



Board Highlights



Highlights of May 6, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Dr. Edward C. Ortell
President
Duarte/Arcadia/Azusa/Monrovia Representative

Mrs. Susan M. Keith
Vice President
Claremont/Azusa/Pomona Representative

Dr. Gary L. Woods
Clerk/Secretary
Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

Dr. Patricia Rasmussen
Member
Glendora/Azusa/San Dimas Representative

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery
Member
Monrovia/Bradbury/Duarte Representative

Ms. Linda Bermudez
Student Representative

Dr. Michael J. Viera
Superintendent/President

Mission Statement

Citrus College delivers high quality instruction that empowers students to compete globally and to contribute to the economic growth of today's society.

We are dedicated to fostering a diverse educational community and cultural learning environment that supports student success in pursuit of academic excellence, economic opportunity, and personal achievement.

Citrus College Board Highlights are published by the Office of External Relations for staff use and are not intended as documentation. Official meeting minutes are available in the Superintendent/President's Office.

REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Michael J. Viera, Ph.D., superintendent/president, observed that the board meeting was the first meeting to be held in the new Center for Innovation Community Room. He said the board might consider using the room for board meetings that will take place during the remodel of the Administration Building in a couple of years.

Dr. Viera congratulated Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board president, on winning re-election to the California Community College Trustees board of directors.

Dr. Viera announced that the California Community Colleges have received a \$50 million gift from philanthropist Bernard Osher. This is the single largest gift to a community college system in the nation and one of the largest gifts ever made to higher education. The first \$25 million will go to students in the form of \$1,000 scholarships. The second \$25 million will require a two-to-one match from other community college foundations.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that they have received 12 bids for the construction of the new Student Services Building. At 60,000 square feet, this building will be the largest building on campus. The term "access to all services" that are student-related is being used to describe the function of the facility.

Dr. Ortell commented that Mrs. Horton has "shown her magic" with completion of the Louis E. Zellers Center for Innovation, and he thanked her for her work on these major projects.

COMMENTS

Classified School Employees Association

In honor of Classified School Employees Week, Ms. Cathy Napoli, CSEA president, passed out CSEA buttons to the board. She commented that Dr. Viera always asks for his CSEA button each year, and she thanked him for his leadership in beginning the tradition of the Classified Staff Breakfast.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Ms. Linda Bermudez, student trustee, said the students have taken part in two Gold Line events in the last several weeks, including the MTA community meeting on April 8, where Ms. Bermudez made a 3-minute presentation on the *I Will Ride* campaign. Citrus students also participated at a MTA board meeting and press conference on April 24.

This was Ms. Bermudez last meeting as student trustee, and she thanked the board, Dr. Viera, Ms. Christine Link, executive assistant; Ms. Marilyn Grinsdale, protocol and government relations officer; Ms. Martha McDonald, dean of students; and Ms. Adrienne Thompson, student activities supervisor, for their support and guidance over the past year. Dr. Ortell presented Ms. Bermudez with a plaque honoring her service and commended her for being an outstanding student trustee. Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board vice president, remarked that Ms. Bermudez has demonstrated tremendous poise, professionalism and leadership as student trustee. Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board member, wished Ms. Bermudez well, and said she has been one of the best student trustees she has had the pleasure to know.

Mrs. Keith commented that the recent California Community College Trustees Annual Conference was excellent. Among the sessions she attended was an informative session on accreditation where they reinforced the new push for data-driven results from community colleges.

Dr. Ortell reported on the SanFACC meeting, which took place at the conference. He said the caucus continues to be effective with regard to legislation and has tremendous support from the colleges in our region who are members.

Dr. Rasmussen complimented Mr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of science, engineering and health sciences, for his work with the K-12 districts. On May 23, Mr. Rabitoy brought 40 Glendora USD children to campus as a reward for completing their science fair projects. Citrus will also host two classes for Glendora USD's summer GATE Academy. In addition, Mr. Rabitoy is working with Duarte High School to bring students to campus for anatomy labs in May and June.

On May 1, Citrus College provided tours for the mayors of Glendora and Azusa. Dr. Rasmussen recommends these tours for the other cities and believes the chambers of commerce and school boards should be included.

Dr. Rasmussen thanked everyone involved in hosting the Glendora Citizen of the Year event on campus on April 17 and those who were involved in organizing Senator Bob Margett's Expanding Horizons Women's Conference, held on April 19. She was pleased to attend both events.

Dr. Rasmussen was pleased to see a reference to Citrus College in the March 2008 edition of *Performance Business Magazine*. She quoted a paragraph from the publication written by Mr. Dennis Korn, automotive instructor. She also praised the Foundation for their *Bright Futures Spring 2008* publication, which lists donors. She suggested an upcoming edition honor Dr. Bill May, Citrus alumni and Foundation donor.

Dr. Rasmussen attended a Governance Leadership Institute 2008 conference, sponsored by ACCT. She received a lot of good information on board roles, ethics and board/CEO relations.

Dr. Rasmussen was joined by her fellow board members in thanking the members of the Superintendent/President Search Committee for their many hours of reading applications and other work on the presidential search.

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, board member, announced that the Foothill Unity Center is hosting their 10th Annual Golden Plate Awards event on June 5. Citrus College will be presented with the Community Organization Award for all the volunteer work provided by our Cosmetology students and faculty, as well as the work of ASCC in collecting donations for the needy during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Mrs. Montgomery applauded Citrus College for all efforts in reaching out and giving back to our communities.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Bob Orso, adjunct instructor, announced that he has been elected to serve as the new president of Adjunct Faculty United. Mr. Orso said he looks forward to working with the district.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, introduced Dr. Dale Salwak, language arts instructor. Dr. Salwak has been a faculty member at Citrus College since 1973. He received his B.A. from Purdue University in 1969 and his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1974. In a review of his latest book, *Teaching Life: Letters from a Life in Literature*, the Los Angeles Times pointed to Dr. Salwak's "immense passion and reverence for the vocation. Dr. Salwak said he appreciated the opportunity to speak about his book. He thanked those who supported him, including the board; Dr. Viera; Mr. Sam Lee, dean of language arts; Mr. Rudy Saldana, social and behavioral sciences instructor; and Ms. Sarah Webster, language arts instructor. He added that the project would have been inconceivable, however, without the thousands of students he has been privileged to work with since 1973, when he began his career.

Dr. Viera introduced Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research. Dr. Hao's professional experience includes professional expert at Los Angeles Trade Technical College and research analyst at the center for urban education at USC. She has taught basic skills classes and has participated in strategic planning, enrollment management, and program evaluation activities at these institutions. Dr. Hao received her master's degree and Ph.D. in higher education from USC. Dr. Hao presented the Accountability Report for the Community Colleges (ARCC), which meets legal requirements established by AB 1417. The CCC System Office produces this report each year and disseminates it to local college districts where it is shared with boards of trustees and college officials so that policymakers are aware of system and college performance in specific areas. Dr. Hao will present the ARCC to various campus constituencies.

Dr. Viera presented a brochure entitled *Citrus College Strategic Planning Goals 2007-2008*. The brochure will be distributed to all members of the campus community. Dr. Viera thanked Ms. Paula Green, director of communications; and Mr. Rocky Reynolds, reprographics supervisor, for their work in producing this publication.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved 14 action items, including the award of a bid for the Student Services Building to PW Construction of Glendora; employment of Ms. Stephanie Yee as a full-time tenure track counselor; and the adoption of a proclamation recognizing the contributions made by the classified employees and declaring the week of May 19-23, 2008, as Classified School Employees Week.