

# Board Highlights



## Highlights of the December 13, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting

### Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

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

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

**Dr. Barbara R. Dickerson**  
Clerk/Secretary  
Azusa/Duarte Representative

**Dr. Edward C. Ortell**  
Member  
Duarte/Azusa/Monrovia/Arcadia/Covina/Irwindale Representative

**Mrs. Susan M. Keith**  
Member  
Claremont/Pomona/La Verne 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.

*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, administered the oath of office to Dr. Barbara R. Dickerson, who was elected to represent Trustee Area One, and Dr. Edward C. Ortell, who was reelected to represent Trustee Area Three. She welcomed Trustee Dickerson to the board, commenting on her wealth of experience in education. Dr. Perri said she will be a valuable asset to the college. Dr. Perri welcomed back Trustee Ortell.

Dr. Perri reported that the college accomplished a great deal during the fall semester. In addition to surpassing 100 percent of its target for Associate Degrees for Transfer, the college added more than 200 courses to the schedule of classes; approved the Annual Implementation Plan for 2014-2015; kicked off the Classified Employee Enrichment Program; initiated planning for the Centennial Celebration; and began planning for its 2015 Accreditation. Dr. Perri gave a special "hats off" to the college community for their hard work and dedication. She said she is looking forward to a very rewarding new year.

Dr. Perri invited Centennial Celebration co-chairs, Ms. Chris Garcia, director of the Foundation; and Dr. Lucinda Over, dean of counseling, to make a special presentation. Dr. John Baker, former interim vice president of student services, made a gift of a framed ballot from the first free election of South Africa, post-apartheid. The gift was made in honor of the college's Centennial Celebration. The framed artwork includes a quote from Nelson Mandela, "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived, it is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." The gift reinforces Dr. Baker's financial gift to the Foundation for the Student Services Scholarship that he established upon his departure. The frame is inscribed as follows: "A recognition gift to Citrus College, where every student counts!"

Dr. Perri said accreditation co-chairs Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services/interim vice president of academic affairs, and Ms. Roberta Eisel, language arts instructor, presented a forum on accreditation on November 26 in preparation for the college's 2015 accreditation.

Dr. Perri thanked Board President Susan M. Keith for her leadership as board president throughout a successful and productive year. She expressed her appreciation for Board President Keith's advocacy both on a local and statewide level and acknowledged her leadership on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) board. Board President Keith thanked the faculty, staff and students for their support and said it is always exciting to work with Citrus College students, who will become the future leaders of the state and nation.

### Academic Affairs

Dr. Spor welcomed Trustee Dickerson and welcomed back Trustee Ortell. Dr. Spor reported that ASCC is holding elections for the spring semester this week. They will be electing a vice president, several senators and a student trustee-elect.

### Student Services

Dr. Spor reported that the Accreditation Forum was well attended and very informative. A review of all of the components of accreditation was presented and the co-leads for each of the standards were introduced.

### Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, provided an update on the Classified Employee Enrichment Program. He said the first module on "Strengths Quest" has just concluded, and the second module on customer service will begin in January. He said those who are participating are very enthusiastic.

### Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, congratulated Trustees Dickerson and Ortell. She thanked the board for her retirement reception and said it has been a pleasure to work with the board and Dr. Perri and her staff. She said each board member is very dedicated to the college and they have all shown their dedication over the years. She said Citrus College is a great place to work.

## COMMENTS

### Academic Senate

On behalf of the faculty, Ms. Lisa Villa, academic senate president, officially welcomed Trustee Dickerson and welcomed back Trustee Ortell. She reported that the Senate's final meeting of the fall semester took place on the eve of Thanksgiving, but somehow managed to achieve a quorum, plus a few extra senators. They took action on two sets of APs and BPs. Ms. Villa congratulated Mrs. Horton on her retirement and wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

### Classified School Employees Association

CSEA President Robert Coutts said CSEA welcomes Trustee Dickerson and welcomes back Trustee Ortell. He reported that preparations for the CSEA annual Holiday Buffet on December 11 are proceeding well, and he invited everyone to attend. The event will feature a "crazy holiday sweater" contest. Mr. Coutts said those who cannot attend can still purchase "chance to win" tickets, as winners do not need to be present. All proceeds from the event will go toward CSEA scholarships. He thanked Dr. Perri for the release time provided to classified staff. Mr. Coutts wished everyone happy holidays and safe travels.

### Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Mariana Vega said she is looking forward to serving as a mentor to the student who will be elected to serve as incoming student trustee for 2014-2015. She said the students are currently engaged in activities that will benefit their fellow students, such as Adopt an Angel. They are also studying for finals. Student Trustee Vega thanked Mrs. Horton for her service to the college, and she welcomed newly elected Trustee Dickerson and returning Trustee Ortell to the board. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board clerk/secretary, said she and Trustee Patricia Rasmussen, board vice president, attended a production by the college's Theatre Arts program of *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, which she said was excellent.

Trustee Montgomery thanked Mrs. Horton for her service and said she will be greatly missed. She also wished happy holidays to those in attendance and advised everyone to "celebrate well."

Trustee Rasmussen said the performances in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* were outstanding, and the subject matter of the play was profound.

Trustee Rasmussen reported on the Community College League of California (CCLC) conference. Chancellor Harris spoke at the conference and said community colleges are currently being bombarded by new initiatives, such as baccalaureate degrees and adult education. However, he advised colleges to remain focused on what they do best and to fulfill the recommendations of the Student Success Task Force.

Trustee Rasmussen reported on Foundation activities. She said the Foundation investments are up 5 percent. In a presentation to the Foundation board, the Veterans Program requested and was granted \$15,000 in one-time funding. The Alumni Association recently held a successful tea. The group is also planning an all-class reunion. She said 24 college employees have recently signed up for new payroll deductions, netting the Foundation a total of \$2,400 per month. Trustee Rasmussen said the Foundation is doing well under the leadership of Ms. Garcia.

Trustee Ortell congratulated and welcomed Trustee Dickerson to the board. He said her experience as a school board member and her record of community service will make her a valuable asset on the Citrus College Board of Trustees.

Trustee Ortell thanked Board President Keith for her leadership over the years, especially her advocacy in Sacramento and at CCLC meetings on behalf of local control. He also expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Horton for successfully shepherding the college's finances throughout the course of her tenure.

Trustee Ortell said Citrus College athletics has had a great fall season. He said many of the teams turned in exceptional performances, including the women's soccer and volleyball teams and the football team, who recently won the Beach Bowl. In addition, women's golfer Ms. Paramee Suwanta finished 20th in the state.

Trustee Dickerson thanked all those who stood behind her and supported her throughout the course of her campaign, especially her husband Dr. Mark Dickerson. She also thanked Dr. Gary L. Woods for his kind words of congratulations at the November 12, 2013 board meeting.

Trustee Dickerson congratulated Mrs. Horton on her retirement and thanked her for reviewing the budget with her.

Trustee Dickerson congratulated the student athletes who performed well throughout the fall season. She noted that the Owl football team prevailed in a bowl game for the first time since 1988.

Board President Keith commented on the remarks made by Chancellor Harris at the CCLC conference in which he cautioned community colleges against being drawn away from their important work of improving student success and implementing the recommendations of the Student Success Task Force.

Board President Keith congratulated the Citrus College athletic teams on their fall semester success and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Mrs. Horton introduced Ms. Heather McGee from Vicenti, Lloyd and Stutzman, Certified Public Accountants who presented the 2012-2013 audit report. It was a clean, unqualified report with no adjustments. Dr. Perri thanked Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Rosalinda Buchwald, director of fiscal services, and all members of the fiscal services team.

The Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice and Revisions to AP 1055, Enrollment Priorities, were on the agenda for information only.

## BOARD ACTION

The board approved eighteen action items, including electing Trustee Rasmussen as board president for 2014 and the approval of the Annual Financial and Compliance Audit Report of all district funds by Vicenti, Lloyd and Stutzman, Certified Public Accountants, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.