I. CALL TO ORDER:
The Chair, Mr. Mel Takehara, called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM:
The Chair recognized that a quorum of Board members were present.

III. FLAG SALUTE

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:
No guests were present.

V. CONSENT AGENDA
1. Board Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2006
The minutes were approved as presented.

VI. ACTION ITEMS
1. Recommendation of Tuition Increase for 2006-07

Mr. Harker presented the information on the tuition increase recently approved by the State Board. He stated that there will not be a Services and Activities fee increase this year so the overall tuition increase will be a little less than five percent. Mr. Harker reported that the tuition increase will generate approximately $300,000 additional revenue and that out of that over 40% has been identified as direct student support budget line items.
Dr. Tollefson remarked that each year there is discussion on whether the Trustees have authority for setting tuition. He stated that the Board does not have full responsibility, tuition is actually determined by the state legislature and the Trustees are simply recognizing the state legislated increase.

Ms. Rojas asked for clarification on the two percent set aside for needy students. Mr. Harker responded that there are many ways the college offers assistance including; tutoring, counseling, enrollment management, financial aid and Foundation scholarships. In addition, approximately three percent of tuition revenue is used for waivers for needy students.

Ms. Rojas inquired as to how students are made aware of these programs. Ms. Woiwod stated that admissions application information is distributed to several entry points to identify needs of students.

Dr. Tollefson stated that while the college cannot do much about tuition, it can do something about the cost of textbooks. Mr. Harker reported that this issue has been identified in the new Strategic Plan and that there are three items that the bookstore is currently working on: 1) textbook rental options—Bellevue is currently piloting this program; 2) Year-round book buy back; 3) “plain” textbooks.

It was moved by Mr. del Bosque and seconded by Ms. Lisser to approve the tuition increase as established by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges effective the 2006-07 academic year.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chair stated that the Board has a hard time accepting tuition increases year after year, yet the need for the revenue does exist.

2. Recommendation of Board Meeting Dates for 2006-07

Dr. Tollefson presented the proposed Board meeting dates for the 2006-07 academic year:

**2006**
July 11, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
September 12, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
October 10, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
November 14, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
December 12, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus

**2007**
January 9, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
February 13, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
March 13, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus
April 10, 4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus  
May 8, 4:30 p.m. – Whidbey Island Campus  
June 7, 11:00 a.m. – San Juan Center

It was moved by Ms. Lisser and seconded by Ms. Rojas to approve the 2006-07 schedule of Board meeting dates.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Recommendation of Exceptional Faculty Awards for 2006-07

Ms. Tinker reported that in 1991, the Legislature established an exceptional faculty award trust fund, appropriating funds to match monies raised by the individual colleges. The SVC Foundation endowments and matching funds from the State Board now total $1,002,220. Only the interest earned from the fund may be used to pay expenses for the awards. For 2006-2007, $50,111 is available—approximately 20% is reserved for benefits & awards. A committee of faculty, administration, and Foundation representatives reviewed requests and nominations for awards that had been solicited from faculty and administrators.

The award guidelines specify that Exceptional Faculty Awards are made for a) proposed activities b) completed accomplishments, or c) proposals to benefit the faculty as a whole. SVC faculty who plan to engage in noteworthy activities leading to individual professional development, SVC program enhancement, or improvement of the faculty as a whole may apply. Faculty with distinguished accomplishments which are recognized within the college or acknowledged by the professional community may be nominated. Individual faculty may apply or be nominated for a maximum award of $2,000; faculty groups may receive a maximum award of $8,000.

Eleven nominations and thirteen requests were made to the EFA committee. The EFA committee recommends that seven nominations and nine projects be funded—two for less than originally requested.

It was moved by Ms. Rojas and seconded by Mr. del Bosque to approve the Exceptional Faculty Awards for 2006-07 as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chair offered his congratulations to the award recipients.
VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Marine Technology Update

Dr. Donahue introduced Mr. Mike Swietzer, Department Chair and Instructor for the Marine Technology Program.

Mr. Swietzer shared with the Board the idea of the creation of a partnership of the Marine Technology program, state and local agencies, and visionary individuals to establish a world class Marine Training Center. The Marine Training Center would help to create a legacy of marine training excellence, far beyond what exists today in the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Swietzer stated that Anacortes is the ideal location as it is the heart of the boating community; where marine workers, marine companies and boat users converge. Anacortes is also centrally located, accessible to the I-5 corridor and other boat building areas, central to high school districts in a marine setting, and accessible for incumbent workers of the marine trades. Anacortes is a center of new construction, repair, and the boating industry.

Mr. Swietzer reported that two land parcels of six and one-half acres have been identified as good locations for a Marine Training Center. The parcels are currently owned by MJB Properties and are bordered on the east side by the Department of Natural Resources land and located between 27th and 29th Avenues.

Discussion followed the presentation.

VIII. COLLEGE REPORTS:

1. ASSVC

No report.

2. SVCFT – Mr. Mike Witmer reported the following on behalf of SVCFT:

“We are very pleased to report that for the first time in many years the faculty and administration negotiation teams have agreed on salary issues for full time faculty for the 2006-2007 academic year. This means that contracts rather than letters of intent can be issued in the spring, that faculty will have the COLA beginning with the first paycheck in September, and that the business office will not have to make adjustments part way through the academic year. The faculty team wants to thank the administration for their work on these salary issues.

We also want to thank the administration for continuing to support the movement of faculty to the senior step on the salary schedule. This year six faculty moved to this step.
As negotiations continue, we will continue to work on adjunct salary issues; on the incorporation of the Adjunct Best Practices into the contract; and on a number of issues related to workload.

Last weekend at the AFT Washington Annual Convention, SVCFT received the state COPE award for the contribution that we were able to make to the state federation political action campaign. As you probably know, none of our dues money can be used for political activities, so the money that we were able to send came from individual contributions beyond dues.

The Ninth Annual Student Social Issues Symposium will be held on May 24 and 25 on the Mount Vernon campus. This year along with the symposium, the faculty in the divisions of social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities will be sponsoring sustainability fair. The symposium is a showcase for students to present to the community some of the work that they have done around social issues. The sustainability fair will provide participants with opportunities to see demonstrations of transportation options and energy sources and to learn more about sustainable land use.

In addition to our students, Larry Estrada from WWU will be speaking on Sustainability in Mexico and Dr. Lara Binder from the University of Washington will be speaking on The Effects of Global Warming in Puget Sound. Dana Lyons will provide sustainable entertainment on Wednesday, May 24 at 11:30. We hope you will join us for as many of the sessions as you can.”

Mr. Witmer noted that the May 8 edition of the Skagit Valley Herald featured an article on former SVC student and soccer player, Cam Weaver. Mr. Witmer stated that Cam Weaver is now a professional soccer player with the Seattle Sounders.

Mr. Witmer introduced students Lila Waldron and Stacy Twaddle and shared that they were excellent students who had overcome many challenges and will be transferring to the University of Washington in the fall.

3. WPEA – Ms. Stacie Moran reported the following on behalf of WPEA.

“WPEA has recently changed its governance structure and SVC’s local structure has changed to a steward’s council instead of chapter officers. We are now part of District 6 which covers Island, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom Counties. The new district vice president is Julie Bishop from Skagit Valley College.

Campus Labor/Management will meet June 20. Head Start/ECAEP met with management on April 14 to discuss upcoming layoffs.

WPEA is considering combining the four SVC bargaining units on campus into two that would consist of supervisory and non-supervisory.
The WPEA District meeting will be held May 16 on both campuses.

The Classified Staff Professional Development Committee will not be having an in-service group training session this year since funds were expended early due to the demand for individual training. The committee is looking into the possibility of asking for increased funding for classified staff training in the upcoming budget cycle.

WPEA executive committee representatives will be meeting with President Tollefson to talk about the new vice president position. He wants to share with us his interesting and innovative ideas for the new vice president’s duties.

Negotiations will begin soon on the new contract.

4. Administrative Services – Mr. Tom Harker

Mr. Harker distributed and reviewed the April 30 financial report; he stated that all revenues are tracking as anticipated, however, the revenue amounts for International and Running Start should be higher than expected. He said that a smooth closing is anticipated as the May 1 purchasing cutoff has gone well.

Mr. Harker reported that the Cardinal Cove property is now being advertised to the public at a listing price of $950,000. He said that five individuals have requested copies of the prospectus.

Mr. Harker stated that the development of the operating budget for 2006-07 is going well and that Cabinet has finished their part of the process. He said that budget forums will be held before the Board’s study session on May 22. Mr. Harker said that one of the differences with this year’s budget is that all new budget items are tied to Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

5. Educational Services – Ms. Susan Tinker

Ms. Tinker asked Dr. Joan Youngquist to report on Head Start.

Dr. Youngquist reported that Almeda Giles, Head Start Center Manager at the Skagit/Islands Head Start Center in La Conner, has been appointed to the Governor’s 2006 Benchmark Revision Leadership Team. This team will revise the Early Learning Benchmarks for the State of Washington with a view to making them more culturally appropriate. Almeda brings a strong knowledge of Early Childhood Education along with the Native American perspective to the team.

Dr. Youngquist reported that Betty Judd, Cherie Smith (Head Start Center Managers in Oak Harbor) and Lauren Young (a school district partner), recently gave a presentation on Inclusive Classroom Practices at the recent Early Childhood Development Association of Washington Conference in Seattle. Their presentation was very well received and they have been asked to present at the State Special Education Director’s Meeting this summer. They will also present
Dr. Youngquist distributed the May Head Start reported and updated the Board on the following:

- Currently working on the application process for the Head Start continuation grant. There was consensus by the Board to apply for the grant;
- The Anacortes Center will be closing due to low enrollment. The funding for that center will be spread out among the other centers;
- The Early Childhood Program will be reduced to an 11 month program;
- The Langley program is struggling for enrollment so they are proposing to combine the Whidbey program into one center and place five spaces at the Early Childhood Center.

6. Student Services – Ms. Linda Woiwod

Ms. Woiwod reported that the 49th annual Mount Vernon Campus Honors Reception was held on May 4 in McIntyre Hall. She stated that over $200,000 in scholarships were awarded to students.

Ms. Woiwod said that the baseball team is close to winning its first division title and that a new bus has been purchased and will arrive soon. She reported that the students voted to purchase the new bus.

Ms. Woiwod reported that counselors Rose Wedner, Emi Fredlund, Anita Ordonez, Pam Church and Brian Hanchett visited Bastyr and Evergreen College campuses to find out more about their programs, to meet with staff, and to tour the campuses. Counselors can better serve transfer students after visiting both campuses and learning about the programs that they have crafted which are unique to both of the institutions.

7. Whidbey Island Campus – Dr. Mick Donahue

Dr. Donahue thanked the Board for holding the Board meeting at the Whidbey Island Campus and for touring the Math Lab prior to the meeting.

Dr. Donahue gave a brief history of on-line classes delivered by the Whidbey Island Campus. He stated that five years ago there was very little to no involvement in on-line delivery and on-site enrollment was declining. Some of the faculty concerns during this time were possible reassignment at Whidbey or Mount Vernon or both, limited or no replacements of faculty vacancies, competing for resources at the district level more difficult, possible reduction-in-force.

Dr. Donahue stated that the strategy he used was to move as fast as possible to on-line delivery especially as part of full-time teaching load for full-time faculty. He said an example of the results of this strategy is that for spring quarter 2006 on-line
enrollment is up 59.27%, Whidbey Island Campus state funded enrollment is up 2.13%, and all funds are up 1%, while on-site enrollment is down 29.3%. Dr. Donahue reported that 72% of full time Whidbey Island Campus faculty now teach on-line as a regular part of their instruction load.

Dr. Donahue stated that the future of on-line education will depend on several things: student needs/wants, faculty make-up, and competition both internal and external.

Dr. Donahue remarked on two recent articles, one on a virtual high school in Quillayute and the other article about a recent law passed by the governor of Michigan requiring that all students complete at least one on-line course before graduating from high school.

Dr. Donahue introduced Ms. Janet Heverling, Department Chair of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).

Ms. Heverling stated that ECEAP was funded by the state legislature in 1985 and was created to serve students that met Head Start eligibility but who were not being served. She reported that Oak Harbor ECEAP began in 1990 with one classroom; today they have three sites and are integrated with the South Whidbey and Oak Harbor schools. Ms. Heverling then showed a DVD overview of ECEAP.

8. President – Dr. Gary Tollefson

Dr. Tollefson said that the whole issue of on-line education is growing at the local, state, and national levels and that there are things in our own district that we need to focus on and work on in the next year.

Dr. Tollefson highlighted the following items:

- On April 12 he served as “Principal for a Day” at Centennial Elementary School. He said that it was an interesting and positive experience;
- The May 1 Teach-In on the Mount Vernon Campus went very well. He said that several hundred people were involved in the Teach-In and he found that people were attentive and polite and that overall it was an exceptional experience. He said it this was an appropriate role for the college to provide education on the issues while not taking a political stance;
- On April 28 he signed a Sister College Agreement with Baewha Women’s College of Seoul, Korea and met with their President, Chung Gil Kim. He stated that he believes this agreement could eventually lead to a similar relationship as the one with Beijing Foreign Studies University.
9. Board of Trustees

Ms. Lisser reported that she, the Chair, and Dr. Tollefson are still meeting with the Public Facilities District regarding McIntyre Hall. She said that the meetings have gone well and they hope to have issues resolved within a month.

The Chair stated that McIntyre Hall is a great facility the Board wants it to work for all involved but that it cannot operate at the cost of the college.

The Chair stated that all of the trustees received news clippings from the State Board and he was amazed to see the number of articles on Skagit Valley College. He stated that it was a good indicator of the college’s success and commends everyone involved. Dr. Tollefson said that special acknowledgement goes to Ms. Arden Ainley, Director of Public Information for her work on getting the information to the media.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No requests were filed.

X. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 8, 2006, 11:00 a.m., San Juan Center

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Ms. Lisser and seconded by Mr. del Bosque to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Mel Takehara, Chair
Gary Tollefson, President
Executive Secretary to the Board
Lisa Radeleff, Secretary to the President