



Week of December 11, 2006

Volume 14, Number 12

NEWS FROM THE DECEMBER 12 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Board at full strength, Alexander 2007 board president



Shown above: Rick Alexander, 2007 Board President; Bill Garrett, 2007 Vice President; Deanna Weeks, 2007 Clerk of the Board; Trustee Greg Barr; Trustee Dr. Timothy Caruthers; and Chancellor Omero Suarez.

Board President **Rick Alexander** thanked trustees for their confidence, and commented that campaign strategies during the election were designed to

“create chaos... The real losers were the students... It’s time to put this election behind us and move forward... I am sure that we all want what is best for our students, both of our colleges, and our employees, our entire district.”

Alexander said that he would be meeting with many in the next month and would report back at the next board meeting. **Alexander**

presented **Deanna Weeks** with a commemorative plaque in recognition of her service as 2006 board president.

District mission statement

The governing board unanimously approved the district’s mission statement. **Bob Hertel**, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Districtwide Academic, Student, Planning & Research Services, reported that the statement was thoroughly reviewed and voted on in 21 different processes prior to coming back to the governing board.

Prop. R performance

In a performance review of the Proposition R bond program covering eight specific areas, **Tony Fulton** of AF Consultants told trustees, “The district’s program is excellently handled and well managed.” **Fulton** praised the project management firm Gafcon and district staff for their work making sure Prop. R projects are on schedule.

From Closed Session

The governing board unanimously approved December 22, 2006, as CSEA Recognition Day.

On a motion by trustee **Bill Garrett** and second by trustee **Greg Barr**, with a vote of 5-0 the board released from employment a probationary employee.

On a motion by trustee **Rick Alexander** and second by Trustee **Garrett**, the board voted 3-1 (**Barr** against and Trustee **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** abstaining) to accept the findings of an Administrative Law Judge regarding Grossmont Geography Instructor **Tim Cliffe**. (Prior to

Closed Session, seven individuals spoke in support of **Cliffe**, noting his excellence as an instructor.)

Designated smoking areas

Smoking Task Force Chairman **Bob Eygenhuysen** reported that designated smoking areas were identified on both campuses by the Task Force and reviewed by campus committees. Implementation is planned by January 27, 2007.

Public Safety will put educational information in place before anyone is cited for violations.

Contracts investigation

Clifford Weiler with the law firm of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Rudd & Romo presented a preliminary report on his investigation into cabinet-level contracts, including extensive information on his qualifications, background, and independence. He defined the scope and said the report will include factual findings and whether policies and procedures need modification. He hoped the written report

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

Rick Alexander, Greg Barr, Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Bill Garrett, Deanna Weeks

STUDENT MEMBERS: Pat Ardilla, Cathy Keyes

Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont Interim President: Dean Colli, Ed.D. • Cuyamaca President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

will be completed within ten days.

Trustee **Caruthers** inquired about the selection process for hiring **Weiler**. **Jim Austin**, vice chancellor-business services, said recommendations came from various experts, and three firms without any ties to the district were invited to bid.

The report will be made available as soon as it is received.

Reports to the Board

Trustee **Deanna Weeks** described her lunch meeting with recent Chancellor/Classified Senate Award winner **Julio Soto** as “inspirational.” **Weeks** attended the Nurses Pinning Ceremony, as did Trustee **Rick Alexander**.

Grossmont Student Trustee **Cathy Keyes** reported that Region X Student Senator **Charles Brown** would attend the statewide student senate meeting.

Trustee **Bill Garrett** said, “We are starting a new year... I want to take advantage of that and the fact that we are now five elected board members to take a new look at things. I’m concerned we haven’t been listening to each other.”

Trustee **Greg Barr** said he was “honored” by the volume of people that have welcomed him. He encouraged people to “reach out and touch a board member” before getting to the podium in anger.

Trustee **Tim Caruthers** thanked members of the Grossmont College Foundation for their lunch program.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Pat Ardilla** reported on student activities, including participation by the ASCC at a Region X meeting at Miramar College. The Cuyamaca mascot now has a name, “*Penyaw*.”

Vice Chancellor-Business Services **Jim Austin** shared statistics on the new buildings, including that 42 faculty offices are being built.

Grossmont College Interim President **Dean Colli**, reported on legal definitions regarding journalism classes and student newspapers.

Zoe Close, United Faculty president, expressed disappointment that the contract investigation report was not complete.

Beth Smith, Grossmont College

Academic Senate president, said the Senate passed a resolution asking the chancellor to provide detailed direction on candidate requirements to the Grossmont President Search Committee and expressed concern that the “stalled search . . .” “threatens accreditation.”

Grossmont College Interim President **Dean Colli** responded as Search Committee Chairman that he was concerned about Senate misconceptions. Dr. **Colli** said there has been ongoing communication between the chancellor and committee; that the committee had responsibility in selecting candidates for consideration, with input from the campus; and the committee, chancellor and board reluctantly agreed to delay the process and hire an executive search firm.

“I can easily understand the frustration of the search committee and our campus community with the length of time and amount of effort it is taking...” said **Colli**. “However, I firmly believe that the chancellor and members of the board also would like to see the process move as expeditiously and effectively toward a successful end.”

Jan Ford, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate president, reported the Senate met with Trustee **Greg Barr**.

Dave McDade, CSEA representative, thanked President **Sandy Beasley** for her year of service.

Pat Murray, Classified Senate representative, said the break is a good opportunity to “rest and rebuild our strength.”



Grossmont College Report

Interim Grossmont College President **Dean Colli** reported 52 new nurse graduates: 18 from the Weekend/Evening Program, and 34 from the traditional program.

Student teams from 28 colleges and universities participated in the annual Speech and Debate Tournament in November, the largest parliamentary debate tournament in Southern California. Eight district students participated and three won awards.



Cuyamaca College Update

Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine M. Perri** reported that

Automotive Instructor **Pat Garity** met the Ford Motor Company’s ASSET Certification Standard requirement to be 100 percent fully trained. Ford provides the latest in diagnostic equipment to schools that maintain 100 percent fully trained and certified instructors.

Dr. Perri announced the State Chancellor’s Office has approved an associate degree in Social Work, which includes new transfer courses. The new program will appear in the 2007-08 catalog.

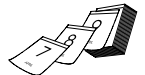
Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new classified employees **Kerri Etzel** and **Sandra Ramos**, Admissions & Records Assistants, and **Susan Henderson**, Microbiology Technician.

Cuyamaca College welcomes new classified employee **Timothy Kennedy**, Chemistry Technician.

Grossmont College welcomes new academic employees **Stanley Keys**, Cardiovascular Technology Instructor; **Diana Puleo**, Medical-Surgical Nursing Instructor; and **Brian Carter**, Physics Instructor.

Calendar of Events



- *Tuesday, Jan. 16, 8 a.m.* Spring Semester General Meeting, Grossmont College Student Center
- *Wednesday, Jan. 17, 8 a.m.* Spring 2007 Convocation Cuyamaca College Gym
- *Wednesday, Jan. 17, 12:15 p.m.* Grand Opening, Grossmont Science Laboratory Building

Next Meeting

The Governing Board’s next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, January 16, 2007, at Heritage of the Americas Museum, Cuyamaca College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Public Comments

Marjorie Ellis, **Crystal Sudano**, and **Nancy Rumberg**, addressed the board about smoking, student newspaper, and Tim Cliffe, respectively.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE

