

Sisseton Wahpeton College

Regular Meeting

Classrooms 1 & 2

Board of Trustees Minutes

4/15/2025

Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM

Roll Call:

Big Coulee	Marijo Keeble	Present
Buffalo Lake	Heather Larsen	Present
Enemy Swim	Janell Williams	Present
Lake Traverse	Jessica Redthunder	Present
Long Hollow	Vincent Owen	Present
Old Agency	Rhonda Kampeska	Present
Heipa	Marie Renville	Present
Tribal Council Ex. Officio	Francis Crawford	Present
Student Council	Emily Johnson	Absent

Others Present: President Dr. Erica C. Holmes, Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs Julie Buckman, Dean of CTE Josh Flute, Financial Aid Director Sylvan Flute, Senior Business Specialists Melanie Seaboy, Business Office Specialist Merlin “Jay” Renville, Dean of Business Samuel Bonsu, Vice President of Administrative Services Gretta Lavergne, Dean of Education Kelsey Stadtler, Director of HR and ER Crystal Renville, Dakota Studies Program Linguist Alex Jaker, Nursing Director Nola Ragan, Internal Auditor Lisa Jackson, Grant Writer LeeAnn Tallbear, Assistant Athletic Director D’Laino Paige, IRP Assistant Randi Ceroll, Registrar Selena Olvera, IT Support Specialist Mandy Grimmer, SWC Student Zion Rice, SWC Student Makeiya Killscrow, SWC Student Tasia Eastman, SWC Student Sharon Abeita, SWC Student Stacia Redday, SWC Alumni Bryan Grimmer, SWC Student Shainna Cook, SWC Student Jamison Pratt, SWC Student Asais Bernie, SWC Student Chioke Mannie, SWC Student Richard Wallenstein, SWC Student Duran Renville, Facilities Dawn Feather, Facilities Manager David Redthunder, SWC Student Jalynn Biddell, SWC Student Heaven-Lee Pipe, SWC Student Waniyetu Wynde, Café Manager Robbie Keoke, SWC Student Karley Heminger, SWC Student Winyan Hawk Bair, SWC Student Omariya Bernard, SWC Student Marty Ross, Head Men’s Basketball Coach Jerrad Max, IT Helpdesk Kailen Kirk, SWC Student Samuel Fineday, 2025 SWC Student of the Year Kenyon Budack Jr, SWC Student Jordan Crawford.

-If you attended and your name is not documented, your name was not legible on the sign-in sheet.

Chairwoman Williams called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Motion 1:

Motion made by Lake Traverse to approve the agenda, second by Old Agency, question by Long Hollow. Motion voted passed.

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT:

Sisseton Wahpeton College provides extensive, relevant and varied educational programs and opportunities for the intellectual, cultural, and personal growth of all its community. The college values its role as an educational leader, embracing change and responding to the complex needs of those it serves.

President Dr. Erica Holmes asks Chairwoman Williams if student recognitions (President and Dean's list, and SWC Athletic Teams) could occur before public comments and Chairwoman Williams approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

STUDENT SUCCESS: PRESIDENT'S AND DEAN'S LIST

- Students who achieved the accomplishment of sustaining a minimum 12 credit hours with a 3.5 GPA for the Fall 2024 semester made the Dean's list. These students were announced individually and awarded with a check for \$100, an SWC T-Shirt, and an opportunity to shake the hand and greet each SWC Trustee.
- Students who achieved the accomplishment of sustaining a minimum 12 credit hours with a 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2024 semester made the President's list. These students were announced individually and awarded with a check for \$150, an SWC T-Shirt, a 4.0 plaque with their name on it, and an opportunity to shake the hand and greet each SWC Trustee.

STUDENT SUCCESS: ATHLETICS

- The SWC Women's Basketball team won the 2025 AIHEC Division II championship. Making it their third year winning it in a row, they are recognized for their "3-Peat".
- The SWC Men's Basketball team were the 2025 AIHEC Division I championship runners-up. Falling short in the championship game.

CHAIRWOMAN WILLIAMS OPENED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND THERE WERE NONE.

HLC CONFERENCE REPORT OUTS

- Trustee Kampeska, Trustee Keeble, Trustee Redthunder, and President Dr. Erica Holmes, attended the 2025 HLC Conference one day sooner to attend President and Trustee exclusive welcome and study sessions.
- Gretta Lavergne, Lisa Jackson, Richard Lee, Julie Buckman, and Terrell Shellman arrived at the HLC Conference one day after the SWC BOT members who attended and Dr. Erica Holmes.
- Faculty and staff spoke individually about each study session they attended and how the knowledge gained from such can have a direct impact on our college.
- There were math exclusive sessions, leadership sessions, prep sessions for upcoming HLC visits, and even a TCU exclusive session.
- The 2025 HLC Conference provided helpful information, strategies, and goals that will directly help SWC with the upcoming HLC visit in 2027.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE 2025 RETREAT

- The Board chose to finalize the dates of June 27th and 28th for the SWC Annual Board Retreat.
- Location will be announced in May.

SWC 2025 GRADUATION

- The venue was originally set to be the SWC Auditorium but other options are being explored in hopes of better spacing allowing every graduate to have as many family members as they would like present.
- The SWC Graduation Committee will reach out to the tribe in regards to a venue.

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

- Dr. Erica Holmes shared various strategic plans and the chart that keeps up with each individual activity.
- This platform can also show who is in charge of each activity and when and what progress is made.
- Certain strategic plans have more percentage than others. Certain plans also take longer to make progress on than others, and that can be reflected upon by viewing the progress made.

CONSENT AGENDA:

College Reports:

STUDENT SENATE HAD NOTHING TO REPORT.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Student recognitions for students on the Fall 2024 President's and Dean's List, and the SWC Men's and Women's Basketball Teams took place earlier in the meeting.

- 3 Trustees and 5 staff and faculty members attended the 2025 HLC Conference along with Dr. Erica Holmes in hopes of gaining information to help maintain our accreditation through HLC. The college is preparing for the comprehensive reaffirmation in 2027 with HLC.
- There will be a graduation party held on May 8th at 5:00 PM in the SWC gymnasium there will be dinner, gifts, games, and pictures to celebrate and congratulate our 2025 graduating class.
- There will be a Moccasin Workshop held on April 25th at 6:00 PM in the SWC Log Cabin hosted by the SWC Dakota Studies Department. Food and drinks will be provided.
- SWC & TZ will have a Graduation Wacipi in the auditorium on May 3rd, registration starts at 10:00 AM. This Wacipi is in honor and remembrance of Sam Crawford Jr.
- The SWC Dakota Studies Program is hosting a Craft Night on April 23rd from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Food will be provided.

VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

- We have 3 students enrolled for the summer. 1 SWO Member and 1 lineal descent. 1 from Old Agency.
- 1 student has enrolled for Fall. They are from Veblan/Heipa.
- Kenyon Budack is our tutor and student of the year.
- We have close to 40 students applied for graduation.
- We are working with an MOU from Northern.
- Sisseton Elementary came over and I read a book to them. I also talked about the college.
- On April 8th we had scheduled Author Richard Moosecamp coming from Pine Ridge to share his book "My Grandfather's Alter" with the students and staff. The event was cancelled because the author was sick.
- We ordered the stoles for graduation from a local artist. This is a new initiative that Dr. Holmes initiated.
- We had two Read to Me workshops with the Sisseton 4th graders. They teamed up with our English Comp I class and the students read to them and the Comp class read back to them.
- Attending the HLC conference in Chicago in April.
- Met with TZ Elementary Principal to go over Elementary Education curriculum for their staff to take the program.
- Worked with the Sense Making Team to outline our goals for the grant.
- Paralegal and the Indigenous People Advocacy was approved by the curriculum committee.
- Received a response from Phi Theta Kapa stating that this year our students can join for free.
- Classroom observations are done for faculty.
- Currently working on the MBA to get approved by the curriculum committee.
- Put together committees for the HLC meeting in 2027 and getting them to meet.

- Syllabi's for the Casino Management course.
- Graduation committee has met two more times in getting ready for the Graduation.
- Met with EUNA (Ecivis) for ongoing training • Working with students on different issues
- Need a Science Instructor, a Dakota Studies Instructor, Adjuncts for Business, An Adjunct for one English class

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES REPORT

- Organized Meeting with McKenzie Forensic Group to begin the process of forensic audit. 3-5-2025; 3-24-2025
- Attending NAPTEC Meeting with MaryLiz Stotz the Grant Manager on 3-04-2025; 3-27-2025
- Attended initial meeting with O'Connor Consulting Inc for training in the Jenzabar program 3-17-2025; 3-17-2025;
- Euna Grants Project meeting to finalize project plans and schedule training/workshops for staff and faculty. 3-7-2025
- Attended a webinar: how to read a background check from Checkr Company 3-19-2025
- We have been training and working with eCivis to have an easier way to search and manage grants for our different departments.
- Provided LeeAnn and Randi with the financial for our grants.
- This month our focus was on Equity and Extension.
- Created expense reports for Native Arts Grant.
- Working on IPEDS Reporting
- Audit reports for the Forensic audit and Annual Single audit: both Auditing firms

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion 2:

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion made by Big Coulee to approve the consent agenda, second by Lake Traverse, question by Old Agency. Motion voted passed. 7/0

Motion 3:

Approve Minutes: March 18, 2025

Motion made by Lake Traverse to approve March 18, 2025 board minutes with revisions, second by Old Agency, question by Lake Hollow. Big Coulee not voting. Motion voted passed. 6/0

Motion 4:

Approve Minutes: March 25, 2025

Motion made by Long Hollow to approve March 25, 2025 minutes, second by Lake Traverse, question by Buffalo Lake. Big Coulee not voting. Motion voted passed. 6/0

Motion 5:

Approve Minutes: April 2, 2025

Motion by Buffalo Lake to approve April 2, 2025 minutes, second by Lake Traverse, question by Old Agency. Big Coulee not voting. Motion voted passed. 6/0

Motion 6:

Approve Minutes: April 10, 2025

Motion made by Buffalo Lake to approve April 10, 2025 minutes, second by Lake Traverse, question by Long Hollow. Motion voted passed. 7/0

Motion 7:

Table All Personnel Policies Board Retreat

Motion made by Long Hollow to table all personnel policies until the board retreat, second by Heipa, question by Big Coulee. Old Agency not voting. Motion voted passed. 6/0

-This motion came about due to employees expressing the frustration of not having enough time to review policies and submit feedback.

Motion 8:

Approve De Minimis Indirect Cost New Policy

Motion made by Old Agency to approve De Minimis Indirect Cost New Policy, second by Lake Traverse, question by Buffalo Lake. Motion voted passed. 7/0

DISTRICT CONCERNS:

Big Coulee District:

→ None

Buffalo Lake District:

→ None

Enemy Swim District:

→ Enemy Swim elected to accept the high tunnels provided by SWC.

Old Agency District:

→ None

Lake Traverse District:

→ None

Long Hollow District:

→ None

Heipa District:

→ There were discussions held at district meeting about wanting to see the SWC President's Contract.

Closed Session: 8:52 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

TERRELL J. SHELLMAN