



Week of May 14, 2007

Volume 15, Number 5

NEWS FROM THE MAY 15 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Self Studies progress reported to board

Accreditation self study team leaders from both colleges provided background and updates. Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine Perri** noted that information on the four accreditation standards must be backed up with “reliable, verifiable, representative” evidence.

“It’s a chance to reflect on our institutions and room for improvement,” said **Dr. Perri**. Grossmont College Interim President **Dean Colli** said, “The Grossmont College study is a product of a consensus from a variety of perspectives and constituents.”

Cuyamaca College co-chairs **Cristina Chiriboga** and **Michael Wangler**, and Grossmont College co-chairs **Chuck Passentino** and **Pam Amor** outlined the components of self study, overview of the four standards, and the resulting college planning agendas.

“We hope this document shows how great our two colleges are and how we can improve in the near future,” concluded **Passentino**.

Contracts & Personnel

The governing board approved all submitted contracts with the exception of contracts for services with Strata Information Group and architects Moshier Drew Watson Ferguson (Grossmont College Student Services Complex). Trustee **Timothy L. Caruthers** asked for

Classified school employees honored statewide

The Governing Board unanimously approved a resolution stating that “Classified professionals provide valuable services to the schools and students” and “strive for excellence in all areas.” Classified School Employees Week in California is May 20-26. Jan Recktenwald, CSEA President, thanked the board the the resolution.

an assessment of Strata’s work. Reports will be prepared.

Speakers **Jim Fenningham**, Administrators Association, and **Beth Smith**, Grossmont College Academic Senate, expressed concerns about governance processes on some personnel actions. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** said there is no problem sharing information.

Responding to a request from Trustee **Bill Garrett** to review the ratification process versus an approval process, Chancellor **Suarez** said the process follows the Education Code wherein no action is final until the board ratifies a decision. If it declines to ratify, the chancellor must “undo” the action already taken. Personnel actions passed 4-1, with Trustee **Greg Barr** opposed.

Trustee **Barr** said district leadership with multiyear contracts should offer other administrative leaders multiyear contracts, rather than the one-year contract being offered to “meet and confer” administrators for 2007-08. Chancellor **Suarez** said he would consider recommending multiyear contracts after one more year. The item

passed 3-0, with trustees **Barr** and **Caruthers** abstaining.

Keyes and Ardilla thanked

Governing Board President **Rick Alexander** thanked student trustees **Cathy Keyes** and **Pat Ardilla** for their excellent service as student trustees and presented certificates of recognition. Board members, administrators, faculty and staff also commended **Cathy** and **Pat**.

Board minutes distribution

Governing board members unanimously approved the April 2007 meeting minutes subject to the inclusion of a request to the chancellor to provide the minutes to Districtwide Executive Council members at the same time they are sent to governing board members.



Reports to the Board

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Pat Ardilla** presented his last report on many campus activities and ASCC

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.

elections. Fifty percent more students voted this year than the previous year. **Ardilla** thanked the students of Cuyamaca College and the governing board for the honor of serving and wished his successor **Audrey Causton** well.

Governing Board President **Rick Alexander** noted his attendance at a number of successful college events and reported on the Community College League of California Trustee Conference.

Trustee **Bill Garrett** attended the Grossmont College Transfer Achievement Celebration and said it's important to work diligently to help students transfer. **Garrett** said he wants to work on textbook issues.

Trustee **Deanna Weeks** congratulated both colleges on a number of successful events, singling out the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce First Friday Breakfast at Grossmont College and the opening of the Science and Technology Building at Cuyamaca College.

Trustee **Greg Barr** said he was still concerned about votes of no confidence and repeated his goal of improving the part-time/full-time ratio of faculty by next fall.

Sue Rearic, Interim Vice Chancellor-Business Services, said Governor Schwarzenegger's May revised budget increases COLA and funded growth, but reduces base apportionments.

Bob Eygenhuysen, Director of Risk Management, reported that the district is participating with the State Chancellor's office in the development of emergency preparedness standards. **Eygenhuysen** said the district has some of the best prepared schools in the state.

Dana Quittner, Assoc. Vice Chancellor of Intergovernmental Relations, Economic Development & Public Information, said career/technical education and equipment is a high priority in the proposed state budget. The May budget revise is not a final budget, but the starting point for legislative hearings.

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Beth Smith, Grossmont College Academic Senate President, reported on issues from the State Academic Senate Plenary including the Basic Skills Initiative, non-credit instruction and how to improve transfers. **Smith** has been elected to the State Academic Senate.

Jan Ford, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President, reported that the Senate passed a resolution which asks the governing board to "conduct an

objective, broad-based evaluation of Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Labor Relations **Ben Lastimado**" and to develop and implement a broad-based evaluation of all administrators involved in the shared governance process.



Grossmont College Report

- Grossmont College Interim President **Dean Colli** reported nearly 200 members of the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce met at Grossmont College for their First Friday Breakfast meeting and many took tours of the new facilities.
- **Dr. Colli** announced the District's Joint Forensics Team won a first place in Programmed Oral Interpretation at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association tournament.
- Grossmont College unveiled new Walk of Fame plaques for seven recent honorees in ceremonies May 8. Among those present were honorees **Brad Daluiso, Barry Jantz, Ernest Ewin, Dat Phan** and **Brian Sipe**.



Cuyamaca College Update

- Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine Perri** announced that the Regional Environmental Business Resource Assistance Center (REBRAC) was awarded \$1,025,000, from the Economic Workforce Development Initiative at the State Chancellor's Office.
- The Cuyamaca College Foundation Annual Dinner Dance & Auction raised over \$110,000.
- Forty-eight scholarships totaling \$31,150 were awarded to 47 recipients at the Ornamental Horticulture Scholarship and Awards Banquet.

Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new classified employees **Carolina Cruz** and **Bambi Keegan**, Health Professions Specialists; **Sandra Kuntz**, Admissions & Records Specialist, International Students; and **Yvonne Mather**, Student Services Assistant, Disabled Student Programs & Services.

Cuyamaca College welcomes new classified employee **Kiet Tran**, Chemistry Technician, Intermediate.

Welcome to new District employees **Charles Marrs**, Information Systems Support Specialist; and **Santiago Reccia**, Research Assistant.

Welcome to new academic employee **Melissa Olfert**, Exercise Science Instructor, Grossmont College.

Congratulations to **Jeannette Fermin**, Secretary, EOPS, Grossmont College; **Kim Widdes**, Human Resources & Labor Relations Specialist, District; and **Marci Jahn**, Administrative Assistant, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources & Labor Relations, District; on their new assignments.

Calendar of Events



Tuesday, May 29, 5 p.m. Nursing Pinning Ceremony, Main Quad, Grossmont College

Wednesday, May 30, 5:30 p.m. Grossmont College 46th Annual Commencement, Main Quad

Thursday, May 31, 5:30 p.m. Cuyamaca College 29th Annual Commencement, Upper Athletic Field

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, June 19, 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 Comments

Public speakers included **Kim Metli**, for United Faculty, on faculty pay; **Jan Recktenwald**, CSEA Chapter 707 President, offering budget information; **Rick Walker** on his employment; and **Sean Bentz**, Grossmont College student, with concerns about the district smoking policy implementation. Board members asked for a report on the policy's evaluation.

Sylvia Montejano, Grossmont College EOPS Counselor, expressed concerns about the transfer of an employee into the EOPS Department. **Sandy Beasley**, former CSEA President and 10-year shop steward, said the EOPS transfer was made for the good of the employee, department and college.