

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Cuyamaca College President Search

Board President **Bill Garrett** offered his appreciation to the search committee that brought forward the four finalists for the Cuyamaca College president position. "The next two candidates will be just as impressive and persuasive as the first two," **Garrett** said. "All bring their own strengths. The differences are always fascinating. I thank the committee for all of its efforts," he said.

Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** said she is enjoying interviews for hiring the Cuyamaca College President. The only sad part will be saying goodbye to interim President **Robert Garber**.

Trustee **Debbie Justeson** said two very different candidates had been interviewed for the position so far. "We are collectively trying to find someone who fits best with the Cuyamaca community," **Justeson** said. She encouraged colleagues to offer feedback and input on the candidates so trustees can make the best decision.

Board Reports

Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** reflected on the bad budget news and the prospect of deeper cuts, asking everyone to support students and each other.

Trustee **Edwin Hiel** attended an Academic Senate meeting last week. He said he believed by pulling together, the District would get through budget problems and see better days.

Trustee **Debbie Justeson** also attended the Academic Senate meeting. She said she and **Hiel** both benefitted from the visit.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Christopher Enders** thanked the Chancellor and Governing Board for the opportunity to have lunch with state Board of Governors President **Scott Himelstein**. "It's not every day a student gets to do that," **Enders** said. He also remarked on the visit to campus by Congressman **Bob Filner** and his discussion about his participation in the Freedom Riders civil rights movement in 1961.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Charles Taylor** said Associated Students members attended training in Sacramento on advocacy and networked with fellow students from over 100 other community colleges.



Gearhart Grateful for Chancellor/Classified Senate Award

Maria Gearhart, Cuyamaca College Library Senior Multi-Media Assistant, received the quarterly Chancellor/Classified Senate Award. Classified Senate President **Debi Miller** and Dean of Learning and Technology Resources **Connie Elder** joined Chancellor **Cindy Miles** to present the award.

Elder, who nominated **Gearhart**, called her resourceful and creative. **Gearhart** helped stretch the budget to furnish the new library space by reupholstering 240 chairs and footstools. **Elder** said **Gearhart** also searched Craigslist to find the glass display cases now in the library lobby. "She is remarkably dedicated and a fabulous example of the Cuyamaca Way," **Elder** said.

Miles and the Classified Senate staged a conga line of faculty, staff, and students to celebrate the occasion. **Miles** called it the best conga line to date.



With her husband, **Donald**, family members, and colleagues in attendance, **Gearhart** tearfully thanked faculty and staff members for supporting her as a student, enabling her to graduate with honors, and then helping her get a full-time job. "For all of you who held my hand, gave me a hug, and told me I could do it, this award means a great deal," **Gearhart** said.

Board Actions

Item 202 California Community College Trustees 2011 Board of Directors Election

Upon the recommendation of Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski**, the Governing Board voted 5-0 to cast votes for three candidates for the California Community College Trustees Board. They are **Laura Casa Frier**, Foothill-DeAnza CCD; **Nancy Chadwick**, Palomar CCD; and **Pauline Larwood**, Kern CCD.

Item 501 Personnel Actions

Following discussion, Governing Board members voted 5-0, with an advisory vote in favor by Student Trustee **Chuck Taylor**, to approve the docket item without the proposed restructuring of District Services.

Speakers **Kimberly Gioscia** and **Chemene Chodur** expressed concerns and asked that the restructuring be delayed for further investigation. Board President **Bill Garrett** said he was concerned that questions were being raised, and wanted to ensure that an opportunity had been provided to talk about the questions.

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** proposed the restructuring be withdrawn so the questions could be addressed. "Let's step back and make sure everyone understands it," **Miles** said. "There is no rush. Let's have this conversation. Let's make sure that people feel comfortable."

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

From Closed Session

In closed session, by a vote of 5-0, the Board authorized the Chancellor to execute a Separation and Mutual Release Agreement with **James Tarvin** on the terms specified by the Board. The Board also voted 5-0 to ratify the rejection of a liability claim pending further investigation.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** discussed the impact of state funding cuts on the District budget. "I do absolutely and firmly believe and know we will get through this. But it may be one of our darkest hours," **Miles** said. She praised the work done at the Districtwide Strategic Planning and Budget Council. **Miles** encouraged everyone to talk with their representatives on the council and attend the open meetings.

Miles said almost 800 course sections will have to be cut for the 2011-2012 school year if the state Legislature fails to find a budget solution. Summer school courses will be at the bare minimum. **Miles** said this will total nearly 40 percent cuts to course offerings over three years.

Miles said the District is trying to insulate the impact to employees and will continue to do so. "We thank the Board for their support. As hard as it is on all of us, the hardest job of all is that of our students who are trying to get their education and move forward and we're turning them away. I'm proud of you and I thank you," **Miles** said.

Miles thanked the college presidents and Vice Chancellor **Sue Rearic** for holding budget forums.

Miles said advocacy work will continue, including statewide board representation. "Taxpayers have always taken the community colleges for granted, and now is the time to let them know how important we are," **Miles** said. She thanked **Ernie Ewin** and the Grossmont College Foundation for sponsoring the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce First Friday Breakfast.

Staff Notes

The District warmly welcomes new employee **Sara Glasgow**, Director, Student Activities, Grossmont College.

Board Meeting Schedule

The next regular meeting of the Governing Board will be held Tuesday, May 17, 2011, in the **Griffin Gate, Building 65, Grossmont College**. 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 2011 is posted online at: [2011 Governing Board Meeting Schedule](#).

Presidents' Reports



- ◆ President **Sunny Cooke** reported on her Fulbright trip to India. She joined a delegation from the U.S. sharing best practices on community colleges and workforce development. **Cooke** said student and faculty exchanges are being discussed.
- ◆ State Board of Governors President **Scott Himelstein** visited Grossmont and received a full tour of the campus.
- ◆ **Cooke** highlighted ways in which Grossmont College encourages small business growth in the community.



- ◆ Interim President **Robert Garber** congratulated filmmaker **Dustin Kahia**, a Cuyamaca alumni whose first film, "Masterpieces," was shown at the Newport Film Festival.
- ◆ One-hundred students from ten high schools participated in the recent 48th Annual Senior High Math Day. Canyon Crest Academy won first place.
- ◆ **Garber** encouraged people to attend the Spring Garden Festival on April 9, the Student Fine Art Exhibition, and the Coyote Music Festival on May 7.

Vice Chancellor's Report

Vice Chancellor **Sue Rearic** said the District is tracking Scenario B to build the Tentative Budget and that the District may have to look at Scenario C. She said procurement card purchases are stopping and hiring is slowing to save money that will help next year's budget. **Rearic** encouraged everyone to be engaged in budget conversations, workshops, and meetings. "So much leadership going on right now," **Rearic** said. "People are engaged in the conversation, helping us solve the problems. As we are more transparent, people engage and help us stay afloat."

Rearic, as the Region 10 representative, attends the Association of Chief Business Officials State Board, adding that "it is good to be on the front end of discussions."

Rearic said District Services Budget and Planning Council is discussing strategic plans, budget and staffing plans, and the proposed District reorganization.

Rearic reported on new supervisor and manager training and the implementation of improved automated vacation and sick leave reporting.

Staff Reports

AFT representative **Lauren Halsted** said AFT is happy the District has settled on an enrollment target so we can plan accordingly. She said AFT is excited to continue to work with the District on statewide advocacy efforts.

CSEA representative **Diane Kew** said there was an excellent response to its contract provisions survey.

Classified Senate President **Debi Miller** said elections are under way through April 28. All classified staff can nominate candidates for the executive board. **Miller** showed board members the Classified Staff Appreciation Day logo, "Betting on Classified," with a Las Vegas theme.

Administrators Association representative **Connie Elder** thanked the Governing Board and Chancellor for providing the opportunity to nominate and recognize staff.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Michael Wangler** said he and **Sue Gonda** attended the Area D Academic Senate meeting in preparation for the state plenary beginning April 14. Members will be voting on a number of resolutions. He will provide a summary report at the May board meeting.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Sue Gonda** said Senate officer elections are underway. All candidates are running unopposed: **Jeff Lehman**, **Angela Feres**, **Melia Serrano**, **Patrice Braswell-Burris**, and **Mike Lambe**. **Gonda** said she was "thrilled to be able to work with people who bring such wonderful things to the table."

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:

Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Edwin Hiel, Debbie Justeson, Mary Kay Rosinski ◆ **Student Trustees:** Christopher Enders, Charles Taylor III
Chancellor: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. ◆ **Grossmont President:** Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. ◆ **Cuyamaca Interim President:** Robert Garber