



Board Highlights



Highlights of May 19, 2009 Board of Trustees Meeting

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Mrs. Susan M. Keith

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Claremont/Azusa/La Verne/Pomona Representative

Dr. Gary L. Woods

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Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

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Clerk/Secretary
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Mrs. Joanne Montgomery

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Dr. Edward C. Ortell

Member
Duarte/Arcadia/Azusa Monrovia Representative

Ms. Karine Ponce

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.

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

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, began her report by introducing Ms. Karine Ponce, the new student board member. Ms. Ponce is in her first year at Citrus. She is majoring in sociology with a goal of transferring to the University of California at Berkeley. She is a Student Ambassador and is enrolled in our Honors Program. Ms. Ponce hopes to eventually earn a master's degree and join the Peace Corps.

Dr. Perri thanked Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, for his excellent leadership and collaborative spirit as president of the Academic Senate this past year. Dr. Perri said Mr. Vaughan has been extremely diligent in his efforts to advance the college mission and goals and to represent the faculty voice in academic and professional matters.

Dr. Perri reported that the state budget deficit continues to grow. The state is now forecasting another deferral of funding and deep cuts to both the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 apportionments. The proposed cuts to community colleges are disproportionately high, and there is no federal stimulus money being proposed for community colleges, even though stimulus funds are proposed for the K-12, UC and CSU systems. Dr. Perri said Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, is in the process of running apportionment estimates based on this preliminary information. She proposed dialogue take place within the college community on ways to cope with impending cuts to programs and services.

Dr. Perri congratulated those faculty members who were honored for receiving tenure and those faculty and staff members who are retiring. She thanked them for their dedicated service to Citrus College.

Instruction

Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, reported on the success of a returning adult student, Mr. Michael Rojas, who will graduate with an associate degree on June 13. He credits the POWER Math Program for helping him to succeed in his mathematics courses. Mr. Rojas believes his associate degree will result in career advancement, and he plans to eventually transfer to a university. Ms. Malmgren thanked Ms. Kristie-Ann Shimokawa, noncredit counselor, and Mr. Paul Swatzel, mathematics instructor, for helping our students to achieve their goals.

The Strengthening Student Success Conference has selected Citrus College's presentation, "Basic Skills to College Success: Integration Makes the Difference," for the state conference in October.

Ms. Malmgren reported on STEM activities. The Science Summer Enrichment Program will take place at Citrus from June 15 through 25. Approximately 100 elementary and middle school students will participate. The after school tutoring pilot is going very well, with our students tutoring at Goddard and Sandburg Middle Schools and Whitcomb Continuation School in Glendora. Next fall they are hoping to expand the program to Azusa, Duarte and Monrovia schools.

Ms. Malmgren reported that the CDC Hop-A-Thon netted over \$2,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The CDC hosted its Spring Book Fair and all proceeds will be used to purchase books for their Reading is Fundamental book give-a-way. Each child should be able to choose two books to take home.

Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that the Veterans Center celebrated their grand opening last week. Dr. Bruce Solheim, history instructor and volunteer veterans coordinator; Mr. Manual Martinez, Boots to Books instructor; Ms. Teresa Ferri, financial aid technician; Ms. Audrey Abas, learning disabilities specialist; and Ms. Marilyn Eng, counselor, are offering a training session for counselors on best practices in counseling and serving veteran students.

Dr. Hamilton reported on campus events, including a workshop hosted by the Career/Transfer Center where UC Riverside, Cal State L.A. and Cal State Fullerton explained their programs and services to 63 of our engineering students. The event was organized by educational advisors, Ms. Susan Hensley and Ms. Naomi Avila. The Center for Teacher Excellence is sponsoring a workshop on pathways to teaching on May 29 and the Achievement Awards Ceremony is scheduled for June 4.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, expressed his appreciation for the professional and productive manner in which negotiations with the faculty have taken place. He said this has been an opportunity for him to better understand some of the challenges faced by the faculty. He is hopeful they will be able to finalize the process very soon.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Horton commented on the continued deferral of payments to community college districts by the state. She said her department is currently working to calculate what the proposed cuts will mean to each categorical fund for this year. She described the proposed cuts for next year as "massive."

Mrs. Horton spoke to agenda items I.2, Budget Revisions, and I.5, Dedication of Real Property for Street Purposes and Execution of a Grant Deed to the City of Glendora.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Mr. Vaughan said the Academic Senate passed the final three board policies and procedures related to finance at their last meeting. They also received special reports on the Educational Master Plan and the initiation of a new approach to advanced placement courses delivered by Ms. Michelle Plug, counselor. Ms. Eng provided an update from the Statewide Senate and Ms. Malmgren led a collegial discussion on enrollment management and potential cuts that may occur in the summer session. The Academic Senate encourages the board to support collegial consultation between the administration and the faculty in regard to reductions in courses.

As Mr. Vaughan's tenure as president is drawing to a close, he expressed his appreciation for the great atmosphere on campus, and he gave special thanks to Dr. Perri, Ms. Malmgren, Dr. Hamilton and Mrs. Horton for their leadership and collegiality.

Classified Staff Employees Association

Ms. Cathy Napoli, CSEA president, said the classified staff are pleased to be celebrating Classified School Employees Week and are looking forward to the Classified Staff Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday. On behalf of the college, Mrs. Keith presented Ms. Napoli with a proclamation declaring the week of May 18-22, 2009, Classified School Employees Week at Citrus College.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Ms. Ponce thanked everyone for the support they have given her as she begins her tenure as student board member. She reported that, at their last meeting, ASCC discussed board policies and administrative procedures and the Educational Master Plan. They also approved a donation to the Career/Transfer Center for their Transfer Reception and a donation of \$1,000 to the Library.

Ms. Ponce said she attended the recent Statewide Student Senate for the California Community Colleges General Assembly. She said it was a great learning experience, and it provided her the opportunity to become a member of the statewide student caucus.

Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board clerk/secretary, attended a performance of *The Grapes of Wrath* in the Little Theatre. She said it was excellent, and she commented that the play has particular meaning at this time when so many people are losing their jobs. Dr. Rasmussen also encouraged everyone to attend the beautiful exhibit of student art currently on display in the College Library.

Dr. Rasmussen is pleased that the college is moving to a paperless class schedule. She believes our students will appreciate the ability to get accurate and current information at the moment they need it.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Terry Miles, CCFA president, said the CCFA and district negotiating teams have been actively working to settle the contract. He described the tenor and collegial environment of negotiations as "outstanding." If they are not able to wrap up the final details before the semester ends, Mr. Miles is confident that they will be able to do so very early in the fall semester.

Mr. Miles expressed concern regarding the state budget crisis, citing a report from the Community College League of California that estimates staggering cuts to community college budgets. He said he looks forward to meaningful dialogue between campus constituent groups on how the college will address the deepening crisis.

PUBLIC HEARING

No comments were received during a hearing on the dedication of property to the City of Glendora for roadway improvement.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Richard Ghidella, business instructor, presented the results of a study of the retail buying habits of Citrus College and Azusa Pacific University (APU) faculty, staff and students. Citrus and APU students compiled the data and interpreted the results of the study. Ms. Barbara Rugeley, librarian, and Mr. Mark Sarsoza, Citrus student, contributed to the presentation. Mr. Sarsoza is working toward the requirements of the CPA exam.

Ms. Shelly Hahn, child development instructor, reported on her fall 2008 sabbatical leave. Ms. Hahn took courses at California State Polytechnic University on instructional design and did additional research on the current uses of technology in the classroom. She has already implemented many innovative ideas from her sabbatical studies in the classroom.

Ms. Hahn has worked at Citrus College for over 10 years. She earned her master of arts degree in psychology from California State University, Los Angeles, and her bachelor of arts degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Malmgren presented an overview of institutional activities that have supported the board's goals for 2008-2009 over the last year. Dr. Perri thanked all those who participated for their efforts.

Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research, presented data specific to Citrus College from the 2009 Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges. The CCC System Offices produces this report each year to inform decision makers and the public about system and college performance in specific areas. Citrus College exceeded the peer group average in six of the seven indicators.

Dr. Perri presented updated administrative procedures to the board for their review. These policies include AP 2510, Participation in Local Decision Making; AP 2610, Proposal of Initial Collective Bargaining Proposals; AP 2710, Conflict of Interest; AP 2712, Conflict of Interest Code; and AP 2715, Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved nine action items, including a proclamation honoring the contributions made by classified employees and declaring the week of May 18-22, 2009, Classified School Employees Week and the approval of five revised board policies

On February 10, the college went live with CCCApply, an online application for California community colleges. Students report that the application is simpler than the BANNER online application. Another significant advantage is that CCCApply is written specifically for California's community colleges, and it includes all of the necessary data elements, which can be collected at the time of application. Dr. Hamilton said this will provide for a significant saving of staff time over BANNER and also greatly reduce the potential for errors.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, reported that the next training on "leaves of absence" for managers and supervisors will be on February 25. They will discuss both paid and unpaid leaves, district and employee responsibilities and other information.

Dr. Sammis said the district and CSEA held their first negotiating session and it was a positive exchange.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Horton reported on the status of state budget negotiations. The most current version under consideration includes zero COLA, a 3 percent growth factor, a cut in funding for state mandates, deferred apportionment payments and continued funding for Competitive Cal Grants. She said part of the budget plan must go before voters, so a special election will be called on May 19. Three elements impacting community colleges will be on the ballot, including changes to the state lottery, budget stabilization, and the Proposition 98 maintenance factor. Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board president, commented that Mr. Scott Lay, executive director of CCLC, has done a remarkable job of keeping the state's community colleges informed of both state and federal developments that impact our funding. She is hopeful that the new state budget and the federal stimulus package will allow us to continue to keep California's workforce well-trained and ready to meet the demands of industry.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate president, reported that over the winter intersession faculty continued to work on the accreditation process and the new Educational Master Plan. He said many of the Flex Day activities will be crucial in addressing those two documents. There will also be a campus-wide Flex Day forum in the afternoon to discuss textbook procedures consistent with their new policy passed in the fall.

The Academic Senate will hold their next meeting on February 25, where they will begin working on the academic calendar for 2010-2011; a model of our governance structure; a restructuring of finals week; and the first of many revisions to college policies and procedures.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Cress said he attended the ASCC executive board meeting on February 10, where several subcommittees reported on the progress they had made during the winter intersession. He gave kudos to ASCC president, Mr. Stefano Saltamacchia, for meeting during the intersession and keeping up the momentum. ASCC is planning for Springfest 2009 and discussing the possibility of donating to a new textbook scholarship, "Readers to Leaders." Mr. Cress said they are also discussing participating in an upcoming southern-region rally at Pasadena City College and a rally in Sacramento to highlight the importance of California's community colleges.

Dr. Rasmussen thanked the staff for their proactive approach in dealing with the parking situation for spring. She also congratulated all faculty and staff involved with Flex Day. She said all of the sessions she attended were very good, including a great session during lunch, presented by Ms. Malmgren and Mr. Vaughan.

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery congratulated our winning basketball teams on their recent victories. She also complimented them for a beautiful program, which she said was a great tool for recruitment. Mrs. Montgomery commended forty of our students for being "Scholar Ballers" –those student athletes who maintain a B average.

Mrs. Keith praised the Flex Day activities and noted the session on the new Educational Master Plan, which was very interactive. She was especially impressed with the way each group contributed to the vision statement.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research, presented a report on the results of the 2008 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). The CCSSE provides information about student engagement or the amount of time students invest in meaningful educational practices. This is the second survey in which Citrus College has participated, and this year the faculty participated in a CCSSE faculty survey.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved seven action items, including the Quarterly Financial Status Report for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2008 and the approval of tenure for the 2009/2010 academic year for seven faculty members.