Gloria Komer, and Cathy Torgler.

The following administrators were present: Para Jones, Tom Chiappini, Dorey Diab, Mike Droney and Cheri Rice.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present: Kari Groh, Jeffrey Halm, Stanley Jonas, Christopher Maurer (8:45 a.m.), Michael Thomas, Fonda Williams and William Schweizer.

PUBLIC REQUESTS

There was a public request from Dr. Thomas Campbell, employee at Stark State College, to speak to the Board regarding an employee issue. The Board adjourned into Executive Session to hear Dr. Campbell’s comments.

At 8:09 a.m., Vice Chairman Halm moved to go into executive session to consider the investigation of complaints against a public employee according to R.C. 121.22G(1). Trustee Williams provided the second for the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and all members voted aye.

At 8:31 a.m., Trustee Schweizer moved to return to regular session. Trustee Groh provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

AGENDA CHANGES

Item 6.4 was added to the Consent Agenda. This document was a lease agreement with the Barberton Community Foundation.

Vice Chairman Halm moved to approve the agenda change. Trustee Williams provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.
CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman Halm moved to discuss the Consent Agenda. Trustee Jonas provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

Chief Operating Officer Chiappini referred the Board to the item that had been added to the agenda—lease with the Barberton Community Foundation. This lease is for a facility in Barberton owned by the Foundation. The space would be utilized by the College to offer welding instruction as well as providing a few other classrooms in which day classes in other programs could be offered. At this time, the College only has access to classrooms in the evening at the local high school. Mr. Chiappini distributed a comparison chart showing typical commercial lease rates in Barberton. Dr. Jones noted that the Foundation’s willingness to step up and provide the renovation and reasonable lease rate is evidence of how much the city wants Stark State to be a provider in their area. The renovation work on the building is scheduled for completion in September.

Vice Chairman Halm moved to approve the revised Consent Agenda, and Trustee Williams provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

Approved on the Consent Agenda were meeting minutes of May 9, 2012, financial statements, personnel actions, and a lease agreement with the Barberton Community Foundation.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Announcements

Dr. Jones made the following announcements:

➤ The College is a member of the Innovation Alliance with the University of Akron and Lorain County Community College. The Alliance received an award from Team NEO for Regionalism and Cross-Border Collaboration.

➤ The Foundation is finalizing an agreement with the Silk Foundation for $100,000 endowment. The funds will be used for scholarships to dual-enrollment students who choose to continue their education at Stark State.

➤ Partner Rolls-Royce Fuel Cell Systems, Inc. recently sold 51 percent of its operation to LG Fuel Cell Systems Inc. The infusion of $47 million will allow the company to continue toward commercialization of its product.

➤ The sign for the Stark State College/Timken Company Wind Testing R & D Center is being installed.

➤ Stark State will support Canton City Schools in its new STEM school being established at Hartford Middle School.

➤ News has come through that Diebold may be interested in remaining at the Advanced Technology Center even after the construction of a new corporate headquarters in Green.
BOARD WORK SESSION

A. Strategic Planning

President Jones explained that she contacted Trustee Schweizer and asked if he would consider starting off the strategic planning discussion by conducting a session with the Board members to determine their thoughts on the strategic opportunities and challenges facing Stark State at this time.

Trustee Schweizer explained that high performing organizations are disciplined and that they focus on three areas:

- Determine what they are passionate about.
- Focus on what they are good at.
- Figure out what drives their economic engine.

He noted that an important piece of success is determining when something is not working and then discontinuing whatever that is.

Trustee Schweizer asked the group for external and internal challenges and opportunities.

The highest rated external challenges and opportunities were:

- Technology
- Customers
- Competition
- Political/Legal/Regulatory
- Socio-economic Culture
- Economy

The highest rated internal challenges and opportunities were:

- Technology
- Skills and Competencies
- Organization
- Demographics
- Leadership

Dr. Jones introduced Dean of Liberal Arts Dr. Lada Gibson-Shreve. Dr. Gibson-Shreve is the College’s Academic Quality Improvement Program Coordinator and is making the necessary preparations for an accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission in September. Dr. Jones said that Dr. Gibson-Shreve has worked diligently to prepare the College community for the upcoming visit and thanked her publically for her efforts.

Dr. Gibson-Shreve explained to the Trustees that they would be meeting with the visiting team during their September Board meeting. She briefed them on the criteria for accreditation and said she would be attending the August Board meeting to prepare the Trustees more thoroughly. Vice Chairman Halm asked if a list of potential topics could be provided. Dr. Gibson-Shreve said that was something she planned to provide in August. She stressed the expectation of the Higher Learning Commission that the College’s strategic plan and AQIP activities are closely tied together.

Dr. Jones opened discussion about the strategic plan by saying that since February she had met with over 300 faculty, staff and students to talk about the direction of the College. This was done to gather
information to utilize in updating the College’s 2011-2013 strategic plan. With the assistance of a committee of faculty and staff taking notes at these sessions and breaking down the common themes, a draft of the updated strategic plan was ready for Board review. Dr. Jones thanked the committee for their assistance and introduced the members in attendance at this Board meeting to review the results with the Board. Present were Marcia Addison, Lada Gibson-Shreve, Pam Janson and Gloria Komer. They reviewed the draft provided to the Board members prior to the meeting. The draft included the mission, vision, values, strategic goals, strategic objectives and strategic measures. The trustees’ suggestions are to be built into another draft to be presented at the August meeting for approval.

B. Board Meeting Structure

Dr. Jones asked the Board members if there was anything they would like to see changed about the structure of the meetings to make them more effective.

Trustee Williams said he liked the pre-meeting phone calls from the president as well as the addition of the Board portal. With regard to enrollment reports, he noted that getting reports on declines is as valuable as receiving information about increases. Trustee Groh asked that items signified with a red standing on the dashboard be addressed at the Board meetings.

Trustee Jonas asked about ethics training. Representatives from the Attorney General’s Office will attend the October meeting to provide ethics training for the Trustees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:15 p.m., Trustee Williams moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment of a public employee according to R.C. 121.22G(1). Vice Chairman Halm provided the second for the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and all members voted aye.

At 5:30 p.m., Vice Chairman Halm moved to return to regular session. Trustee Schweizer provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Items of communication were provided in the packet for this meeting.

BOARD ACTIVITY DATES

Board members were asked to review the activity chart and notify the President’s Office of events they plan to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.