



Board of Regents Regular Meeting

February 16, 2024

9:00am – 12:00pm

LCOOU Boardroom

Minutes

1. Opening Prayer by Daryl Coons Jr.
2. Call to Order by Chairman Jason Bisonette at 9:11 am.
3. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Jason Bisonette, Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber

4. Reading of LCOOU Mission Statement by Kyle Van Acker.

The Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University mission is to provide Anishinaabe communities with post-secondary and continuing education while advancing the language, culture, and history of the Ojibwe.

5. Approval of today's agenda

Add to Executive Session Enrollment/Budget.

Motion to approve today's agenda.

Motion by Melissa Lewis, second by Marie Basty

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber

6. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Motion to approve previous meeting minutes.

Motion by Gary Gerber, second by Melissa Lewis

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Gary Gerber

Abstain: Kyle Van Acker

7. Public Comment - None



8. Student Senate Report – Andreanna Acosta presented the Student Senate Report.

Student Senate has started focus groups with students. Some feedback has been more resources for students with disabilities, more interaction from administration with students, and more writing labs and tutoring. They are planning to have focus groups at the outreach sites.

Student Senate VP Chatianna Gonzalez was able to attend AIHEC in Washington DC and met with staff members from Senator Johnson, Senator Baldwin and Representative Tiffany's office.

9. Tribal Governing Board Liaison Report – None

Break 9:53 am – 10:02 am

10. Financial Overview

Continuing to work on FY24-25 budget and looking forward to have a complete draft of the budget by March.

Successfully finished tax forms on time and will be happy that everything should go more smoothly next year as will be fully in Colleague now.

Have completed our 990 and it is attached for board review and approval.

The Financial Aid Department has updated their financial aid handbook for this year and is already working on the handbook for next year. Financial aid report attached.

Recently submitted a grant in partnership with Northwestern University, building a STRONG Region: Implementing, resilience Infrastructure with Native Nations across the Western Great Lakes. This grant would be co-developing curriculum to the support STRONG-NOAA efforts to generate community impact such as environmental law & policy, environmental justice, sustainable computing, AI, cyber security, environmental chemistry, tribal lay advocacy or substantive law, tribal business and economies, land stewardship etc. The project director would be Dr. Debra Anderson. We will keep you in the loop as we should hear back in a few months about if we will be awarded.

Added an Interim Grant Compliance Administrator to make ensure compliance and for reporting.



85% of students enrolled in Spring 2024 *have completed* the 2023-24 FAFSA Application

-15% of students *have not completed* the 2023-24 FAFSA.

Why not?

-High school students enrolled in LCOOU's ECCP Program- No FAFSA Needed

-LCOOU Employees taking one course- No FAFSA Needed per Employee Policy

-Some students stated that they know they're over income and do not qualify for FAFSA aid.

-Those students that don't meet one of the criteria above, they have been emailed and mailed letters explaining the importance of completing the FAFSA as well as scholarship opportunities.

Motion to approve Financial Overview.

Motion by Gary Gerber, second by Daryl Coons Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber

- a. COVID Financial Report
- b. BHA Monthly Report

11. President's Report

- a. HLC accreditation midpoint visit update (assessment, reorganization to schools, cohesion of programs and leadership)

Internal Policies

The University has been reviewing and updating internal documents and policies. Any changes or additional policies will be brought to the board for review and approval. The University is scheduling annual reviews to ensure these documents are always current and aligned with changes in law and student and university needs.

Service to Non-Indian Students and Communities

Non-Indian communities have approached the University Administration asking for consideration to open outreach sites in their communities. The Board and the Administration need to discuss this and whether there are options that wouldn't disaffect our Mission serving Anishinaabe and whether this is aligned with our strategic plans, etc. Board says to go ahead with equal funding from non-Indian communities.



Commencement

Commencement will be held May 18th. Plan A is to be held at the Powwow Grounds. We are waiting to confirm commencement program speakers. Please hold these dates in your calendars.

Health Clinic Proposal

The University submitted a proposal to the TGB for their consideration. We still need to schedule a time to present the proposal in person. The TGB does have space needs and so those other needs may be a priority over our proposal. Therefore, we will develop a plan B.

Enrollment

To be distributed at the board meeting for your review and discussion.

ACEN Nursing Program Accreditation Visit

Our accreditation visit is scheduled this March 26-29. We are fully prepared and look forward to a successful visit. Thank you to Jamie, Dana, Carianna, and Pamela for their good work. Also, miigwech to our students that have contributed tremendously along the way.

TRiO

The University is working on an alternative plan to provide TRiO type services to all students. TRiO currently has very strict requirements as to what work the staff can do and who can receive services. This approach excludes a large portion of our students as it exists now. Our addition of Bachelors and Masters degrees means that some students are automatically not eligible due to them being at a higher level. We are concerned with decreasing enrollment and changes in the TRiO program that the program may not be funded again. The University is discussing these alternatives with potential donors.

Motion to approve President's Report.

Motion by Kyle Van Acker, second by Daryl Coons Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber

12. Other

- a. ACEN Nursing Accreditation visit



- a. Covered in President's Report
 - b. AIHEC
Kyle Van Acker and Daryl Coons Jr. presented archery updates.
Break 11:19 – 12:05
13. Executive Session
- Motion to convene into Executive Session at 12:05 pm.
- Motion by Gary Gerber, second by Kyle Van Acker
- Final Resolution: Motion carries
- Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber
- a. President's Contract
 - b. Bachelor's/Master's Update
 - c. Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
 - d. Ojibwe Tribal College Association
 - e. Enrollment/Budget
- Motion to reconvene into Open Session at 12:32.
- Motion by Gary Gerber, second by Daryl Coons Jr.
- Final Resolution: Motion carries
- Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber
14. Next Meeting – March 15, 2024
15. Adjournment
- Motion to adjourn at 12:33 pm.
- Motion by Melissa Lewis, second by Marie Basty
- Final Resolution: Motion carries
- Yea: Monica Isham, Daryl Coons Jr., Marie Basty, Melissa Lewis, Kyle Van Acker, Gary Gerber