

# The Courier

## Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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### Board Reports

Trustees **Mary Kay Rosinski**, **Edwin Hiel**, and **Debbie Justeson** attended the Classified Senate Retreat and an event hosted by the San Diego State University Community College Leaders Alumni.

**Rosinski** and **Justeson** also attended the recent *Proposition V* Headquarters Open House.

Trustee **Greg Barr** encouraged people to attend performances of “The Grimmers” at the Grossmont Stagehouse Theatre on October 19 and 20. He said it is a family-friendly event, and he and his wife are among the performers.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Samantha Elliot** and Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Mohammed Alyasini** reported on campus-wide “Get Out The Vote” efforts. **Elliot** said the ASGC is preparing a Veterans Day program.

Board President **Bill Garrett** said he has been busy this month with *Proposition V* activities. He reported that the San Diego County Taxpayers Association board of directors voted to endorse *Proposition V* after a presentation by the District. **Garrett** also reported that the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association (SDICCCA) held a news conference to highlight the impact of community colleges on military veterans, and concern regarding funding for these programs because of budget cuts. Chancellor **Cindy Miles** moderated the event and **Justin Dile**, a Grossmont graduate and veteran, talked about the programs.



### Chancellor’s Report

Chancellor **Miles** announced two important Foundation events scheduled on October 30. A breakfast will be held that morning to honor donors, including members of the Possibilities Roundtable who have donated at least \$1,200 and donors to the District’s Osher campaign. At 5:30 p.m., a retiree reunion will be held at the Water Conservation Garden. **Miles** said the District wants to help develop closer ties to our retirees and help nurture this community’s ongoing connections with our colleges.

**Miles** thanked everyone involved in sharing information about *Proposition V* and *Proposition 30*, with special recognition to students conducting voter registration drives and phoning voters.

### VEBA Offers New Healthcare Options

Vice Chancellor Human Resources **Victoria Simmons** introduced the District’s new health insurance plan for 2013 with the California Schools Voluntary Employees Benefits Association (VEBA). **Simmons** thanked the Benefits Committee, which included members of all groups representing District employees, for doing a tremendous amount of research and analysis over two years before making its recommendation of the VEBA plan.

District employees have an opportunity to learn more about their new healthcare options at upcoming meetings on both campuses and at District Services over the next two weeks. In addition, **Simmons** said her department will be sending out many communications to ensure all employees are fully informed. A [web page](#) about the new healthcare benefits is accessible by clicking on “Quick Links” on the District’s home page. Open enrollment for healthcare benefits is available now through November 30.

## Board Actions

Trustee **Hiel** asked for an update on SB 1440 progress, and Chancellor **Miles** said a full report would be presented to the Board at the November meeting. Grossmont College President **Sunny Cooke**, referencing information in Item 305 on the docket, discussed the degrees and certificates subject to approval by the accreditation committee, a process that is required of all accredited institutions.

Trustee **Rosinski** discussed Item 306, thanking everyone for the long hours and hard work put in by the Benefits Committee to bring the District quality healthcare at a reasonable cost.

Under separate votes, the Governing Board unanimously approved all items on the [meeting agenda](#).

### From Closed Session

The Governing Board met in closed session, but took no action.

## Energy Efficiency Earns Rebate from SDG&E

Representatives from San Diego Gas & Electric presented Chancellor **Miles** and the Governing Board with a symbolic check for \$283,222, representing the amount of energy efficiency incentives received by the District for 8 building projects completed since 2010. **Dawn Welch**, Director of Commercial and Industrial Services, congratulated the District for its energy-efficient decisions. She said these projects will save the District over 1 million kilowatt hours per year, and the annual carbon dioxide emissions avoided is equivalent to 244 vehicles removed off the road.



*Left to right: Chancellor Cindy Miles, Trustee Debbie Justeson, Trustee Mary Kay Rosinski, Trustee Bill Garrett, SDG&E Director Dawn Welch, Grossmont Student Trustee Samantha Elliot, Cuyamaca Student Trustee Mohammed Alyasini, Trustee Greg Barr, Trustee Edwin Hiel, SDG&E Account Executive Jim Tello, and Vice Chancellor Sue Rearic*

## District Services Report

Vice Chancellor **Sue Rearic** reviewed the impact to the District on whether *Proposition 30* passes or fails. She said the Adoption Budget is built on the assumption the statewide measure will not be successful. She said recent budgets have been assisted through previous-year cost savings, but this option will no longer be available. She warned of significant reductions in future years, and said the District needs to be ready. Without *Proposition 30* funding, our structural shortfall for 2013-2014 is estimated at approximately \$10 million, and this amount could go up with mid-year reductions.

Despite reduced staffing, the District processed more than \$31 million in financial aid disbursements directly to students last year.

**Rearic** said improvements in the employee performance review process include better tracking and notification, and will now also include managers and supervisors.

## Presidents' Reports



- ◆ President **Sunny Cooke** said the Ceramics Program is hosting the "Fall for the Arts" Initiative including interactive art exhibits on campus through October 26.
- ◆ Many of Grossmont's 40-plus student clubs recently participated in the Associated Students of Grossmont College (ASGC) Clubs Fair.
- ◆ Grossmont College and the Grossmont Union High School District will host the ninth annual "Got Plans?" career fair on Saturday, October 20, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. More than 6,000 high school students are expected to attend.



- ◆ Vice President **Arleen Satele** reported the newly-formed Cuyamaca College women's cross country team recently won first place in the Cuyamaca Invitation tournament.
- ◆ Students involved in the First Year Experience program recently hosted a successful fundraising and networking event including a competitive kickball tournament, with 100 people attending.
- ◆ Former student **Dustin Kahlia** premiered his award-winning short film "Valediction" at the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art on September 29, and won the Audience Choice Award at the National Film Festival for Talented Youth in Seattle. His film has been viewed on YouTube more than 777,000 times.

## Staff Reports

AFT representative **Michelle Tucker** said AFT is very pleased with the VEBA healthcare benefits. She said AFT is tracking political campaigns and they are trending well.

Classified Senate President **Wendy Corbin** thanked Trustees **Rosinski** and **Hiel** and student trustee **Elliot** for attending the recent retreat. She said the Classified Senate especially enjoyed hearing the student perspective.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Michael Wangler** said the appointment of **Brice Harris** as the new state Community College Chancellor is being enthusiastically received.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Sue Gonda** said she is meeting with student representatives on a regular basis as part of a larger plan to connect the faculty with other parts of the District. She thanked Chancellor **Miles** for hosting the Student Success Innovators breakfast and described the enthusiastic response of participants.

## Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, November 13, 2012\*, at the Cuyamaca College Student Center. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session scheduled for 5:00 p.m.

The schedule of regular Governing Board meetings for 2012 is posted online at [2012 Governing Board Meeting Schedule](#).

\*Note: this is the second Tuesday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Staff Notes

The District welcomes **Gabi Aliyes**, Nursing Instructor at Grossmont College; **Wendy Craig**, Assistant Dean, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, Cuyamaca College; **Howard Irvin**, Interim Dean, Counseling Services, Grossmont College; and **Martin Spring**, Interim Dean, Counseling Services, Cuyamaca College.

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

Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Edwin Hiel, Debbie Justeson, Mary Kay Rosinski ◆ **Student Trustees:** Mohammed Alyasini, Samantha Elliot  
**Chancellor:** Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. ◆ **Grossmont President:** Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. ◆ **Cuyamaca President:** Mark J. Zacovic, Ph.D.