



Board Highlights



Highlights of May 5, 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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Official meeting minutes are available in the Superintendent/President's Office.

REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, reported that the college activated a small-scale Emergency Operations Center (EOC) last week to deal with a possible case of the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus on campus. While a subsequent investigation did not lead to a confirmed case of H1N1, Dr. Perri said she was very pleased with the quick response of the Emergency Operations Team. In addition to updating our website with announcements and links, we sent e-mails to faculty, staff and students. Dr. Perri thanked Ms. Irene Malmgren and the deans for their work to make it possible for instruction to continue online, if it became necessary to close the college. She also thanked Ms. Shauna Bigby, health center nurse, for quickly investigating the report of the virus. Because of work done on this incident, Dr. Perri said we are now better prepared for a college emergency. Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board clerk/secretary, commended the staff for their effective response to this emergency.

Approximately 60 faculty, staff and students attended a second all-campus forum on emergency preparedness on April 29. Dr. Perri said that those in attendance indicated that campus forums are critical to the college and should be continued.

Dr. Perri was pleased to note the recent article in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune, where Citrus College was cited for its favorable statistics in the 2009 Accountability Report for Community Colleges. The report indicates that Citrus College exceeds its peer colleges in 6 of the 7 outcomes.

Recent reports from the State Chancellor's Office indicate that enrollments are up at 103 of the 110 community colleges. Statewide enrollment has increased by 6.4 percent, or over 150,000 students. Dr. Perri commented that the surge further confirms that community colleges are in high demand given the current statewide unemployment of 11.2 percent and the inability of students to gain access to the UC and CSU systems.

Dr. Perri said the latest report from the Community College League of California (CCLC) indicates that the situation on the state budget continues to worsen. CCLC notes that after the final April tax revenues were tallied, the state revenues are \$1.8 billion below projection. This is on top of a \$7.8 billion deficit projected by the Legislative Analyst's Office in March. If the May 19 ballot propositions do not pass, the deficit will be \$15.4 billion and could increase if unemployment continues to climb and revenues remain sluggish. Dr. Perri added that the May Revise is expected on May 28, after which the Legislature is certain to revisit the 18-month budget adopted in February.

Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board president, said ramifications of the state budget were discussed with other colleges in our region at the recent CCLC conference. Citrus' planning and action, with regard to our local budget, has put us ahead of many of our neighboring institutions in preparing for the loss of state revenue. Mrs. Keith said all colleges are working for innovative ways to handle the situation. She is confident we have the will to weather this storm.

Dr. Gary L. Woods, board vice president, commented on the fact that UC and CSU are limiting their admissions. He has recently written letters for reconsideration for two of his students who, given their high GPAs, would have easily been admitted in prior years.

Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board member, said the surging demand for classes coupled with the budget crisis points out the significant problem of unfunded students. Community colleges will get the overflow, but no extra funding. Dr. Ortell credited our faculty, who work to serve as many students as possible.

Dr. Perri acknowledged the exemplary work of Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member, over the past year. She thanked him and said he has demonstrated dedication and commitment as a student leader.

Instruction

Ms. Malmgren reported that the Green Team's inaugural Earth Day Celebration was very successful. The event featured 50 displays, 11 workshops and tours to highlight some of the green aspects of our campus. Dr. Birute Galdikas, primatologist and environmentalist, provided keynote remarks to 140 attendees.

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Reporting on campus activities, Ms. Malmgren said that staff development presented two Stress Buster Workshops to faculty and staff, which were very well-received. She thanked Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, for acting as facilitator. In addition, the Staff Development Classified Committee has booked a hands-on survival skills workshop, which will take place on June 10. The Faculty Learning Institute held its first planning retreat to plan for the 2009/10 year. They will also present a second all-campus book event featuring *Letters from a Life in Literature*, by Dr. Dale Salwak, language arts instructor.

Regarding emergency preparedness, Ms. Malmgren said an e-mail was sent to students asking them to update their information on WingSpan. In addition, she thanked all of her planning team who worked on the recent emergency. She also recognized Mr. Bruce Langford, fine and performing arts instructor and faculty coordinator for distance education, for his continuous reminders to prepare for emergencies by creating Blackboard shells for all classes. This will mean that classes can continue online in the event of an emergency that requires closing the campus. Ms. Malmgren thanked the Distance Education staff for their work in creating the shells.

Ms. Malmgren received an e-mail from a patient who had recently been in the care of some of our vocational nursing students while at Foothill Presbyterian Hospital. He gave the students and their instructor, Ms. Connie Boquiren, an "A" for making his hospital experience a pleasant one. Ms. Malmgren said, since 2006, Dr. Maureen Estrada, director of nursing, has procured 15 health sciences grants totaling \$1,773,408.00.

Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that many activities are coming up between now and the end of the semester, including the DSPS recognition ceremony, Veterans Center dedication, Honors reception, EOPS recognition ceremony, transfer reception, achievement awards and commencement.

The career/transfer center recently sponsored a northern tour of colleges and universities for transfer students. Dr. Hamilton said over 40 students participated, and the tour was very successful. She thanked educational advisors, Mr. Raul Sanchez and Mr. Robert Gamboa, for chaperoning the trip.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, said HR has just completed another round of training. This time the topic was sexual harassment. They explored ways to prevent sexual harassment and ways to deal with and respond to complaints. The trainings were well-attended and there was a lot of good discussion. The next training will deal with collective bargaining agreements. Mrs. Keith thanked Dr. Sammis for the trainings, and said they add a new dimension to our Human Resources program.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, spoke to agenda items H-2 through H-6. The college is beginning the process to issue \$30 million in bonds to fund Measure G projects, such as the Fine Arts Complex and the Administration Building remodel. Mrs. Horton also discussed some of the possible ramifications to the budget if the May 19 ballot propositions fail at the polls.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Mr. Vaughan said the Academic Senate passed 47 board policies and administrative procedures at their last meeting. They intend to complete work on the remaining 26 before the end of the semester. He thanked Mrs. Horton, Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Malmgren for their support and collaboration during the process.

Ms. Malmgren will attend the next Academic Senate meeting to answer questions about the process for dealing with possible further budget cuts from the state. She will also join him in presenting the most current draft of our new Educational Master Plan.

Mr. Vaughan, Dr. Jack Call, academic senate vice president/president elect, attended the Spring Plenary Session of the Academic Senate. The "hot topic" of the session was concern with the accrediting commission, ACCJC, over sanctions and other issues, and they passed several resolutions asking for clarification.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Andrew Cress, student board member, reported on recent ASCC activities, including the successful Springfest 2009. At the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) Spring General Assembly, ASCC President Mr. Stefano Saltalamacchia was elected as SSSCC senator-at-large. ASCC continues to work on board policies and administrative procedures, recently approving 14 pairs. Mr. Cress said ASCC has approved expending \$15,000 for a new Campus Center marquee and \$65,000 for a new sound system for the Campus Center.

Mr. Cress thanked the entire college community for a great experience serving as student trustee. He said he learned many valuable lessons that he will carry with him. Mrs. Keith presented Mr. Cress with a plaque on behalf of the board, and remarked that Mr. Cress has shown himself to be an outstanding student trustee, student advocate and student leader. He has demonstrated his commitment to many important student issues, such as the cost of textbooks and student involvement in the political process. The board members added their compliments and thanked Mr. Cress for his service.

Mrs. Montgomery commented on recent Citrus College events. She thanked Dr. Kim Holland, director of workforce development, for organizing the Earth Day Celebration. She said it was a wonderful program and it is good to see all that Citrus College is doing to use resources responsibly. She enjoyed the recent Pathways to Success event, co-hosted by Citrus College, to honor the new Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis. She said our Citrus College career/technical displays at the event were excellent.

Mrs. Montgomery said the CCLC conference was very informative. She attended a session on accreditation and, after listening to the panel, Mrs. Montgomery concluded that we are doing a great job at Citrus. She especially appreciates the collegiality demonstrated by those working on our teams. Mrs. Montgomery said Dr. Woods was recognized at the conference for his more than 25 years serving as a community college trustee.

Dr. Rasmussen remarked on the excellent Earth Day program and keynote address by Dr. Galdikas. Dr. Rasmussen commented that the Glendora Citizen of Year event was another opportunity to show support for our local communities. She commended Food Services for their good work in catering the event.

Dr. Woods reported on two informative and timely CCLC conference workshops, one on cash flow and the budget and one on collective bargaining.

Dr. Ortell reported on the SanFACC meeting, which took place during the CCLC conference. SanFACC voted to endorse Propositions 1 A-F, in large part to support a governor who has been very supportive of community colleges. He added that the conference was very effective and demonstrated that all California community colleges are addressing the same problems.

Mrs. Keith said the Pathways to Success event was very inspirational, with Secretary Solis providing her life story as an example of how education is truly the pathway to success. Dr. Ortell complimented Mrs. Keith for her remarks at the reception that followed the event.

Mrs. Keith commented on two new brochures on softball and basketball camps organized by Citrus College. She thanked our basketball and softball coaches for putting these camps together to provide training for young people in our area.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Terry Miles, CCFA president, said he; Mr. John Fincher, CCFA past president and PAC chair; and Mr. Richard Ghidella, CCFA negotiation and retirement research committee chair; attended the recent CCA Spring Conference. They attended sessions on district budget analysis and accreditation. There was a spirited discussion of the May 19 ballot propositions, which ultimately resulted in CCA endorsing Props 1 A-E.

Mr. Miles said local negotiations continue as the teams share counter-proposals. If there is any hope to conclude negotiations before the end of the semester, a tentative agreement will have to be reached by May 22.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Accreditation co-chairs, Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Roberta Eisel, presented an update on the progress of accreditation. The board will receive the entire self-study document at their meeting on June 8, for a first reading. Mrs. Montgomery serves as the board's representative to the Accreditation Committee, and she thanked the committee for their hard work and commended them for working so well together.

Ms. Malmgren provided an overview of the new online class schedule. The online schedule has many advantages, including reduced mailing and printing costs and the ability to update information every 24 hours. Ms. Malmgren thanked Ms. Paula Green, director of communications, and her staff for their work.

Mr. Sam Lee, dean of language arts, introduced Ms. Holly Colville, language arts instructor, who presented a report on her fall 2008 sabbatical. Ms. Colville has been a professor of Spanish at Citrus College for 18 years. Mr. Lee described Ms. Colville as an expert classroom practitioner who is devoted to student success and seamlessly integrates listening, speaking, reading, and writing in such a way that makes learning enjoyable for her students. Ms. Colville visited countries in South America and created two Power Point presentations to use in the classroom that demonstrate the unique aspects of South American culture and life.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved 14 action items, including approval to dedicate a portion of district property to the City of Glendora to improve the access roadway into campus and approval of the proposed 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 academic calendars.