

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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District Takes Steps to Become Financially Independent

The Governing Board approved a resolution authorizing the District to become fiscally independent, which allows it the flexibility to run efficient operations without detailed oversight by the county Office of Education.

Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** said the resolution sets the stage to move forward with a new software system for the District to integrate the Payroll, Human Resources and Finance systems. An open house is planned for each site to introduce the new software system.

President **Bill Garrett** said the District will reap long-term benefits from this initiative, and thanked the team working on this project.

Coyote Athletes On the Right Track With Stellar Season at Cuyamaca College



From left: Cuyamaca track and field athletes Ryan Maize, Nikki Buck, Fereon Meferia, Xander Law, Shane Hoagland; student Trustee Jocelyn Estrada; pole vault coach Lyle Barton; Trustee Mary Kay Rosinski, and men's head track coach Patrick Thiss.

Cuyamaca College track and field athletes enjoyed a stellar season and outstanding results at the California Community College State Championships. Associate Athletics Director and men's head track coach **Patrick Thiss** introduced five of the six athletes who participated: **Nikki Buck**, 1,500 meters; All-American **Ryan Maize**, 3,000-meter steeplechase; **Shane Hoagland** and **Xander Law**, both All-Americans in the pole vault; and **Fereon Meferia**, 800 meters. **Dana Hosley**, All-American in discus, was not able to attend.



All-American pole vaulter Xander Law.

Hoagland will transfer to Chico State; **Meferia** has received a scholarship to Howard University in Washington, D.C. Women's head track coach **Tim Seaman** talked about the success of Cuyamaca athletes he has taken under his wing as competitive race-walkers. **Seaman**, a U.S. Olympian, is the most decorated race-walker in U.S. history.

In another Coyote success story, Cuyamaca College pole vault coach **Lyle Barton** was named 2014 Assistant Coach of the Year for Men's Track and Field by the California Community College Cross Country and Track Coaches Association (SCTCA). Barton also offers free clinics on Sundays for pole vaulters at other schools.

SUMMER'S SARTORIAL SPLENDOR

From left: Trustees Greg Barr, Edwin Hiel, Bill Garrett and Mary Kay Rosinski. Trustee Debbie Justeson was absent. The board members were dressed for "Hawaiian Shirt Day" at Cuyamaca College.



Board Actions & Closed Session

- Except for item 307, all remaining agenda items on the docket passed via consent.
- In closed session, the Governing Board conducted the Chancellor's evaluation. **Garrett** called it "very positive." The Board voted 4-0, with Justeson absent, to deny the application for a late claim by Gary Mitchell. Also passed 4-0 was the separation agreement of the Grossmont College Dean of Technology, Learning and Resources.

Board Reports

Garrett opened the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of **Erving Metzgar**, president of Grossmont College from 1970-1980. After stepping down as president, **Metzgar** served for three years as the college’s director of Student Affairs.

Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** made note of the passing of three longtime supporters of the District: Sharp Grossmont Hospital CEO **Michele Tarbet**; Cuyamaca College financial aid advisor **Carrie Valdez**, and Sycuan tribal member and councilman **Orlando Sandoval**.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Jocelyn Estrada** said the Cuyamaca and Grossmont student leaders participated in a leadership retreat, featuring three guest speakers on group and personality dynamics and governance. The students look forward to making this an annual event.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Zack Gianino** offered a positive review of the retreat. **Gianino** discussed his recent positive experience with Degree Audit, an online counseling program, and suggested it be made available to students outside counseling appointments to help them navigate their educational path.

Presidents’ Reports

- President **Sunny Cooke** said U.S. Secretary of Labor **Thomas E. Perez**, himself an immigrant from the



From left: Gail Patterson, Perez, and Ann Durham.



Dominican Republic, visited the San Diego Welcome Back Center at Grossmont to visit with program participants and administrators. The Welcome Back Center assists recent immigrants with training in health care

fields in obtaining California licensure, meeting a critical need for cultural and linguistic diversity in the workplace.

- Grossmont College Music Technician **Anthony Cutietta** presented the children’s book, “Out My Window,” at three local schools. The book is accompanied by music.
- Art student **Ivy Crocker** painted the Student Showcase theme banner at the San Diego County Fair with Ceramics Technician **Al Ventura**. Of the many student entries in Fair competition, four won first-place awards.
- Grossmont College’s Theatre Arts Department presented its first-ever summer conservatory featuring high school and college students in the production, “The Three Musketeers,” in late July at the Stagehouse Theatre. The program is self-funded through donations. All students received college credit for their roles.

- President **Mark Zacovic** reported the Cuyamaca College Unlimited Potential (UP!) Program



supporting former foster youth students received a grant from the Elks National

Foundation for \$2,000, which paid for backpacks, school supplies and vouchers. Professor Emeritus **Anthony Zambelli**, president of the El Cajon lodge, spearheaded the donation.



- Members of the Cuyamaca College Emergency Operations Center (EOC) participated in a preparedness drill on July 8, coordinated by Sheriff’s Deputy **Mark Kelley**.
- Zacovic** expressed regret at the passing of Financial Aid Advisor **Carrie Valdez**. He said Valdez was a respected member of the Financial Aid Office who always had students as her top priority.
- The first two weeks of College for Kids saw nearly 160 students in 13 one-week programs. After four weeks, the program is expected to serve 400 schoolchildren in 45 course sections.

District Services Report



A hungry shark lunges for hotdogs at a recent beach-themed potluck for district services employees.

Rearic said the District is closing its books for the past fiscal year. She said **Gafcon, Inc.** will provide a report on labor compliance in August.

Human Resources Report

Tim Corcoran, Interim Vice Chancellor Human Resources, reported on the department's recruiting and hiring. Corcoran said Human Resources offered first aid/CPR/AED training at Grossmont College. The training will be offered soon at Cuyamaca College. Chancellor **Cindy Miles** thanked **Corcoran** for taking on additional responsibilities and keeping HR operating smoothly with limited staff.

Staff Report

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Alicia Muñoz** reported on her work with the California Common Assessment Commission, which is developing a common assessment tool for the state's community colleges in math, English and ESL. The group hopes to have a pilot test ready by spring 2016, and implementation by fall 2016.

AFT representative **Ian Duckles** noted several issues of concern to AFT regarding labor issues including contract negotiations and support for adjunct instructors.

Staff Notes

District Services welcomes new employees **Andrew Chavez**, Warehouse Assistant; **Michael Focht**, Purchasing Assistant; and **Scott Skinner, Jr.**, and **Jonathan Snyder**, Campus and Parking Services Specialists.

Grossmont College welcomes new employees **Martha Clavelle**, Dean, Counseling Services; **Matthew Davis**, **Alfred Garza**, **John Gonzalez** and **William Roessner**, Custodians; **Tyler Dranguet**, Administrative Assistant; **Narges Heidari**, **Gary Johnson** and **Sarah Moore**, Counselors; **Sandi Meschoulam**, Child Development Center Coordinator; **Francis Parker**, Sculpture Technician; **Kristina Sunblad**, Mathematics Instructor; and **Alan Traylor**, English Instructor.

Cuyamaca College welcomes **Rachel Jacob-Almedia**, Sociology Instructor; **Bradley McCombs**, Automotive Instructor; **Rachelle Panganiban**, DSPS Counselor; and **Miriam Simpson**, Physics Instructor.

Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session scheduled for 5 p.m.

Special Adjournment

President **Garrett** adjourned the meeting in memory of those who were remembered earlier in the meeting who provided support to the District.

Chancellor's Report

Miles reported the San Diego County Taxpayers Association recognized the District for its bond management and transparency. The District fulfilled 22 of SDCTA's 23 criteria, and received one of the highest ratings from the association among the 19 school and college districts that were examined.

Miles said 27 leaders from the District and the Grossmont Union High School District met to forge the new Alliance for College and Career Readiness. The group will work on a written compact for both districts to sign that commits them aligning curriculum and collaborating to assure high school students are prepared for college and career opportunities.

Miles said follow-up site visits from accreditation teams are scheduled October 27.

Miles thanked her cabinet team for their leadership: **Sunny Cooke**, **Tim Corcoran**, **Sue Rearic**, and **Mark Zacovic**.

Opening Pitch for Alumni Association

Miles said more than 300 recent graduates and guests attended a San Diego Padres baseball game and pre-game celebration July 1 for Grad Fest, a kickoff for the foundation's new Alumni Association. All graduating students were offered two free tickets.



Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:

Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Edwin Hiel, Debbie Justeson, Mary Kay Rosinski ♦ Student Trustees: Zack Gianino, Jocelyn Estrada
Chancellor: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. ♦ Grossmont President: Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. ♦ Cuyamaca President: Mark J. Zacovic, Ph.D.