



Week of November 17, 2008

Volume 16, Number 11

NEWS FROM THE NOVEMBER 18 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Chancellor search proceeds

The Chancellor Search Committee and the search consultant recommended that the governing board interview two finalists for the position. Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** said the committee considered both candidates "stars."

The board voted 4-0 (Trustee **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** absent) to place the item on the agenda and, after discussion, agreed to conduct forums and interviews after the December 9 Governing Board meeting so newly elected trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** could participate.

Harassment policies, training reviewed

Ben Lastimado, Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Labor Relations, presented a report on the district's sexual harassment policy and how training is provided to employees.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Chris Hill** said that past workshops for faculty have been very well attended, and the Academic Senate would like to continue them and ramp up online training also. Trustee **Greg Barr** said he would like to work toward a goal of 100 percent training for all faculty. Trustee **Deanna Weeks** said she had talked with various campus constituents about the issue. **Weeks** said training must be meaningful to get 100 percent

participation and all employees, as well as students, should be involved.

Assignments discussed

Trustee **Rick Alexander** requested a report to the board on the potential for consolidating positions to save money and improve services to students. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** said he would have the report for discussion at the February 2009 board meeting.

Governing Board President **Garrett** expressed concerns about the salary for the Interim Vice President, Administrative Services, position at Grossmont College, as it appeared that appointee might have a reduction in salary by accepting the position. As the available information was unclear, the item was tabled so specifics can be reported to trustees at the December meeting. The remainder of agenda item 501 was approved 4-0 by the board.

Special parking permit offered GC Students

Trustees voted in favor of a one-time, mid-term student parking permit fee for the Fall 2008 term at Grossmont College. The \$10 fee is intended to help offset parking in neighborhoods surrounding the campus due to construction of the multi-level parking structure by encouraging the purchase of the discounted permit.

Day of recognition approved

The governing board approved January 2, 2009, as a Day of Recognition for members of the California School Employees Association, and as a Day of Recognition for Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District employees including members of the Administrators' Association, confidential administrators and staff and District cabinet-level administrators.

New Officer Sworn In

Mark Rensink was sworn in as the newest officer to join the District's Public Safety Department.

From Closed Session

Governing Board President **Garrett** said the board considered discipline of a Grossmont College student and affirmed the decision on a 4-0 vote (Trustee **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** absent).

Contract extended

Agenda Item 107A, extension of the contract of the vice chancellor-human resources and labor relations to Sept. 20, 2009, was unanimously approved.

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

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

Reports to the Board

Board members and staff at the meeting extended congratulations to trustee **Bill Garrett** on his re-election, and to **Mary Kay Rosinski** on her election to the board. **Rosinski** was present and was introduced. She will take office at the meeting on December 9.

President **Garrett** read a statement from departing board member **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** who reported on serious health challenges facing his wife. **Dr. Caruthers** praised the district and said he had seen many changes in his 12 years of service.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Chuck Taylor** reported on numerous events, including a cleanup project in conjunction with I Love A Clean San Diego.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Dan Lewis** said \$300 was raised to support the EOPS holiday party. **Lewis** described a display on campus depicting 30,000 chopsticks, representing the number of children who die worldwide due to hunger and poverty.

Trustee **Rick Alexander** enjoyed the Grossmont College Gala and the Wheelchair Basketball Game.

Trustee **Weeks** commented on the positive article in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* on November 3 highlighting the Grossmont College Office Professional Training program.

President **Garrett** thanked the voters of East County for the support he received. "The district is on the right track," he said.

Vice Chancellor **Lastimado** reported on a trend where organizations assign a non-voting member on hiring committees to act as the Equal Employment Opportunity officer to watch over the process. He suggested the colleges might think about this approach.

Sue Rearic, Vice Chancellor-Business Services, said the district is in the midst of selecting a new third party health care administrator.

Rearic said the Governor has declared a statewide fiscal emergency. The District originally anticipated a budget reduction of \$2.7 million. Now the anticipated amount is between \$5.1 and \$5.4 million. Reductions will be brought to the Government Board in January or February when there is more information from the state.

Dana Quittner, Associate Vice Chancellor of Intergovernmental Relations, Economic Development & Public Information, thanked everyone for attending the meeting with Assemblyman **Joel Anderson**.

Classified Senate representative **Maggie Gonzales** reported that the District's Classified Senate was recently highlighted in a statewide newsletter. She thanked Vice Chancellor **Lastimado** for his support of the Leadership Readiness Track training program.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Hill** said she served as judge for the first time at the District's joint college debate tournament.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Michael Wangler** attended the statewide Academic Senate plenary and went to several breakout sessions of interest on equivalency, concurrent enrollment, basic skills initiative, advanced placement and international baccalaureate units.

The Cuyamaca College Academic Senate has submitted the name of English Instructor **Chuck Charter** for the state's Hayward Award for Excellence in Education.



Grossmont College Report

- **President Sunita V. Cooke** reported on the visit by members of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation team. The team urged the college and district to continue making progress. An assessment will be sent to the commission for action in January 2009.
- The Grossmont College Foundation Gala raised a record \$130,000 and notched a record attendance of 340 people on October 25. Special thanks were expressed to co-chairs **Judy Garrett** and **Beverly Wright**, and Foundation director **Ernie Ewin**.
- **Dr. Cooke** congratulated coach **Brian Harvey** of the men's water polo team for recently earning his 500th career coaching victory and his ninth consecutive Pacific Coast Title.



Cuyamaca College Update

- Interim President **Cristina Chiriboga** announced that alumna **Hala**

Stephan (AA, Chemistry, '08), was selected as a 2008-09 UCSD McNair Scholar. The McNair Program is a Ph.D. preparatory program for first-generation college students.

- **Chiriboga** reported the Economic Department and San Diego Center for Economic Education hosted the California Association of School Economics Teachers 13th annual conference on October 24. Over 250 high school economics teachers from Southern California attended.
- Students and faculty celebrated National Mole Day, an American Chemical Society event designed to promote chemistry awareness. A standing room only audience enjoyed a demonstration by Astronomy/Physics Instructor **Dr. Glenn Thurman** as Harry Potter character "Severus Snape."

Staff Notes

Welcome to new classified employees **Bryan Cooper**, Theatre Production Design Technician, Grossmont College; and **Connie Sterling**, Multi-Media Technician, Senior, Cuyamaca College. Welcome also to new academic employee **Susan Topham**, Dean of Admissions and Records, Cuyamaca College.

Calendar of Events



Now through December 18 "Critical Landscapes" by Kim Stringfellow, an exhibit depicting the environment of the Salton Sea, Hyde Art Gallery, Grossmont College

Friday, December 12, 10 a.m. Wendell Cutting Center Dedication Ceremony, Building H, Cuyamaca College

Sunday, December 14, 2 p.m. Concert featuring the combined Grossmont College and Cuyamaca College Concert Bands, Communication Arts Theatre, Cuyamaca College

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, December 9, 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.