



Board Highlights



Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

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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 18, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, reported that Citrus College was one of ten colleges in the nation to receive a \$100,000 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation for our Veterans' Program. The grants were awarded to colleges and universities that currently have successful veteran's education programs.

Dr. Perri reported on continuing efforts regarding emergency preparedness. Citrus participated in the "Southern California Great Shake-Out" event on November 13 and 14 with an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drill for EOC members and an emergency communications drill for emergency information officers. Dr. Perri said, with minor exceptions, the drills went smoothly and provided an opportunity to identify problems. Our emergency training series began on November 6 and 7, with 30 staff members in attendance.

Dr. Perri reported that the state budget situation grows graver, and the Governor is now proposing to cut community colleges \$39.8 million along with a 5 percent reduction to each district's general apportionment. Dr. Perri said this cut to community colleges will ultimately result in a loss of 165,000 FTES, or nearly a quarter of a million students. She anticipates that the reductions to Citrus College will be significant. The Financial Resources Committee has begun to identify college priorities and possible strategies for cutting the budget and generating additional revenue.

Instruction

Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, reported that the Faculty Learning Institute met and chose two chairpersons, behavioral sciences instructors, Ms. Gailynn White and Ms. Kathy Bakhit. They will now begin planning for Flex Day, which will take place on February 17, 2009.

Ms. Malmgren said the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Advisory Committee held their first meeting this week.

Ms. Malmgren announced that Ms. Claudia Pohl, dental assisting instructor, has been named national secretary for the 15,000-member American Dental Assistants Association. Ms. Malmgren congratulated her on this honor.

Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that the Salute to Veterans event on November 6 was very successful. She credited Dr. Bruce Solheim, social and behavioral sciences instructor, with planning and organizing the event. Congresswoman Hilda Solis provided keynote remarks and made a presentation of medals to a local veteran. This year, the City of Glendora and Azusa Pacific University co-hosted the event. Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board president, congratulated Dr. Solheim for his outstanding efforts and Dr. Hamilton on her role as master of ceremonies and he thanked everyone involved in the event.

Dr. Hamilton said winter and spring registration will begin on December 1.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, interim director of human resources, said the process to allow members of the public to review the collective bargaining proposals of the district and the unions began in October. On the agenda are actions to accept the initial collective bargaining proposals of the Citrus College Faculty Association (CCFA) and the Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation (CAFF) and actions to approve the district's initial collective bargaining proposals to CAFF, CCFA, and the California School Employees Association (CSEA). CSEA's initial proposal will appear on the December agenda. Dr. Sammis said the district has formed their negotiating team and they look forward to working with the unions in a collegial and positive manner.

Fiscal and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that the Legislative Analyst has proposed state budget cuts that are less drastic for community colleges than what the Governor has proposed. Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, board member questioned Mrs. Horton regarding the Legislative Analyst's proposal to raise student fees to \$26, effective January 1, and to \$30, effective July 1. Mrs. Horton said the situation is extremely serious and the only thing that is certain is that we must be prepared for large cuts. She suggested we develop a campus strategy for advocacy.

Mrs. Horton said work on the three buildings currently under construction is going very well. Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board member, complimented the staff for the upgrades to the gymnasium, adding that it is now a stellar facility and venue for our championship basketball team.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, said that he and Dr. Jack Call, social and behavioral sciences faculty, attended the Statewide Academic Senate Plenary Session. He said it was an informative

session with many important topics. There was much discussion of a letter authored by Mr. Terry Miles, CCFA president regarding the use of student learning outcomes for faculty evaluations. Mr. Vaughan praised Ms. Marilyn Eng, counselor, for her workshop presentation on information competency.

Mr. Vaughan expressed the appreciation of the Academic Senate for a presentation provided by Mrs. Horton on the state's fiscal crisis; an overview provided by Ms. Malmgren of the Annual Program Review process; and information from Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research, regarding last spring's CCSSE survey.

Classified School Employees Association

Ms. Cathy Napoli, CSEA president, announced that the Annual CSEA Dessert Buffet will take place on December 10 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Ms. Napoli said this event serves as a fundraiser for scholarships and she invited everyone to attend.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member, said the ASCC textbook subcommittee has met four times this past month. Today, he assisted them in conducting focus groups to gather student opinions regarding the textbook issue on our campus.

ASCC has approved the "Readers to Leaders" scholarship and Board Policy 3200 on accreditation. They also passed a recommendation for the date and time for graduation for the 2010-2011 school year.

ASCC will host a Disability Awareness day on November 19th, thanks largely to the efforts of Mr. Quinn Klingerman, ASCC commissioner of DSP&S. Mr. Cress invited all board members to attend the festivities.

Dr. Rasmussen said the Salute to Veterans was a very meaningful and respectful affair, and she was pleased to see many members of the community in attendance. She was also pleased to speak with a student who contrasted her husband's negative experience at UC and CSU as a returning veteran, with a wonderful experience at Citrus.

Dr. Rasmussen commented on a recent media report that CSU is planning to deny admission to 10,000 new students. She said many will turn to community colleges such as Citrus, only to find that we too have had to reduce offerings due to budget cuts. Dr. Rasmussen said she is gratified to know that we are already working on ways to maximize resources.

Dr. Rasmussen and Mrs. Montgomery have met again with Community College League of California (CCLC) consultant, Dr. Jane Wright, to revise and update board policies. She said in a month the board has completed its work on the policies and she encouraged others, with the help of CCLC, to move as swiftly. Dr. Rasmussen proposed that policies receive a yearly review to keep them current.

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, Dr. Rasmussen remarked that she is thankful for faculty, managers and staff who work so hard to make Citrus College an outstanding institution. The entire board echoed Dr. Rasmussen's comments.

Mrs. Keith commented on the numerous CCLC budget updates she has received recently. She said it is remarkable that the governor's proposed budget will cut 250,000 students from California's community colleges—which equals the entire population of the University of California system. Mrs. Keith said community colleges deliver exceptional value and she is proud of the contributions of community colleges to higher education.

Mrs. Keith reported that the Foundation board has two new members, both of whom are community leaders and Citrus College graduates. The board is committed to hosting a very successful *A Taste of Autumn* for 2009. They will begin in April and they plan to be very proactive and involved.

Mrs. Montgomery attended the Faculty Learning Institute's presentation on Blackboard. She said she learned a great deal from Dr. Beverly Van Citters, language arts faculty, who did a wonderful job with the presentation.

Dr. Ortell congratulated Dr. Perri for being recognized in the Community College Honor Roll section of CCLC's publication, *The News*, Fall 2008. This weekend, the entire board and Dr. Perri will attend CCLC's Annual Convention in Anaheim, and Dr. Ortell anticipates they will return with the latest information and analysis concerning the state budget crisis.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Miles expressed his concern regarding the challenging economic times and the potential need to make cuts in course offerings, which will negatively impact students and faculty. Mr. Miles asked the district to consider several variables in the decision-making process, and to notify all parties of those decisions at the earliest possible opportunity.

Mr. Jeff Gordon, vice president and chief negotiator for Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation (CAFF), introduced himself to the board and said CAFF is looking forward to working with the district on a new collective bargaining contract.

PUBLIC HEARING

A hearing was held to receive public comment on initial collective bargaining proposals from CAFF and CCFA.

Mr. Miles credited Mr. Dave Brown, CCFA chief negotiator, and his team for an outstanding job and many hours of work in putting their proposal together. He said their monetary demands recognize the state's financial situation. They are proposing to clean-up language in several areas of the contract and are looking forward to cordial negotiations, which they hope to conclude by the end of the academic year.

Mr. Brown introduced two members of his negotiating team, Mr. Richard Ghidella, business instructor, and Ms. Claudia Pohl, dental assisting instructor. Mr. Brown said they will approach negotiations in the spirit of problem solving.

Mr. Tom Gerfen, CAFF president, said CAFF is looking forward to negotiating with the district and will work to complete the process in a timely manner.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

The accreditation co-chairs, Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Roberta Eisel, provided the board with an update on our progress in completing the accreditation self-study. This fall, the committees will complete a first draft of their sections and work will begin on the many supplementary sections of the self-study. The committee co-chairs have been meeting each month and will continue to meet in the spring. Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Eisel commended the co-chairs for suggesting they continue to meet and work on the draft as it is developed. They have also suggested that accreditation standards become an ongoing part of the Steering Committee agenda.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved seven action items, including the initial collective bargaining proposal of CCFA and CAFF for presentation to the public and approval of the district's initial collective bargaining proposals to CAFF, CCFA, and the CSEA.