

# The Courier

## Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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### Commencement Ceremonies Celebrate Achievements



Governing board members congratulated both colleges for their inspiring commencement ceremonies. More than 2,000 students graduated from Grossmont and Cuyamaca colleges, earning a record number of more than 3,800 degrees and certificates. Cuyamaca College awarded 871 degrees and certificates to graduates on June 4, and Grossmont College awarded 2,952 degrees and certificates at its commencement on June 5.

- Twenty-nine Grossmont College nursing students earned their pins at the spring 2014 ceremony.
- Grossmont Middle College High School held a ceremony for 38 high school graduates.
- The 10th annual Transfer Achievement Celebration honored 75 Cuyamaca students who are transferring to four-year universities .



- The Cuyamaca Veterans Achievement Ceremony recognized 16 students transferring to four-year universities.
- Eighty graduates and transfer students from the Cuyamaca College EOPS, CARE, UP!, and Borderless Spaces programs were honored, including 15 former foster youth or homeless students.



*A Grossmont College grad can barely contain her joy. At left, a Cuyamaca College trio is also all smiles.*

### Student trustees sworn in for Governing Board 2014/2015 term



*From left: Trustees Debbie Justeson, Edwin Hiel, Bill Garrett, Zack Gianino, Jocelyn Estrada, Greg Barr, and Mary Kay Rosinski.*

Newly elected Cuyamaca College student trustee **Jocelyn Estrada** and returning Grossmont College student trustee **Zack Gianino** were sworn in to serve the 2014-15 term on the Governing Board. Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** administered the oath of office.



## Cuyamaca College Certificate and Degree Changes Approved

Curriculum committee co-chairman **Guillermo Colls**, Cuyamaca College English as a Second Language Instructor, presented an overview of changes in credit course, certificate, and degree programs for the 2014/2015 academic year. **Colls** said the committee successfully completed updates on all identified courses, primarily to update course outlines and CSU associate transfer degrees.

## Trustees Approve Tentative Budget

**Garrett** and **Rosinski** commended work done on the tentative budget by District Strategic Planning & Budget Council members and Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** and praised Associate Vice Chancellor **Sahar Abushaban** for their clear, thorough budget presentation.

**Gianino** solicited the board's opinion on how student representation fees allotted to student government should be spent. **Garrett** suggested that governing board members schedule a workshop meeting with student government leaders from both campuses to discuss this and other items of mutual interest.

### Board Actions & Closed Session

- With the exception of item 305, the Governing Board approved all remaining agenda items on the docket via consent.
- Item 305, the tentative budget, was discussed and unanimously approved.
- In closed session, the board unanimously voted to release an academic probationary employee.

## Presidents' Reports

- ◆ President **Sunny Cooke** said 40 faculty members attended the June Faculty Summer Institute, which focused on student equity.



- ◆ The second phase of drought-tolerant landscaping and outdoor education zones near the Learning, Technology and Resources Center is now complete.

- ◆ Grossmont College participated in the countywide Bike to Work Day on May 30. The Grossmont pit stop was coordinated and staffed by **Juliette Harrington**, **Pat Murray**, and the Triathlon Club, and was sponsored by Trek Bicycles of La Mesa.
- ◆ The San Diego office of the American Cancer Society recognized Grossmont's fundraising event "100 x 100: Artists for Healing," an exhibition and sale of donated art in March. Hyde Art Gallery director **Prudence Home**, Photography Professor **Suda House**, Visual Arts and Humanities Department chair **Paul Turounet**, and Art Professor **Jennifer Bennett** were recognized.



*With Lapointe is Pat Setzer, Dean of Humanities and Social Science.*



President Mark Zacovic said students presented part-time English 120 instructor **Audrey Lapointe** with an outstanding teacher award, producing and paying for a plaque and ceramic apple signed by all her students to recognize and thank her.

The three newest recipients of the Cuyamaca Way Award, each exhibiting a tribute identified with the college, such as innovative, visionary, beautiful and student-centered, have been announced. They are **Lauren Vakin**, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, **Kim Dudzik**, Associate Professor of Biology and **Michelle Garia**, Assistant Professor of Biology. President **Zacovic** presented each with a Cuyamaca Way mug.



## District Services Report

Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** reported the state Legislature passed its final version of the 2014/2015 budget. Governor Jerry Brown is expected to approve it by June 30. The budget calls for increases in State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) contributions, with an employer rate rising to 8.88% and an employee rate of 8.15%. The employer rate is slated to increase annually to a projected 19.1% rate in 2020-21.

**Rearic** said the District has started the process of filing an application with the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) to become financially independent. This will allow the District to process accounts payable and payroll internally, without additional SDCOE oversight. **Rearic** said overseeing payroll will be the biggest change; it will provide more flexibility, and save the District \$500,000 in shared costs paid to the county.

The five-year facilities plan was approved on the consent calendar. **Rearic** said it is required by the state Chancellor's office. There are no significant changes; it includes two projects the District hopes will be funded by a statewide bond on the November ballot.

### Commendable Actions



*San Diego County Sheriff William D. Gore, center, presented commendations to, from left, Sheriff's Deputies Dean Allen, Felix Santiesban, CAPS Specialist Tiffany Hungerford, and Grossmont College student Javier Partida at a San Diego Sheriff's Department Award Ceremony on May 22 for their roles in apprehending a criminal suspect in October 2013 at Grossmont College.*

## Human Resources Report

**Tim Corcoran**, Interim Vice Chancellor Human Resources, reported recruiting is underway to replace a recruiter position due to a recent resignation. **Corcoran** announced progress on the Administrators Association contract. Human Resources is gathering feedback on the hiring of temporary workers, and hopes to make improvements to the process soon.

## Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** added her thanks to everyone who worked on commencement ceremonies, and shared some of her [favorite photos](#) from both ceremonies. **Miles** pointed out that a record number of degrees and certificates were awarded although the District is still below its pre-recession number of courses, faculty and staff. The increases have come due to student success efforts.

**Miles** reported on the East County Economic Development Council's Demographic Study, which was presented at Grossmont College. This year's San Diego County East County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class included Associate Vice Chancellor **John Valencia** and **Rearic** in the nine-month program.

A recent fundraising house party hosted by a faculty member raised \$9,500 for the Grossmont Symphony Orchestra program.

**Miles** thanked **Robert Nolan** from the Grossmont Schools Federal Credit Union, who was recently elected vice president of the board of the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges and is incoming president of the Auxiliary board of directors.

## Staff Report

Grossmont College Academic Senate representative **Jeff Lehman** said the new drought-tolerant landscaping is truly an outdoor lab space, and complimented the collaborative way it was developed.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Alicia Muñoz** attended the Academic Senate Faculty Leadership Institute, which featured workshops on understanding college budgets, running effective meetings, the Brown Act, strategies on mentoring new faculty leadership, and succession planning.

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## Staff Notes

Grossmont College welcomes new employee **Brittney Budde**, Athletic Equipment Technician; **Jeanette Gircynski**, Media Communications Instructor; **Yumiko Hudson**, Admissions and Records Assistant; **Sarah Moore**, Counselor; **Rhonda Morris** and **Michi Sekol**, Nursing Instructors.

Cuyamaca College welcomes **Cynthia Mendoza**, Child Development Center Training Specialist; **Arian Pole**, Financial Aid Advisor; and congratulates **Scott Herrin** on his new position as Dean of Math, Science and Engineering.

The following contracts have been renewed: **Mark Zacovic**, Cuyamaca College President; **Sahar Abushaban**, Associate Vice Chancellor, District Business Services; **Scott Thayer**, Vice President of Student Services, Cuyamaca College; **John Valencia**, Associate Vice Chancellor, Advancement and Communications; **Katrina VanderWoude**, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Grossmont College; **Wei Zhou**, Vice President of Instruction, Cuyamaca College; **Tim Corcoran**, Interim Vice Chancellor, Human Resources; and **Arleen Satele**, Vice President of Administrative Services, Cuyamaca College.

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## Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, July 22, 2014, at the Student Center, Cuyamaca College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session scheduled for 5 p.m. **NOTE: this is a date change from the schedule originally published.**

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## Public Comment

Cuyamaca College student **John Trujillo** expressed concerns regarding tutoring services.

### 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.