

# Board Highlights

Citrus College



## Board Highlights

### Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

#### Mrs. Susan M. Keith

President  
Claremont/Azusa/La Verne/Pomona Representative

#### Dr. Patricia Rasmussen

Vice President  
Glendora/Azusa/San Dimas Representative

#### Mrs. Joanne Montgomery

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#### Dr. Edward C. Ortell

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Duarte/Arcadia/Azusa/Monrovia Representative

#### Dr. Gary L. Woods

Member  
Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

#### Mr. Crescencio Calderon

Student Representative

#### Dr. Geraldine M. Perri

Superintendent/President

### Mission Statement

Citrus College delivers high quality instruction to students both within and beyond traditional geographic boundaries. We are dedicated to fostering a diverse educational community and learning environment by providing an open and welcoming culture that supports successful completion of transfer, career/technical education, and basic skills development. We demonstrate our commitment to academic excellence and student success by continuously assessing student learning and institutional effectiveness.

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## REPORTS

### Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, reported that the *Hispanic Outlook on Higher Education* has just released their new rankings on the nation's "top" community colleges. Out of more than 1,100 community colleges, Citrus College ranked 49<sup>th</sup> in Hispanic Full-time Enrollment and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Associate Degrees Awarded to Hispanics (up from 40<sup>th</sup> in 2012). She commended Citrus College faculty, staff and students on this noteworthy achievement.

Regarding the "College of Completion" initiative, Dr. Perri read the completion plans of seven ASCC leaders that have been posted on the ASCC website. The students include, Mr. Andres Navarro, ASCC president; Ms. Nayiri Baghdassarian, ASCC vice president; Ms. Meechelle Sansom, ASCC treasurer; Mr. Tyler Hernandez, ASCC legislative liaison; Mr. Jordon Lowndes; ASCC recording secretary; Mr. Crescencio Calderon, student trustee; and Ms. Mariana Vega, student trustee-elect.

Dr. Perri commented that a legislative update prepared by Ms. Marilyn Grinsdale, protocol & government relations officer, was included in the board packet.

### Academic Affairs

Dr. Irene Malmgren, vice president of academic affairs, reported that the college has received an approval letter from the Chancellor's Office for the Elementary Education for Transfer Degree (AA-T). Citrus College now has 12 "active" SB 1440 transfer degrees. In addition, an AA-T degree for Kinesiology is in the review process in the Chancellor's Office.

Dr. Malmgren reported that College Success and Bridges to Success have hired six Citrus College Completion Corps peer mentors. They will begin mentoring students the week of March 25.

Dr. Malmgren said that she and Ms. Lisa Telesca, language arts instructor and PTK advisor, went to Sacramento for the All-California Academic Team Award ceremony. Mr. Brian Waddington, history instructor and PTK advisor, introduced the two winners from Citrus College, Mr. Michael Li and Mr. Miguel Villanueva, who were present. He said they represented Citrus College well.

### Student Services

Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services, reported that the Owl Bookshop's ability to provide students who receive Pell Grants the opportunity to purchase textbooks at the start of their classes has furthered College of Completion goals. He said this spring, 1,446 students were served, up from 1,092 students in spring 2012. This represents an increase of 32 percent.

Dr. Spor reported that the First Annual Citrus College Day at the Races will take place at Santa Anita Park on March 30. All proceeds will be donated to the Veterans Club.

Dr. Spor announced that there will be a Campus Safety Forum on March 26 that will cover topics such as personal safety, classroom safety, protocols for college emergencies and others. Citrus College Campus Safety and the Glendora Police Department will be on hand.

### Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, was pleased to report that a memorandum of understanding between the district and CCFA regarding the fall 2012 reopeners on salaries was on the agenda for board approval. He said the ability to provide a two percent increase to the full-time faculty is a reflection of the college's commitment to prudent management of fiscal resources. He thanked the CCFA negotiating team for a process that was professional and focused on mutual resolution of issues and concerns. Dr. Sammis said, consistent with the collective bargaining agreement that is in place with CSEA, the CSEA bargaining unit will also receive a 2 percent salary increase effective April 1, 2013.

## COMMENTS

### Academic Senate

Mr. James Woolum, academic senate president, commented that the community college system is in a state of change. He cited several examples, such as a "scorecard" for individual colleges; a 90 unit cap, which has many groups in opposition; moving all adult education to community colleges, and several others.

Mr. Woolum said these are among the issues that will be discussed at the Academic Senate Area meetings, which will take place later this month. Ms. Lisa Villa, vice president/president-elect for the academic senate, and he will represent the Citrus College faculty at the Area C meeting on March 30 and also the Academic Senate Spring Plenary in April.

## Classified School Employees Association

Mr. Robert Coutts, classified school employees association (CSEA) president, said CSEA nominated three delegates and two alternate delegates for the annual CSEA conference. It will take place in July. Mr. Coutts said he has received the 15 resolutions they will be debating and voting on at the conference, and they will get their local chapter's input over the next three CSEA meetings.

## Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Crescencio Calderon announced that the Cesar Chavez National Blood Drive Challenge will take place March 27-28 on the Citrus College campus. He said Dr. Perri and Dr. Spor will be participating. Student Trustee Calderon said one pint can save three lives. This year, ASCC's goal is 300 pints.

Student Trustee Calderon provided the student success story of Ms. Desire Wester, a Citrus College alumna who is legally blind. He presented her story in 2012, but since that time she has continued to excel. He said she is an excellent example of "College of Completion" success. Ms. Wester was in attendance.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board clerk/secretary, said she and Trustee Gary L. Woods, board member, have been working as an ad hoc committee on criteria for the board of trustees' evaluation.

Trustee Montgomery reported on several college and community events. She said she attended the YMCA event in Monrovia where Duarte Mayor Margaret Finlay was honored. She said this year's Battle of the Big Bands was the best one yet. Highlights included string instrumentals, and the lighting and recording was done by Citrus College performing arts programs. She said Citrus College receives many compliments as a result of the college's participation in community events.

Trustee Rasmussen said Glendora's Great Trivia Challenge will take place on March 23. Citrus College will have a trivia team competing in the event, and the Foundation will send representatives, including Foundation Board President Tom Gerfen; Ms. Christina Garcia, director of development and alumni relations; and Mr. Clarence Cernal, administrative assistant to support them. The proceeds will benefit the Glendora Public Library Friends Foundation.

Trustee Rasmussen commented on a recent article in the *Los Angeles Times* by Ronald Brownstein, regarding the fact that higher education is 25 years behind in making reforms. She said President Obama is concerned about the high cost and the enormous debt students are taking in pursuing college degrees. She added that higher education needs to join its K-12 partners in seeking meaningful education reform.

Trustee Woods attended Senator Carol Liu's Education Roundtable on March 8. At the meeting, Senator Liu reviewed a list of bills she has introduced. She also received a great deal of input from community and education leaders.

Trustee Edward C. Ortell, board member, also attended Senator Liu's Education Roundtable. He said Senator Liu has been a friend of community colleges for a long time and helped in the fight to preserve local control. Some of the K-12 districts at the meeting discussed the possibility of forming a regional consortium, similar to SanFACC. Trustee Ortell said the spot bill that will contain language on the adult education shift is SB 173. He added that it was a valuable meeting with lots of good information.

Board President Susan M. Keith said the Battle of the Big Bands was excellent and exhibited the amazing talents of Citrus College and Azusa Pacific University students. She said it was a wonderful evening.

## COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Bruce Langford, music instructor and CCFA chief negotiator, thanked the board members and Dr. Perri for the successful conclusion to contract negotiations. He credited the district's and CCFA's negotiation teams and the excellent management of district resources to the positive outcome.

Mr. John Fincher, CCFA president, expressed concerns about residency issues with regard to trustee area one. He presented information gathered by CCFA and proposed that action be taken at the next board meeting. Mr. Fincher thanked Community College Association (CCA)/CTA/NEA representatives Dr. Ron Reel, Dr. Lynette Nyaggah and Mr. DeWayne Sheaffer for attending the meeting.

Dr. Reel said, as CCA president, he was pleased to attend the meeting to support Citrus College faculty, students and CCFA.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Perri introduced accreditation co-chairs Dr. Malmgren and Ms. Roberta Eisel who provided an overview of the current accreditation process and timeline. The 2013 Annual Report is due to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) on March 31, 2013. The report contains questions and prompts that address new Department of Education regulations passed on to ACCJC in August 2012. Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, said the college completed the financial portion of the report two weeks ahead of schedule.

## BOARD ACTION

The board approved eight action items, including the memorandum of understanding between the district and CCFA regarding the current collective bargaining agreement and three board policies.