



Week of September 20, 2004

Volume 12, Number 9

NEWS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 21 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Board Pres. Kraft resigns

Governing Board President **Ronald Kraft**, a trustee since 1992, announced his resignation from the Board, effective early October. **Kraft** is leaving to become president of the Alliance for Corporate Education, an organization of 17 community and technical colleges in the Puget Sound region. "It was not an easy decision to leave, but commuting between homes in San Diego and Seattle is just not realistic. Thank you for a wonderful 12 years," said President **Kraft**.

Colleagues unanimously praised his hard work, dedication, and high standards. United Faculty President **Mel Amov** remarked, "We will miss the gentlemanly way you've always behaved."

Cutting's favorites expressed

In a statement read at the beginning of the Board meeting, Trustee **Wendell Cutting** said, "Not once in my tenure have members of this Board had anything in mind but the best interests of our students . . . Yes, I play favorites. My favorites are simple: What is in the best interest of our students? What is in the best interests of the entire District? And where do we want to be in 20 - 40 - 60 years?"

"Good people can disagree without being disagreeable. The Board's role is to represent citizens and taxpayers. Split votes don't mean respect for each other is diminished . . . I'm not interested in fighting yesterday's battles. Yesterday is gone. I love East County and I love this District."

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Trustee **Deanna Weeks**, expressing similar sentiments, said she had read all of the e-mails and understood the passions expressed. "Students are our number one focus," she said, "and we must do everything possible to meet their needs."

Prop R Funding Plan and GC IPP approved

After extensive discussion, including presentations from Grossmont and Cuyamaca faculty and student representatives, the Governing Board approved two key measures related to Prop. R projects.

By two 3-2 votes, with Trustees **Wendell Cutting**, **Ron Kraft**, and **Deanna Weeks** in favor, and **Rick Alexander** and **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** opposed, the Board approved the revised Prop. R Funding Plan Annual Revision and the Grossmont College Student Services Complex Initial Project Proposal (IPP).

Trustee **Rick Alexander** wanted the decision delayed to see where cost savings could be achieved in the student services complex. He expressed concerns that future Prop. R projects at Grossmont College could be at risk if fewer funds are available because current projects run over budget.

Board members and staff explored the pluses and minuses of waiting an additional 30 days to make a decision on the IPP. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** observed, "We have analyzed and re-analyzed this project in the last 30 days. The scope has not changed for a number of years. We come up with the same needs for our student body. With a projected 20,000 to 25,000 students at Grossmont College, we need this type of facility . . . We should allow this project to move ahead."

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Commenting on the proposed Prop. R spending plan, Associated Students of Grossmont College President **Rick Walker** voiced apprehension that not enough funding was allocated toward repair and restoration of current facilities.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Beth Smith** presented a resolution on the Prop. R Spending Plan, calling for postponement of a vote until further discussion, redesign of the development process, more emphasis on repair, and prioritizing new construction projects based on service to existing students, programs and services.

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

Rick Alexander, Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Wendell R. Cutting, Ronald D. Kraft, Deanna Weeks

STUDENT MEMBERS: Peter Anderson, Bill Stanford

Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont President: Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. • Cuyamaca President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Jan Ford** acknowledged the difficult choices that needed to be made, and commended the Governing Board and Chancellor **Omero Suarez** for their leadership in successfully reaching a Prop. R budget compromise. She referenced the positive shared governance process that had been used at the college and district levels.

Governing Board President **Kraft** noted, "It's a good problem to have. We will have wonderful new buildings and repairs on both campuses."

Adoption Budget accepted

The Governing Board unanimously passed the District 2004-2005 Adoption Budget as presented.

Sept. Award goes to Kew

Diane Kew, Cuyamaca College Instructional Lab Assistant, was selected as the September 2004 Chancellor/Classified Senate Award recipient.



Dianne Kew
photo by Phu Nguyen

Chancellor **Omero Suarez** said **Kew** "not only supports teachers in her department, but students as well." Colleagues praised her great attitude, and said she is energetic and bubbly with the talent to match.

Kew also won kudos for her expertise at technical problem solving, as well as communication and graphic design. **Kew** received an array of gifts from Classified Senate representative **Maggie Gonzales** to thank her for a job well done.

GEAR UP receives grant

Brian Gray, SBC Director of External Affairs, presented a check from the SBC Foundation for \$121,130 to the GEAR UP Program to assist middle and high school students into college programs and for associated research.

Reports to the Board

Trustee **Wendell Cutting** complimented Cuyamaca College on its Fall Convocation, with special recognition

to **Dr. Perri, Jan Ford, Patricia Santana, and Maggie Gonzales.**

Trustee **Rick Alexander** reported that the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association remains committed to advocating for the next \$80 million for equalization in community college funding.

Chancellor **Suarez** congratulated **Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.**, who has been named Pacesetter of the Year by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, District 6. The annual award is given in recognition of exemplary leadership in community college marketing and public relations.

Chancellor **Suarez** and Governing Board members thanked Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Executive Director **Barbara Beno** for her excellent workshops on new student learning outcomes accreditation standards.



Grossmont College Report

- Grossmont College President **Ted Martinez, Jr.**, welcomed new Associate Dean for EOPS, **Steve Tamanaha.**
- Grossmont College Media Communications students have won again. Their award winning work now moves on to international competition.
- **Dr. Martinez** announced the selection of Grossmont College by the regional American Indian community to host the event commemorating dedication of the Smithsonian Institution's new Museum of the American Indian, and the Native People's Day of Healing.
- Enrollment at Grossmont College is currently 17,348 students.



Cuyamaca College Update

- Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine M. Perri** announced that the Institute for Telecommunications Technologies (IT2) received an extremely favorable review after a site visit by the National Science Foundation's Visiting Committee.
- **Nancy Jennings**, Communications/Speech Instructor, **Peter Utgaard**, History Instructor, and **Madelaine**

Wolfe, Dean of Division I, will present on student learning outcomes at the Community College League of California November conference.

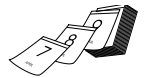
- **Dr. Perri** congratulated GM ASEP student **James Steel** for his national scholarship award from National Castrol SYNTEC.
- **Dr. Perri** reported that eight high school group tours are scheduled this fall.

Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new classified employees **Martin Fontenot**, Custodian; **Wang (Tony) Mok**, Custodian; and **Cheryl Staples**, Graphic Designer.

Congratulations to **Ron Adams**, General Maintenance Worker; **Lisa Lundgren**, Admissions & Records Assistant, Senior; **Maura Mehrian**, Child Development Center Assistant, Senior; **Nicholas Montez**, Admissions & Records Office Supervisor; and **Celia Shaw**, Child Development Center Assistant, Senior; on their new assignments at Grossmont College.

Calendar of Events



Tuesday, September 28, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
College Health Fair, Main Quad,
Cuyamaca College

Thursday, October 14, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
College Transfer Fair, Main Quad,
Cuyamaca College.

Monday, October 18, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
26th Annual Career Expo, Main Quad,
Grossmont College

Saturday, October 23, 5:30 p.m.
Grossmont College Foundation Walk of Fame Gala, Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, October 19, 2004, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 7:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 6:30 p.m.