



**LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, March 28, 2019, beginning at 6:05 p.m. in the Samuel A. Meyer Board Room located at the Elpha Lee West Building Room 105 at the Fort McIntosh Campus.

**ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mercurio Martinez Jr, President  
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Vice President  
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D., Secretary  
Cynthia Mares  
Jorge "JD" Delgado  
Lupita Zepeda  
Esteban Rangel  
Michelle De La Peña *(arrived at 6:14 p.m.)*  
Tita C. Vela *(arrived at 6:12 p.m.)*

MEMBERS ABSENT

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OTHERS

Ricardo J. Solis  
Rusty Meurer  
Laura Ramirez-Cruz  
Sandra Cortez  
Carolyn Schmies  
Alicia Quiroz  
Rodney Rodriguez  
Cin Bickel  
Vanessa Puente  
Martin Santos  
Marisela Rodriguez  
Fred Solis  
Cesar Vela  
Robert Ochoa  
Vilma Guzman  
Allan Vasquez  
Heriberto Hernandez  
Robert Moore

**CALL TO ORDER**

Judge Martinez called the meeting to order. Dr. Carranza called the roll. A quorum of the members was present.

Ms. Leven-Ramos recognized Dr. Ricardo Solis, College President; Dr. Cin Bickel, Faculty Senate President; Ms. Vanessa Puente, Associated Student Organization President; and Mr. Martin Santos on behalf of Ms. Joya Vidaurri, Classified Staff Council President.

**APPROVAL OF THE  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28,  
2019**

Mr. Rangel moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mares; motion carried.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

No one signed up for public testimony.

**RECOGNITIONS,  
COMMUNICATIONS, AND  
INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Laura Ramirez-Cruz, History Instructor/Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Advisor, acknowledged the PTK co-advisors – Mr. Rene Montemayor and Dr. Carolina Ramos, PTK officers – Ms. Alejandra Morales, Marlene Garza, Ana Cecilia, and Fernando Inclan. She provided information on PTK. She recognized the following individuals who received awards at the Texas Regional Convention: Ms. Alejandra Morales and Mr. Fernando Inclan – 2019 Distinguished Officers for Texas Region; Ms. Marlene Garza – 2019 Distinguished Member for Texas Region; Dr. Carolina Ramos and Mr. Fernando Inclan – named to District 5 Hall of Honor for Texas Region; and

Dr. Carolina Ramos, Mr. Rene Montemayor, and Ms. Laura Ramirez-Cruz – 2019 Distinguished Advisor Team.

Judge Martinez asked that the record reflect the attendance of Ms. Vela.

Ms. Sandra Cortez, Dean of Community Education, announced the Accelerate Texas Grant received by the college for \$347,210. She acknowledged Ms. Denise Flores for her work.

Ms. Carolyn Schmies, Interim Dean of South Campus, invited every to the Box Car Race and Car Show this Saturday and announced the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Kite Festival scheduled for April 18, 2019, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Alicia Quiroz, Director for STEM LEAPS Grant, announced Laredo STEM Week speakers and activities.

Dr. Rodney Rodriguez, Executive Director for Strategic and External Initiatives, announced the receipt of the Texas Workforce Commission Skills Development Fund Grant for \$106,508 and acknowledged Sandra Cortez, Fabiola Rodriguez, Salvador Sciaraffa, Brenda Martinez, and Javier Gutierrez for their work on the grant.

Ms. Sandra Cortez announced the Paralegal Certificate and Legal Secretary Certification programs being offered through Continuing Education.

Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, President, introduced the following new employees: Mr. Alonzo G. Laurel, Radiologic Technology Instructor; Ms. Sandra Y. Montes, Teacher; and Mr. Jose E. Tovar, Administrative Assistant I – Dean of Arts & Sciences.

**FACULTY SENATE REPORT**

Dr. Cin Bickel, Faculty Senate President, reported on: (1) TASB recommendations capping, and (2) 2013 – 2019 Faculty Senate accomplishments. Ms. Mares thanked Dr. Bickel for her work.

**ASSOCIATED STUDENT ORGANIZATION REPORT**

Ms. Vanesa Puente, Associated Student Organization President, reported on: (1) Leadership Summit scheduled for April 6, 2019; (2) South Campus food options; (3) Spring Fling 2019; (4) Trading Station Updates; (5) ASO Conference on Student Government Associations; and (6) Fort McIntosh Library Opening. Judge Martinez announced that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the library is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

**CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL REPORT**

Mr. Martin Santos, on behalf of Ms. Joya Vidaurri, reported on: (1) Classified Staff Council meeting held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and (2) LC Annual Box Car Race and Car Show. He acknowledged Ms. Lupita Martinez, treasurer; Ms. Elena Pineda, secretary; Ms. Rosario Dominguez, sergeant at arms; and Mr. Daniel De La Rosa, active member.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION  
TENURE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
CONSIDERATION AND  
APPROVAL BY LAREDO  
COLLEGE BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES – DR. MARISELA  
RODRIGUEZ/DR. FRED SOLIS**

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment, presented their respective division tenure recommendations.

Dr. Rodriguez introduced the Academic Affairs Division tenure candidates listed below:

- Selinda Martinez, Biology Instructor

- Dr. Qingguo Meng, Chemistry Instructor
- Alvaro Perez, Visual Arts Instructor
- Lorinda Lynette Harris, Occupational Therapy Assistant Instructor
- Dongyeol Yeo, Vocational Nursing Instructor

Dr. Solis introduced the Student Success & Enrollment Division tenure candidate listed below:

- Adriana Craddock, Special Services Center Counselor

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to recommend for consideration and approve the tenure candidates. Mr. Rangel so moved; motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF LETTER OF INTENT WITH GATEWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER FOR OPERATION OF SOUTH CAMPUS CLINIC**  
 - MR. CESAR VELA

Mr. Cesar Vela, Chief Financial Officer, asked that the Board approve the letter of intent with Gateway Community Health Center for the operation and leasing of the Health Clinic at the South Campus. The lease and service agreement is being finalized. Ms. Mares moved to approve the letter of intent with Gateway Community Health Center. Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved. Judge Martinez introduced Mr. Lauro Garcia, Gateway Community Health Center Board Chair. Mr. Garcia thanked the Board for the opportunity to partner on this clinic. Ms. Vela asked if student fees will be affected. Mr. Vela indicated that the rental fee will be used to pay for services. Ms. Mares called for the question. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF FURNITURE PURCHASE FOR CIGARROA SCIENCE BUILDING** - MR. CESAR VELA

Ms. Mares moved to approve this item. Ms. Leven-Ramos asked if Mr. Vela can present the item. Mr. Vela asked that the Board approve the purchase of furniture for the Cigarroa Science Building in the amount of \$928,873.00. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE** - MR. ROBERT OCHOA

Mr. Robert Ochoa, Associate Vice President of Student Services, presented the college's commencement schedule. He asked that Board members participating arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. Ms. Leven-Ramos inquired to the date of the Police Academy graduation. The date will be sent to the Board. Mr. Ochoa announced that this is the first year that the LBJ cohort will graduate with an associate's degree before receiving their high school diploma.

**ANNUAL MEN'S & WOMEN'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT INVITATION** - DR. FRED SOLIS/MS. RAQUEL PENA

Dr. Fred Solis introduced two students - Ms. Vilma Guzman, Student Advocate at the Office of Student Life and Chair of the Student Leadership Committee and Mr. Allan Vasquez, ASO Vice President. Ms. Guzman and Mr. Vasquez invited the Board to the Student Leadership Summit scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> and provided information of the activities being scheduled.

**CYBERSECURITY CONFERENCE INVITATION** - MR. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ/MR. ROBERT MOORE

Mr. Heriberto Hernandez, Dean of Workforce Education, invited the Board to the college's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cybersecurity Conference on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Roberto Moore, Computer Technology Department Chair, distributed a flyer with information on the conference.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE PROGRAMS** - DR. RICARDO J. SOLIS

Dr. Ricardo J. Solis reported on: (1) Marquee is up and running; (2) provided summary handouts on the Board Workshop presentation by Dr. Belle Wheelan and Board Retreat presentation by Dr. Byron McClenney; and (3) Sweet Briar College partnership and visit. Due to Dr. Solis' visit to Sweet Briar College, he requested that the next Board meeting be rescheduled. Judge Martinez suggested to reschedule the next Board meeting after the visit. Discussion took place on the date of

the next Board meeting. Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney, informed the Board that the item dealing with the next meeting date is further down on the agenda. Ms. Mares moved to bring up Item 19 – *Next Meeting Date*. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Discussion followed on scheduling the next Board meeting date on May 2, 2019. Ms. Mares so moved. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:15 p.m., Judge Martinez announced that the Board would go into executive session for the following item:

- Closed Session Discussion of Personnel Matters Related to Duties and Compensation of Two Employees of the Division of Institutional Effectiveness and Research Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074

Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Board reconvened to open session at 7:35 p.m. Judge Martinez noted that no action was taken in executive session.

**DUTIES AND COMPENSATION OF TWO EMPLOYEES OF THE DIVISION OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND RESEARCH**

Judge Martinez asked for a motion and a second to this item. Mr. Rangel moved “to approve this salary adjustment and duties and responsibilities as addressed in executive session for Dr. David Arreazola’s contract”. Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Rangel noted that the other employee “falls under Dr. Solis’ authority to make the recommendation”.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORTS  
CAMPUS POLICE,  
PERSONNEL, TRAVEL, AND  
OTHER REPORTS**

The reports were provided for information purposes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:17 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.