



Board Highlights



Highlights of the March 1, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

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

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery
Vice President
Monrovia/Bradbury/Duarte Representative

Dr. Edward C. Ortell
Clerk/Secretary
Duarte/Arcadia/Azusa Monrovia Representative

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

Dr. Gary L. Woods
Member
Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

Ms. Alejandra Delgado
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 thanking Ms. Jody Wise, dean of physical education and athletics, for leading the board on a tour of the remodeled Main Gymnasium. The work that has been done is very impressive and will greatly benefit our student athletes. She congratulated Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, and her team on their efforts and leadership during this renovation project.

Dr. Perri thanked the faculty and staff who serve on the staff development committees and Mr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of physical and natural sciences, for their work in planning the very successful Flex Day.

Dr. Perri thanked Dr. Irene Malmgren, vice president of academic affairs, for leading the Flex Day work session on the Educational and Facilities Master Plan. Dr. Perri said that as a part of the Educational and Facilities Master Plan, the college is developing an integrated planning model for the institution, which details the planning processes and how they are tied to budget and continuous review and improvement.

Trustee Susan M. Keith, board member, thanked Dr. Perri and everyone who has been working on these planning documents, saying they are very complex and require a great deal of effort.

Dr. Perri was pleased to say that there was a good turnout at the Adjunct Orientation. She appreciated the opportunity to address the adjuncts and give them a brief update on the state of the college.

Regarding the state budget, Dr. Perri reported that on February 18, the Assembly and Senate budget committees met to take action on the 2011-2012 budget issues. There was good news in that both houses rejected the Governor's proposal to allocate funding reductions through a change in the census date and instead allocate reductions through a proportionate workload reduction. They also agreed that language accompanying the reduction would express the intent that community colleges protect transfer, career/technical education and basic skills courses to the extent possible. Both houses approved of the \$400 million reduction proposed by the Governor and increasing student fees to \$36 per unit. However, they rejected the Governor's proposal to grow the system by 1.9 percent, opting instead to allow the \$110 million in new fee revenues to partially offset the base reductions, for a net impact of approximately \$290 million.

Trustee Edward C. Ortell, board clerk/secretary, commented that the college should carefully monitor the workload reductions that are being proposed. The Assembly Higher Education Committee is holding hearings on ways in which community colleges might offer baccalaureate degrees, and that could open the door for increasing enrollment in a new area.

On a positive note, Dr. Perri said Citrus College has added 186 sections for the spring semester, resulting in a schedule that is 20 percent larger. Headcount is up 19 percent and contact hours are up 23 percent. She also congratulated the men's basketball team on their recent win over College of the Canyons, which takes them to the regional semi-finals.

Dr. Perri thanked Mr. Tedd Goldstein, student employment services supervisor, and the members of the college community who served as mentors for Azusa Unified School District's "Job Shadow Day." The college partnered with Azusa Pacific University (APU) and the Azusa Chamber of Commerce on the project. Dr. Perri served as the keynote speaker at the event luncheon.

Dr. Perri was pleased to be selected to do a video interview for the City of Duarte and Duarte Unified School District's State of the City and School District Luncheon. The video focused on the importance of a college education and the partnership between Citrus College and Duarte USD.

Academic Affairs

Dr. Malmgren reported that Flex Day was well attended, and she thanked those involved. Instead of a paper feedback form, this year they are using Survey Monkey to gather feedback. This has proven very successful, with much greater feedback and more comments than in the past.

Dr. Malmgren reported that enrollment numbers reflect that classes are full, at 99.6 percent of capacity, and the number is expected to increase slightly. She thanked the faculty for demonstrating their commitment to students by enrolling as many of them into their classes as possible.

Regarding collegewide "green" initiatives, Dr. Malmgren announced that the college will host an event called "Join the Green Revolution" on March 9, where 16-year-old Alec Loorz, the founder of Kids vs. Global Warming, will speak. Dr. Malmgren also gave a reminder that "A Sustainable Approach to Textbooks" will be presented on March 18, where publishers will present their solutions to cost and resource issues.

Dr. Malmgren was pleased to announce that the MAA-Tensor Foundation confirmed they will award \$6,000 to "Support and Inspire Program for Women in Mathematics" for another year. Dr. Malmgren recognized Ms. Lucia Riderer, mathematics instructor, for her efforts in securing this award.

Student Services

Dr. Jeanne Hamilton, vice president of student services, reported that the semester is off to a busy start, and she is pleased that parking does not seem to be presenting quite as many problems as in the past.

The new online self-service attendance rosters were available to faculty on February 23. Ms. Lois Papner, dean of admissions and records, demonstrated how to print the rosters on Flex Day.

On behalf of the Student Services team, Dr. Hamilton thanked the supervisors and managers who staffed the information booths the first two days of the semester. She said it is very helpful for students, and it also helps the Student Services staff do the work of registration, rather than providing directions. She thanked Mr. Goldstein for organizing the effort.

Financial Aid launched the online scholarship application on February 14. They have processed 400 applications in the first two weeks and 200 more are in the pipeline. Dr. Hamilton said this is a significant increase from prior years, and she thanked Ms. Linda Welz, chief information services officer, and her TeCS team and the staff in Financial Aid who made the online application available.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, reported that he has done three trainings on sexual harassment prevention, and the final one will take place next week. There is also online training for anyone unable to attend one of the sessions. Trainings for the rest of the year include one for managers and supervisors on employee absences and one for deans on documentation.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Horton thanked the board for touring the remodeled Main Gymnasium. She also thanked the faculty for their input on the design and said the reuse of space has been amazing. The next walk-through will be for the Student Services Building. She anticipates they will begin to move furniture and equipment into the building next month. Mrs. Horton commented that in spite of construction delays due to availability of construction materials, wet weather, and other difficulties resulting from the economic downturn, the building has been well constructed and the project has been well managed. Change orders are very low, at less than 2 percent. She thanked the Citizens Oversight Committee for their good work and said that this is going to be a beautiful building.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Ms. Roberta Eisel, academic senate president, said that following a stimulating and productive Flex Day, the spring semester is underway. The Academic Senate is gearing up for nominations and elections; its self-evaluation; and action on an array of board policies and administrative procedures.

Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Malmgren and the Academic Senate, a work group will be convened to address enrollment concerns, including those identified in the January 20 Legislative Analyst Office policy brief. Issues include open access and the California Community College mission; enrollment management criteria; priority registration; maximum number of units; and course repetition. The first meeting will be on March 3.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Alejandra Delgado said that ASCC will hold a special election April 12 -13, for students to vote on a student representation fee of \$1 per student. If passed, these funds will be used for student advocacy activities on behalf of community colleges. In addition, Student Trustee Delgado attended the first SanFACC student mixer last week. She said students from Citrus, Chaffey, Mt. SAC and Glendale brainstormed ideas on how to advocate for a possible special election in June.

Trustee Ortell thanked Ms. Delgado and ASCC for their leadership and advocacy. He said much of the college's team effort on behalf of the Foothill Extension of the Gold Line was lead by students, and he believes they made a difference in the outcome.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board vice president, expressed her appreciation for the tour of the Main Gymnasium. She said as the daughter of a college athletic coach, she especially appreciated the photos of student athletes, which she said are motivational and inspiring.

Trustee Keith thanked External Relations for their efforts in publicizing the outstanding accomplishments of many Citrus College students and bringing positive recognition to the college during these difficult times. She added that the redistricting process that is now underway may result in changing the perspectives of some of our legislators regarding education funding, as the demographic profile of their districts change.

Trustee Keith reported that Mr. Tom Gerfen, president of the Citrus College Foundation and retired Citrus College faculty member, received special recognition at the recent Foundation board meeting for his very generous donation to Valley's Got Talent, which will go to student scholarships. Trustee Keith said his donation was truly from the heart.

Board President Patricia Rasmussen congratulated Dr. Perri for being named one of the San Gabriel Valley YWCA's "Women of Achievement" for 2011. She said this is a very prestigious award and a wonderful recognition of Dr. Perri's many accomplishments.

Board President Rasmussen thanked Trustee Montgomery for chairing the last board meeting in her absence, which was due to jury service. She said she commuted to the court in downtown Los Angeles via Metrolink and found it to be a very efficient and viable method of transportation. There were many students using the Metrolink to travel into Los Angeles, and she believes that the Gold Line will be very valuable to students who will be commuting to Citrus College.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved five action items, including the hiring of Mr. Fred Diamond as director of facilities and construction.

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Mr. Bob Bullock, retired art instructor, who positively impacted the lives of many Citrus College students and members of the community during his 35 year tenure.