

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Board Reports

Governing Board Members **Bill Garrett**, **Mary Kay Rosinski**, and **Edwin Hiel** attended the Grossmont College Scholarship Breakfast. **Rosinski** reported that 44 Osher Scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded.

Hiel attended the meeting of the State Community College Board of Governors held at San Diego at City College. Grossmont College Student Trustee **Samantha Elliot** said she was proud to have the Board of Governors in San Diego and the Chancellor in attendance.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Mohammed Alyasini** reported on the ASGCC memorial commemorating those who lost their lives on 9/11, and a voter registration effort currently under way at Cuyamaca College. **Alyasini** and **Elliot** recognized members of the Cuyamaca and Grossmont Colleges' student government groups in attendance at the meeting.

Board President **Garrett** acknowledged the memorials on both campuses honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. He said he enjoyed the briefing prior to the Board meeting on transfers and completion, complimenting the leadership of Chancellor **Cindy Miles** for the improvement in student success outcomes and the support for students to help them be successful. "We're coming together in an extraordinary way," he said.



Board Actions

Support Urged for Proposition 30—Governing Board member **Mary Kay Rosinski** discussed the effect on the District if *Proposition 30* does not pass in November 2012, urging everyone to support the measure. **Rosinski** said California's community colleges have turned away a half-million students since 2009 due to lack of funding. *Proposition 30* would restore \$705,000 to the District's budget. Trustees **Greg Barr** and **Edwin Hiel**, and Grossmont College Student Trustee **Samantha Elliot** also urged support for *Proposition 30*. The resolution on the agenda in support of *Proposition 30* passed unanimously with an advisory vote in favor cast by **Elliot**.

Adoption Budget Approved—Board President **Bill Garrett** opened public comment on the District's Adoption Budget. With no comment received, the budget was closed for public comment and unanimously approved by the Governing Board.

Other Board Actions—Trustee **Debbie Justeson**, referencing information in Item 304, pointed out that the District supports programs benefiting the community as a whole, such as training for foster care parents. ♦ In reference to agenda Item 306, **Justeson** voiced her unhappiness over the District's need to borrow \$16 million and to pay interest on the loan due to the state delaying 40 percent of its 2012 payment to the District until 2013, calling it "maddening." Board President **Garrett** said he shared **Justeson's** "disgust and disdain." ♦ Trustee **Edwin Hiel** said he appreciated the docket item that allows him the opportunity to review board policies and administrative procedures, calling it a proactive and timely practice in light of statewide initiatives and accreditation. He specifically cited the Student Equity Policy among the policies within Item 201 for adoption. ♦ Under separate votes, the Governing Board unanimously approved all items on the meeting [agenda](#).

From Closed Session—By a 5-0 vote, the Governing Board denied the appeal on an administrative decision regarding a discrimination complaint filed by Tiffany Rundberg.

Capital Construction and Facilities Master Plan Presentation

Governing Board members received briefings on four elements of the District's long-term planning efforts. **Dale Switzer**, Senior Director of Facilities Planning, Development and Maintenance, introduced **Deborah Shepley** of HMC Architects, who provided an overview of the 2012 Facilities Master Plan: Phase 1.

The 2012 Facilities Master Plan (FMP) was created over a five-month time period, with participation from many constituents on both campuses within the District. The FMP summarizes the existing conditions, describes the development concept, and makes initial recommendations. The plan focuses on student access, student learning and success, value and support of employees, economic and community development, and fiscal resources. Sustainability is also key to the plan. The entire [FMP](#) is posted online.

Switzer reviewed the Five-Year Construction Plan and the *Proposition R* Funding Plan, and then turned the remainder of the presentation over to **Jim Davies** of Gafcon for the semi-annual *Proposition R* Project Management Report.

Switzer and **Davies** reviewed recently completed projects, as well as projects planned over the next six months.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** credited an array of dedicated people for the terrific student success outcomes. She cited the 15% increase in graduates at Cuyamaca College since launching of their "Graduation Starts Today" initiative last year. She said, "I'm blown away by what we saw today, in the midst of a budget crisis, we have the best outcomes we've ever had!" She applauded Vice Presidents **Jeff Baker**, **Julianna Barnes**, **Barbara Blanchard**, and **Robin Steinback** for pulling together the data presented in the pre-board meeting presentation and discussion regarding transfer and completion rates. "We're about to reach a tipping point in terms of moving the needle on student success, then we're going galactic," she said.

Presidents' Reports



- ◆ President **Sunny Cooke** announced that two of Grossmont College's buildings are now LEED certified: the Student Services and Administration Building (gold) and the Griffin Center (silver).
- ◆ The new Freshman Academy Program is an effort to scale up best practices. Five cohorts of students will participate in linked courses and receive support to help them achieve success in their first year.
- ◆ English Department faculty member **Joan Ahrens** received her Developmental Education Specialist Certification and will lend her expertise to the District.



- ◆ President **Mark Zacovic** reported on numerous Welcome Week activities, including formation of a new Psychology Club for students and a voter registration campaign.
- ◆ The Cuyamaca Water/Wastewater Technology Program has a new full-time instructor, state approval for its sixth degree program, and is now the most comprehensive program of its type in the California community college system.
- ◆ The Associated Students hosted a 9/11 ceremony on campus, with participation by the San Miguel Fire Department and State Senator Joel Anderson. Volunteers placed 2,977 flags, one for each person who died in the attacks.

Staff Reports

Classified Senate President **Wendy Corbin** thanked Chancellor **Miles** for the invitation to attend the State Community Colleges Board of Governors meeting. She reminded everyone about the upcoming Classified Senate retreat on September 21.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Sue Gonda** thanked those who attended the Grossmont College Theatre performances on September 7 and 8.

Administrators Association President **Michael Copenhaver** read a statement regarding healthcare benefit changes. He said the Association feels it is in the best interests of its members to choose the Sharp plan. **Copenhaver** said the Administrators Association fully understands the District's position, but the move away from Direct Health removes flexibility. He said the Association will remain vigilant on benefits, and despite the disagreement, thanked the Benefit Committee for its recommendation. **Copenhaver** complimented Vice Chancellor of Human Resources **Victoria Simmons** for being open and receptive, and said he is looking forward to working with her and her team to come to a mutually beneficial benefits agreement.

AFT representative **Lauren Halsted** reported the group is busy with campaigns on *Propositions V, 30, and 32*, and also working on voter registration.

Adjournment

Board President **Garrett** adjourned the meeting in memory of the 2,977 individuals who lost their lives 11 years ago in the attacks of 9/11.

Board Meeting Schedule

The next regular meeting of the Governing Board will be held Tuesday, October 16, 2012, in the Grossmont College Griffin Gate. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following a closed session scheduled for 5:20 p.m. The schedule of regular Governing Board meetings for 2012 is posted online at [2012 Governing Board Meeting Schedule](#).

Staff Notes

Congratulations to **Debra Ayers**, Admissions and Records Specialist for Veterans at Cuyamaca College, and **Jaime Eubanks-Lyerly**, Public Safety Operations Assistant, on their new assignments.