

Board meeting of Jan. 10, 2011

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Property acquisition & development: The board approved a contract with **Public Private Ventures** (PPV) for preliminary services related to the acquisition and development of a permanent education center. The consulting firm will assist the district with assessing needs, identifying potential sites and evaluating options for acquisition and development.

In presenting PPV to the board, Chancellor **Linda Thor** said the firm has a proven method that has helped seven California community college districts, including Gavilan, acquire properties or sites for a total of 10 new community college campuses. She said PPV specializes in public-private partnerships that maximize college real estate assets, create revenue streams and better unite colleges and local communities. PPV President **Jim Goodell** was on hand to answer trustees' questions.

During the discussion, Trustee **Betsy Bechtel** said she hopes PPV's process would not favor a new site over the current education center location at Cubberley Center in Palo Alto. Chancellor Thor said the plan is to continue on "dual paths." PPV will assist the district in exploring potential new locations while also continuing to work with the city of Palo Alto on the possibility of establishing the center permanently at Cubberley.

Trustee **Bruce Swenson** said it is essential to find the best location to meet student needs and attract adequate enrollment. All board members expressed a strong desire that decisions be based on sound, current data. Chancellor Thor noted that enrollment projections are currently being updated. Responding to a question by Trustee **Laura Casas Frier**, the chancellor said a future project to develop facilities at the NASA Ames Research Park would be separate and distinct from this effort.

Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen** asked whether a relocated education center would be associated with just one or both of the colleges. President Miner said that a permanent home is needed for programs now at the Middlefield campus. However, if the center were relocated to the De Anza service area, she said it would make sense for the center to house programs for both colleges.

PPV and Foothill-De Anza will work together to define the district's needs for the center. This effort will include reviewing enrollment projections, program plans,

partnership and collaboration potential, facility and property requirements, as well as funding sources.

The firm also will help the district inform property owners, businesses, municipalities and community and economic development organizations about plans for developing the center. Finally, PPV will produce recommendations for proceeding with further planning and acquisition efforts. A kickoff meeting was scheduled for Friday, Jan. 14.

Cost of the PPV contract is \$132,000, funded through Measure C. A fuller discussion of the education center is scheduled for the board's Jan. 31 study session.

Board policy changes and additions: The board reviewed several proposed policy changes and additions to reflect existing practices and relevant laws. The proposed revisions include adding the vice chancellor of technology to the line of authority for service as acting chancellor in the chancellor's absence; describing the chancellor's role in the accreditation process; and authorizing the chancellor to establish a citizens' bond oversight committee for any district bond measures approved in accordance with Proposition 39.

Proposed new policies would affirm the district's commitment to open and ethical communications among board members, and establish processes for filling chancellor and presidential vacancies, calling special and emergency meetings, and holding closed sessions and reporting out from them. The items will come back to the board for action at a later date. For more detail, see items 5-12 on the agenda at <http://fhdafiles.fhda.edu/downloads/aboutfhda/BOT20110110Agenda011011.pdf>

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL

Employment: The board ratified the extension of the interim assignment of **Robin Latta-Lyssenko** as associate director of development for the Foothill-De Anza Foundation through March 31, and the award of a Professional Achievement Award to De Anza CIS instructor **Speranta Georgeiou**.

Trustees ratified the hiring of **Harold Butterfield** as senior mechanic and the promotion of **Timothy Mechikoff** to maintenance supervisor, both in Central Services.

The board ratified professional growth awards for the following employees: At Foothill, outreach specialist **Lyliana Hernandez**; at De Anza, instructional associate **Debbie Cashman** and division administrative assistant **Leslie Nguyen**; and in Central Services, accounts payable assistant **Janice Lee**, computer project coordinator **Henry Ly** and accounts payable supervisor **Ellen Lyon**.

HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

President Cheng presented a certificate of appreciation to Los Altos resident **Robert Grimm** on behalf of the district and he received a standing ovation. Mr. Grimm, she

said, is a valued friend of Foothill-De Anza, someone who has made innumerable contributions to the district and community over the years.

The certificate acknowledges his service as a public member of Foothill-De Anza's Audit & Finance Committee from 1992-2010. Additionally, he has served as the campaign treasurer in bond and parcel tax elections for Foothill-De Anza in 1999, 2006 and 2010; a member of the Foothill-De Anza foundation board from 1993-2000; and a member of the Foothill Commission from 1993-1999. He's also a longtime supporter of the California History Center at De Anza.

Each of the trustees added a personal comment about Mr. Grimm and his work on behalf of area non-profit and government organizations, including service as a Los Altos City Council member and mayor. "Bob contributes in a way that makes our local democratic institutions work," summed up Trustee Swenson.

Student comments: Students **Ze-Kun (Kenny) Li** and **Sana Kathuria**, representing the De Anza Associated Student Body, asked the board to support students' effort to win \$250,000 to fund a peer-mentoring program for advanced science and math, as well as instructional equipment. The key to success is to get more people voting for De Anza twice daily – once online and once by text message – throughout January in the Pepsi Refresh Project. In recent days, De Anza has moved from 25th to 20th out of 310 ideas in the contest. To vault to a winning position, the students said, they need more people voting for De Anza. They asked everyone to help spread the word – and to vote every day until January 31. To learn more about the students' proposal, view their video and support their proposal, go to <http://www.refresheverything.com/deanza>

Student **Randall South** urged board members to consider having the district take greater advantage of government funding for workforce development and to reinstitute an agreement that allows students who split attendance between Foothill and De Anza to receive federal financial aid through one college based on attendance at both. The agreement was suspended for 2010-11 while college officials work to address several issues.

Public comments: Palo Alto resident **Terry Terman** expressed concern about the \$400 million budget cut Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed for community colleges in 2010-11 to help solve California's \$25.4 billion budget deficit. He noted that it will take original thinking for the district to meet the fiscal challenge and suggested that online education could help address student demand.

Presidents' comments: De Anza President **Brian Murphy** invited trustees to attend the **First Thursday** open-mic poetry slam being held at the Euphrat Museum of Art at De Anza. The popular sessions, held on the first Thursday of the month, start at 5:30 p.m. De Anza Student Trustee **Thomasina Russaw** noted that First Thursday was started by the Black Student Union club on campus. Performers include poets, spoken-word artists and musicians.

Foothill President **Judy Miner** noted that astronaut **Yvonne Cagle** would be the keynote speaker at Foothill's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration on Jan. 12. She read a letter from U.S. Rep **Jackie Speier** recounting a student's praise for instructor

Karl Knopf's work with older adults. She distributed a booklet describing the **Foothill College Science Learning Institute** prepared for a meeting in Washington, D.C., of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. She complimented the work of the foundation's **Laura Woodworth** and Foothill's marketing team, particularly **Shelley Schreiber**, for their work on it. A copy of the booklet is being given to President Barack Obama.

Chancellor's report: Chancellor **Thor** reported on a briefing she and some of the chancellor's staff attended at **Apple** headquarters in Cupertino to discuss the district's technology goals and initiatives. Apple representatives gave a presentation on the use of mobile devices in higher education and demonstrated several devices and applications. It was the first in what she hopes will be a series of executive briefings with major technology companies in the region.

The chancellor reported on her experience as a panelist at last week's **HigherEdTech Summit** on "Getting to Graduation: Is Technology the Ticket?" which was held in Las Vegas in conjunction with the international Consumer Electronics Show. She also noted that she made a presentation in December to the Executive Leadership Institute of the **League for Innovation in the Community College** on the president's role in technology leadership.

Chancellor Thor congratulated President Murphy for his progress on a national initiative for developing civic learning and democratic engagement among community college students. She commented on President Miner's planned participation next month in the Summit on Science, Entertainment and Education, co-sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences, as well as a summit on changes in teacher preparation sponsored by the California State University.

Staff reports: Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Kevin McElroy** presented an overview of the Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed budget for 2011-12, including \$400 million in proposed cuts for California community colleges. District-by-district projections by the Community College League of California suggest that Foothill-De Anza's proportionate share of the funding cuts would be roughly \$10.9 million.

Vice Chancellor McElroy said that due to belt-tightening in the past few years, the district has some resources to help cushion against that level of reduction. However, the governor's plan relies on voter approval of \$12 billion in income, sales and other tax extensions. If the taxes aren't extended, California community colleges would face an additional \$500 million in funding reductions for 2011-12 under the governor's proposal.

He also noted that the governor proposed raising community college fees from \$17 to \$24 per unit for schools on the quarter system (and from \$26 to \$36 for semester schools), with the additional revenue going to fund enrollment growth.

Trustee reports: De Anza Student Trustee Russaw said all are welcome Thursday, Jan. 20 at De Anza's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in the Fireside Room at the college, starting at 11:30 a.m. She noted that De Anza students are planning to take part in a march against state budget cuts on March 2.

Foothill Student Trustee **Etienne Bowie** reported on efforts to make De Anza's La Voz student newspaper a districtwide publication, with funding contributed by Foothill's student government. He said he has become involved with studentmentor.org, a non-profit organization that matches college students with professionals for mentoring. He also is working to support a pilot project for turning Foothill College student ID cards into virtual ID cards that could be used to make purchases, get discounts and perhaps, one day, vote.

Trustee **Joan Barram** commented on the governor's appointment of **Hsing Kung**, a member of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation Board of Directors, to the California State University Board of Trustees, and expressed appreciation for Mr. Kung's longstanding support of Foothill-De Anza.

NEXT MEETING

A study session of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 31, from 1-6 p.m. in the Toyon Room at Foothill College. Please check the agenda to verify time and location. Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance at: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/agenda/.

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 generally are available at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes after their approval at the subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at bartindalebecky@fhda.edu or extension 6107, with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.