



# Board Highlights



## 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

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Representative

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

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery  
Member  
Monrovia/Bradbury/Duarte  
Representative

Mr. Andrew Cress  
Student Representative

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri  
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.

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## Highlights of November 4, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

### REPORTS

#### Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, reported that it has been an extremely busy fall semester, and she commended the faculty, staff, students and managers for embracing the six college priorities of accreditation, updating board policies, emergency preparedness, planning, facilities and community outreach. Dr. Perri said there has been significant progress in each area.

Dr. Perri thanked the board for introducing her to leaders in their communities and supporting her community outreach efforts. Recently she has made presentations or provided tours for the Claremont Kiwanis; the Duarte City Council and City Commissioners; the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce; the Glendora Kiwanianes; and the Monrovia Coordinating Council. Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, board member, thanked Dr. Perri for her informative letters to the college community on board goals and college priorities.

#### Instruction

Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, introduced Ms. Lisa Bailey, president and CEO of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce, and Ms. Jane Foote, technical training specialist for Veolia Environmental Services, who presented Citrus College with the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee Solid Waste Reduction Award for 2008. Due largely to the efforts of Mr. Jeffrey Eichler, environmental health program supervisor, Citrus College reduced 79.4 percent of our solid carbon waste. Ms. Bailey and Ms. Foote also presented the district with certificates of recognition for our environmental efforts from Congresswoman Hilda Solis, Senator Gloria Romero, Assembly Member Ed Hernandez and the City of Irwindale.

Ms. Malmgren reported that Citrus College was honored by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board for being one of the few training providers recognized for their job placement rate for career program completers in 2007-2008. Our vocational nursing program (LVN) and our automotive technology program (Toyota/Lexus) both had 100% placement. She congratulated our LVN and Toyota/Lexus students and faculty. Ms. Malmgren also gave kudos to the cosmetology faculty and staff for the scores their students achieved on licensing exams. The students received an average pass rate of 98 percent on the practical exams and an average pass rate of 87 percent on the written exams.

The *Clarion* newspaper website has made student media history by winning the Associate Collegiate Press Pacemaker Award. The Pacemaker Award is the highest award in the country of its type, honoring programs that "set the pace" in student media. Citrus competed against other two- and four-year colleges and universities and was one of only two community colleges in the nation to receive this award.

Ms. Malmgren reported on other campus events. Over 125 children from the CDC enjoyed Trick-or-Treating on campus and singing for their treats. The Astronomy Night scheduled to take place near the Owl Fountain for November 3 was postponed due to cloudy skies, but will be rescheduled for next week. In pre-season, our men's basketball team is ranked number one in the state on the first poll. Their first home game will be November 11 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Beverly Van Citters, language arts faculty, will present the Faculty Learning Institute's last fall event, "Powering Up with Blackboard" on November 13 and 14.

#### Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that the Health Center administered 225 flu shots to staff over the last two weeks. She is hopeful that this will allow college employees to avoid some sick time later this winter.

The fall Transfer Fair was held last Thursday, with good representation from 40 colleges and universities. Immediately following the student fair, the Transfer Task Force met to give Citrus staff current information on transfer programs and transfer requirements for next year.

Dr. Hamilton said Ms. Linda Welz, chief information services officer, and Ms. Lois Papner, dean of admissions and records, are working to implement CCCApply, the online uniform community college application. CCCApply will allow students to apply online in such a manner that data we need will automatically be transferred to the student database. They anticipate CCCApply will be available beginning January 2009.

#### Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, interim director of human resources, reported that HR is busy preparing trainings for managers and administrators. There will be three training sessions in November. Beginning in January, they will present training on a different topic each month. Some of the sessions will present new information and some will be a review of important information. Dr. Sammis said he and his staff will provide all of the training.

## Fiscal and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that she received a memo from Mr. Erik Skinner, vice chancellor for finance for the California Community Colleges, in which he reports that Proposition 98 will likely face cuts of \$2 to \$4 billion. The Governor has declared a "fiscal emergency," which has triggered a special session of the Legislature. All of this is taking place at a time when community college districts statewide are reporting a surge of 10.2 percent in FTES. Mrs. Horton quoted comments from Assemblyman Charles Calderon, chair of the Committee on Revenue and Taxation, contained in an article in the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*. Assemblyman Calderon said "There are no new car sales and no retail sales, so sales tax is down; homeowners are having their home values reassessed, so property tax is down; capital gains tax is down because it comes from taxes on investment earnings...; and personal income tax is down because people are losing their jobs..."

## COMMENTS

### Academic Senate

Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, said he will be attending the Fall Plenary Session of the Statewide Academic Senate. He is anticipating discussion and voting on many resolutions and position papers, as well as discussion of the ramifications of the state budget crisis.

Mr. Vaughan said the Academic Senate has completed discussion of accreditation themes and voted to approve a 2009/2010 academic calendar.

### Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member, said he attended the Fall General Assembly of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. It was a very productive meeting. They formed a caucus of the Community College League of California, which they will call the Student Trustees Association for California Community Colleges (STACC). In addition, Ms. Savannah Star Dominguez, Citrus College student and Student Ambassador, was elected to the position of Senator-at-Large. Ms. Dominguez authored a resolution encouraging community colleges to begin developing "green collar" programs, which was overwhelmingly passed by the delegates. Mr. Cress also received information on Open Educational Resources (OER), a free, mostly online source for educational materials. He is currently working to gather more information regarding the potential of developing an OER for Citrus College.

Mr. Cress said ASCC has created a textbook subcommittee, of which he is a member. They have drafted a mission statement charging the subcommittee with "...increasing accessibility to and affordability of educational materials for all Citrus College students..."

Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board member, commented that it was good to see the full page of information on Citrus College in the Literacy in Education section of the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, which is published each fall.

Dr. Rasmussen attended the Dia De Los Muertos event on October 30. She complimented the many cultural festivities, including the beautiful dancing and the food. She thanked Ms. Laura Villegas, counselor, and Ms. Justina Rivadeneyra, coordinator of the career/transfer center, for organizing the event.

Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board vice president, also attended the Dia De Los Muertos event and was very impressed with the young dancers. Mrs. Keith received her flu shot at the Health Center, and she complimented the fine nursing students and the nursing staff for a very professional job of administering the flu shots this year.

Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board president, attended the Duarte USD Board of Education meeting. He said Citrus College was praised highly by the board, especially the services of our Financial Aid department, which works to make college possible for many returning and low-income students. He added that Citrus College is held in high regard by all of the K-12 districts in our area, much to the credit of our faculty and staff.

Mrs. Montgomery congratulated all of the faculty, staff and students who have recently won awards. She said the number of Citrus College people who win awards from their professional organizations is remarkable.

## COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Stephen Smith, community member, expressed concerns regarding the lack of campus parking and the impact on neighborhoods in the surrounding community. He urged the district to take an active role in resolving these issues.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Malmgren introduced Ms. Sylvia Smythe, director of basic skills, who provided an update on the College Success Program. Ms. Smythe said the success rates of students in the Fast Track classes and Learning Communities are exceptionally high.

Ms. Malmgren introduced Mr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of science, engineering and health science. Mr. Rabitoy, along with Ms. Melissa Germann, GATE coordinator for Glendora USD, made a presentation on the Summer GATE Academy. The program was extremely popular with Glendora students and Ms. Germann praised Citrus College faculty and staff, saying she could not think of a better way to serve these gifted students. Mr. Rabitoy thanked Ms. Marti DeYoung, career/technical education programs supervisor, and Ms. Heather Solheim, administrative assistant, for helping to coordinate the program and Mr. Roy LaBomme, photographer, for the beautiful photos.

Ms. Malmgren introduced Ms. Anna McGarry, language arts faculty, who presented her sabbatical leave report for fall 2007. Ms. McGarry researched methods for success in learning a foreign language and personally explored the topic by taking a course in Russian. She subsequently authored a paper, *How to be a Successful Foreign Language Learner*. Ms. McGarry holds master's degrees in Spanish and Latin American history and has taught Spanish grammar, literature and conversation at Citrus since 1999.

The Counseling Instructional Program Review was included in the agenda for information only.

## BOARD ACTION

The board approved 6 action items, including the Quarterly Financial Status Report and the Foothill Intersection Cooperation and Reimbursement Agreement with Azusa Pacific University, the City of Glendora and the City of Azusa for improvements to the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Citrus Avenue.