



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

The Courier

Providing highlights of the Governing Board meetings for faculty and staff
For more information on Courier items, contact the District Public Information Office at x7573.

Week of January 16, 2006

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NEWS FROM THE JANUARY 17 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Audits document sound fiscal management

Governing Board members received outstanding 2004-05 audit results for the District, Grossmont College and Cuyamaca College Foundations, District Auxiliary, and PEAR, the alternate retirement plan for part-time employees. **Heidi White**, partner in the accounting firm of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, told trustees all reports were unqualified with no findings, the highest possible standard for an audit. "This is the highest standard of opinion auditors can provide you," said **White**. In addition, an examination of federal and state awards showed unqualified findings and excellent financial controls.

"It's highly unusual to have five audits with no issues and no management letters," said Chancellor **Omero Suarez**.

Jim Austin, Vice Chancellor-Business Services, thanked Controller **Sue Rearic** and district and college staff for their efforts.

Governor's proposed budget positive

Vice Chancellor **Austin** said Governor **Schwarzenegger's** proposed budget is a very positive one for community colleges, with an 11 percent increase over 2005-06,

a 5.18 percent cost of living increase, \$130 million in equalization funding, and no increase in student fees. **Austin** cautioned that the budget was still preliminary, and that it will require "vigilance and hard work" to secure these gains in the final budget.

Prop R update

Gafcon program manager **Joe Minner** reported "lots of exciting activity" on both campuses as Prop R projects make good progress. He said the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee has been active with site visits.

Minner said outreach to East County contractors has proven very successful. Sixty-six out of 315 companies bidding on projects were based in East County, and in 2005 alone won \$25 million in contracts, a third of the total awarded.

Updated Prop R project information is available at www.gcccd.edu.

Smoking policy reviewed

Bob Eygenhuysen, Director of Risk Management and chairman of the District's Tobacco Use Committee, said the District's smoking policy received a "B-minus" grade from the American Lung Association. Trustee **Bill Garrett** asked if the District could pursue a complete ban on smoking. **Eygenhuysen** said committee members are trying to

reach a balance that will not penalize students.

Student trustee vacancy

Governing Board members discussed options for filling the vacant Grossmont College Student Trustee seat. **Peter White**, Grossmont College Vice President of Student Services, said the seat was filled by appointment in 1997 and 2003. The Associated Students of Grossmont College (ASGC) has not yet expressed a preference for appointment or special election.

ASGC President **Farrah Gross** said the ASGC would make a decision in the best interests of the students. Former Student Trustee **Rick Walker** said he opposes an appointment. Trustees voted to allow ASGC the option to fill the seat by appointment. Trustee **Bill Garrett** asked for the current board policy to be updated to reflect this option.

Reports to the Board

Board President **Deanna Weeks** reported that Trustee **Wendell Cutting** was successfully recovering from surgery at Scripps Green Hospital, and that Cutting regretted not being present.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Bill Stanford** said the Associated Students of Cuyamaca College is assisting the community outreach campaign and

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

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

STUDENT MEMBER: Bill Stanford

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

working on the Feb. 14, 2006, Student Center groundbreaking.

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Ben Lastimado, Vice Chancellor-Human Resources & Administrative Services, received Public Employees Review Board (PERB) certification of the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Local 707 as the exclusive representative for classified staff excluding supervisors.

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CSEA representative **Dave McDade** said he looked forward to adding new members to CSEA.

Administrators Association President **Brad Tiffany** said the group now represents classified supervisors and managers.

Jan Ford, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President, said the Senate would hold a special session this week to "brainstorm involvement strategies."

Beth Smith, Grossmont College Academic Senate President, asked about selection of community members for the Grossmont presidential search committee. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** said the Board would select two, and the Grossmont College Foundation would select a third.

United Faculty President **Zoe Close** encouraged board members to find a bigger venue for meetings at Cuyamaca. **Close** asked about the December 23 special meeting. President **Weeks** and Chancellor **Suarez** replied it was properly noticed and that reporting on personnel action after the meeting "went beyond what is required." **Close** asserted that the United Faculty would defend its members' rights.



Grossmont College Report

- Acting President **Dean Colli** reported enrollment continues to be a challenge, with a significant loss of students who are not continuing from the prior semester. The 1,100 affected students are receiving electronic messages.
- Thanks to a program review suggestion, **Dr. Colli** said 80 potential students attended an evening Adult Re-Entry Orientation Session in January.
- Criminal Justice students competed in American Criminal Justice Association's regional events, winning nine individual and team trophies, including two first places.



Cuyamaca College Update

- Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine M. Perri** reported enrollment is down compared to Spring 2005, but showing improvement.
- Thirteen students received high school diplomas in graduation ceremonies January 7 from the innovative Cuyamaca Prep program.
- **Dr. Perri** shared the success story of former Telecommunications Networking Technology student **Jason M. McAllister**, who has just been certified as a Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD). **Jason**, 21, is among only 9,000 RCDDs worldwide.

Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new classified employees **Judith Canedy** and **Zahra Naseem**, Child Development Center Aides; **Jeannette Castle**, Mail Processor; **Ryan Fawcett**, Biology Technician; **Joshua Fontenot** and **Raul Galvan**, Custodians; and **William Rapolla**, Account Clerk, Senior.

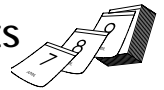
The District welcomes new classified employees **Rian Bair**, Contracts Specialist, and **Ann Evans**, Payroll Specialist.

Congratulations on their new assignments to classified employees: **Michael Copenhaver**, Director, Financial Aid, Grossmont College; **Mark Cossano**, Multi-Media Technician, Cuyamaca College; **Susan Crabtree**, Special Projects Account Analyst, District; **Donna Lee-Cristaldi**, Community Learning Operations Coordinator, Cuyamaca College; and **Patty Sparks**, Administrative Secretary, District.

Welcome to new academic employees at Grossmont College: **Jennifer Bennett**, Painting & Drawing Instructor, **Judd Curran**, Geography Instructor, **Claudia Flores**, Child Development & Family Studies Instructor, **James Foran**, Culinary Arts Baking & Pastry Instructor, **Micah Jendian**, English Instructor, **Ronald Norman**, Computer Science & Information Systems Instructor, and **Denise Schulmeyer**, Communication Instructor.

At Cuyamaca College welcome to new academic employees: **Kimberly Dudzik**, Biology Instructor, and **Nicole Keeley**, EOPS Counselor.

Calendar of Events



Wednesday, Feb. 1, Noon Football Championship Celebration, Main Quad, Grossmont College

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10:30 a.m. Student Center Groundbreaking, Grand Lawn, Cuyamaca College

Tuesday, Mar. 7, 2:30 p.m. Arbor Day Celebration, Ornamental Horticulture Nursery, Cuyamaca College

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2006, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Public Comments

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Jan Ford** and Instructor **Terrie Nichols** expressed appreciation to the Governing Board and Chancellor **Suarez** for their vision and leadership in the fight for equalization funding. **Ford** and Cuyamaca Instructors **Pat Setzer**, **Michael Wangler**, **Connie Elder** and **Susan Haber** objected to the rhetoric against Cuyamaca College as expressed by Grossmont College faculty leadership, and urged Grossmont College faculty and staff to refrain from negative remarks about Cuyamaca College programs and personnel.

Speakers **Inez Gonzalez**, National Hispanic Media Coalition; **Bill Hoaglin**, **Michael Qualls**, and **Craig Milgrim**, Grossmont College Instructors; **Enrique Morones**; Congressman **Bob Filner**; **Rosa Robles**, MANA; and **Raymond Uceta**, Chicano Federation, voiced their support for former Grossmont College President **Ted Martinez, Jr.**

Eric Berliner, Association Students of Cuyamaca College Vice President, asked the board to move its meetings at Cuyamaca to a larger venue.