



Resolution No. 162

Commending Service of President Cheryl L. Roberts

WHEREAS, the Shoreline Community College Board of Trustees (herein after referred to as "the Board") appointed Cheryl L. Roberts, EdD as the first African-American Woman President of Shoreline Community College (herein after referred to as "the College") in 2014; and

WHEREAS, through her thoughtful, visionary, deliberate and wholly dedicated leadership, Dr. Roberts has built-upon, innovated and broadly expanded the College's ability to provide the most outstanding advanced learning experience to an openly and purposely diverse Student body who choose to entrust their time commitments, finances, as well as their hopes and their dreams to the education they obtain at the College. Dr. Roberts has maintained a steady and intentional focus on equity in access, in Student learning experiences, and the promotion of Students' success through her early work on Guided Pathways, redesigning the Students' learning experiences.

Dr. Roberts was instrumental in supporting the argument for the College's need for our first Bachelor's degree program via the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Dental Hygiene. Dr. Roberts has utilized the Guided Pathways to redesign our Students' learning experiences by deliberately focusing on both learning outcomes and general education outcomes. She initiated a comprehensive approach to strategic planning and enrollment practices, deliberately articulating the College's procedures for supporting and guiding students from application through completion. This comprehensive approach served to actually increase the College's enrollment of a diverse student body and modestly improved Student retention and successful degree / certificate / goal completion. Dr. Roberts consistently reached-out to the wider community of legislators and elected officials as well as business, community and civic leaders, to work collaboratively with the College campus with the consistent goal of serving and supporting our Students; and

WHEREAS, through her gracious and focused leadership, Cheryl L. Roberts has resulted in the College successfully securing funding for two academic buildings which are the first to be constructed in over two decades, secured an agreement with the City of Shoreline to construct a roundabout to mitigate and improve traffic congestion for the College and larger community, completed construction of a new residence hall focused on creating a unique living/learning environment for students, as well as common space for the campus and general student population, renovation of casual space in the Pagoda Union Building to enhance student gathering and interaction, as well as space to create a learning commons and consolidate tutoring into a central location to enhance the student learning experience, set the stage for a campus facilities interior and renovation plan and designs

to support renovating space for the Multicultural and Gender Equity spaces for our diverse students; and

WHEREAS, through fiscal prudence while facing losses in enrollment as well as State and Federal fiscal constraints, President Roberts has put Shoreline Community College back on firm financial footing focused on growth and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, through her professional knowledge and understanding of the need for emergency preparedness and internal infrastructure reform, Cheryl L. Roberts created the College's emergency plan which included increasing campus awareness, drills, and ongoing trainings, supported the move to a CARES team approach, establishment of a Title IX office with team support, as well as the College's bias reporting, worked collaboratively with the College to create its Community Standards which expresses what the College stands for and against in support of respectful dialogue and behaviors, and

WHEREAS, through her direction and strong commitment to the staff, faculty and administrators, Cheryl L. Roberts saw the College's accreditation reaffirmed under the new stringent standards with a result focused on student learning, equity, and success; and

WHEREAS, through her results-oriented leadership and membership on national boards, Cheryl L. Roberts has made Shoreline Community College known nationally and internationally for its outstanding programs including: our collaboration with the ASG and IESC secured recognition for our sustainability practices from TreeCampusUSA, as well as accomplishing other ecological projects such as the Rain Garden, placement of outside recycling receptacles, and the first phase of the campus as a learning-laboratory project; expanding The Honors College experience, enhancing the automotive programs with new partnership such as Tesla START and the Solar Program which will complement our clean energy program; expanding the well regarded nursing program with new career pathways; strengthening the growing partnerships with the biotechnology sector including funding and development of the Biotechnology Career Pathway; securing the unique partnership moving the dental hygiene program to the University of Washington School of Dentistry with industry support and funding; and

WHEREAS, through her vision, disciplined leadership, and high energy, Cheryl L. Roberts has expanded the College into new and exciting areas which has yielded lasting partnerships with legislative, civic, community and business partnerships such as bringing the Seattle International Film Festival to campus where thousands of people enjoyed world-class films and our students learned from creatives in the industry, enhanced our partnerships with the Shoreline Solar Fest, and a new partnership with the Shoreline Arts Festival, engaging the neighborhood community in feedback on campus projects, worked with the City of Shoreline to co-brand 160th to College Way and placed College banners on Aurora to increase the College's visibility, deepened the collaboration with the City of Shoreline and Shoreline School District; and

WHEREAS, through her innovative and employee focused leadership, Cheryl L. Roberts reimagined with the campus key professional-development and recognition celebrations to honor and enhance employee learning in support of students and their success such as: established hiring practices focused on equity-minded principles which included training for search advocates, MCIR and cognitive errors for all screening

committees, instituted a new employee orientation with a diversity mindset, designed a manager's guide to support new employees, designed professional learning for Admin/Exempt and Classified Managers, redesigned Convocation, Opening Week Learning Sessions, established a Day of Learning focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion, reimaged the service milestone, retirement, and new employee designed recognition programs to lift up the outstanding work of the College; and

WHEREAS, through her knowledge and professional skill, Cheryl L. Roberts worked to recreate the Foundation with the Board of Directors which increased the endowment, philanthropic gifts and scholarships for our students, developed an alumni network, worked with the University of Washington School of Dentistry to secure a \$1.5M grant from Delta Dental for the dental hygiene program, as well as initiated the College's first capital campaign to raise funds for the new Health, Science & Advanced Manufacturing, and increased awareness in the business, civic, legislative, and community (including The Highlands) of the importance of giving to Shoreline's programs and students; and

WHEREAS, through her partnership with the Board of Trustees, Cheryl L. Roberts supported their work to refresh the College's mission and vision statement to better reflect the College's direction and purpose, provided new ideas for professional learning for their biennial retreats, study sessions, developed way for the Board of Trustees to reach out to other boards, city officials, legislators, and Congressional members to advance the College; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl L. Roberts has advanced the vision, mission, and values of Shoreline Community College through her relevant, responsive, and results-oriented leadership and actions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shoreline Community College Board of Trustees hereby recognizes Dr. Cheryl L. Roberts for her vision, leadership both inside the College as well as the broader community of legislators and elected officials, her erudition and academic excellence in **leading** Shoreline Community College and in forging the College's path into the future and with a heart for equity, diversity and inclusion, writing the introduction to our next chapter.

The Board hereby approves Resolution No. 162.

Done in Open Public Meeting by the Board of Trustees this 4th Day of May 2021.

Board of Trustees
Shoreline Community College
District Number Seven

By: _____
Catherine Post D'Ambrosio, PhD, RN
Chair, Shoreline Community College Board of Trustees