



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees Betsy Bechtel • Pearl Cheng • Laura Casas Frier • Joan Barram • Bruce Swenson • Emily Kinner • Stephanie McGee

Board meeting of Jan. 9, 2012

THE HEADLINES

The Board of Trustees acted on:

- Construction-related legal settlements
- A new transfer degree at De Anza
- Pre-design services for the Onizuka Education Center
- Several new hires and promotions

Trustees reviewed or were briefed on:

- Proposed revisions to the international travel policy
- Accomplishments of faculty and staff
- The first week of the winter quarter

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

President **Joan Barram** announced that the board had approved a settlement of \$575,000 with Edward Scott Electric for claims related to construction of the Lower Campus Center at Foothill College, and a settlement with Perkins + Will under which the firm will pay the district \$1.31 million for claims associated with construction of Foothill's Campus Center project.

BOARD BUSINESS

Bond oversight appointment: The board appointed Foothill student **Etienne Bowie**, a past student trustee, to fill the student position on the Measure C Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. He will fill a vacancy created when the committee member **Stephanie McGee** was elected to the district Board of Trustees as Foothill's student representative.

International travel policy revision: Trustees discussed proposed changes to streamline Board Policy 4176. The policy was originally approved in March 2010 to increase board oversight over international travel.

Chancellor Thor said time has shown that the policy does not allow enough flexibility. There have been occasions when requests for international travel were submitted in a timely fashion but there was not enough time to get the travel request on to the board agenda after obtaining the necessary college approvals. The proposed policy revision would require advance approval of international travel by the chancellor, who would subsequently report that travel to the board. The proposed policy change will come

back to the board for action at a later meeting. The district's maximum contribution to international travel is \$1,000.

INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

New transfer degree: Trustees approved De Anza's application to the state chancellor's office for a new transfer degree in kinesiology based on the statewide Transfer Model Curriculum. The new transfer degrees, including the proposed associate in arts degree in kinesiology for transfer, are intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor's degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. Students who complete a transfer degree are guaranteed admission to the CSU system and will not be required to complete more than 60 units after transfer.

New standalone course: The board approved Foothill's request to add a stand-alone course in music publishing for songwriters.

Onizuka Education Center: After discussion and a presentation by Charles Allen, executive director of facilities, operations and construction management, the board approved a pre-design services agreement for the proposed Onizuka Education Center with the Leonakis design firm. Leonakis was recommended by a selection committee from among 18 firms that responded to the district's request for a statement of qualifications. The committee interviewed the four top firms. Director Allen said that Leonakis has a track record of high-quality design and successful performance coupled with extensive community college experience, including working with the state Chancellor's Office and the Division of State Architect.

In response to board questions, Director Allen and Foothill President Judy Miner, who served on the selection committee, said they are confident that Leonakis can produce a signature building that meets district's educational needs, sustainability objectives and stays within budget. Leonakis principal David Younger called the Onizuka center an exciting project and said his firm recognizes the iconic status in Silicon Valley of the "Blue Cube", the decommissioned satellite control facility the education center will replace. He noted that his firm has participated in the design of six education centers over the past five years and is experienced in working with cities in which new centers are being located.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

New hires: Trustees ratified the hiring of two De Anza instructors, **Amy Leonard** and **Kim Palmore**, both in Language Arts, and of **Lecue Gracian**, a journeyman painter in Central Services. They approved the hiring at De Anza of **Veronica Neal** as director of Equity, Social Justice & Multicultural Education.

Promotions: The board ratified the promotion of **Anita Muthyala-Kandula** to De Anza division dean, Biological, Health and Environmental Sciences & Workforce Education, and of **Dawn Allshouse** to senior buyer in Material & Purchasing Services in Central Services.

REPORTS & HEARING OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Presidents' comments: Foothill College President **Judy Miner** reported that the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators will honor Acting Vice President of Student

Development **Denise Swett** for her work as an administrator at the groups' annual convention in March. Miner said it is unusual for NASPA to recognize a community college administrator and expressed appreciation for Dr. Swett's contributions to Foothill.

President Miner also commented on the long overdue awarding of a Commendation Medal to Menlo Park resident Carl Clark, 95, as a result of efforts by former part-time Foothill faculty member **Sheila Dunec** and U.S. Rep **Anna Eshoo**. Secretary of the Navy **Ray Mabus** will present the medal to Clark at a ceremony Jan. 17 at Moffett Field. Clark's story of combat heroism came to light more than a decade ago through a non-credit memoir class taught by Dunec. His story also is featured in the video Remembering WWII: First-Person Accounts, which premiered at Foothill College in 2009. The recorded narrative accounts by soldiers, war brides, nurses, Holocaust survivors and others are available as open content through De Anza iTunes U: <http://www.deanza.edu/itunesu>

De Anza Vice President of Instruction **Christina Espinosa-Pieb**, serving as acting president, reported on a live video event from the White House that took place Jan. 10. The national event – For Democracy's Future: Education Reclaims Our Civic Mission – brought together higher education and K-12 leaders with policymakers and stakeholders to discuss a national strategy for educating students of all ages in civic learning and democratic engagement. Following opening remarks by U.S. Undersecretary of Education **Martha Kanter**, De Anza President **Brian Murphy** participated on a panel that discussed higher education's role in fostering democratic engagement. Education Secretary Arne Duncan delivered concluding remarks at the event.

She also noted that the De Anza campus was packed with students on opening day, suggesting strong enrollment at De Anza for winter quarter.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor Thor reported that Foothill College will receive a Pride of the Community Award later this month from the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce. She also commented on two meetings the district is hosting: The North Valley Workforce Investment Board (NOVA) will hold an all-day retreat at De Anza on Jan. 25 and Class XXIII of the American Leadership Forum (ALF) will gather at Foothill on Feb. 3. The chancellor serves on the NOVA board and she and **Anita Manwani**, vice president of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation, are members of the ALF class. The chancellor reported that she and several board members will visit Sacramento at the end of the month to meet with Silicon Valley legislators and take part in the annual legislative conference of the Community College League of California.

Trustees' comments: De Anza Student Trustee **Emily Kinner**, who joined the meeting by phone from Sacramento, reported on testifying before the Board of Governors on Student Success Task Force recommendations. She remarked on students' concerns about some recommendations limiting college access. Board President Barram complimented district Director of Risk Management **Marsha Kelly** on the annual risk management report submitted to the board and expressed appreciation for the work of Sheila Dunec for recognition of Carl Clark. Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** noted that state Senator **Joe Simitian** has scheduled a public education update on Jan. 28 in Palo Alto.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is primarily a study session. It begins at 1 p.m. in the Hearthside Lounge in the Campus Center at Foothill College. The study session will be followed by a closed session at 4:30 p.m. Agendas

generally are posted 72 hours in advance at:
http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/agenda/. Please check the agenda to verify time and location of the meeting.

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. This publication is not the official minutes. For more comprehensive information, you may consult the official minutes, which are available at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes after their approval at a subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at bartindalebecky@fhda.edu or (650) 949-6107 with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.