



**THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF VALENCIA COLLEGE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Minutes

November 18, 2024

Valencia College – West Campus
Building 8, Room 111
and
Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Trustee Michael Sasso, Chair
Trustee John Davis, Vice Chair
Trustee Blair Bradley
Trustee Shawn Hindle
Trustee Belinda Kirkegard (via Zoom)
Trustee Tracey Stockwell

Dr. Kathleen Plinske, Secretary of the Board and President of the College

Members Absent

Trustee John Martinez

Call to Order

Chair Sasso called the Special Meeting of the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College to order at 1:02pm. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

New Business

1. **General Education Course Offerings:** Dr. Plinske presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske stated that, as discussed with the District Board of Trustees at its December 7, 2023, Regular Meeting, given the recent adoption by the State Board of Education (SBOE) of Rule 6A-14.0303, which implements new statutory requirements (ss. 1007.24, 1007.25 and 1007.55, F.S.) enacted during the 2023 legislative session, each

Florida College System institution board of trustees and president must annually review and approve, at a public meeting, the courses offered by the institution that meet general education course requirements.

At its May 9, 2024, Regular Meeting, the DBOT approved 28 courses for inclusion in Valencia College's institutional general education course offerings. On October 18, 2024, Valencia received notification from the Division of Florida Colleges that two of the 28 courses (SLS1122 and SYG2010) may not align with general education statutory requirements. SLS1122 has been a general education graduation requirement for an Associate in Arts degree (and for many Associate in Science degrees) at Valencia since 2015. In Fall 2024, SLS1122 was the highest enrolled course at Valencia, with more than 10,000 students taking the course, meaning that one in five Valencia students in Fall 2024 is enrolled in SLS1122.

The removal of SLS1122 as a general education option creates a significant capacity challenge and necessitates a redesign of Valencia's general education requirements. This redesign, facilitated through a collaborative process engaging faculty and College leadership, was approved by the College Curriculum Committee on November 13, 2024. The need for this redesign effort also enabled the consideration of additional courses to fulfill general education requirements, as reflected in the attached list of proposed institutional general education courses. This is a necessary component of a multifaceted approach to create additional capacity in other general education courses to make up for the lost capacity. A full discussion ensued.

Following the full discussion, Trustee Stockwell moved to approve the list of general education courses (including courses previously approved by the Board along with additional courses recommended for approval), as presented, for submission to the Division of Florida Colleges for its submission the State Articulation Coordinating Committee, leading to final consideration and approval by the State Board of Education. Vice Chair Davis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Plinske thanked Mr. Chris Borglum, President, Faculty Association, and the College's faculty, for their work.

Board Comments

The Board thanked Valencia's leadership, faculty, and staff, for their hard work. Trustee Hindle praised the College's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Grand Buffet, held at the Downtown Campus, November 1, 2024.

Adjourn

Chair Sasso adjourned the Special Meeting at 2:01pm.

Secretary

Chair