



Board Highlights

Highlights of February 3, 2009 Board of Trustees Meeting

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Mrs. Susan M. Keith
President
Claremont/Azusa/La Verne/Pomona Representative

Dr. Gary L. Woods
Vice President
Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

Dr. Patricia Rasmussen
Clerk/Secretary
Glendora/Azusa/San Dimas Representative

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery
Member
Monrovia/Bradbury/Duarte Representative

Dr. Edward C. Ortell
Member
Duarte/Arcadia/Azusa Monrovia 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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REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, began her report by thanking Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board president; Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, board member; Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board member; Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member; and Ms. Marilyn Grinsdale, protocol and government relations officer, for their leadership and advocacy during the Community College League of California (CCLC) Legislative Conference. Dr. Perri said they met one-on-one with our legislators, and she believes they were effective in informing them of the vital role community colleges play in the economy. They urged legislators to support us in our mission of providing access to education.

Dr. Perri reported that CCLC indicates resolution of the budget could occur before the end of the week, when government workers will begin being furloughed. Legislators of both parties are being pressured not to accept a budget compromise. There is growing attention regarding the impact of the economy and budget situation on community colleges. Dr. Perri noted that an article in the *Los Angeles Times* cites the confluent forces of increasing unemployment and university cutbacks, which are driving up demand at community colleges that will go unfunded. In addition, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) has once again proposed a 50 percent fee increase, but the LAO acknowledged this would result in a loss of 24,000 FTES.

Dr. Perri reported that the first edition of the "Citrus College Fact Book" is at the printer. The Fact Book provides information on the local community; data on our feeder school districts; and specific information on student demographics and performance trends. It also provides information on Citrus College employees and highlights the college's history. Dr. Perri said the Fact Book will be valuable in our planning and decision-making. She thanked Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research; Ms. Paula Green, director of communications; and the Office of Institutional Research for their efforts in producing this publication.

Instruction

Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, reported that over 150 books were given to our CDC children with the support of federal "Reading is Fundamental" funds. Through this program, the CDC will be able to give children books three times a year.

Ms. Malmgren said they are proposing a new Energy Systems Technology Program. Sample courses include water conservation and green building systems technology. This program would offer certificates for Building Systems Design Technician and Building Maintenance and Operations Technician.

The Glendora Unified School District (GUSD) has made note of our Science/GATE partnership in their newsletter. Ms. Malmgren said she is pleased for this recognition and credited our Physical, Natural and Health Sciences Division for their excellent work with GUSD students. Ms. Malmgren said they are looking at continuing and expanding the program in the future.

Citrus College is participating in a statewide survey of distance education students. Research is designed to identify barriers to successful completion. Ms. Malmgren thanked Dr. Stephen Lindsay, dean of business, CSIS and distance education, for his leadership and Mr. Leigh Buchwald, network central computer and telecommunications system supervisor; Ms. Linda Welz, chief information services officer; Ms. Lari Kirby, distance education supervisor; and Mr. Bruce Langford, fine and performing arts instructor; for ensuring the survey went out to our students.

Ms. Malmgren provided an update on development of a new Citrus College Master Plan. The Master Plan Leadership Team, composed of Ms. Malmgren, Dr. Hao, Ms. Welz, and outside consultant, Dr. Katrin Spinetta, met in October and identified the necessary steps. A Master Plan Task Force, which included members from all constituent groups, has conducted a SWOT analysis. The Leadership Team has determined that the intranet website should be expanded to include committee documents. Ms. Malmgren and Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, will present a Master Plan workshop on Flex Day.

Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that the new Veteran's Center recently opened. The center will begin operating for half-days and be furnished with donations from the warehouse and grant funding from WalMart. The Veteran's Advisory Committee will meet this week to confirm what services will be provided by the center and determine further expenditure recommendations for the WalMart Grant.

Dr. Hamilton said the federal government has contacted the college about a role in hiring and training workers for the upcoming census. Mr. Tedd Goldstein, student employment supervisor, is coordinating the effort for the college. He has met with a U.S. Census Bureau representative and says the Census Bureau has agreed to hire primarily Citrus College students for these temporary jobs, which pay well and provide excellent work experience.

Dr. Hamilton said Student Services is beginning to work on chapters of the board policies that relate to their area.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, said Human Resources is busy working on the formidable task of revising board policies that relate to their area. He said their committee is wonderful to work with and very enthusiastic.

Human Resources is continuing with training for deans, managers and supervisors. Their next training session will focus on leaves of absence. They will hold three sessions beginning February 25.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that they continue to monitor the state budget situation. The Governor and Legislature missed another deadline on February 1.

Mrs. Horton reported on the progress of the Organizational Structures and Governance Handbook. Mrs. Horton is heading the committee, which has identified the components of the handbook. Mr. Greg Hinrichsen, director of performing arts, and Mr. Vaughan drafted a governance philosophy, which has been reviewed by the constituent groups. The handbook will incorporate the various documents and procedures already in place at Citrus College. Mrs. Horton said the handbook should be completed in late spring. Mrs. Keith commented that the handbook will be a very useful resource for new faculty, staff and board members.

COMMENTS

Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member, attended the CCLC conference and said it was a very valuable experience. The time set aside to meet individually with our legislators was well-spent, and provided an opportunity to impress upon them the value of community colleges. Dr. Ortell said Mr. Cress played a very valuable role in the discussions with legislators, speaking to each one from a student perspective. He congratulated Mr. Cress for his excellent advocacy on behalf of Citrus College and our students.

Mr. Cress said, following the election and appointment of several new board members, ASCC is currently reorganizing and assigning members to committees in their respective areas of interest. ASCC goals will remain the same, but will be up for discussion in the spring.

Mrs. Montgomery reported on highlights of the CCLC conference. She attended an excellent session on California Forward, an organization dedicated to transforming our state government through citizen-driven solutions to provide better representation and smarter budgeting and fiscal management. She also attended the SanFACC meeting and said they have created a nice brochure that features Citrus College and the other five SanFACC colleges in our region.

Mrs. Montgomery said she and Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board clerk/secretary, are continuing their work to revise board policies and procedures and will soon send drafts to the other board members for their review. She thanked Dr. Lindsey for his excellent help in editing.

Dr. Ortell said he attended a meeting of the Los Angeles County Trustees Association where the speaker, Sheriff Baca, commended community colleges. Dr. Gary L. Woods, board vice president, also attended the meeting and was elected to serve on the committee to nominate candidates for the association's executive board.

Dr. Rasmussen said she attended the Vocational Nursing Class of 2008 commencement and commented that they have a wonderful program.

Dr. Rasmussen was pleased to note that the *Highlander* published an article on our exhibit in the Hayden Memorial Library Art Gallery entitled "Celebrating the Presidency," which displayed artwork and memorabilia regarding the American presidency. On inauguration day, live coverage of the inauguration celebration was broadcast in the gallery.

Dr. Rasmussen suggested it would be advisable to determine what criteria should be used to define "alumni" for Citrus College. A clear definition could allow us to recognize more of our former students.

Mrs. Keith said during the CCLC conference, Citrus College met with nine legislators. As part of SanFACC, they were able to present a united message and speak with one voice. Assemblymember Anthony Adams (AD 59) asked the group for low-cost ideas that would help community colleges serve more students. Mrs. Keith said two community college trustees, Mr. Paul Fong and Mr. Marty Block were elected to the Assembly in November, and she stressed the importance of having legislators that understand the mission and value of community colleges.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Malmgren introduced Dr. James Skalicky, psychology instructor, who has taught at Citrus College since 1979 in our Social and Behavioral Sciences Department. Dr. Skalicky presented a report on his sabbatical leave for the spring 2008 semester, during which he worked with Mental Health America. His work focused on stigma in the educational setting and new teaching techniques.

Mr. Robert Iverson, interim director of purchasing; Ms. Martha McDonald, dean of students; Mr. Craig Smith, transportation/warehouse coordinator; and Ms. Green presented an update and strategies to deal with problems related to parking. Strategies include free student parking in annex lots, shuttle service from annex lots for the beginning of the semester; discounted bus passes; and publicizing parking options through a variety of media.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved ten action items, including a name change for the division for science disciplines to Physical, Natural and Health Sciences Division and the approval of four revised board policies.