

Board Highlights



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Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

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Dr. Gary L. Woods
Member
Azusa/Duarte Representative

Ms. Mariana Vega
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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Highlights of the September 10, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting

REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president, was pleased to announce that Student Trustee Marianna Vega recently received the "Emerging Leader Award" from the Community College Completion Corp. In addition, Student Trustee Vega received an award from the State Assembly and Senate for her advocacy of SB 440, which supports associate degrees for transfer.

Dr. Perri said the new academic year is off to a good start. She thanked the Supervisor/Confidential and Management Teams, the Foundation and other employees for staffing the Information Booths that assisted students. The Foundation distributed information about the newly-established completion website to students during the first week of the semester. Dr. Perri said students were also given information on how to receive communications about future completion events.

Dr. Perri said the college's latest enrollment numbers look very good. Enrollment is up 13 percent, with headcount at 13,386, as compared to 11,876 one year ago. Over 200 course sections were added this fall. She gave special recognition to Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services/interim vice president of academic affairs, for his efforts to boost enrollment.

Dr. Perri commented on several recent college events. She said that more than 180 scholarships were recently awarded to approximately 75 recipients at the "Commitment to Completion" Scholarship Recognition and Donor Appreciation Celebration. She thanked the Foundation and Financial Aid for organizing the event. As part of back-to-school week, approximately 120 faculty and staff attended the Ice Cream Social. Dr. Perri said the All Campus Budget Forum was well received, and she gave kudos to Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services; Ms. Rosalinda Buchwald, director of fiscal services; and Ms. Carol Cone, budget supervisor, for preparing the 2013-2014 budget. Dr. Perri said she was pleased to attend the Vocational Nursing Pinning Ceremony, and she congratulated all the new pin recipients.

Academic Affairs

Dr. Spor reported that Citrus College has gone beyond 100 percent of its target number for completing AA-T and AS-T degrees. It has now reached 108 percent of its target and maintained its statewide leadership position for creating the new transfer degrees.

Dr. Spor said Dr. Cliff Hadsell, emergency medical technician instructor, has been asked to serve on the state task force to assist in the development of the AS-T degree for the Emergency Management and Homeland Security program for CSU. The Citrus College program was the first of its kind to be approved by the Chancellor's Office and was endorsed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Student Services

Dr. Spor reported that Student Services will be conducting several FAFSA workshops in September. These workshops will assist students in completing their applications for federal financial aid.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Ms. Lisa Villa, academic senate president, said the Academic Senate hit the ground running this fall with a variety of activities, such as volunteering, holding appointments and serving on a variety of committees and ad hoc work groups.

She said elections for changes to the Academic Senate Constitution and By-Laws, which started at Convocation, ended on September 6. They had an impressive turnout at their first Academic Senate meeting on Convocation Day. Ms. Villa said the faculty is ready to engage in the challenges that are coming their way this academic year.

Classified School Employees Association

CSEA President Mr. Robert Coutts said CSEA had its first officer e-board meeting of the year on September 5. They had a first reading of AP 6340 and they will be working with the Financial Resources Committee on a possible revision. They are also working on AP 4022 and BP/AP 4106.

CSEA held its first chapter member meeting on September 10. They updated members on CSEA conference resolutions and this year's state, area and regional CSEA officer elections. They also provided members with updated information about the Affordable Care Act, as well as information on the November 5 board of trustees election. Mr. Coutts also thanked CCFA President Bruce Langford for inviting everyone to the Board of Trustees Candidate Forum on September 4, and he wished all of the candidates good luck.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Mariana Vega has recently had the opportunity to talk about the Shining Star for Diversity recipient, Mr. Daniel Celebertti. Mr. Celebertti is an ASCC student leader and the Inter-Club Council (ICC) president. Student Trustee Vega said ICC will hold their semester barbeque in Finkbinder Park on September 27, where they will collaborate on upcoming events for the semester.

ASCC held an observance of World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10. Lisa Wade, Ph.D., was invited to speak on the issue. ASCC created a "Not Alone" board where students could write positive messages to commemorate or speak to loved ones who have struggled with this issue.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board clerk/secretary, commented that Convocation was a wonderful event. She thanked Dr. Perri, Mr. Bruce Langford, music instructor, and the Fine and Performing Arts Department. Trustee Montgomery congratulated the Shining Star and longevity recipients, and she added that Citrus College is a wonderful place to work. Trustee Montgomery also commented on the Vocational Nursing Pinning Ceremony, saying it was very inspirational.

Trustee Patricia Rasmussen, board vice president, congratulated Student Trustee Vega on her recent accomplishments, saying Citrus College continues to have stellar student leaders who exhibit tremendous leadership skills and great potential.

Trustee Rasmussen attended a session presented by Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, on the Affordable Care Act. She said it was very informative, and it is good to bring this topic to the forefront of discussion.

Board President Susan M. Keith expressed her appreciation to all those who contributed to Convocation. She said the event was informative, heartwarming and, thanks to Mr. Langford, very humorous. Board President Keith also commented on several college events, including the Ice Cream Social the Vocational Nursing Pinning Ceremony, and the Foundation's scholarship reception. She added that she is tremendously impressed with Citrus College's outstanding students.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Ms. Shawn Millner, a candidate for trustee area one, which covers Azusa and portions of Duarte, commented on Agenda Item I-7. She requested that the incumbent from area one, Trustee Gary L. Woods, board member, immediately resign from the board. She also requested that the board set a time frame for when they may file litigation.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearings were held on three separate topics: The Gann Appropriation Limit Calculation; the 2013-2014 Adopted Budget; and an Energy Conservation Service Agreement to upgrade equipment and software in the District's Central Plant facility. No comments were received.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Mrs. Horton presented a PowerPoint regarding the 2013-2014 Adopted Budget. A similar PowerPoint was presented to the college community on September 3 at a Budget Forum. Board President Keith thanked Mrs. Horton for her efforts to keep the college financially sound and the deans, faculty and staff for their efforts to conserve resources.

Dr. Spor presented the highlights of program reviews for Public Works and Water Technology.

Mr. Christopher Keeler, the college's attorney who has been working with the board's ad hoc subcommittee formed to consider residency issues related to trustee area one, Trustee Woods, provided an overview of the subcommittee's report and concluded with a recommendation that the Board of Trustees authorize legal counsel to file with the Attorney General a request to sue in quo warranto on the residency issue.

Mr. George Yin, attorney for Trustee Woods, provided a response to the college attorney's opinion stating that the evidence shows that Trustee Woods does have a residence in Azusa and requested that the Board of Trustees take no further action on the residency issue for area one.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved eight action items, including the adopted budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and the Board Goals for 2013-2014 and the approval for the district's attorney to file a request with the Attorney General for the right to sue in quo warranto on the issue of Trustee Woods' eligibility to serve on the Board of Trustees based on his residency.