

Dear NCC Community:

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of the College. Our role in governance encompasses many duties and responsibilities. As the final authority for college business, Trustees make all legal and fiduciary decisions. The Board is responsible for developing and approving the school's mission, strategic goals, and objectives and establishing policies related to programs and services.

Dr. Williams has advised the Board that he will transition out of his role; however, a date for his departure has not been determined. The Board remains confident and in support of his leadership during this time of change. We are working with him to effect a seamless shift with minimal disruption to the College.

As a part of this process, we will take the necessary immediate steps to identify an Officer-in-Charge and work with SUNY to follow the prescribed process for the appointment of an interim leader for the College. The selection of that leader and the management of the process rests with the Board of Trustees.

In his short tenure at Nassau, Dr. Williams had several significant and unprecedented accomplishments that benefited the College. They are as follows:

Guided Pathways, a national promising practice focused on holistically reimagining the community college experience to enhance student access and outcomes.

Additional academic programs, such as Medical Office Assistant and Cybersecurity, that met the needs of the region.

A nationally recognized partnership with Adelphi University, Nassau-Adelphi Gateway, which is unique to Long Island and one of the few partnerships of its kind in the nation.

- Partnerships with several school districts, where students spend their high school day at NCC taking college-level courses.
- We are navigating through unprecedented times. The pandemic continues to present challenges, and the College is under extreme financial pressure. The Nassau Community College Community – Board, faculty, and staff have a shared responsibility to ensure minimal disruption in this time of change. That means that the correspondence disparaging Dr. Williams and his leadership of the College must stop. It detracts from the appeal of our College for future presidential candidates. These attacks are not aligned with our mission to provide high-quality, low-cost education and career preparation to meet the needs and interests of the community it serves.

The Board recognizes that a collective collegial effort of the entire NCC community leads to an educational environment that richly contributes to the students we serve. We must collectively work toward creating a stable environment for all NCC stakeholders. The Trustees endeavor to work together with faculty, staff, and the students to remain faithful to the College's mission and will move quickly to determine how we will move forward in the coming days.

Regards,

NCC Board of Trustees

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