

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

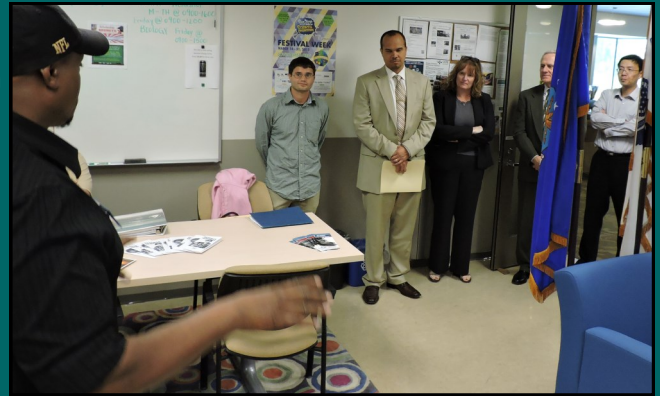
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Board Tours Cuyamaca College Veterans Resource Center

Governing Board members took a tour of the Veterans Resource Center at Cuyamaca College and heard a presentation on what both Cuyamaca and Grossmont colleges offer for veterans. The Cuyamaca College Veterans Resource Center, and a similar center at Grossmont College, offer veterans a welcoming environment and an area where they can relax, use the center computers, and network with other veterans.

Cuyamaca College also has a Veterans Counseling Center, located in the A Building, and a veterans counselor, **Oswaldo Torres**. The plans for the new Cuyamaca College Student Services Building to be constructed with Proposition V funds call for the Veterans Resource Center and Counseling Center to be located next to each other.

Cuyamaca College serves 909 veterans, while Grossmont College serves 1,106 veterans. Veteran students at both colleges have higher class retention, success and persistence rates than other students.



Board Reports

Governing Board members thanked those involved with the Veterans Resource Center presentation prior to the board meeting.

Trustee **Debbie Justeson** thanked the chancellor and her staff for hosting the budget forums, and said she is glad for the openness and transparency.

Trustee **Edwin Hiel** attended an Indonesian music concert at Cuyamaca College and said he intends to attend more concerts in the future.

Grossmont student trustee **Zack Gianino** reviewed upcoming events, and noted the ASGC elections will occur on April 7 and 8. ASGC and the Interclub Council will hold the 53rd annual service awards ceremony on April 14.

Cuyamaca student trustee **Jocelyn Estrada** said ASGC hosted a Women's History Month Fair.

President **Bill Garrett** introduced discussion about shifting the agenda order to put the consent calendar near the beginning of the meeting agenda, so members of the public do not have to wait for the opportunity to speak on agenda items until the end of the meeting. The board passed a motion made by trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** to move the consent calendar before the chancellor's report. The vote was 3-2, with **Rosinski, Justeson, and Hiel** in favor; **Garrett and Greg Barr** opposed.

Board Actions

With the exception of item 201, 302, 304, 305, and 401, the Governing Board approved all agenda items via consent.

Cuyamaca College curriculum committee co-chair **Chuck Charter** updated the board on curriculum changes, including the addition of a local degree in Arabic language, and a transfer degree in Art History. The changes were approved with a 5-0 vote.

Regarding the Board Policies update, board member **Edwin Hiel** said it was gratifying to see that the District's and Colleges' mission, vision, and values statements include the values of equity and inclusion. He thanked Chancellor **Cindy Miles** and her staff for initiating the district's focus on equity.

Trustee **Greg Barr** inquired about a reported decrease in the budget for basic skills instruction. Grossmont College Interim President **Tim Flood** said the state allocation is less than last year, but hopes to see an increase later. **Barr** also asked about contracting for private security guard services. Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** said the contract was discontinued on Jan. 7. Docket Items 302 and 304 were passed with a 5-0 vote.

Trustee **Debbie Justeson** commented on Item 305, changes to the Cuyamaca College Distance Education Proposal for Accreditation, encouraging the development of more online courses and degrees. The item was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Barr asked whether the Grossmont College perimeter road would be included in the parking lot and roadway repairs contract in Item 401. Flood said parking lots would be repaired first since large construction vehicles would use the road during the Theater Arts construction project and that parking lots would be used to re-route traffic. Minor repairs will be done to avoid safety issues on the perimeter road, with full repairs at a later time. The item passed unanimously, 5-0.

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Board Discusses Budget Issues

Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** reported on forums that were recently held to discuss the District and college budgets, particularly to address concerns about the budget at

BUDGET 2015-2016

Cuyamaca College. The forums were held in an effort to be transparent about the budget process and to add more voices to the conversation about the budget. Both colleges rely on having an ending balance in their budgets each fiscal year so that they can react to

unexpected expenses such as increased utility bills or adding more classes. After an estimated budget shortage last fall for Cuyamaca College, the college reacted by reducing hiring and spending to avert a shortfall.

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** said the District's budget is in good standing and that we are making a collective effort across the District to strengthen the budget infrastructure. The District's Organizational Enhancement Initiative will be data-driven and analyze our strategic staffing and enrollment management plans to ensure we are making the best use of District resources. **Miles** said a budget workshop will be held for Governing Board members.

Presidents' Reports

- Interim President **Tim Flood** reported the Chinese Club rang in the Chinese New Year with a celebration in February. The event, sponsored by the World Arts and Culture Committee and the World Languages Department, featured a dragon dance, martial arts demonstrations and food.
- Flood said Associated Student government leaders participated in the March in March in Sacramento on March 2. Student leaders across the state met with legislators to discuss community colleges, funding and success.
- Grossmont's English as a Second Language Department hosted the San Diego regional conference for CATESOL, a professional association for educators specializing in English as a Second Language and bilingual education, on March 7. Hundreds of attendees participated in the day-long conference
- Members of the Grossmont College men's and women's basketball teams garnered All-Pacific Coast Athletic Conference honors. Congratulations to women's basketball players **Abigail Vargas, Jasmine Patrick** and **Jasmine Bradley**; and to men's basketball players **Rob Romero, Ali Majidzada** and **Kevin Butty**.
- The Brad Daluiso Golf Classic is scheduled May 1 at the Willow Glen Golf Course. Money raised from the event benefits the Grossmont College athletics department.



- President **Mark Zacovic** said the Ornamental Horticulture department hosted the Seventh Annual Sustainable Turf and Landscape Seminar at the Cuyamaca College



Performing Arts Theatre March 5. The theme of this year's seminar was "Healthy Landscapes with Limited Water." More than 230 people attended, and the event raised \$20,000 for the department.

- Community collaborations continue to support the development of the Intergenerational Garden at Cuyamaca College.

As part of the County of San Diego's Live Well Initiative, the Garden Grannies continue their



good work in the Intergenerational Garden with the children and families attending the Child Development Center. This month's event was citrus tasting.

District Services Report

Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** said the District has received several adjustments to current funds from the State. In addition, the District proposes adjusting the deficit factor from 2% to 1%. These three adjustments increase the current year budget by \$3.2 million.

Rearic reported a pre-bid meeting was held on March 10 for the purchase or lease of copier equipment. Ten potential copier bidders attended the meeting. The bids are due to the District on April 13 and will then be reviewed by the Copier Standardization Committee.

Rearic said the District is renegotiating its contract with the San Diego Sheriff's Department, looking at cost savings that will not impact services. In addition, software services are being studied for cost savings potential.

Campus & Parking Services (CAPS) has received two new AED units, one for the CAPS office at each campus. The CAPS truck and two carts are now sporting the CAPS logo. CAPS is working to add restriping to parking lots over weekends.

Board Scenes



Above, from left, vice chancellors **Sue Rearic** and **Tim Corcoran** display a commendation the district received from insurance administrator **Fritz Heirich** for following good risk-management practices. At right, Marine Corps veteran **Sam Russo** described to the board his experiences as a Grossmont College student during a pre-meeting presentation on veterans services.

Human Resources Report

Vice Chancellor of Human Resources **Tim Corcoran** introduced **Fritz Heirich**, CEO of the Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCIP), which provides insurance to 150 California public education agencies, including 17 community college districts. **Heirich** presented the District with the Risk Management Award for its performance in providing a healthy, safe learning environment through its proactive measures in loss control and safety measures.

Corcoran said 30 employees from the colleges and the District will attend a diversity conference at the end of the month. Recruitments are moving forward, including for Grossmont College president.

Staff Reports

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Sue Gonda** said faculty are working on numerous projects, including preparation of a Title V grant application; professional development focused on diversity, student success strategies, enrollment strategy discussions, and improving student success in the online environment. **Gonda** reported seven new adjunct counselors are being trained. Project Success Learning Communities linked course are being expanded to college level English from Basic Skills courses.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Alicia Muñoz** reported on officer selections. **Paul Carmona** is the new vice president, **Lindy Brazil** is the new senator at large, and **Seth Slater** is the new officer at large. **Muñoz** said **Patricia Santana** has been awarded the rank of full professor.

AFT president **Jim Mahler** said he looked forward to a budget workshop for the Governing Board. He requested the search for a new Cuyamaca College president to begin immediately.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new employees **Steve Abat**, Director of Technical Services, District; **Ross Nelson**, Instructional Lab Assistant, Intermediate, Cuyamaca College; **Katie Pebley**, Health Services Nurse, Grossmont College; **Layla Shaba** and **Diana Yacoub**, Instructional Lab Assistants, Cuyamaca College.

Congratulations to **George Diaz** and **Paul Silva**, Senior General Maintenance Workers, Cuyamaca College, on their new assignments.

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at Griffin Gate, Grossmont College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session scheduled for 5p.m.

Public Comment

Cuyamaca College instructors **Kathryn Nette** and **Chuck Charter** urged the immediate start of the search for a new Cuyamaca president. Chancellor **Miles** said she is sensitive to their concerns.

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:

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