# Minutes of the Gaston College

# Board of Trustees Meeting Robinson Classroom Bldg. (RCB) Room 126 December 12, 2024

**Members Present:** 

Judge Jesse Caldwell, Vice Chair

Dr. Shawnya Gore, Secretary

Mr. Steve Hall
Ms. Iris Hopper
Ms. Resa Hoyle
Mr. Steve Huffstetler

Mr. David Lee Ms. Julie Stroupe

Ms. Autumn Queen, SGA President

Dr. John Hauser, President

Members Absent:

Mr. John Dancoff, Mr. Bill Carstarphen, Mr. Alan Cloninger, Mr. Tom

Keigher, and Ms. Janie Peak

Others Present:

Ms. Tonia Broome, Dr. Daniel Freeman, Ms. Guyann Howe, Dr. Zachary Kendra-Dill, Ms. Meagan Lingerfelt, Ms. Andrea Lovelace, Ms. La'Shelle McClain, Ms. Savonne McNeill, Mr. Mack Millen, Mr. Jeff Pruett, Mr. Brian Sciba, Dr. Audrey Sherrill, Dr. Aaron Slutsky, Mr. Greg Smith, and

Dr. Heather Woodson

Vice Chair Caldwell called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. A quorum was present for the meeting.

- Invocation Ms. Hopper
- Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder

Judge Caldwell reminded Trustees of the ethics requirements of public servants and requested they identify any conflicts of interest or appearance of conflicts of interest present. No conflicts were identified.

### A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Judge Caldwell asked if there were any changes, additions, or corrections to the agenda. None were identified.

Mr. Huffstetler moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Hoyle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **B. ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

## 1. Proposed Associate in Applied Science in Medical Sonography

Judge Caldwell called on Dr. Woodson to present. Dr. Woodson explained that recent analysis shows there are over 80 annual openings for medical sonography technicians in the local job market. Median wages for medical sonographers are \$84,516 compared to \$54,600 for all healthcare programs. Entry-level wages are \$66,753 and salaries for experienced sonographers exceed \$102,000. Additional information related to employment trends was provided by the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Industry Projections for North Carolina. According to these projections, medical sonography positions in North Carolina will grow from 3,394 in 2022 to 4,289 in 2032, a 26% increase.

Gaston College began research and informal planning for a program in medical sonography at the request of local hospital systems Atrium Lincoln and CaroMont Health. In meetings with both hospitals, leaders indicated critical needs for additional staff in several key areas including medical sonography. Currently, the source of medical sonographers comes from colleges outside the Gaston College service area and the current population of graduates is not sufficient to meet local employer needs. Thus, there is a strong need for this program at the College to help meet local demands of the healthcare industry.

If approved by the Board of Trustees, NCCCS, and SACSCOC, this program will be housed on the College's Lincoln Campus. Initially, enrollment will be open to high school graduates. In the future, the College will look to open this pathway to high school students through the Lincoln Health Academy.

In order to accept a cohort of 12 students each fall for this two-year program, Gaston College will need to employ a program director/faculty member and a clinical coordinator/faculty member (two positions). Additionally, the College will need to purchase ultrasound machines and some minor supplies. Projected costs and revenues were shared and reviewed.

Projected annual Medical Sonography program costs.

Category	Amount
Full-time faculty salary and benefits	\$220,136
Operating Expenses (instructional supplies, minor equipment, travel, and printing)	\$16,000
Total Projected Annual Costs	\$236,136

# FTE Reimbursement and Lab Fee Generation (Revenue) in Year One

Term/Course	Total LabTotal		Max	FTE	ale de la companya de	Lab	Fees
	Hours	Contact	Students		Reimbursement	Collected	
		Hours					

Fall Term						
SON 110	6	7	12	2.63	\$13,376	\$1,728
SON 130	3	5	12	1.88	\$9,562	\$864
BIO 163	2	6	12	2.25	\$10,123	\$960
ENG 111	0	3	12	1.23	\$4,812	\$0
ACA 122	1	2	12	0.75	\$2,934	\$720
MAT 121	2	4	12	1.5	\$6,749	\$144
PHY 110	2	5	12	1.875	\$8,436	\$216
Spring Term						
SON 111	4	6	12	2.25	\$11,443	\$1,152
SON 120	15	20	12	7.5	\$38,145	\$4,320
SON 131	3	4	12	1.5	\$7,629	\$864
SON 140	0	2	12	0.75	\$3,815	\$0
Summer Term						
SON 121	15	20	12	7.5	\$38,145	\$4,320
First Year Totals				24.12	\$155,169	\$15,288

FTE Reimbursement and Lab Fee Generation (Revenue) for Second-Year Students.

Term/Course	Total Lab Hours	Total Contact Hours	Max Students	FTE	FTE Reimbursement	Lab Fees Collected
Fall Term						
SON 220	24	24	12	9.00	\$45,774	\$6,912
SON 225	3	3	12	1.13	\$5,747	\$864
SON 241	0	2	12	0.75	\$3,815	\$0
SON 250	3	4	12	1.5	\$7,629	\$864
Spring Term	lines il	Aug T				
SON 221	24	24	12	9.00	\$45,774	\$6,912
SON 242	0	2	12	0.75	\$3,815	\$0
SON 289	0	2	12	0.75	\$3,815	\$0
Second Year Student Totals					\$116,369	\$15,552

In year two, the College will earn \$155,169 in FTE reimbursement and \$15,288 in lab fees for first-year students. Additionally, the College will earn \$116,369 in FTE reimbursement and \$15,522 in lab fees for second-year students. Thus, the annual projected revenue for first-year and second-

year students combined totals \$271,538 in FTE reimbursement and \$30,840 in lab fees which exceeds the annual projected program costs. The College will be able to use \$750,000 in high-cost grant funds from NCCCS to support the purchase of equipment and minor supplies for the program.

The College may offer this program independently or as a shared program with Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCCTI) as an Instructional Service Agreement (ISA\_. If offered as a part of an ISA, revenue will be reduced as FTE will be shared between GC and CCCTI. The College is seeking approval to pursue NCCCS and SACSCOC approval for the program.

Upon the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Judge Caldwell moved that the Gaston College Board of Trustees approve the recommendation of an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Medical Sonography for Fall 2025 implementation.

As the motion came from Committee, a second was not required. Judge Caldwell asked if there were any discussions.

There being none, a vote was taken; the motion passed unanimously.

#### C. FINANCE AND FACILITIES

Ms. Stroupe, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, asked Dr. Hauser to assist in explaining the process of the next agenda item.

Dr. Hauser welcomed everyone to the meeting including Mr. Brian Sciba, Gaston County Assistant Manager, Mr. Jeffrey Pruett, Faculty Senate President, and Ms. La'Shelle McClain, Staff Senate President. He explained the following process:

### 1. Architect Presentations – Health Science Education and Simulation Center Building Project

An architect selection committee including Dr. Jeff Booker, Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Shelly Alman, Vice President for Finance, Mr. Luke Upchurch, Executive Director – Foundation, Grants & Sponsorship Programs, and Mr. Mack Millen, Director of Facilities Management met on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to review twenty-one architect submittals. The committee chose six finalists to participate in a presentation/interview with the Finance & Facilities Committee on December 10, 2024. The presentation/interview sessions were scheduled in thirty-minute increments with twenty minutes for presentation and ten minutes allotted for questions and answers.

The Health Science Education and Simulation Center will be an expansion of the existing David Belk Cannon Health Institute on Gaston College's Dallas campus geared towards providing training opportunities for new and existing healthcare personnel. Intended services through the new facility are to include:

- Advanced healthcare education and development
- High-quality continuing education with healthcare-specific certifications
- Certificates, diplomas, associate degree programs

- Workforce development programs (industry certifications)
- Apprenticeship opportunities in four health science programs
- Cutting-edge healthcare technology-driven simulation center

The architectural firms who presented to the Finance and Facilities Committee on December 10, 2024, were: Morris-Berg Architects, WHN Architects, McMillan Pazdan Smith Architects, Lord Aeck Sargent Architects, ADW Architects, and LS3P Architects.

The firms focused on the following for the presentation/interview:

- Specialized or appropriate expertise in the type of project
- Past performance on similar projects
- Adequate staff and proposed design or consultant team for the project
- Current workload and State projects awarded
- Proposed design approach for the project including design team and consultants
- Recent experience with project costs and schedules
- Construction administration capabilities
- Proximity to and familiarity with the area where the project is located
- Record of successfully completed projects without major legal or technical problems
- Other factors which may be appropriate for the project

The Finance & Facilities Committee was assigned the responsibility of recommending at least three architectural firms to the Board of Trustees. After careful consideration, the Committee selected four firms—ADW Architects, Lord Aeck Sargent Architects, WHN Architects, and Morris-Berg Architects—to present to the Board for final selection.

Each firm was allotted twenty minutes to present, followed by a ten-minute Q&A session. Dr. Hauser, along with several Trustees, posed questions to all firms following their presentations. The firms were thanked for their participation and for their interest in collaborating with Gaston College. Dr. Hauser informed each firm that a final selection would be made by the Board after all presentations had been completed.

The Trustees engaged in a great discussion and provided valuable feedback before reaching a conclusion.

Following the Finance & Facilities Committee's recommendation and after today's presentations, Ms. Stroupe moved that the Board of Trustees recommend the architectural firm Morris Berg to the NC Office of State Construction for the Health Science Education and Simulation Center project. Lord Aeck Sargent Architects and WHN Architects were ranked second and third, respectively. Mr. Huffstetler seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### J. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Caldwell asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none,

Mr. Fletcher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hall. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Shawnya Gore, Secretary

Guvant Howe, Recording Secretary

(College Seal)

rudge Jesse Caldwell, Vice Chair