



Week of February 18, 2008

Volume 16, Number 2

NEWS FROM THE FEBRUARY 19 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Campus violence

Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** asked for a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the Northern Illinois University shooting.

Trustee **Rick Alexander**, recalling that the governing board talked about district responsiveness to campus violence after the Virginia Tech shooting, asked for a report at the next meeting on what measures have been put into place.

Auxiliary, Foundation reports to the board

District Auxiliary and Grossmont and Cuyamaca College Foundation reports were presented to the governing board.

Auxiliary Director **Stan Schroeder** reported a 67 percent increase in revenue, a much faster growth rate than expected. The Auxiliary oversees 60 different funds, grants, and programs.

Grossmont College Foundation Executive Director **Ernie Ewin** said the Foundation has been able to support many bridging programs for Grossmont College students.

Cuyamaca College Foundation board immediate past president **Patty McCormick** reported record fundraising of \$110,000 at their annual dinner dance, which was distributed in scholarships, event support, and faculty mini-grants.

Rearic appointed Vice Chancellor-Business Services

Interim Vice Chancellor-Business Services **Sue Rearic** lost the interim part of her position title as the governing board voted 5-0 to appoint her as Vice Chancellor-Business Services following a year-long search process. The board unanimously approved a contract through June 30, 2010.

Rearic had been serving in the position on an interim basis since February 2007. She joined the district as internal audit manager in 1986 and was the district's controller prior to her interim appointment.

District receives positive audit news

The district, both college Foundations, GCCCD Auxiliary, Prop R Building Fund, and the Pension Eligible Alternative Retirement (PEAR) Plan all received "unqualified," or clean, audits for 2006-07 from the accounting firms of Vavrinek, Trine, Day and Company, LLP, Wilkinson, Hadley & Co., LLP, and Kushner, Smith, Joanou and Gregson, LLP.

Sue Rearic, Vice Chancellor-Business Services, noted this is an exceptional result, and reflects a great deal of conscientious work by staff throughout the year to produce these results.

Student Senate success

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Crystal Sudano** introduced **Frank Fernandez** of Imperial Valley College to report on activities of the statewide Student Senate for California Community Colleges. **Fernandez**, SCCC president, reviewed the creation of the Student Senate in its current form and its activities over the past year, including resolutions on smoke-free campuses, elimination of the GI Bill deadline, and a sales tax exemption for textbooks.

Wildfire week pay requested

Board member **Greg Barr** requested that an item be brought to the governing board in March to approve payment to hourly employees who were scheduled to work, but did not work, during the week the district was closed due to the October 2007 wildfires.

Contract extensions OK'd

Governing board members voted to approve contract extensions for probationary faculty for the 2008-09 school year. Trustee **Rick Alexander** reviewed the timeline and his concerns with extending contracts before concluding one year of employment.

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.

Sabbatical Leaves approved

Governing board members reviewed 13 sabbatical leave requests for the 2008-09 academic year for Grossmont and Cuyamaca College faculty as an information item. Grossmont faculty members are **Scott Barr, Virginia Dudley, Ryan Griffith, Jim Hotz, Bill Mosley, John Oakes, and Tom Oertel**. Cuyamaca faculty includes **Tom Doyle, Gloria Ensej, Duncan McGehee, Kathleen McWilliams, Angela Nesta, Patricia Santana, and Tony Zambelli**.

Trustee **Rick Alexander** expressed his concerns about the similarity of two projects and allowing pursuit of a doctorate as qualification for sabbatical leave.

Reports to the Board

Trustees **Greg Barr, Rick Alexander, Deanna Weeks**, and Student Trustees **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** and **Audrey Causton** commented on recent trips to Washington, D.C., and Sacramento to educate elected officials about community college issues.

Trustee **Barr** requested, with others concurring, that a study be conducted to determine where the district is spending money on programs that might have an impact on the ability of the district to provide salary and benefit increases. Chancellor **Omero Suarez** will work with Trustees **Barr** and **Alexander** to determine the focus of the study and will bring this issue back at the March board meeting.

Board members **Dr. Timothy L. Caruthers** and **Weeks** complimented the Cuyamaca Communication Arts Building grand opening.

Trustee **Weeks** suggested a financial responsibility workshop be conducted for board members.

Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** attended the Grossmont College Scholarship Breakfast and dedication of the Cuyamaca College Honor Court.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Audrey Causton** reported on the success of Black History Month programs.

ASGC representatives **Wendy Hudson** and **Dan Lewis** reported on campus activities as well as ASGC philanthropic efforts. ASGC has donated \$1.84 million from 1991 through June 30, 2007.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate

President **Jan Ford** reported that English Instructor **Chuck Charter** and Chemistry Instructor **Hanz Barker** were honored as Cuyamaca College Instructors of the Year.

Dave McDade, Classified Senate representative, thanked Grossmont College President **Dr. Sunita V. Cooke** for participating in a new employee orientation, and invited board members to the March 17 Classified Staff Appreciation Day Breakfast.

Zoe Close, United Faculty president, thanked the board for its willingness to undertake a cost analysis to help answer questions. **Close** offered to discuss the instructor evaluation process.

Janet Althaus, Administrators Association, thanked the board for authorizing a retroactive pay increase for employees for 2006-07.

Jan Recktenwald, CSEA Chapter 707 president, reported that the Chapter hosted a statewide executive board meeting at Cuyamaca College. CSEA will begin negotiations with the district for 2007-08.



Grossmont College Report

- President **Sunita V. Cooke** reported the highest enrollment at Grossmont in 47 years, a total of 17,926 students.
- The Office Professional Training program celebrated its 46th graduation with 30 students. Congratulations were expressed to **Dr. Mary Leslie** who is largely responsible for OPT's success.
- **Dr. Cooke** announced the Administration of Justice Department will host 100 Upward Bound high school students on campus Feb. 23.



Cuyamaca College Update

- President **Geraldine M. Perri** reported record enrollment at Cuyamaca College to 8,931 students, an increase of 964 students and a 30 year high.
- Cuyamaca has received its accreditation report. Thanks were given to **Michael Wangler** and **Dr. Cristina Chiriboga** for their leadership during this lengthy process.
- **Dr. Perri** thanked everyone who contributed to the successful grand opening of the Communication Arts Center. Seven hundred people attended the celebrations.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new classified employees **Selam Gebrekristos**, Scholarship Specialist; **Cindy Holcomb**, Administrative Secretary; **Rafeal Ortiz** and **Moises Pinto**, Custodians; **Ann Ring**, Health Services Nurse; and **Franchesca Taylor**, Health Services Specialist, all at Grossmont College; and **Kimberly Faucett-Gioscia**, Administrative Secretary, Cuyamaca College.

Welcome to new academic employees **Amaliya Blyumin** and **Nicole Jones**, Counselors, Cuyamaca College; and **Darlene Spoor**, Dean of Instruction, Cuyamaca College.

Congratulations to **Rhonda Bauerlein**, Instructional Design Technology Specialist, on her new assignment.

Calendar of Events



Friday, March 7, 7 a.m. San Diego East County Chamber First Friday Breakfast, Grossmont College Student Center

Saturday, March 8, 8:45 a.m. Math Field Day, Cuyamaca College, Rm. L-104

Sunday, March 16, 2 p.m. "A Fine Arts Affaire," Hyde Art Gallery, Grossmont College

Monday, March 17, 7 a.m. Classified Staff Appreciation Day, Grossmont College Student Center

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, March 18, 2008, 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.

Public Comment

Eric Schneider, Grossmont College student, expressed concerns about some college instructors.

Sean Bentz, Grossmont College graduate, and **Evelyn Hogan**, Communities Against Substance Abuse, thanked the governing board for supporting a smoke-free district.