



Board Highlights



Highlights of the July 15, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Dr. Patricia A. 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. Fariyah Chowdhury
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 a document containing forum proceedings from the recent K-14 Education Forum hosted by Citrus College has been sent to participants. Event attendees, including more than 30 educators and administrators from Citrus College and its K-12 unified school district partners, met to discuss strategies to integrate K-12 and community college curriculum to support college readiness and completion. Dr. Perri thanked Ms. Marilyn Grinsdale, protocol and government relations officer, and Ms. Stacy Armstrong, publications specialist, for drafting and designing the publication.

Dr. Perri was pleased to announce that Citrus College student veteran United States Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Mayra Marchington was chosen as the 2014 Veteran of the Year by State Assemblymember Roger Hernandez. Dr. Perri said this marks the second consecutive year that this honor has been bestowed on a Citrus College veteran. She congratulated Staff Sgt. Marchington on this honor.

Student Services

Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of student services/interim vice president of academic affairs, reported that the counselors have been busy with assessments, orientations and student educational plans (SEP). Group assessment sessions, offered Monday through Thursday, accommodate up to 70 students. Orientation is offered daily and can accommodate between 40 and 60 students. It includes an opportunity to work on abbreviated SEPs.

Academic Affairs

Dr. Spor reported that 145 middle school students, representing all of the college's K-12 feeder unified school districts, participated in the third Secrets of Science Summer Camp. Students worked in hands-on labs in physics, biology, chemistry, engineering and astronomy. The week culminated with student presentations.

Human Resources

Dr. Robert Sammis, director of human resources, said Human Resources staff are pleased to be in their new offices in AD. He thanked all those who made the move to the new space possible.

Dr. Sammis said they have now completed the Employee Enrichment Program for 2013-2014 for classified staff. They will begin another year of training in the fall. Dr. Sammis added that he would work with the Supervisor/Confidential team to kick off their program this summer beginning with a book reading on conflict resolution.

Finance and Administrative Services

Ms. Claudette Dain, vice president of finance and administrative services, said Fiscal Services has begun the process of closing the books for 2013-2014. They estimate closing will be finished by mid-August.

Ms. Dain commented on agenda item G.4., Confirmation of Bond Sale Costs Respecting Series 2014D in an Aggregate Principal Amount of \$18,997,250.55. The bonds have now been sold, and the agenda item recaps the actual cost of selling the bonds as compared to the estimates that were made prior to the sale. Ms. Dain said the actuals came in slightly less than the estimates. More significantly, however, Ms. Dain said the actual payback ratio will be 2.20:1, which is considerably better than the estimate, which was 2.62:1 and significantly lower than the legal limit of 4:1. She said they are very pleased with these results.

COMMENTS

California School Employees Association

Mr. Robert Coutts, CSEA president, said CSEA's next membership meeting will take place September 9. In the interim, their negotiating committee will be very busy. The committee has tallied the member surveys on bargaining priorities and submitted a proposal to their Area G field director for policy review. The next step will be to submit the proposal to the chapter for membership approval. They will then be ready to begin meeting with the district to negotiate their new contract. Mr. Coutts said the negotiating committee also continues to work on job descriptions.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Student Trustee Fariyah Chowdhury said the ASCC executive board is still in the process of filling positions for the fall 2014 term. She introduced Mr. Daniel Celebertti, the new ASCC vice president, who was present. She added that the ASCC Campus Activities Board is planning events for the fall semester.

Student Trustee Chowdhury said the ASCC executive board has approved a \$25,000 donation to the college's Veterans Center. She also was pleased to announce that Citrus College came in seventh in the nation among the colleges and universities that participated in the 2014 National Cesar Chavez Blood Drive.

Trustee Joanne Montgomery, board vice president, attended the recent Automotive Technology Awards Ceremony. She said she is always impressed with the good rapport that exists between the faculty and students, and while the program is rigorous, they have fun learning. Trustee Montgomery also attended a roundtable breakfast hosted by Assemblymember Roger Hernandez. She said there was a lot of discussion regarding the state budget and education issues. One discussion topic was the inability of California students to get into the University of California.

Trustee Montgomery thanked Dr. Perri and the staff for the many outreach opportunities that are available to K-12 students from the local communities during the summer, including the Secrets of Science Summer Camp, the PAGE math enrichment program, the APEX go cart program, the Youth Sports Camp, and the Women in Technology program. She expressed her appreciation to everyone involved with these outreach programs.

Trustee Barbara R. Dickerson, board clerk/secretary, echoed the sentiments of Trustee Montgomery regarding student outreach. She said the activities help students understand the possibilities of studying science, engineering, technology and mathematics at Citrus College.

Trustee Dickerson has recently made presentations to the Azusa City Council and the Azusa Unified School District (USD) Board of Education. As part of her presentations, she provided information on the K-14 Education Forum. Trustee Dickerson also distributed brochures on the college's athletic programs, which highlight the focus on scholarship for Citrus College's student athletes. Trustee Dickerson also attended an Azusa USD ROP meeting regarding career/technical pathways, where she encouraged K-12 instructors to work with their Citrus College colleagues.

Trustee Edward C. Ortell, board member, reported on recent news items, including a communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Community College League of California (CCLC) Scott Lay. Mr. Lay, who has been with CCLC for nearly 20 years, is currently on leave from his job. Dr. Ortell said Mr. Lay was instrumental in writing and promoting Proposition 92, which would have provided additional funding for community colleges, and he was also an advocate for local control. Dr. Ortell urged his fellow board members to continue to monitor local control issues.

Trustee Ortell commented on legislation that would allow community colleges to offer bachelor's degrees. He suggested exploration of possible bachelor's degrees that Citrus College might want to offer in the future. One such degree is health information technology, where workers with degrees are in high demand and command good salaries. Dr. Ortell said the City of Hope is the largest employer in Duarte, and they will have many job opportunities in the area of health information technology in the future.

Trustee Susan M. Keith, board member, said she believes CCLC will continue to advocate for local and balanced control and a good relationship between community colleges and the Chancellor's Office. She said accreditation continues to be an important issue for CCLC and the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) board. At their last conference, trustees expressed an interest in being trained and serving on accreditation committees. Trustee Keith said the new CCCT president will be sending a letter to the accrediting commission in that regard. Trustee Keith added that the proposed reorganization to combine the trustee and CEO boards of CCLC has not had a favorable response. The new president of the CEO board attended the last meeting of the CCCT board, where he was well received by trustees.

Trustee Keith reported that the new mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti, is supportive of completing the Gold Line eastward to Claremont and beyond. She described this as a "huge breakthrough" in obtaining funding and support from Metro. Trustee Keith said there is a lot of work and advocacy that still needs to be done, but once completed, the Gold Line will serve all of the cities in Citrus College's district.

Trustee Keith recently attended a meeting of the University Club in Claremont where Ms. Celeste Palmer gave an inspiring talk. Ms. Palmer, who has overcome tremendous challenges caused by severe traumatic brain injury, is a member of the Citrus College Foundation. Among Ms. Palmer's many achievements is the founding a non-profit organization. She has also been featured in a book, *Chicken Soup for the Soul, Recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries*.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Perri announced the latest recipient of the ABCD Award, Ms. Autumn Esparza, administrative secretary II, who works in Fine and Performing Arts. Ms. Esparza was described as "exceptionally patient and professional," and her important contributions to the redesign of the new repeatability programs in her department were noted. Board President Patricia A. Rasmussen presented Ms. Esparza with the "Hootie," and she thanked her for her efforts. Mr. Coutts thanked Dr. Perri, members of the board, and the Classified Staff Development Committee for recognizing classified staff with the ABCD Award.

Ms. Dain introduced Mr. Gary Moon of tBP Architects. Ms. Dain and Mr. Moon made a presentation on the new Fine Arts Complex, which will replace the existing Art Center Building constructed in the 1960s. The new facility will feature new technology that keeps pace with current and future workforce needs in art-related fields.

Dr. Spor and Dr. Martha McDonald, interim executive dean, presented the 2013-2014 Progress Report for the Citrus College Strategic Plan: 2011-2016.

Ms. Dain presented Information and Discussion Item G.4., Confirmation of Bond Sale Costs Respecting Series 2014D in an Aggregate Principal Amount of \$18,997,250.55.

Dr. Sammis referred the board to the Citrus College Faculty Association Summary of its Initial Proposal for a Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement, which was included in the agenda for information only.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved seven action items, including appointments to the Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee of Ms. Shauna Pierce for a two-year term as at-large community representative and Mr. Daniel Celebertti for a one-year term as student representative.