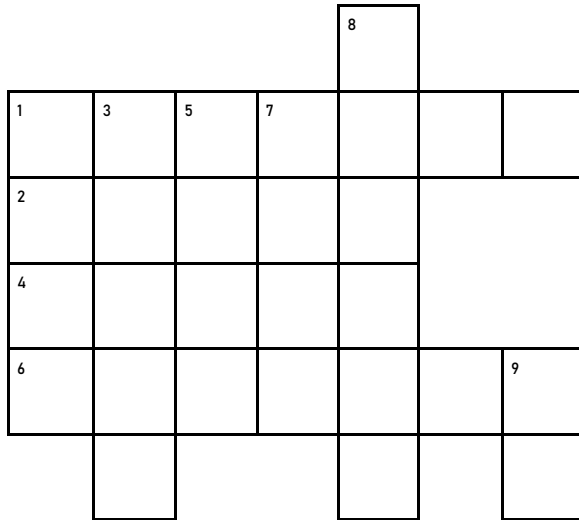


Puzzle Korner



Across

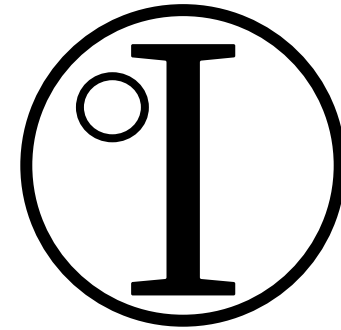
- 1) Nottingham law enforcer
 - 2) 2003 Britney Hit
 - 4) Ogres are like them
 - 6) Indoor gardening
- Down
- 1) Red sign on street
 - 3) High respect, esteem.
 - 5) Red sign above door
 - 7) Violent protest
 - 8) Outdoor lunch
 - 9) Green means

S P I N B M F U D A E E B R S D E N S L I R A R M
T A F I S M A M S I L D I A M E T S T A L F L E S
F O O T S M E L L Y B R A Y D A E E R T P T N G I
B R O B G E H A R F O L O B R O A D O E T S M F L
C S E H M D E E D T P E S S E X Q Y H R A O P V A
S E M E T O R L F O O T B A L L O D R T I P W S T
R S A G D U P Q R N R U D W Z A S P R A F S L M N
F E N U D O A J D G A R E T S L G R D E R O O E E
Q M A V S E M E T S V T D O N O E D O M L B T N M
M E B N R P L E L W U Y E E R F B A L L I E I T A
T S H Q A H R D Y I S D D U W U M Z N Q B T M L D
V T E W S R E I B G C R S L H C L A I D E M E G N
O E D P R V T U N R A G U D M T O O E L R A D A U
X R O K I S E K D G N L P Z P H P S D F Y S B R F

Spring
Garden
Broad

Library
Media
Semester

Freedom
Football
Fundamentalism



Vol. I No. 5

September 12, 2024

The Independent

Philadelphia's College News - for the Community, by Students

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“Literature has features that make it possible to experience the public without coercion and without submission. Literature refuses and disrupts passive or controlled consumption of the spectacle designed to nationalize identity in order to sell us products. Literature allows us—no, demands of us—to experience ourselves as multidimensional persons. And in so doing is far more necessary than it has ever been.”

- Toni Morrison from an essay in *The Source of Self-Regard*,
“Literature and Public Life”

Students Show Out at the Board of Trustees Meeting

M.P. Hassel

September 8, 2024

On Thursday, September 5th students joined members of Faculty & Staff Federation of Community College of Philadelphia (FSFCCP) at the Board of Trustees meeting to rally and give testimonies directly to the Trustees. Despite FSFCCP union demands and concessions, the administration and Board of Trustees allowed contracts for faculty and staff to expire on August 31.

Over 1,500 students signed a petition for the board to approve SEPTA TransPasses, making public transportation free for students. The current price tag for a monthly TransPass is \$96, and about 16,500 students are enrolled at CCP. SEPTA would very likely give the institution of CCP a healthy discount, but the summative price tag will likely still be hefty.

FSFCCP, intending to encourage the college's administrative leadership and governance to sign new contracts for full-time faculty, part-time faculty/visiting lecturer, and classified staff, has demanded for raises to counteract inflation, living wages for staff, better job security, increased support for students, smaller class sizes, on-campus child-care, and free transportation.

According Part-Time Faculty Co-Chair Noelle Egan, the Col-

lege Administration has "persistently denied the Federation demands," such as wages for classified staff and part-time faculty, and other details on health care benefits, staffing, and class sizes.

The closed session of the meeting began at 2:30pm, and students and union members were allowed in at 3:00pm for public comment. Well over thirty members of FSFCCP and roughly the same number of students gathered in the Mint Building outside the Isadore A. Shrager Boardroom, named after a partner of the law firm Fox Rothschild, by the time an administrator said the meeting would be pushed back to 3:15pm.

The Manager of Department of Public Safety Julien C. Fields hovered near the students as the energy escalated and whispered in Student Government Association President-Elect Frank Scales' ear to quiet down, remaining distant from faculty until the crowd in the hallways could file into the boardroom.

The table was surrounded by Trustees and Vice Presidents of the College and headed by Senior Advisor Harold T. Epps and President of the College Dr. Guy Generals. Fields now perched a few steps behind Generals, watching the gallery opposite the table. Administrators sat in front, closest to the table, while the rest of the faculty, staff, and students sat in tightly arranged rows of chairs or stood off to either side along the

walls.

Early into the meeting, Epps made a remark that "ninety-eight percent of the meetings" do not contain testimonies, signifying their discouragement of the Federation's and students' presence. Still, one by one, over twenty members of the union and students that signed up the day prior were called on to speak. Each speaker was strictly limited to two minutes, and College Counsel Carolyn Flynn promptly interrupted on every one-hundred-twenty-first second, graciously thanking them for their time. Exactly two minutes.

Halfway through the testimonies, Flynn used high-corporate double-speak to say that to save time, speakers should not repeat subjects. When charts were used to detail each of the contract demands, they were quickly waved off.

Contracts were brought directly to Dr. Generals during testimonies. Though encouraged by FSFCCP to sign, the college's governance must work through by-laws to make an approval decision or not. Jamie Zigarelli, a professor in the English department and treasurer of the Federation, spoke high praise of the motivated students in attendance. "It's inspiring that students are organizing and passionate to win the things they need: a seat on the Board of Trustees and free transportation. Faculty and staff are excited to be fighting alongside students."

—

Schedule a Tutoring Appointment in the Learning Lab

D. Campbell

September 9, 2024

Are classes starting to get tough? Even if they are still easy, scheduling a tutoring session in the learning lab of Community College of Philadelphia (CCP) will help you stay ahead in your courses.

In your MYCCP portal under the **Student Services** link, select the **Schedule Tutoring** bar. Click on the **Access Online Tutoring Support** link that pops up. A scheduling system will require you to register with your name, email, and J-number. If the system asks you to enter your user identification number, refresh the page.

After completing registration, you can select a subject, a tutor, and time to schedule an online or in-person tutoring session via the dropdown menus. You can arrive prepared with your course materials and notes from class.

Nick Romaniello, a member of the learning lab staff, has advised to "start scheduling sessions as early in the semester as possible to better ensure that you're grasping foundational concepts and staying on track as courses gradually ramp up, and with session availability also becoming

Continues on page 4

Schedule a Tutoring Appointment in the Learning Lab

Continued from page 3

ing increasingly limited.” This early in the semester though, students can sign up for same day appointments.

Another member of the learning lab staff would like you to know, “The support is here as an extra reinforcement for what you are learning in class, or to practice homework.”



success and the overall learning environment at CCP.

Note from the Editor

M.P. Hassel

The following four pages include five testimonies from faculty and a staff members addressing the Board of Trustees. Many speakers signed up to speak at the meeting, yet each were kept to two minutes. We could not include all testimonies from the members of FSFCCP in this issue, but we hope that our compiled few show how dedicated these members are about improving student

Testimony from Sept. 5 Board of Trustees Meeting

I’m Jamie Zigarelli - I’m a Full-Time Faculty member in the English department and a member of the Federation’s table team and I’m here today to address the ongoing contract negotiations.

The College has \$80m in the bank, an unprecedented number. And on top of that, this Spring, faculty, staff, and students ran a campaign together down at City Hall and won the College an additional \$5 million in funding, a 15% increase in operating money, the largest single year increase in the College’s history.

So with that in mind, I have some questions for everyone here in the Boardroom today.

Can the College afford a \$20/minimum for classified staff, some of whom make as little as \$32,000?

Can the College afford to bring class size in line with suburban community colleges, like Bucks and Montgomery County?

Can the College afford to pay part-time faculty the same amount to teach a class that they pay full-time faculty?

Can the College afford a public transportation option for every single person in this room?

Can the College guarantee students more counselors, more advisors, and learning lab faculty?

Can they afford more HVAC techs, IT support, and Multimedia folks so that we don’t all have to dress for four seasons every time we come to campus and freeze while we wait for the computer to start running and sweat while we wait for the smart boards to turn on?

Can they contribute to health care for part-time faculty who have to pay every penny for medical coverage for their family members, and every penny for their prescriptions, and every penny for every toothache? Can the college afford to do right by them?

And can the College afford real raises that make up for the massive inflation we’ve all been hit with over the last four years?

So, Dr Generals, Cabinet, and the Board: I submit to you that there are proposals on the table to address each of these issues, and our folks are ready to vote yes on three fair contracts that include them. I ask that next week you send your bargaining team to the table with orders to start saying yes and to use these pens to sign contracts that will provide faculty, staff, and students with the working and learning conditions they deserve.

Jamie Zigarelli, Full-Time Faculty

Visit IndependentCCP.com
for more articles and archives

Send Feedback or Contribute!

Email independentphiladelphia725@gmail.com

or send a message to (920) 400-0880

Testimony from Sept. 5 Board of Trustees Meeting

My name is Nate House and I'm the full-time faculty co-chair of our union and I've been at CCP for over 16 years. One of the best moments at the college is when my former student, Rhodes Scholar Hazim Hardeman returned to CCP and came to our English department meeting to answer questions. So, I asked him what we can do better for students

"Listen to their stories," he told us.

That one sentence reaffirmed the way I teach. If we don't listen to their stories, how can we possibly give them what they need to succeed?

Our counter proposals also tell a story—of what our staff, faculty and students need to succeed. It is told in a chorus of voices—based on surveys, meetings, one on one interactions and observations. The counters you have in front of you are a story of stories—that has come together in a single, unified voice with a common theme of dignity, respect and success. The question now is who will listen to this story

Thankfully, City council and the mayor have listened... As you know, after listening to our stories at city hall they increased our budget by \$5 million.

The residents of the city, who all of us represent are listening as they read in the paper, online or tune into the radio to get the story of why we need the proposals that include living wages, transportation, more counselors and advisors, smaller class sizes and other initiatives to give our staff, faculty and students all that they need; all they deserve.

Unfortunately not everyone is happy about listening to these stories.

After presenting our stories at the bargaining table your lead negotiator, Matt Fontana responded, "it is amazing to me that I had to listen to all that."

At another session he stated, "I've had to listen that you are the experts in teaching—I've never seen it."

So, what I ask of you is this: listen. Because if you do you'll hear that these reasonable counters will make the college the kind of place where all feel welcome, respected and valued. And once you hear that I urge you to use your power to have Dr. Generals sign these counters so we have three fair contracts that support the work we do to turn our students' dreams into the stories of how those dreams became reality.

Nate House, Full-Time Faculty

Testimony from Sept. 5 Board of Trustees Meeting

I've enjoyed being an employee at CCP for the past 21 years. During these years I've worked in several departments and accumulated an array of skills and experience. The abilities I've adapted allow me to bring levity, patience and most of all knowledge to my current position. I take pride in assisting students, co-workers and most of all the professors. I would like to believe that my loyalty to CCP would be noticed. I would like to think that management is aware of the rate of inflation! The raise I received several years ago is not adequate in comparison with the cost of goods and services today, an increase in salary would greatly relieve stress. Such as a raise could satisfy me and keep me motivated.

Jackie Jenkins, Classified Staff, Liberal Studies Department

My name is Charlie Allison and I've been an adjunct professor in the English department for one year at the Community College of Philadelphia. While brief, that has been enough time to see multiple students fail classes they should have passed because they could not afford public transport to the college. It is heartbreaking and entirely, completely preventable.

Not being able to afford transport to school is a bullshit reason to not gain one's college degree, pass a class, or even have basic peace of mind on the job.

CCP should provide free public transport for all students and workers. The college is sitting on a dragon's hoard of 80 million dollars in reserves—providing free public transport is pennies to that amount.

And it isn't as if there aren't successful examples of this in Philadelphia: Sep-ta's JAWNT program provides unlimited public transportation for City employees, to name but one model.

Free public transport is an easy win that the college could secure with minimal effort.

Free public transportation is an unvarnished public good for students and workers at CCP. For the students it would provide peace of mind, convenience and for some make the difference between success and failure in their chosen paths. To say nothing of CCP's workers, many of whom still don't make a living wage but still pay money to get here. To pay money to go the place that doesn't pay you enough to live on is a bitter, 21st century reality.

Charlie Allison, Full-Time Faculty

Testimony from Sept. 5 Board of Trustees Meeting

I am Leslie Greenlee, and I have been an Adjunct Professor for 7 years at CCP working in the English Department teaching ESL classes, and working in the Learning Lab teaching Labs and tutoring.

[Having a space on capus for part-time teachers] is so valuable because this will make us feel a part of the CCP community. There are many of us that work here for a full day that need a space to meet students and review our work for the next class. As a Part-timer, I prefer having a classroom where I can have extra time afterwards to continue the class, and many times, there is another class afterwards, so the learning stops at that point. To be able to have access to an office afterwards to assist students with their questions would be greatly appreciated. This tremendously helps students with confidence, motivation, and learning. I teach ESL students, and they need assistance with many situations such as counseling, financial aid, childcare, and of course their classwork. I feel that I need to serve them in the best way possible to create a bond, so that they have a desire to continue their learning with CCP and beyond. The students feel so appreciative when I provide extra assistance with any issue that may arise. In order to do this, I need another space to receive the students.

I had a [Visiting Lecturer] position for the first time in the spring of 2024 and was so proud to serve in this position. I was unaware of what to expect as far as the requirements and the pay structure, and what to expect in the future. I was just handed a contract that had requirements at the last minute, so to the best of my ability, I carried out the steps involved. It would be so valuable to have a coordinator to meet with to understand the requirements for the future, and the pay structure steps. I felt like I was not appreciated by the administration because of this last minute contract. I have always put the students first above everything else to make sure they receive the best information with the best teaching methods to make them successful. To help this situation, the [Part-Time/Visiting Lecturer] coordinator needs to support the [Part-Time/Visiting Lecturer] faculty which allows them to better support their students. The [pay scale] for the experience for part timers is ½ in comparison to the full-timers. As the part-timer gets more experience, they do not receive pay for that experience the way the full-timers do.

Leslie Greenlee, Part-Time Faculty/Visiting Lecturer

AN EVENING READING

SEPTEMBER 18, 7 PM

THE DEN IN LA CHINESCA
1036 SPRING GARDEN ST



\$5 ENTRY



READINGS BY
CHRISTIAN BUFO
ALEXANDRA NAUGHTON
OLGA MIKOLAIVNA
RYAN ECKES
MYENE YANU

Optimistic

Savannah Outen

September 10, 2024

For once I can say
I finally feel free
Hopeful for the things
That will come to me

I had to remember that roses
Always start off as seeds
And the beautiful garden there in
Started off with weeds

And I also had to consider that butterflies
Don't captivate an eye until the final stage
And time is a gift that I should cherish
At such a young age

And baby birds must practice flapping
Before they can begin to fly
And for every attempt at success
The person had to give failure a try

The moon doesn't rush
The sun to shine
That eventually everything that I prayed for
Will be mine

I Am

Ava Hampton

September 3, 2024

I am the thing that goes bump in the
night.

The thing that bubbles inside of you,
Pressurized
Like diamonds in liquid earth.

My shapeless being
Forms impossible claws
From impossible hands
And with my embrace
I make my presence known.

I am that which,
You try in vain
To pull from your chest.
You claw away at me, and yet
I seep back in through your touch
And rest where I once resided.

Yes, I am that thing.
And no matter,
No matter,
No matter how hard you hit-

When the bruises the day after tell
you of a job well done-
A reminder that same spot stays
That I am always there.
And I am always there.

And I am, still, there.
I am, still.
I am.

Horoscopes for the Week of September 9th

Amber Gris

Aries (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19)

Mon cher Aries, your fire burns bright this week, lighting the path for others to follow. Let your energy guide you to take that first step toward a new academic pursuit or creative endeavor. Don't rush—savor each moment of your journey.

Taurus (Apr. 20 - May 20)

Sweet Taurus, life is offering you a soft place to land this week. Take time to find your center amidst the hustle of classes and assignments. Embrace the beauty in simplicity, whether it's a quiet moment with a book or a well-earned break from your studies. Your patience will bring you serenity.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Dearest Gemini, your mind is alive with ideas and curiosities. This week, explore something new—whether it's a subject you've never touched or a conversation with someone different from yourself. You flourish in connection, so don't shy away from those around you. The world awaits your brilliance.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Oh, Cancer, your heart is a delicate sea of emotions, yet so strong. Let yourself feel this week, but do not be overwhelmed. Dive into your studies, your passions, and know that your intuition will guide you where you need to be. Remember, darling, rest is just as important as progress.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sep. 22)

Lovely Virgo, you are the architect of your success. This week, your careful attention to detail will serve you well in your academic pursuits. But do not be too hard on yourself. Sometimes, it is in the imperfections that we find beauty. Allow yourself a moment this week to breathe, you have earned it.

Libra (Sep. 23 - Oct. 22)

Charming Libra, balance is your gift, yet this week may test your ability to maintain it. Be gentle with yourself as you juggle your studies, relationships, and personal goals. You are more than capable, my dear. Have faith that the scales will tip in your favor when the time is right.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Mysterious Scorpio, you hold many secrets close, and this week, your inner power will help you navigate challenges with ease. Trust your instincts in both your studies and personal life. The unknown is your friend and embracing it will lead you to new heights. Let your passion fuel you, but don't forget to breathe.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Adventurous Sagittarius, the world is calling your name. This week, dive into your academic explorations with curiosity and an open heart. Take time to discover something that excites your soul, whether in the classroom or beyond. There's a magic in the new that you are destined to find.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Steady Capricorn, you are the foundation of your own success. This week, you'll feel the weight of responsibility but know that your perseverance is your greatest strength. Don't forget to indulge in small joys—a cup of coffee with a friend, a moment of quiet between tasks. You are building something beautiful.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Visionary Aquarius, your mind is a galaxy of ideas. This week, allow yourself to explore the unconventional. Whether it's in your coursework or personal projects, innovation will be your guide. Embrace your uniqueness, for it is your gift to the world. The future is yours to shape, darling.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20)

Dreamy Pisces, you swim in the waters of creativity and intuition. This week, let your heart lead you to what inspires you most—whether it's an art project, a new story, or a study that sparks your imagination. Don't be afraid to retreat into your own world for a bit; there, you'll find what you need to thrive.

Muffins with Michael

Come grab a free muffin and chat with our new Associate Dean for Student Success and Engagement, Michael Webber! He's thrilled to join the Community College of Philadelphia community and can't wait to hear your ideas, answer your questions, and get to know more about you, your work, and our amazing students. It's a fun, informal meet-and-greet open to all faculty, staff, and students – don't miss out!

Wednesday, September 25th

9:30am – 11:00am

Main Campus Library Conference Room, L1-13

Transit Committee Hearing on 9/19 at 10 am at TWU

Our Save the Train Coalition has committed to bringing 30 transit advocates and we'd really love you to come. You do not need to testify.

See who the players are who can provide CCP with funding for school transportation passes, AND you can get a cool "Save The Train" t-shirt! Just take the 43 bus from Main Campus to 2nd Street. Thursday, September 19th at 10:00am 500 N 2nd St.

Crossword Answers

OG(6)	
CINC(8)	
7) RIOT	(6) POTTING
5) EXIT	(4) ONION
3) HONOR	(3) TOXIC
1) STOP	(1) SHERIFF
Down	Across