

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Board Reports

Trustee **Greg Barr** attended the Grossmont College production of “The Odyssey” and praised its creativity.

Trustees **Barr** and **Mary Kay Rosinski** worked together to review Standards I and IV of the Grossmont College Accreditation Self-Evaluation report. They called it impressive and well written. **Rosinski** said she enjoyed participating in the “Give the Dream” fundraising effort sponsored by the foundation. She encouraged donations through the [Give the Dream](#) website.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Mohammed Alyasini** said applications for student government positions are now available. Many people are competing for positions.

Grossmont Student Trustee **Samantha Elliot** reviewed a busy week of legislative activities including the *March in March* in Sacramento, Student Senate for California Community Colleges meeting, board of governors retreat, and state Academic Senate meeting. **Elliot** accompanied Cuyamaca College students on legislative visits to the offices of **Joel Anderson**, **Brian Jones**, **Marty Block**, and **Rocky Chavez**, as well as Deputy State Community College Chancellor **Eric Skinner** and others.



Board Workshop—Conversations about Student Success

At a board workshop prior to the regular meeting, **Jesus Miranda**, **Greg Gomez**, **Reem Asfour**, **Laura Jarrous**, and **Adam Erlenbusch** gave a presentation about Cuyamaca College’s First Year Experience (FYE) program, which provides assistance to students who are from low socio-economic backgrounds or are the first in their family to attend college. The program, in its second year, is serving 128 Cuyamaca College students who came from Mount Miguel and Monte



Vista high schools. Current and former FYE students lauded the program and said the tutoring and counseling they received through FYE helped them overcome obstacles to their education.

Board President **Bill Garrett** praised the FYE program, noting that too many students fall through the cracks without support, especially those without family members to go to with questions. Trustee **Edwin Hiel** spoke about the program and his previous experiences with the model at other campuses. He said he hopes it will continue to grow and be

successful. Trustee **Debbie Justeson** said she hopes the FYE program becomes better known, as there are many high school students who don’t think they have a chance to go to college.

Board Actions

Governing Board members ratified the Sabbatical Leave Committee's selection of nine sabbatical projects for the 2013-14 academic year. Faculty members who will undertake these projects are **Debra Babylon, Jennifer Bennett, Chris Hill, Brian Jennings, Nancy Jennings, Pearl Lopez, Gopa Patnaik, Donna Riley, and Jade Solan**. The approved topics encompass visual arts, earth science, politics, online education, refugee students, public health, and diversity training. Descriptions of the proposed projects by each faculty member are listed [here](#). Trustees **Debbie Justeson** and **Greg Barr** said they were impressed by the sabbatical proposals, and looked forward to presentations upon completion of the work. Following the discussion, Item 502 passed with a vote of 5-0.

The Governing Board approved all other items on the meeting [agenda](#) by consent.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** recapped recent "Give the Dream" fundraising campaign events held on campus March 14 and at Grossmont Center, Parkway Plaza, and Santee Trolley Square on March 16. The money raised will fund the Dreamkeepers® program in for the 2013-14 school year and begin an endowment for the program. The donations are used for student grants of up to \$500 for a financial emergency, such as medical bills, car repairs, or unexpected child care expenses that might mean the difference between a student staying in college or dropping out. Chancellor **Miles** said the District's program is being looked at as a national model. ♦ Chancellor **Miles** and President **Sunny Cooke** participated in a reception at Grossmont College for the accrediting team visiting the campus as part of its assessment of the Middle College High School program for the Grossmont Union High School District. ♦ **Miles** attended the Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony for **Constance Carroll** along with **Sunny Cooke, Mark Zacovic, and Sue Gonda**. **Dr. Carroll** is the first woman to serve as chancellor of the San Diego Community College District.

Foundation and Auxiliary Share Activities Reports

Diane Munson, the new executive director of the Grossmont- Cuyamaca Community College District Auxiliary, presented the auxiliary's activity report for FY 2011-2012. She said the auxiliary brought in 13 new contracts in the last year, and was given a clean audit. **Munson** reviewed the growth in auxiliary grants since 2002 and noted they have increased over 131 percent to almost \$8 million in 2012. She said the auxiliary's goals are to increase customer service to grant holders and work to help fund key priorities at both campuses. ♦ **Ron Oberndorfer**, chair of the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges, presented a report on the foundation's inaugural FY 2011-2012 year. He outlined the foundation's organizational milestones, including approval of bylaws, and development of systems and processes for receiving and managing gifts. **Oberndorfer** said the Foundation introduced the Possibilities Roundtable fundraising initiative in 2012, and the Foundation had recruited 60 donors and raised more than \$100,000 by the end of the year. The Foundation also participated in the celebration of Grossmont College's 50th anniversary event in April. ♦ Read the full activities report for the [auxiliary](#) and the [foundation](#).

District Employees Receive National Awards

Cuyamaca College Counselor **Donna Hajj**, Grossmont College Geology Instructor **Gary Jacobsen**, and Grossmont College Health Science Technician **Pat Murray** were recipients of the *John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award* at the recent League for Innovation in the Community College conference in Dallas, Texas. These awards celebrate outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff.

Grossmont College President **Sunny Cooke** and Cuyamaca

College President **Mark Zacovic** congratulated the winners and presented their medallions at the Governing Board meeting.



District Services Report

Sue Rearic, Vice Chancellor of Business Services, said the District has received its first apportionment from the state. She is now anticipating a 1-to-1.5% deficit by the end of the fiscal year. ♦ The District is nearing the completion of updated cost estimates for facilities in anticipation of issuing *Proposition V* bonds. ♦ **Rearic** reported that District Services is working on Business Process Analysis (BPA), considering implementation of new systems to help improve services, be more responsive, and use technology more efficiently. Human Resources and Payroll Departments are the first to go through the BPA process.

Tim Corcoran, Interim Vice Chancellor Human Resources, reported on challenges recruiting for several vice president and dean positions, and said the searches will be extended. **Corcoran** said he is looking forward to Classified Staff Appreciation Day on Monday, where he will be a speaker, and encouraged others to attend.

Presidents' Reports



President **Sunny Cooke** displayed an engraved obelisk presented to Grossmont College for winning a first place Paragon Award in the Radio Advertisement/PSA category at the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations conference in Chicago. The honor is for Grossmont's successful radio campaign for the college's 50th anniversary open house celebration last April. ♦ The Brigham Young University International Folk Dance Ensemble [performed](#) on March 13 in front of a large crowd in the Main Quad. The group of 42 students, most of whom are not dance majors, performed dances from ethnic cultures. ♦ History Professor **Sue Gonda** presented the lecture "Corsets, Heels, and Surgery, Oh My: A Historical Look at Women's Health and Fashion" on March 6 at Griffin Gate as part of Grossmont's celebration of Women's History Month.



President **Mark Zacovic** introduced Cuyamaca College student **Cassandra Steppat**, who was named Miss La Mesa 2013. Another student, **Kaci McCorkell**, was recently crowned Miss Rancho San Diego 2013. Both women will serve as official ambassadors for their areas attending grand openings, parades, concerts, and Chamber functions, and received scholarships for their achievements. ♦ Acting Associate Dean of Student Affairs **Ryan Shumaker** and Cuyamaca College student leaders **Fatima Alyasini**, **Jocelyn Estrada**, and **Abrianna Gomez** participated in the *March on March* in Sacramento. The group met with legislators to lobby for increased funding for higher education, specifically for community colleges. ♦ **Frank Sundstrom**, Cuyamaca College's mail processor, hosted an opening reception displaying his ceramic art at the Communications Arts building on Thursday, March 14. **Sundstrom's** art will be on display in the Communications Art gallery through March 22.

Staff Reports

AFT representative **Lauren Burroughs** said AFT is pleased that negotiations will soon be commencing with the District. **Burroughs** reported two members had been elected to represent the statewide board for CFT: **Tina Solorzano** was elected secretary, and **Jim Mahler** was elected president. ♦ CSEA representative **Deanna Thompson** introduced herself to the Governing Board. She is a new job steward. ♦ Cuyamaca College Academic Senate president **Alicia Muñoz** said the Academic Senate has nominated counselor **Jesus Miranda** for an award recognizing his work with FYE. **Muñoz** said the Hispanic Serving Institute Best Practices conference was encouraging and she would pursue HSI grants. ♦ Grossmont College Academic Senate president **Sue Gonda** said a small workgroup that emerged from the recent student engagement survey is looking at strategies to implement that will improve results in areas including faculty/student relations. Discussions from that group have already begun working their way into the Institutional Effectiveness Council.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new employees **Patrice Nya**, Budget Analyst, Cuyamaca College; and **Elaine Adlam**, Health Services Nurse, Grossmont College. Congratulations to **Teresa McNeil**, Interim Vice President of Student Services, Cuyamaca College, on her new assignment.

Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at the Grossmont College Griffin Gate. 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 2013 is posted online at [2013 Governing Board Meeting Schedule](#).

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:

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