



Week of January 21, 2008

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NEWS FROM THE JANUARY 22 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

One year countdown to smoke-free district starts

After a robust discussion, governing board members voted 5-0 to move all smoking areas to the perimeter of both campuses and to establish a smoke-free district effective Jan. 1, 2009. Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Audrey Causton** cast an advisory vote in favor; Grossmont College Student Trustee **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** cast an advisory vote against.

Speakers **Evelyn Hogan** of Communities Against Substance Abuse and Grossmont College student **Eric Schneider** urged trustees to establish a smoke-free district. Trustee **Deanna Weeks** said, "We have a responsibility to be ahead of the curve." Trustee **Rick Alexander** said, "It's up to us to take the lead." Trustee **Greg Barr** said the proposal on the board's agenda concerned him because it lacked a review date. Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** encouraged the board to set a date for being smoke free.

Board members reviewed concerns about smoking in cars and enforcement issues prior to the vote. The January 2009 starting date was selected to allow time to mount an educational campaign to promote the smoke-free policy.

"In the long run, we have done something very valuable for this district," said Governing Board President **Garrett**.

Cuyamaca nurse wins recognition

Priscilla Bartholomew, Cuyamaca College Health Services Nurse, received the Chancellor/Classified Senate Award as Employee of the Quarter. **Jan Recktenwald**, CSEA Chapter 707 president, congratulated Bartholomew saying, "Working with her is truly a joy." Chancellor **Omero Suarez** and Classified Senate representative **Dave McDade** presented **Bartholomew** with a trophy and gift certificate.



Priscilla Bartholomew
Photo by Phu Nguyen

Audit committee considered

The governing board requested that the chancellor investigate how nonprofit organizations make use of independent audit committees and report on options at next month's meeting. Trustee **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** said he supported the request based on such a committee being at no cost to the district.

Campus construction update

Gafcon Project Manager **Joe Minner** reported that construction and planning activities are on track. He presented a

rendering of the planned Grossmont College Health Sciences Building. The highlight of the first quarter at Grossmont is the start of construction on the new parking structure. **Minner** says great care has been taken with the prequalification process and outreach to ensure that experienced, qualified contractors bid on the project. Six have qualified to date.

The Citizens Bond Oversight Committee has reviewed the FY 06-07 Financial and Performance Audits. The board will receive a report in February.

Economic Education Center report

Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine Perri** introduced **Tony Zambelli**, director of the San Diego Center for Economic Education now based at Cuyamaca College, who introduced co-director **Kim Gibbs** and President of the EconEd Foundation **Rohn Trieglaff** to report on the Center's plans and activities. The Center is affiliated with the California Council on Economic Education whose focus is on financial literacy. The Cuyamaca Center supports economic literacy, curriculum assistance, and increased understanding of the global economy. The Center will provide economic education resources, such as a lending library, lesson plans, and Web site materials.

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.

Technical services contract process

Chancellor **Omero Suarez** confirmed that procedures for awarding technical professional services contracts are generally not subject to bid procedures. Board members agreed that in light of ever changing technology, the technology services contract should have a competitive procurement when it expires.

From Closed Session

The governing board voted 5-0 to authorize the expulsion of a Grossmont College student from the district as recommended by the chancellor.



Reports to the Board

All five trustees attended the Grossmont College General Session Meeting and praised its high spirit and presentations.

Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** reported that he has been working to support passage of Prop. 92, the Community College Initiative, and participated in a recent press conference. Student trustees **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** and **Audrey Causton** reported they have also actively supported the measure attending several pro Prop. 92 events.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Causton** surprised President **Geraldine Perri** with birthday wishes, and led all in singing "Happy Birthday."

Trustee **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** requested a report from the upcoming Community College League of California Legislative Conference.

Chancellor **Omero Suarez** commended college faculty, staff, and administrators for their work on accreditation and the team visits. He commented that a difficult budget year lies ahead and said his priorities will be to preserve positions and "to serve every student we can."

Ben Lastimado, vice chancellor-human resources and labor relations, reported on training programs kicking off this spring, including Administrators Leadership and Development in March and Classified Staff Development in April. The Staff Diversity Committee will meet in February to establish diversity strategies. **Lastimado** delivered

a report to board members with data on hiring timelines.

Sue Rearic, interim vice chancellor-business services, provided a budget update, saying that community colleges face a possible \$40 million midyear 2007/08 shortfall. The district's share could be \$650,000. Next year, the governor has proposed a ten percent across the board cut. But she cautioned that more solid information will develop over the next few months. "I hope we will be able to weather this together," **Rearic** said.

Dana Quittner, associate vice chancellor of intergovernmental relations, economic development & public information, reviewed the state budget process for this year noting that the governor's declaration of a fiscal emergency requires the Legislature to act by Feb. 25 on his proposals to resolve it.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Jan Ford** reported that faculty members are "ramped up" on student learning outcomes.

Jan Recktenwald, CSEA Chapter 707 President, solicited support for the group's candy sales fundraiser. She thanked **Dr. Perri** for supporting Classified Spirit Day.



Grossmont College Report

- Grossmont College President **Sunita V. Cooke** reported there was much discussion about parking at the Spring General Session Meeting. College and district faculty and staff will park off-site Monday through Thursday at the Gillespie Field location from March until the end of the spring semester, and again during the fall semester. **Dr. Cooke** pledged to get faculty to campus on time for classes.
- The President's Leadership Award winner is Assistant Dean of Student Affairs **Agustin Albarran**.
- **Dr. Cooke** announced that 330 students received the President's Award for achieving a perfect 4.0 grade point average.



Cuyamaca College Update

- Cuyamaca College President **Geraldine M. Perri** said Environmental

Health and Safety Program faculty members **Rick Wilson** and **David Iverson** are among the first in the state to be trained in a new emergency management curriculum by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

- The Water Conservation Garden was featured in a Dec. 19, 2007, article in *USA Today* for its efforts in teaching residents about waterwise landscaping.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new classified employees **Irene Bauza**, Account Technician, Senior; **Jo Ann Brown**, Printing Operations Assistant; **Thomas Fox**, Sculpture Technician; and **Larry Johnson**, Athletic Field Maintenance Worker; all at Grossmont College; also to **Karen Kline**, Account Clerk, Senior, District; and **Julie Kahler**, Admissions and Records Assistant, Cuyamaca College.

Welcome to new academic employees **Tracie Herd**, Dean, Counseling & Matriculation, Cuyamaca College; and **Shawn Hicks** and **Corey Manchester**, Mathematics Instructors; and **Scott McGann**, Economics Instructor, all at Grossmont College.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, Jan. 31, 10 a.m. Grand Opening Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, Communication Arts Center, Cuyamaca College

Thursday, Jan. 31, 6 p.m. Premiere and Open House, Communication Arts Center, Cuyamaca College

Saturday, Feb. 9, 9:30 a.m. Scholarship Awards Breakfast, Student Center, Grossmont College

Friday, Feb. 15, and Monday, Feb. 18 Holiday, All District Sites

Next Meeting

The governing board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2008, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.