



Week of December 8, 2008

Volume 16, Number 12

## NEWS FROM THE DECEMBER 9 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

### Oath of Office taken by Garrett, Rosinski

**Bill Garrett** and **Mary Kay Rosinski** were sworn into office as governing board trustees for four-year terms. **Garrett** was re-elected; **Rosinski** will be serving her first term as a trustee. Both thanked the voters for their support.

### Board officers re-elected for 2009

The governing board unanimously approved the re-election of the current board officers for 2009: President **Bill Garrett**, Vice President **Deanna Weeks**, and Clerk **Greg Barr**.

President **Garrett** thanked board members, college presidents, administrators and staff for their support and for the opportunity to meet with them and get to know their interests. He is looking forward to another great year.

Trustee **Weeks** presented President **Garrett** with a plaque commemorating his 2008 service as board president.

### Audits reflect excellence

The District, Foundations and Auxiliary, and Pension Eligible Alternative Retirement (PEAR) Plan all received “unqualified” or clean audits for 2007-08 from the accounting firm of Nigro Nigro and White. **Sue Rearic**,

vice chancellor-business services, noted this is an exceptional result. “Folks all across the district do the right thing all year long, and this is reflected in the audits,” said **Rearic**.

### District on its way to being tobacco free

Chancellor **Omero Suarez** reported that one year ago, the governing board passed a revised smoking/tobacco use ordinance. The board stated that it had the vision of making the district smoke free within a year. **Suarez** said a ban on smoking tobacco and other tobacco use will be in effect throughout the district as of January 2009, and that the two college presidents are working with their staffs to make this happen.

### Technology report

**Henry Eimstad**, interim senior director, information systems, provided an update to the governing board on district technology initiatives. He noted that most of the current technology projects have funding from Prop. R, which has allowed the district to put technology infrastructure in place to support new facilities.

**Eimstad** reported that an evaluation of the telephone system is continuing regarding conversion to voice over IP technology. Plans for the

rest of the year include beginning the review and design phases for revising the district’s Web site, and ensuring appropriate technology is installed in all new and remodeled buildings.

### Board meetings set for 2009

The governing board set its January 2009 meeting for Tuesday, January 13, to avoid a conflict with the Presidential Inauguration which Trustee **Weeks** is scheduled to attend. With the exception of October and December, the remaining 2009 meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., with closed session at 5:30 p.m.

### Other Board Items

Trustee **Weeks** requested that the board be provided new Administrative Policies resulting from changes to Board Policies as quickly as possible following governing board approval of new or updated policies.

Board Member **Rick Alexander** said the board was not offered the opportunity to be present during hiring interviews for a project architect as required by district policy. Chancellor **Suarez** said it was an oversight, apologized and promised it would not happen again in the future.

Trustee **Rosinski** commended the group that put together the plan offering district facilities to the community when

#### Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

Rick Alexander, Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Mary Kay Rosinski, Deanna Weeks

STUDENT MEMBERS: Dan Lewis, Charles Taylor III

Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont President: Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. • Cuyamaca Interim President: Cristina Chiriboga, Ed.D.

not being used for district use. "We have beautiful buildings that need to be shared," said **Rosinski**.

## Reports to the Board

Trustee **Weeks** and other board members thanked Grossmont College President **Sunny Cooke** for the student-made glass Christmas ornaments.

Trustee **Greg Barr** enjoyed attending the Cuyamaca College holiday party, and said he was looking forward to meeting the chancellor candidates.

Trustee **Rick Alexander** discussed the East County Economic Development Council's Support Education and Economic Development Committee visit to the Grossmont College simulation lab.

Trustee **Rosinski** said it was an honor to be sworn in as a trustee. She thanked everyone for the warm welcome, including Grossmont College President **Sunny Cooke** and Cuyamaca College Interim President **Cristina Chiriboga** for campus tours, and to fellow board members and others for helping her with orientations. "I look forward to being part of a very bright future for this district," said **Rosinski**.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Dan Lewis** said the ASGC will hold its "cramming event" during finals. **Lewis** and Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Chuck Taylor** attended the "Breaking Boundaries" student dance performance and were impressed by the creativity and diversity within the department.

Governing Board President **Garrett** extended his appreciation to the voters and to his wife, who was present at the meeting, "for all that she has always done for me." **Garrett** said he is committed to getting out to see what's happening during his term.

**Ben Lastimado**, vice chancellor-human resources and labor relations, said a demonstration of the new online recruitment and selection process is tentatively scheduled in January. Lastimado reported that CSEA Chapter 707 and the district have a tentative agreement for 2007-08. A formal agreement will be brought to the board for approval in January.

**Sue Rearic**, vice chancellor-business services, said there have been more state budget proposals, but no decisions. The district continues to look to "The Way Forward" and the college and district mission statements, developing core values, budget priorities, and budget reduction strategies. **Rearic** said, "We are looking at what we can do this year to help absorb cuts later this spring. This shortfall is likely to stay with us for a few years."

**Dana Quittner**, associate vice chancellor of intergovernmental relations, economic development and public information, presented board members with copies of a new report reviewing five years of district activities, intended to provide an overview of the long term vision within the district. "The facilities are the most visible, but within those facilities the learning takes place," **Quittner** said. She thanked everyone who assisted in gathering the information for the report.

**Quittner** reported a group of 17 people from the State Legislature's staff and other offices will visit the district for two days, with a focus on the Cal-PASS program, alignment and other issues.

Preparation is under way for legislative meetings in Sacramento and Washington, DC in January and February. Board members **Alexander** and **Weeks** asked whether board members should attend these meetings, while respecting the districtwide travel freeze. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** encouraged board members to consider the cost versus saving district resources. **Alexander** expressed concerns about losing the opportunity for impact by board members.

Classified Senate President **Debi Miller** thanked everyone who participated in the organization's two fundraisers. She congratulated the new members of the CSEA board including **Jan Recktenwald** who was re-elected president.

CSEA President **Recktenwald** said she looked forward to serving another two-year term for a group of individuals who are very well respected in this district, the hard working employees.



## Grossmont College Report

- **President Sunita V. Cooke** said construction on the new parking structure is halfway complete. Campus parking for staff will be allowed starting Dec. 15, but off-campus parking at Gillespie Field will resume Jan. 26.
- The Accrediting Commission asked the college to make more progress on diversity in hiring. A report will come to the governing board for action in February.
- **Dr. Cooke** said 11 nursing students received scholarships from Kaiser Permanente and the Grossmont Healthcare District.



## Cuyamaca College Update

- Interim President **Cristina Chiriboga** reported that the visit and concert by The Kruger Brothers was a wonderful educational event. Band members worked with faculty and students sharing their knowledge.
- **Chiriboga** congratulated Pacific Coast Conference Coaches of the Year **Brett Williamson** (men's soccer) and **Dan Codina** (women's soccer).
- Over 200 people attended the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce community learning program "Recession Proofing Your Business."

## Calendar of Events



*Wednesday, Dec. 17, 5 p.m.* Nursing Student Pinning Ceremony, Grossmont College Student Center

*Friday, Dec. 19, 6 p.m.* Corrections Academy Graduation, Grossmont College Student Center

## Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, January 13, 2009, at the Student Center, Cuyamaca College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

# Happy Holidays Everyone!