



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

The Courier

Providing highlights of the Governing Board meetings for faculty and staff
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Week of July 16, 2007

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NEWS FROM THE JULY 17 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

"Sunny" Cooke welcomed

Dr. Sunita Cooke was warmly welcomed at her first governing board meeting as president of Grossmont College. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** congratulated "our new president for accepting the challenging task of working in the best district in the state... She has a wonderful background." **Dr. Cooke** thanked everyone for their warm welcome.

Projects on schedule

Gafcon Construction Program Manager **Joe Minner** reported that construction activities remain on schedule including the Communication Arts and Student Center projects at Cuyamaca, and the 400 Building and Parking Lot 1 renovations at Grossmont. Grossmont College Student Trustee **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** asked about delays in building a new Student Center. President **Cooke** and Chancellor **Suarez** explained that selecting a location for parking has delayed construction, and costs have risen. A decision will need to be made about which building(s) to construct and/or renovate in the proposed Student Services Complex.

New CBOC members

The governing board appointed five new Citizens Bond Oversight Committee members to two-year terms: **Joseph Powell, George Hawkins, Sharon Bullard, Shannon O'Dunn, James McCormack, and Chuck Taylor.**

Current member **Lu-Gray Hill** was reappointed to a second two-year term. Governing Board President **Rick Alexander** thanked them for serving.

Matthews honored

District Accounting Technician **Paula Matthews** received the quarterly Chancellor/Classified Senate Award. Chancellor **Suarez** said **Matthews** "is a very committed employee who is concerned about students. She sets a high standard for customer service."

Linda Jensen, District Accounting Supervisor, said, "I owe a big debt to **Paula** for being an outstanding employee. She's a role model for everyone!" **Shari Ball**, Classified Senate representative, presented **Matthews** with gifts to honor her achievement."



Accreditation Report approved

Governing board members unanimously approved (4-0; Caruthers absent) the Grossmont College accreditation self-study report which will be submitted to the Accreditation Commission and accreditation team members before their scheduled campus visit in October.

Board policy tabled

Trustees voted 4-0 (Caruthers absent) to table approval of Board Policy 2725-Board Member Compensation until more information could be provided on the definition of "all" meetings.

Legal opinion released

Governing board members voted to waive the confidential attorney/client privilege associated with the June 6, 2007, report by district counsel **Jack Sleeth, Jr.**, on the legality of student trustee employment within the district, and granted permission for the district to release the report to the public.

Telephone contract

The governing board approved a new one-year contract for telephone maintenance. **Nicholas Comer**, District Network/Telecommunications Specialist, told the board there have been difficulties with the vendor, but there was not a viable alternative vendor. He recommended that the district hire a full time telephone administrator. Trustee **Bill Garrett** asked for follow-up.

GC Plan approved

The governing board approved the 75 percent preliminary plan for the new Grossmont College Health/Physical Science Complex. Associated Students

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

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

STUDENT MEMBERS: Crystal Bernier-Sudano, Audrey Causton

Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont President: Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. • Cuyamaca President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

of Grossmont College President **Wendy Hutson** told the board a student center needs to be the top priority. Student Trustee **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** cast an advisory vote against approval of the plan.

Cost of living salary increases OK'd

Trustees approved 3-1 (with **Greg Barr** against and **Timothy L. Caruthers** absent) to grant cost of living allowance (COLA) salary increases for Chancellor's Cabinet Members and Confidential Managers; salary adjustments for Confidential Support Staff and Confidential Managers; and COLA and salary adjustments for Vice Presidents, Associate Vice Chancellors, Deans and Executive, Senior, Associate, and Assistance Deans.

United Faculty President **Zoe Close** said there is an appearance of inequity in these increases. Trustees **Garrett** and **Weeks** said it didn't seem fair to "hold hostage" employees that are not part of the bargaining units.

Vice Chancellor-Human Resources and Labor Relations **Ben Lastimado** said that inequity is real, as many of the positions in question were removed from the Administrators Association and Supervisory/Confidential, and actually lost benefits such as longevity and overtime compensation.



Reports to the Board

Trustee **Bill Garrett** said he, Cuyamaca Academic Senate President **Jan Ford**, and others have agreed to meet and talk about the cost of books.

Trustee **Greg Barr** said he has been very frustrated by the negotiations process, adding that since an impasse has been declared by United Faculty, and the ultimate result is fact-finding, maybe that's what needs to happen to clear the air.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** said the Associated Students are providing pizza and drinks two nights per week to bridge the lack of food service at night.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Audrey Causton** said student government is meeting weekly throughout the summer, planning fall events. **Causton** is looking forward to

attending a student trustee workshop.

Dana Quittner, Associate Vice Chancellor, Intergovernmental Relations, Economic Development & Public Information, said if there is still no state budget by July 31, the State Chancellor's Office can't release funding. The district, however, is prepared to deal with the interim situation.

Chris Hill, Grossmont College Academic Senate president, reported five faculty attended a student learning outcomes conference this week, returning with great information.

Jan Ford, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate president, reported on faculty involvement with student learning outcomes work.

Shari Ball, Classified Senate representative, said the group will host a retreat on September 21.

Jan Recktenwald, CSEA Chapter 707 president, expressed concern about classified staff appointments to screening committees.



Grossmont College Report

Grossmont College President **Sunita Cooke** announced two first place awards and a third place award by the Community College Public Relations Organization for *Campus Scene* and other communication pieces.

The El Cajon Fire Department conducted a 'Mass Casualty Incident Training Exercise' on the college campus.

Thanks to the work of Professor **Suda House**, Grossmont College is again hosting the annual Museum of Photographic Arts' Summer Workshop Series, which takes place over four weeks beginning in mid-July.



Cuyamaca College Update

Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine Perri** reported that the County of San Diego selected Cuyamaca as one of the Recyclers of the Year. The award was presented at the EnviroFair at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Robert Noland, Grossmont Schools Federal Credit Union, is the new Cuyamaca College Foundation President.

Executive Dean **Henri Migala** was voted "Most Visionary" by the East County Leadership Class of 2007.

Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new classified employees **Albert Patrick Aure**, Athletic Academic Advisor, and **Sontia Pickens**, Clerical Assistant, Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences.

Cuyamaca College welcomes **Sara Johnson**, Clerical Assistant, CalWORKS.

District Office welcomes **Gloria Reyes**, Secretary, Employment Services.

Congratulations to **Judy Shinkan**, Printing Operations Technician Senior, Cuyamaca College, on her new assignment.

Welcome to academic employees **David Dillon**, Counselor, Grossmont College; **Marie Ramos**, Art Instructor, Cuyamaca College; and **Bonnie Ripley**, Biology Instructor, Grossmont College.

Calendar of Events



Tuesday, July 31, 4 p.m. Dr. Cooke Community Reception, La Mesa Community Center (RSVP to sandy.rosenthal@gcccd.edu or x-7569)

Monday, Aug. 13, 7:30 a.m. President's Convocation, Grossmont College Student Center

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 8 a.m. President's Convocation, Cuyamaca College Gym

Next Meetings

The Governing Board's annual Capital Construction Workshop will be on Tuesday, August 7 at 3:30 p.m. at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College.

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, August 21 2007, 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 Comment

Zoe Close, United Faculty president, expressed concerns about the hiring process for the Associate Vice Chancellor, Districtwide Academic, Student, Planning and Research Services position. Chancellor **Suarez** said the new search process will include a new committee to undertake an objective search process.