CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
Chairman Stephens called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the Boardroom at 6:50 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

Present:  Ms. Jamie Marie DePaolo, Mr. Glover Johnson, Ms. Vanessa Moritz, Ms. Donna Peluso, Mrs. Elizabeth Potter, Mr. Glenn Stam, Mr. Mark Stephens.

Absent: Ms. Diane Viverito.

Mr. Stephens reported that Ms. Viverito is moving and will not be in attendance tonight. He thanked Ms. Peluso for filling in for him at the December’s Board meeting and noted that his daughter, Jacquelyn, was married in December, and how proud he is of her.

Mr. Stephens noted that it was a prudent call to close the campus do to the extreme cold weather, and thanked President Granados, Vice President Sullivan, Mr. Lambrecht and his staff for the good job they did in keeping the college running during this time; he also thanked everyone for being here tonight.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of December 17, 2013. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously.

COMMENTS ON THIS AGENDA
None.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
None.

With leave of the Board, Mr. Stephens announced that he would amend the order of the agenda as it pertains to the Chairman’s and President’s Reports; there was no objection.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT
Mr. Stephens welcomed new Trustee Glover Johnson to the Board of Trustees. He noted that while Mr. Johnson was the only individual who applied for the Trustee’s vacancy, the College is very lucky to have him serve here. Mr. Johnson comes to the College with a fantastic background and qualifications as he fills the unexpired term through the 2015 election; we are hopeful that Mr. Johnson will seek election to the Board at that time.

Mr. Stephens announced that while the reorganization of the Board is regularly done in April of each year, with Mr. Gary’s resignation, he is appointing Mrs. Elizabeth Potter to the Finance Committee filling Mr. Gary’s vacancy and Ms. Vanessa Moritz to the Academic Affairs Committee,- effective immediately. Mr. Stam has served on the Academic Affairs Committee for several years and has been very helpful to fill in on either committee whenever necessary. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Stephens thanked Trustee Stam for all of his hard work and support.

Mr. Stephens reported that Triton’s enrollment is down 17% and that community college enrollment is considerably down state-wide. He announced that a Board Retreat is being
planned to a date certain within the next two weeks, and the administration will be asked to present a state-wide analysis of community college enrollment. Mr. Stephens added that we will turn this enrollment trend around and said that Triton will be getting community members involved.

Mr. Stephens commented on the outstanding job Pamela Perry did with the HLC accreditation visit. Mr. Stephens noted that as a Board we respect and support the HLC process. It allows us to host credit classes and confer degrees. However; after less than 72 hours of visiting our campus, the HLC team has to make assessments, which is not easy or fair to them in such a limited time. The visitation process allows people to make individual appointments with the visiting team, offering their own opinions, without rebuttal or correction of fact. As a result, this allows for self-serving statements and self-interest gets in the way of a true evaluation process. Mr. Stephens acknowledged that the visiting team met with the entire Board for dinner, but he expressed his problem with a system that allows people to make unchecked and unverified statements, and that these statements are then used as part of the College’s evaluation. The HLC team issued a draft report and Triton College is continuing with full accreditation. The fact correction stage of the HLC process is underway at this time.

Mr. Stephens stated that President Granados has held her position for 13 years and recognized that she is a very hard worker. He felt that there were potshots taken at her through the HLC process which are inexcusable. The College has had policies in place for over two decades and the HLC is just now getting around to questioning our policies that they have reviewed at least two other times with other HLC teams. During the HLC visit seven years ago, the committee had no comments on our policies, such as Travel. The Board will review these policies at the Board Retreat next week. Mr. Stephens noted again that he respects the HLC process, however, the President and Board have made efforts toward policy making, and will not let the self-serving efforts of a few, sink our ship. Their behavior is hypocritical and dishonorable to say the least. Mr. Stephens noted that overall the institutional report from the HLC was very positive.

Mr. Stephens reported that another topic for discussion at the retreat will be the renovation of the east side of Fifth Avenue.

Mr. Stephens noted that the College has no debt and has saved $30 million in reserve and by the end of the fiscal year we will still have $21 million in reserve. Mr. Stephens commented that Triton College cannot continue to wait for the funding picture in Springfield to improve and that the Chicago pension problem is enormous. The Mayor of Chicago is now looking for Springfield to help; however, the College has already lost over $110 million from the State over the last ten years with no realistic expectation to get that back. Mr. Stephens noted that the people who work hard here deserve the Board’s support. We will work together on this campus-wide. Mr. Stephens added that there is positive buzz on the 50th Anniversary, the Health and Science Building construction is progressing, offering a renewed commitment to the people of our district. Overall the accreditation is solid, Mr. Stephens added, but he becomes angry when all of the good work that has been done gets overshadowed by personal agendas.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Granados reported on the HLC draft, and overall, the College has a lot to be proud of, noting that there is evidence of strong student success. The HLC team advised that the College needs to scale up the projects we have been working on, i.e., make our “good” even “better” – strengthen them. This also includes adding dollars. We need to continue to work on assessment, in the classroom and in programmatic areas with the support of the Board and Administration. However, the team did recognize some improvement in assessment. Overall, we move too slowly, and this may be a result from too much intervention with the Unions. President Granados noted that it is very important for us to work together discussing the process. The Board will work on their side and we need to work together on our side. President Granados reflected on the 2007 HLC team in which they cited us for too much shared governance. Mr. Stephens added that when he was first elected to the Board, the Board travel expenditures were over $200,000, and this is one of the first things he pushed to have corrected. The community couldn’t believe that the way things ran and thought we were a laughing stock, but we tightened up on the travel.

Mr. Stephens noted that revising the salary structure is another issue for discussion at the Board Retreat. The administration did not get raises for two years and the President received a raise for three out of four years. Mr. Stephens believes that our salary structure has fallen behind other schools and is a contributing factor as to why Triton has three vacancies in the dean’s position. Mr. Stephens noted that the Board does not get involved in the selection process, and the Board has never vetoed the President’s recommendation when filling open positions. The Board’s job is to protect the taxpayers’ money; the Board is the liaison to the community.

President Granados announced that she will begin to have meetings, starting with College Council to work through some of the aspects of the HLC report, moving forward as quickly as possible. There are too many College reports causing communication to get bogged down. Since we have search committees going on now, it is important for us to get them moving forward.

Mr. Stephens added regarding assessment, if we had no problems, the administration could focus on assessments, in a bubble; it would be easy to critique everyone doing their jobs. He noted that the college works hard in assessment.

President Granados noted that assessment should be viewed more positive. What ideas do we have to generate positive results, and close the loop on programmatic services. If it didn’t work, look at how we can fix it and make it work. The Board has communicated their position and these assessment issues should not continue to plague us. Many of the things that are good are overshadowed by the negative. We need to take risks, realize why it worked and scale it up if it didn’t work. We need to be proud and be the best we can be.

In conclusion, Mr. Stephens noted that the College will continue full accreditation for a number of years. We were a little off, but not perfect; visitation teams are all different folks each time and we will strive to be the best.
REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS –Employee Groups

Faculty Association President Stu Sikora wished everyone a Happy New Year and noted that he believes it was a prudent call to close the College due to the extreme weather and thanked the Board. On behalf of the faculty, Mr. Sikora welcomed Mr. Johnson to the Board of Trustees.

Mid-Management Association President John Cadero complimented the Board on their strong commitment to the College. On behalf of the Mid-Managers, he echoed Mr. Sikora’s welcome to new Board member, Mr. Johnson. Mr. Cadero also commended the Board on closing the College due to the cold weather. Mr. Cadero noted that the Mid-Manager’s In-Service is scheduled in March.

Adjunct Faculty Association President Bill Justiz welcomed Mr. Johnson to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Justiz recognized the hard work of all employees and noted that low enrollment is not from lack of effort. He also thanked the administration for supporting various departments’ needs with the help of program assistants. Mr. Stephens added that we do not water down standards to pump up enrollment.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Sherry Burlingame presented the Quarterly Grant Report noting a grant award from the Illinois Green Economy Network for a total amount of $54,000 with a College match requirement of $36,000. Two funding requests were submitted, one to the U.S. Department of Education and one to the Illinois State Board of Education totaling $34,600 and three funding requests are under development totaling $4,135,000.

Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs Doug Olson stated that Nuevos Horizontes is a community center the College created for its Hispanic population. Currently, our ESL population has changed to eastern European people. At this point, VP Olson introduced Associate Vice President of Strategic Planning Mary-Rita Moore who then provided an update on Nuevos Horizontes, an off campus facility. Ms. Moore announced that this facility will be relocated to Triton’s main campus, and its services will be integrated as well. AVP Moore provided data which indicated Nuevos’ enrollment peaked 10 years ago and has been in decline ever since. Over the last five years, 130 students have used this off-campus site.

Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs Doug Olson introduced Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Cheryl Antonich who reported on the transition of the Nuevos Horizontes facility to the main campus. Acknowledging the good work the employees have done at the off campus site, AVP Antonich stated that the current services provided off campus will be reabsorbed on the main campus. Some classes may be offered at our current external sites, i.e., local high schools. Trustee Johnson inquired have the community members been apprised of the move, in which VP Olson responded that the plan will be rolled out this month. Chairman Stephens added that we are comfortable making this move. AVP Antonich noted that there will be a focus on the Bridge Program entertaining students from high schools and the community to move into credit bearing programs.
AVP Antonich concluded, the final semester is the 2014 spring semester and the site will officially close on June 30, 2014. VP Olson added that they are currently working on looking for space to create a smooth transition for all, and that community partners may be asked to help by offering classes too. Mr. Stephens noted that there will be no cost to students who are caught in the middle of the transition process, and the College will help out with transportation.

Mr. Stephens advised that we will aggressively market the sale of property and work with the Village. He concluded that this is the right move for the College. This will be a smooth transition, and we should encourage the students who have to move here on campus.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs/Student Affairs
None.

Finance/Maintenance & Operations
None.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD POLICY – First Reading

5106 Card Playing/Table and Board Games Policy (Student Affairs)
Chairman Stephens requested that the Board be advised if any feedback is received from the students.

STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Student Trustee Jamie DePaolo reported on behalf of TCSA President Mr. Jamian Griggs who was absent due to a scheduled class. Ms. DePaolo reported that the students attended the ICCB SAC meeting and will participate in Imagine Illinois on March 1, in which they are currently working on a local service project. On April 2, TCSA will attend Lobby Day in Springfield. The students will lobby for a $65 million Map Grant. Mr. Stephens offered to charter a bus for the students’ trip. On April 9, TCSA will host a Conceal and Carry Forum in collaboration with students and staff on the new law.

NEW BUSINESS (Cont.)
ACTION EXHIBITS

With no objection from the Board, Mr. Stephens asked for the Action Exhibits to be taken as a group, including:

15267 Budget Transfers
15268 Heartland Business Systems – Purchase of HP Desktop Computers
   Mr. Stephens commented that 85% of this equipment will be for student areas. The students come first and foremost.
15269 Websolutions – Mobile Website Design and Development
15270 Certificate of Completion and Final Pay Application, Triton College Parking Lot Improvements Project Phase 1
   Ms. Stephens commented that Mr. Lambrecht did a great job on this project and is assured that the next phase will run smoothly too.
15271 Revised Cost for BoardVantage Agreement
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15272 CollegeNET Event and Scheduling Training
Mr. Stephens noted that space optimization is very important.

15273 Out-of-Radius Travel Requests
Mrs. Potter made a motion to approve the Action Exhibits, seconded by Ms. Peluso. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously.

PURCHASING SCHEDULES
B36.13 D Building Window Replacement Project
Chairman Stephens called upon Mr. Lambrecht to inform the Board on the Window Replacement project. Mr. Lambrecht responded that the damage to the window was caused by a wind storm which caused the window in the main entrance of the Science Building to shatter. The replacement cost was $56,700.

Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the Purchasing Schedule. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously.

BILLS AND INVOICES
Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to pay the Bills and Invoices in the amount of $1,456,957.93.

Roll Call Vote:
   Affirmative: Ms. DePaolo, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Moritz, Ms. Peluso, Mrs. Potter, Mr. Stam, Mr. Stephens.
   Negative: (None)
   Absent: Ms. Viverito.

Motion carried 6-0 with the Student Trustee voting in the affirmative.

CLOSED SESSION
Mrs. Potter made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss and consider the hiring, discipline, performance, and compensation of certain personnel, matters of collective bargaining, acquisition of real property, and matters of pending, probable, or imminent litigation, seconded by Mr. Johnson.

Roll Call Vote:
   Affirmative: Ms. DePaolo, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Moritz, Ms. Peluso, Mrs. Potter, Mr. Stam, Mr. Stephens.
   Negative: (None)
   Absent: Ms. Viverito

Motion carried 6-0 with the Student Trustee voting in the affirmative. The Board went into Closed Session at 8:15 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION
Ms. Moritz made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Mrs. Potter.
Roll Call Vote:
   Affirmative:  Ms. DePaolo, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Moritz, Ms. Peluso, Mrs. Potter,
               Mr. Stam, Mr. Stephens.
   Negative:    (None)
   Absent:      Ms. Viverito

Motion carried 6-0 with the Student Trustee voting in the affirmative.
The Board returned to Open Session at 9:25 p.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

1.0 Faculty
   Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Potter to approve pages 1 and 2 of the Human
   Resources Report, items 1.1.01 through 1.8.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

2.0 Adjunct Faculty
   Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stam to approve pages 3 through 6 of the
   Human Resources Report, items 2.1.01 through 2.10.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

3.0 Administration
   Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moritz to approve page 7 of the Human
   Resources Report, items 3.1.01 through 3.3.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

4.0 Classified, Police & Engineers
   Mr. Stam made a motion, seconded by Ms. Peluso to approve pages 8 and 9 of the
   Human Resources Report, items 4.1.01 through 4.5.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

5.0 Mid-Management
   Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve page 10 of the
   Human Resources Report, items 5.1.01 through 5.5.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

6.0 Hourly Employees
   Ms. Peluso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve pages 11 and 12 of the
   Human Resources Report, items 6.1.01 through 6.3.01. Voice vote carried the motion
   unanimously.

7.0 Other
   No Action
ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made by Ms. Peluso to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously. Chairman Stephens adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Mark R. Stephens  
Board Chairman

Diane Viverito  
Board Secretary

Carolyn Palmer  
Recording Secretary