



Week of May 16 , 2005

Volume 13, Number 5

NEWS FROM THE MAY 17 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Classified employees commended

The Governing Board passed a resolution formally recognizing the week of May 15-21 as “Classified Employee Week” to honor the many contributions of classified employees to quality education in the District. In part, the resolution reads, “Classified employees provide a wide variety of valued services on behalf of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, and . . . are often the first contact that individuals have with the District, and set the tone and flavor of a positive educational environment.” CSEA Vice President **Dave McDade** thanked the Board for its recognition.

Stephenson receives Chancellor/Classified Senate Award



Patty Stephenson
Photo by Phu Nguyen

Patty Stephenson, Clerical Assistant, Senior, at Cuyamaca College, was honored with the May Chancellor/Classified Senate Award. **Stephenson** “is the person who takes any concerns or issues related to operations and

ensures that they are handled effectively and efficiently,” said Chancellor **Omero Suarez**. “Her calm and caring personality is comforting and gives people confidence that their issues are heard and being addressed.” Said Arleen Satele, Cuyamaca College Administrative Services Dean, “Patty is a great help. She exemplifies customer service.”

Classified Senate representative **Maggie Gonzales** presented **Stephenson** with several gifts in addition to her award.

Campus construction milestones reached

Trustees gave approval to file Notices of Competition on the Grossmont College Learning Resource Center Expansion and Library Remodel/Technology Mall projects. Although 27 of the 28 different “prime bid packages” or subcontracted segments of the project were completed in November 2004, the remaining contract was recently completed.

Academic Senate report continued to June

At the request of the Governing Board, a docketed report from the Grossmont College Academic Senate was continued to the June 2005 meeting to allow trustees more time to review the report.

Science, Communication Arts bids awarded

Governing Board members voted to award bids for work on the Grossmont College Science Building and the Cuyamaca College Communication Arts Building. Thirty percent of the 71 bids received by the District for the work were from East County-based companies, and almost 90 percent of the bids were from San Diego County companies. Nineteen bids were awarded for work ranging from roofing to landscaping, carpeting, and electrical work.



Reports to the Board

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Peter Anderson** and Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Bill Stanford** were presented Certificates of Appreciation for their year of service on the Governing Board. Attending his last meeting, **Anderson** said, “It’s been a great ride. Thank you all for providing the vehicle.” **Stanford** will return to the Board for a second year.

Board members reported on their attendance at numerous events celebrating student accomplishments. **Wendell Cutting** was absent due to illness.

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

Rick Alexander, Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Wendell R. Cutting, Bill Garrett, 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.

Trustees **Deanna Weeks** and **Bill Garrett** both particularly enjoyed attending the “Student of Note” events.

Chancellor **Suarez** congratulated **Therese Long**, programmer analyst in Information Systems, for her Golden Apple Award, which recognizes her as an outstanding adult education teacher in the Grossmont Union High School District.

Jim Austin, Vice Chancellor-Business Services, reported on budget issues. The state’s cost of living adjustment (COLA) is proposed to increase to 4.25 percent this year. While equalization has not been funded yet, **Austin** said \$40 million in the May Revise was a good start.

Austin also discussed facilities, noting that even with the addition of new buildings, including labs on both campuses, neither campus will reach the state’s recommended capacity based on 2003 attendance levels. Grossmont College will reach 86 percent of the state’s recommendation, and Cuyamaca College will increase from the current 38 to 62 percent after the Science & Technology Mall, and to 96 percent after the Communication Arts building.

Dana Quittner, Sr. Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Economic Development & Public Information, said the addition of \$40 million for equalization is “only halfway” and that a call to action would be issued asking for letters to push more money into the budget this year.

Mel Amov, United Faculty President, expressed his concerns about the future of the District at his last Governing Board meeting as UF President. **Amov** said policies are misdirected, and worried that the District will not be able to attract as many qualified faculty as in the past. “But people who make the District a model of excellence are still here,” said **Amov**. **Amov** also discussed the status of contract negotiations, saying, “Step and column is a sacred thing.”

Beth Smith, Grossmont College Academic Senate President, reported that

morale is low, and called for leadership at the District level.

Jan Ford, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President, said work continues on a Student Services Plan and Matriculation Plan. The Senate is working with retention specialists funded by the college’s Title III grant.

Grossmont College Report

- Grossmont College President **Ted Martinez, Jr.**, invited everyone to attend the Science Lab Building groundbreaking ceremonies on May 25 at 10 a.m.
- **Dr. Martinez** reported that several Griffin teams participated in state championship competition, including men’s tennis, men’s volleyball, badminton and men’s and women’s swim/diving teams.
- **Dr. Martinez** recognized baseball coach **Ed Olson** for his record of achievements on the field and in the classroom during his 22-year career at Grossmont College.

Cuyamaca College Update

- Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine M. Perri** congratulated the Cuyamaca College Foundation for raising over \$40,000 at its annual dinner dance.
- **Dr. Perri** reported that over 300 parents and daughters attended the career night on April 26, sponsored by Women in Technology Club.
- Over \$100,000 in scholarships were awarded at the annual Cuyamaca College Scholarship Ceremony on May 12.

Speakers Address Trustees

Most of the Governing Board meeting time was taken up with public comment from faculty members on issues being negotiated between the District and United Faculty, including step and column. **Scott Barr**, Grossmont College Counselor, urged the Board to

“slow things down.” **Mike Matherly**, Grossmont College Geology Professor, told Board members, “You need to ask more questions.” Several speakers expressed disapproval that the Academic Senate Report was continued to the June meeting.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new Grossmont College classified employees **Brandi Dunn**, Bookstore Purchasing Assistant; and **Kerri Etzel**, Admissions and Records Assistant.

The District welcomes new classified employee **Kasi Althaus**, Accounting Technician; **Nickolas Comer**, Network/Telecommunications Specialist; and **Barbara Hashiguchi**, Clerical Assistant.

Welcome to new Grossmont College academic employee **Courtney Hammond**, Philosophy Instructor.

Congratulations to **Eugene Morones**, Interim Associate Dean, Special Funded Programs, Cuyamaca College; and **Kathleen Gustafson**, Associate Dean, Learning Resources, Grossmont College, on their new assignments.

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, June 1, 5:30 p.m.
44th Annual Grossmont College Commencement, Main Quad

Thursday, June 2, 5:30 p.m.
27th Annual Cuyamaca College Commencement, College Track

Next Board Meetings

The Governing Board will hold a Budget Workshop special meeting on Tuesday, June 14, at 5:30 p.m., at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College.

The Governing Board’s next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, June 21, 2005, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.