



RENTON
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE®

Board of Trustees – Special Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting - Join URL: <https://rtcedu.zoom.us/j/88075110579>

Or by phone: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 880 7511 0579

March 23, 2021

3:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Board Chair Kirby Unti called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A notation of quorum was made. Trustee Entenman was absent from the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Sheila May-Farley stated that she was speaking on behalf of Kayla Jang as both the president of RFT and a colleague. She noted that she has done a teaching triangle with Ms. Jang and Ms. Lesmeister, to observe each other's classrooms as colleagues. This was viewed as an opportunity to view each other's classrooms on an equal level and share best practices. She was professionally blown away at how well Ms. Jang was prepared in her classroom. She gave Ms. May-Farley an open invitation to attend her classroom. She did attend, unannounced, and found herself completely lost within the subject matter, but Ms. Jang was in great command of her class and the subject matter. Ms. May-Farley feels respected and honored to have Ms. Jang as a colleague.

Donna Maher stated that she has been at the college for over 20 years, and by far Ms. Jang is an awesome tenure candidate. She is responsive to the tenure committee, and 100 percent willing to work with the committee, the students, the LRCC staff and hope the Board will find it appropriate to promote Kayla to tenure.

Sarah Wakefield introduced herself and stated that she was speaking today on behalf of Kayla Jang's tenure committee, which includes three of the college's outstanding faculty: Eugene Shen, Donna Maher, and Sarah Redd. She is the committee administrator and Ms. Jang's former supervising dean.

The Board already has received the committee's Year-3 recommendation for Ms. Jang, and their individual comments are available in the Canvas tenure portfolio. Based on what they have witnessed and been told, and in full acknowledgment that we are not in the loop for everything, they see a candidate who has shown growth as an instructor. They were there in her challenging first year, and to help address student concerns filed at that time, they supported her with advice about assignments, assessments, and course design.

In their subsequent observations of Ms. Jang's classes, they saw an instructor who was working with students, not against them. In their meetings, they always asked Ms. Jang about any concerns of any kind. She never brought up major student complaints, resolved or ongoing, and she felt that other program issues had been improving.

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Again, they know that as a tenure committee, they operate based on limited information. They rely on what the candidate shares with them, what their dean tells them, and what they can extrapolate about the student experience through the snapshots of class observations and student evaluations. The Board, however, have all of the details before them. They hope that this fuller picture shows that Ms. Jang indeed has the potential to be an effective, tenured faculty member at RTC. Dr. Wakefield thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. At 3:15 p.m., Board Chair Unti called for an Executive Session for 45 minutes, to review the performance of a public employee in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30). At 4:00 p.m., the session was extended an additional 15 minutes. The Board returned to regular session at 4:15 p.m.

4. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING

5. ACTION

A. Tenure Decision

Following the return to public session, Trustee Palmer introduced the following motion.

After giving reasonable consideration to the recommendations of the tenure review committee and all other recommendations, I move that Kayla Jang be denied tenure. The motion was seconded by Trustee Page and the motion carried. The motion was opposed by Trustee Takamura.

6. MEETINGS

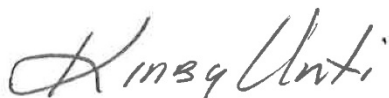
Information

- A. April 21, 2021 – Regular Meeting

7. ADJOURNMENT

Action

There being no further business, it was moved by Board Chair Unti to adjourn the Board of Trustees' meeting at 4:17p.m. Motion carried.



KIRBY UNTI, Board Chair
Board of Trustees



KEVIN D. MCCARTHY, President
Renton Technical College