

The Courier

Highlights from the Governing Board Meeting



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

AUGUST 21, 2012
VOLUME 20 ♦ ISSUE 8

Board Reports

Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** thanked everyone involved in convocations on both campuses, as did fellow board members.

Trustee **Edwin Hiel** called the documentary film “Watershed,” shown at the Water Conservation Garden on the Cuyamaca College campus, educational and informative.

Trustee **Greg Barr** said he is thrilled to be part of the District’s leadership.

Trustee **Debbie Justeson** thanked Grossmont President **Sunny Cooke** for making her son feel welcome at Convocation.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Mohammed Alyasini** attended a student trustees' conference in San Francisco along with Grossmont College Student Trustee **Samantha Elliot**. **Alyasini** reported on opening week activities at Cuyamaca, including a free welcome breakfast, voter registration drive, stress management and wellness workshop, and an academic integrity workshop. **Elliot** said Grossmont student leaders were involved with the campus Week of Welcome activities. She said she would represent Grossmont at the upcoming general assembly meeting for the Student Senate in November.

President **Bill Garrett** thanked individuals at the Board meeting representing all our constituencies across the District who are doing great things for our nearly 25,000 credit and 4,000 continuing education students.



Board Actions

New CBOC Member Appointed

The Governing Board appointed Grossmont College student **Zack Gianino** to serve as the student representative on the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee.

School Bond Pledge Approved

President **Garrett** discussed item 306 on the docket, a resolution which pledges to the community that the District will cap bond repayment terms and will never undertake the outrageous long-term capital appreciation bonds that have been in recent news. **Garrett** pointed out that the District did exactly as it promised voters with *Proposition R* bond funds, and noted the many years of positive bond audits. The resolution was unanimously approved.

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

Closed Session

The Governing Board gave direction to the Chancellor on a variety of issues, but took no official action.

Convocations Prove Popular at Both Campuses

The theme for Cuyamaca College's Fall 2012 Convocation was "Simply the Best." President **Mark Zacovic** addressed a packed crowd in the Student Center, welcoming everyone back to the college for the upcoming academic year. Convocation attendees were encouraged to write their thoughts on how Cuyamaca College is "Simply the Best." New this year was an employee raffle with donated prizes.

President **Sunny Cooke** discussed Grossmont College's convocation theme of career dreams. Participants were asked to wear attire that portrayed their first career dream, including Biology Professor Bonnie Ripley (Sea World dolphin trainer), and Math Instructor Steve Davis (fireman). Convocation attendees heard an entertaining keynote address from Dr. Leeva Chung, professor of Communication Studies at the University of San Diego. Her motivational speech encouraged faculty to teach from the heart, teach with soul, and teach with a purpose and flexibility.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy Miles** said she has been invited to participate on the American Association of Community Colleges 21st Century Implementation Team with representatives from across the U.S. She said she will bring attention to the District's student success programs and bring back resources.

Miles thanked the many individuals who prepared and made the campuses ready for students to return this week.

Members of the Benefits Committee were recognized for their work to help the District make good decisions going forward.

Miles commended the Governing Board for putting the facilities bond measure on the ballot, which will be known as *Proposition V*. She reminded the District that Board members can advocate for the bond at any time, but staff may only advocate on personal time. However, all District staff members can provide information and inform the public at any time. She said it is the best opportunity for the next four years to ask the community for support for our long-term facilities, maintenance, technology, and infrastructure needs.



Staff Notes

The Allied Health and Nursing Department at Grossmont College welcomes new instructors **Peter Brooks**, Medical Surgical Nursing; **Elizabeth Barrow**, Cardiovascular Technology; **Melissa Brown**, Respiratory Therapy; and **Ezekiel Sanchez**, Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing. Grossmont College's Child Development Center welcomes new Child Development Center Aides **Alicia Jones** and **Fayine Morka**.

District Services Report

Vice Chancellor Business Services **Sue Rearic** reported the District's adoption budget is being developed assuming *Proposition 30*, the statewide tax increase, does not pass. If it fails, **Rearic** predicted several rough years ahead. However, alternative plans are in place so the District can take advantage of state funds to restore course sections if it does pass.

Rearic said Senior Director of Facilities Planning, Development and Maintenance **Dale Switzer** led development of three new State Initial Project Proposals (IPPs), which will be presented to the Governing Board in September. The IPPs are for replacement of the F Building Complex at Cuyamaca College and modernization of the Fine Arts and Liberal Arts Complexes at Grossmont College.

Public Comment

Student **Sharon Lee Gomes** related her problems with accommodations and financial aid as a disabled student at Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges during summer session.

Peg Marcus, ASGC President, introduced members of the Associated Students organization at Grossmont College, and pledged that the members would serve in whatever capacity they could and do everything they could to make it the best year.

Presidents' Reports



- ◆ President **Sunny Cooke** announced Guinness Book of World Records officials in London confirmed Grossmont College successfully set a world record for the most signatures on a birthday card in one day on April 14 at Grossmont's 50th anniversary open house. A total of 1,811 people signed a four-foot-tall card. The previous record was 1,468 signatures.
- ◆ Geology/Oceanography Instructor **Gary Jacobson** was named the 2012-2013 Distinguished Faculty Honoree at Convocation. Grossmont College alumni **Christopher Hanson** was named Veteran of the Year for the 77th Assembly District by Assemblyman Brian Jones.
- ◆ *Community College Week*, one of the leading academic trade journals covering community and technical colleges, ranked Grossmont among the nation's Top 100 Associate Degree Producers for 2011.



- ◆ President **Mark Zacovic** announced several awards to faculty and staff at Convocation. President's Awards were presented to **Patricia Santana**, Department Chair of World Languages; **Lauren Weiner-Vaknin**, Associate Dean of Student Affairs; and **Sara Suter**, Budget Analyst for Administrative Services. The second annual Outstanding Faculty Member Award was presented to **Donna Hajj**, Counseling Department Chair.
- ◆ Five emeritus staff members attended a reception following convocation: **George Murphy**, **Tony Zambelli**, **Barbara Takahashi**, **Steve Gonzalez**, and **Cristina Chiriboga**. All were recognized during the afternoon reception and presented with a commemorative gift on behalf of the college.
- ◆ More than 600 children participated in 33 classes through the College for Kids program July 9 through August 9. Classes ranging from fencing to biology to cooking were offered throughout the summer.

Staff Reports

Classified Senate President **Wendy Corbin** said the Senate invites everyone to attend its upcoming planning retreat on September 21. She added that the Senate wants to collaborate with students District- wide.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Sue Gonda** said a question-and-answer session about transfer degrees took place at the recent statewide Academic Senate meeting. She thanked **Robin Steinback**, **Teresa McNeil**, and **Amaliya Blyumin** for their assistance. **Gonda** said she knows more student leaders this year than in any previous year, and hopes it is the start of a growing trend.

AFT representative **Judd Curran** said AFT is very supportive of using VEBA to buy healthcare benefits and save money without affecting everyday business. **Curran** says AFT estimates as much as \$1 million in potential savings.

CSEA President **Cheryl Houston** said she was the lone representative at the region's annual conference. She congratulated District account technicians who were reclassified. **Houston** recognized Scott Herrin, in his new assignment as Interim Dean at Cuyamaca College, for building strong relationships and inspiring people. **Houston** said a special chapter meeting would be held next week to discuss changes to healthcare benefits. Numerous CSEA members are working on phone banks at night in support of *Proposition 30*.

Board Meeting Schedule

The next regular meeting of the Governing Board will be held Tuesday, September 11, 2012, in the Cuyamaca College Student Center, Meeting Room 1. 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 2012 is posted online at [2012 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 Elliot
Chancellor: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. ◆ **Grossmont President:** Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. ◆ **Cuyamaca President:** Mark J. Zacovic, Ph.D.