

# Board Highlights



## Highlights of the March 18, 2014 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, reported that the college held a very successful Spring FLEX Day in February. Activities included a panel discussion on emergency preparedness, where representatives from Santa Monica College spoke about the active shooter situation that occurred on their campus. Members of the Citrus College Campus Safety Team, led by Dr. Martha McDonald, interim executive dean, provided an update on the college's emergency preparedness measures. Dr. Perri thanked Mr. John Vaughan, interim director of the Haugh Performing Arts Center; the members of the Faculty Learning Institute; and Dr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of natural and physical sciences and library services; and his staff, for coordinating FLEX Day.

Dr. Perri reported that the families of high school seniors in each of the college's K-12 unified school districts (USD) were recently mailed brochures that included a cover letter signed by her and the appropriate USD superintendent. The brochure provided the "top ten" reasons for seniors to choose Citrus College. Dr. Perri thanked Ms. Linda Welz, chief information services officer; Mr. Tedd Goldstein, supervisor, superintendent/president's office; and Ms. Paula Green, director of communications.

### Academic Affairs

Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services/interim vice president of academic affairs, reported that the Rocket Owls conducted a very successful Rocket Day workshop for 25 GATE students in grades 3-8. He announced that all three RISE teams' abstracts were selected to participate in the Chinese Institute of Engineers-Southern California STEM Competition. Dr. Spor said 101 applications were received for the STEM Summer Research Experience 2014. It is anticipated that about 40 students will be placed at venues such as Cal Poly, Pomona, California State University, Fullerton, City of Hope, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Oak Crest Institute of Science, and Chapman University.

### Student Services

Dr. Spor reported that EOP&S is serving 653 students for 2013-2014. This is the largest number since 2009. EOP&S counselors are currently completing graduation checks and applications for 128 EOP&S students. A college fair will take place on March 19, with more than 40 colleges scheduled to attend. Following the fair, the Transfer Task Force, comprised of four-year universities; local feeder high school representatives; and Citrus College faculty, staff and administrators, will meet.

### Finance and Administrative Services

Ms. Claudette Dain, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that the Chancellor's Office has released the apportionment recalculations for 2012-2013, and the amounts are favorable for Citrus College. The Chancellor's Office has also released the first period apportionment reports for 2013-2014, and budget revisions are being presented to reflect the revised information. Ms. Dain said state General Fund revenues are coming in above the Governor's budget projections for 2013-2014.

Ms. Dain reported that renovations to modify the Infant Center space to accommodate the Veteran's Center and the YESS (Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success) program are completed. The space has been renamed the Integrated Success Center. She said progress on the Administration Building is consistent with the revised schedule.

## COMMENTS

### Academic Senate

Ms. Lisa Villa, academic senate president, reported on state and local Academic Senate activities. She said the statewide Academic Senate's Area C meeting will be held on March 22. Spring Plenary will take place April 10-13 in San Francisco. The local Academic Senate has promptly implemented the new Brown Act requirement that requires local agencies to report publicly the vote on actions taken for each member of their governing body. Ms. Villa said elections for Academic Senate officers are officially underway. She added that faculty members are appreciative of the opportunity to participate on college workgroups and committees.

### Classified School Employees Association

CSEA President Robert Coutts said the chapter has nominated delegates for the annual CSEA State Conference in August. This will be the first statewide conference for CSEA President Mike Bilbrey.

The chapter nominated 12 members to serve on their Negotiations Committee. Five members of this committee will form the negotiating team to meet with district representatives to renew their collective bargaining agreement. CSEA is also scheduling meeting dates for their Orientation and Job Requirements Committees.

## Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Mariana Vega reported on ASCC's Welcome Week for the spring semester. Highlights included a Financial Aid booth and an inspiring talk by Kevin Lyman, a Fine and Performing Arts alumni and successful concert promoter. She reminded everyone of the upcoming Cesar Chavez Blood Drive.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board vice president, attended the State of Duarte Unified School District event, which showcased Duarte schools. She said Citrus College is thought of highly by Duarte USD. Trustee Montgomery thanked Ms. Christina Garcia, Foundation director; and Mr. Tom Gerfen, Foundation board president; for participating in the Monrovia Reads event. She said Monrovia Reads appreciates Citrus College's support of the event over the years.

Trustee Susan M. Keith, board member, reported on the Association of Community College Trustees' National Legislative Summit in Washington, D. C., which she attended. Trustee Keith said that Citrus College students and the college have received more than \$11.3 million in federal funds for the first half of the academic year, an amount that is expected to double by year end. She and representatives from Chaffey College and Mt. San Antonio College met with four local Congressional Representatives to discuss several issues, such as services for student veterans and Pell Grants. She commented that advocacy efforts by Citrus College delegates to the summit in previous years contributed to greatly increasing Pell Grant awards for California community college students. Other topics at the summit included improving the FAFSA application, lowering borrowing rates on student loans, and President Obama's Rating System for higher education.

Trustee Keith attended an excellent career workshop on campus for middle school girls, which focused on STEM careers, and the annual High School Counselor's Breakfast, which highlighted the amount of regulations for which high school and college counselors are responsible.

Trustee Edward C. Ortell, board member, commented on the success of the college's advocacy efforts in bringing the terminus of the current phase of the Gold Line to Citrus College, rather than stopping in Irwindale, which was the original plan. He said the Duarte Station, which is adjacent to the City of Hope, is progressing well. Trustee Ortell said he is looking forward to the positive impact the Gold Line will have on Citrus College students and the local freeways.

Trustee Barbara R. Dickerson, board clerk/secretary, attended the State of the City of Azusa breakfast with Dr. Perri. Several Azusa residents commented they were pleased to see Dr. Perri at the event. Trustee Dickerson also attended the recent Azusa City Council meeting and the Azusa Unified School District meeting, where she spoke about the advantages of college's Early Enrollment program.

Trustee Dickerson gave kudos to a number of individuals, groups, facilities and programs on campus. She praised Ms. Riderer for the many outstanding RISE activities; Ms. Amundson for receiving the ABCD Award; the Steering Committee for the informative "required reading" article; the new Veteran's Center, to which she has directed three local veterans' groups; and the workshop for middle school girls that focused on STEM careers.

Board President Patricia A. Rasmussen attended FLEX Day, which she said was a fine event. She commented on the presentations by Santa Monica and Citrus College's Campus Safety teams, saying it is good to know what a college that has experienced an active shooter situation is doing to prepare for the future.

Board President Rasmussen attended the Empty Bowls fundraiser, where soup was served in bowls made by Citrus College and Covina students. She thanked Mr. Mike Hillman, fine arts instructor, and his staff and students for their participation.

Board President Rasmussen commented that the Adjunct Faculty had a great orientation, where a variety of important and timely topics were discussed.

## PUBLIC HEARING

No comments were received during a public hearing regarding entering into an energy service contract for air handling equipment at the Campus Center and LED lighting college-wide.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Perri was pleased to announce that Ms. Peggy Amundson, transcript evaluator, is the fifth recipient of the "Above and Beyond – Classified Development" (ABCD) Award. As transcript evaluator, Ms. Amundson is the sole evaluator of every degree, certificate and skill award that students earn, as well as certifications for transfer students. Ms. Amundson is known as a diligent employee and a wonderful person. Mr. Coutts said Ms. Amundson is an outstanding classified staff member, and he thanked Dr. Perri, members of the board and the Staff Development Committee for recognizing classified staff.

Ms. Lucia Riderer, physics instructor, presented the Space Owls Cosmic Research team, which is comprised of physics and recording technology students. The students introduced themselves and described their current project, which involves launching a weather balloon to record any sound emitted by the Aurora Borealis. Board President Rasmussen thanked them for bringing positive recognition to the college and for their work with local K-12 students.

Accreditation Co-chairs Dr. Spor and Ms. Roberta Eisel, language arts instructor, provided an overview of the college's current accreditation process, including the 2015 Self-Evaluation and the annual report due March 31, 2014.

Ms. Christina Garcia, Foundation director, presented an annual report for the Citrus College Foundation for 2013.

## BOARD ACTION

Board Item I.4 was pulled. The board approved eight action items, including the granting of tenure to Ms. Sally (Sarah) Bosler, Ms. Lanette Granger, Ms. Maria Morrish and Mr. Raul Sanchez, for the 2014-2015 academic year.