

# Board Highlights



Highlights of the May 6, 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, said this would be the last meeting for Student Trustee Mariana Vega. She commended her for her leadership and efforts on behalf of students and presented her with a plaque. Board President Patricia A. Rasmussen said Ms. Vega had been an outstanding student leader, and she had a great future ahead of her. On behalf of the board, she thanked her for her service.

Dr. Perri thanked Ms. Stephanie Yee, Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) Coordinator; Ms. Roberta Eisel, accreditation co-chair; and Dr. Lan Hao, director of institutional research; for coordinating the "Spring 2014 Roadshow." The "roadshow" was designed to provide the faculty with a better understanding of how the three key areas of the continuous quality improvement process—student learning outcomes and assessment (SLOA), Program Review, and the Collegewide Planning Model—all work together. The goal was to improve communication, answer questions, and convey the message that data drives the college's planning and resource allocation. Dr. Perri said the feedback has been very positive.

Dr. Perri was pleased to report that the third edition of the college's Integrated Planning Manual was completed last month. The manual, which is updated each year, describes the college's major planning components and illustrates how they all work together in the planning process.

Dr. Perri announced that Citrus College was voted "Best Community College" by a poll of 28,000 readers of the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, *Pasadena Star News* and the *Whittier Daily News*. The survey included Mt. San Antonio, Pasadena City and Rio Hondo Colleges. The results will be published in the *Readers' Choice Awards Magazine* on Sunday, May 25.

Dr. Perri said the college has just received word that it has made it into the next round of competition for the Aspen Award. This round of the competition includes interviews of her and three college leaders. She said this is very exciting news.

Dr. Perri attended the Community College League of California (CCLC) Trustee Conference. She said there were two very interesting handouts provided at the conference: 2014-2015 Budget Points and a policy brief on Non Credit Education. She included them in the board packet.

### Academic Affairs

Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services/interim vice president of academic affairs, reported that Cosmetology students would participate in two community events on May 9. Half of the students will provide haircuts, hair styling and manicures to Pomona Valley shelter mothers and their children at Fairplex. The other half will provide haircuts and manicures at the Veterans' Community Resource Fair at Citrus College, which is being sponsored by Assemblymember Roger Hernandez.

Dr. Spor announced that the agenda included a recommendation that Ms. Cheryl Swatek be hired to fill the vacant position of kinesiology instructor. Ms. Swatek is an experienced educator, and she has been an adjunct instructor at Citrus College since 2011.

### Finance and Administrative Services

Ms. Claudette Dain, vice president of finance and administrative services, reported that the release of the May Revise is expected shortly. Later this month, she and Ms. Rosalinda Buchwald, director of fiscal services, will attend the Association of Chief Business Officers' conference to obtain more information on the May Revise, which they will incorporate into the college's budget planning.

## COMMENTS

### Academic Senate

Ms. Lisa Villa, academic senate president, reported on the Academic Senate Spring Plenary, which she, Mr. John Vaughan, academic senate vice president/president elect, and Ms. Eisel attended. There were a large number of resolutions on a variety of topics, including accrediting agencies; professional development legislation, AB 2558; and the feasibility of the California community colleges conferring bachelor's degrees. She said she, Mr. Vaughan and Ms. Eisel attempted to divvy up the workshops in order to bring the maximum amount of information back to their colleagues.

## Classified School Employees Association

CSEA President Robert Coutts said the CSEA chapter is working with state CSEA on two events, the Unsung Hero Awards, where Mr. Moses Crowder, AV media assistant, will be honored and a benefits workshop that will be held at Citrus College. He thanked Dr. Perri for graciously granting release time to classified staff so they could attend the entire presentation. He said the Classified Orientation Committee has developed several ideas on welcoming new staff. The Negotiating Committee is currently surveying the staff regarding bargaining priorities. They are looking forward to statewide recognition for CSEA and also the college's Annual Pancake Breakfast.

## Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Vega thanked the students for electing her to represent them on the board. She thanked everyone for his or her support and encouragement. Student Trustee Vega has been accepted to seven colleges and has chosen UCLA.

Student Trustee Vega said ASCC recently attended the Student Senate for California Community Colleges general assembly. This week they are hosting SpringFest. They are also planning to put together "goodie bags" for students to help them through finals. In addition, there is a project underway to create transfer walls around campus to recognize students who are transferring.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board vice president, congratulated the Owl's softball team for their outstanding season, including winning the Western State Conference Blue Championship.

Trustee Montgomery reported on several college events, including the annual hair show, "Global Flair." She congratulated Ms. Patty Glover, cosmetology instructor, and the Cosmetology Department for an outstanding event. Trustee Montgomery said the college hosted a Monrovia Day at Citrus College where community leaders from Monrovia toured the campus and had lunch. She thanked Ms. Chris Garcia, foundation director; Mr. Clarence Cernal, administrative assistant; Mr. Tom Gerfen, foundation board president; Dr. Perri; Mr. Vaughan; and Mr. Fred Diamond, director of facilities and construction, for their efforts in hosting this event.

Trustee Montgomery congratulated the Journalism Department for the awards they brought back from their conference. She thanked everyone who worked on the beautiful edition of the *Citrus College News Magazine*. In recognition of "Alumni Month" at Citrus College, Trustee Montgomery congratulated all of the Citrus College alumni.

Trustee Barbara R. Dickerson, board clerk/secretary, thanked Dr. Perri and Dr. Spor for discussing ways to strengthen articulation between the college and Azusa Unified School District (USD) with Dr. Linda Kaminski, superintendent of Azusa USD. She also thanked Dr. Marianne Smith, director, grant projects, Race to STEM, for providing information on the college's summer programs for K-12 USDs.

Trustee Dickerson reported on several events in the community. She said Congresswoman Grace Napolitano recently honored student artists from high schools in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. The City of Azusa has hired consultants to study businesses in their downtown corridor in anticipation of the opening of the Gold Line station, and they are considering surveying Citrus College students to find out how to attract them to Azusa businesses. Trustee Dickerson added that, as the Gold Line nears completion, she was hopeful that a conversation has begun regarding traffic patterns and how to get students safely across Foothill Boulevard.

Trustee Edward C. Ortell, board member, said he too was concerned about the safety of the thousands of students who will commute to and from the college on the Gold Line. He said there was an accident involving a student crossing Foothill that ended tragically a few years ago. Dr. Ortell is hopeful Congressional Representatives in the San Gabriel Valley will join forces on safety measures for the Gold Line, similar to their efforts on behalf of rebuilding the 605 and 10 freeway interchange.

Trustee Ortell congratulated the Owl softball "champs," saying they did very well and received a lot of great press. He also congratulated all of the college's most outstanding students who will be recognized in a variety of ways this spring, including those who will participate in Commencement.

Trustee Susan M. Keith, board member, commented on the growing discussion regarding jobs that require some college, but not necessarily a baccalaureate degree. She said career pathways offer students who do not want degrees the opportunity to change their minds. During the recent CCLC conference, Trustee Keith attended an excellent workshop on career pathways. She cited examples of how these types of programs help students succeed.

Trustee Keith congratulated the Accreditation Committee members who are working diligently on the college's reaccreditation. She recently attended a co-leads meeting, where she was very pleased to learn that the college goes over and above what is required to meet accreditation standards. She gave kudos to Ms. Eisel, Dr. Spor, and everyone who serves on the committees. At a future meeting, she will discuss conversations that are taking place at CCLC with regard to accreditation.

Trustee Keith commented on some outstanding college events, including the softball team victory; the Cosmetology hair show; and *Shrek the Musical*. She recently had the opportunity to hear a performance by Branford Marsalis. She thanked Mr. Vaughan for continuing to bring high-caliber shows to Citrus College.

Board President Rasmussen provided highlights of the CCLC conference. At a session on board chairmanship, she learned that some boards are adding a topic to their agenda called "Items for Future Discussion." She said community college boards are also receiving training on accreditation, budget and research. She suggested the board consider this type of in-house training on important topics. During the conference, there was a teleconference with the United States Secretary of Education. Board President Rasmussen commended Trustee Keith for asking the Secretary of Education if there would be future federal funds for veteran's education. Regarding legislation, Board President Rasmussen said the big issues are accreditation, dual enrollment and the baccalaureate degree. Board President Rasmussen also attended a conference session on Proposition 30.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Garcia and Mr. Eric Magallon, bookstore supervisor and Alumni and Friends Association president, announced that May was alumni month at Citrus College. The theme for Alumni relations events this year is: College of Completion – Enriching Communities through Alumni. Ms. Garcia said the Citrus College Foundation recognizes the value of Alumni in enriching the college community, as well as the broader community the college serves. As an alumni and employee of Citrus College Mr. Magallon said alumni have an important role in the continued success of the college. He said the Alumni and Friends Association has been recognizing alumni for more than 50 years with the Distinguished Alumni Award. This year, they are pleased to recognize Ms. Joyce “Tickie” Moline, Mr. Richard Schmidt and Mr. Stan Stokes.

Ms. Villa, Ms. Eisel and Mr. Vaughan provided an abbreviated version and update of their FLEX Day workshop on “Hot Topics.” Their presentation included an overview on how SSSP impacts faculty; instructional program review; and course repeatability.

Dr. Hao presented a summary on the latest ARCC Report (Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges), also known as the Scorecard. The report illustrated the importance of K-12 preparation and college readiness of incoming students.

## BOARD ACTION

The board approved six action items, including the Quarterly Financial Status Report for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2014 and the hiring of Ms. Cheryl Swatek as kinesiology instructor.

The board also approved Action Item H-3, Resolution 2013-14-09 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Citrus Community College District General Obligation Bonds Election 2004, Series 2014D, in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$29,004,698, Certain of Which Are Proposed to Be Issued in the Form of Capital Appreciation Bonds and Convertible Capital Appreciation Bonds Providing for the Compounding of Interest and Approving Certain Other Matters Relating to the Bonds.

In speaking to Action Item H-3, Ms. Dain reiterated some of the points related to the proposed bond issuance as follows:

In accordance with AB 182, all of this information has previously been provided to the board in public meetings and has been previously noticed to the public. You have before you a duplicate copy of the PowerPoint presentation that was presented at the April 8, 2014 board meeting and in your agenda packet you have the resolution, preliminary official statement, and purchase contract. The proposed Series 2014D proposes an issuance of \$19 million made up of primarily CABs and CCABs, as well as a portion of the issuance made up of CIBs. Page 51 of the agenda document states the reasons that bonds that allow for the compounding of interest are being recommended.

Nixon Peabody is serving as Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel, RBC Capital Markets is serving as Underwriter, and KNN Public Finance has been selected to serve as an independent Pricing Advisor to the district on this issuance. The estimated costs of issuance associated with this proposed sale are summarized on page 51 of the agenda document and the itemized list may be found in Exhibit C of the Resolution (page 106). Information regarding bonds that allow for the compounding of interest, the financing term to maturity, repayment ratio, and estimated change in the assessed value of taxable property over the term of the bond, were provided in the PowerPoint presentation of the April 8, 2014 board meeting and are once again provided for your reference this evening.

Specifically, an analysis containing the total overall cost of the bonds that allow for the compounding of interest and a comparison to the overall cost of current interest bonds are included on slide number 5 of the PowerPoint presentation, and a copy of the disclosure made by the underwriter in compliance with Rule G-17 adopted by the Federal Municipalities Rulemaking Board is included on slide number 1 of the PowerPoint presentation. And again, these were presented to you at the April 8, 2014 board meeting under the informational item related to this proposed bond issuance and a duplicate copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been provided to you tonight for your reference.

Ms. Dain then introduced the consultants involved with the proposed issuance, Ms. Lisel Wells, with Nixon Peabody; Mr. Frank Vega, Ms. Christina Long, and Managing Director Mr. Rod Carter with RBC Capital Markets; and Mr. Blake Boehm with KNN Public Finance.