Board meeting of March 7, 2011

THE HEADLINES (details below)

The Board of Trustees approved:

* Tenure awards to 32 faculty members and re-employment of first- & second-year faculty
* Nomination of De Anza’s Lois Jenkins as CCC Classified Employee of the Year
* A resolution endorsing Los Altos School District’s proposed $193-a-year parcel tax
* Continued campus police dispatching by San Jose State University
* Administrator contracts, new hires, interim assignments & professional growth awards
* A resolution supporting SCA 5 to lower the vote threshold to pass a school parcel tax
* Moving forward on the Foothill-De Anza Data Center

Trustees heard about:

* Budget highlights from the second quarter
* mobilize.org’s Target 2020 Northern California summit
* Accelerated EMT training
* Community Learning Project and The Democracy Commitment
* League for Innovation visit
* Faculty Association of California Community Colleges’ advocacy efforts in Sacramento
* Student mobilizing for the March 14 March in March, including a video

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Approval of tenured faculty: An upbeat recognition ceremony marked the award of tenure to 20 faculty members at De Anza and 12 at Foothill. De Anza President Brian Murphy and Foothill President Judy Miner presented an overview of the achievements of each candidate and called that person forward. Chancellor Linda Thor and board President Pearl Cheng joined in offering congratulations. The Board of Trustees then voted to award tenure to the following individuals:

At De Anza, Dan Atencio, Nicholas Baiamonte, Lydia Botsford, Deborah Centanni, Linda Choi Yee, Barbara Dahlke, Anthony Delaney, Al Dominguez, Hua-Fu Liu,
Barak Goldman, Shannon Hassett, Craig Norman, Rachel Pacheco, Jesus Quintero, Antonio Ramirez, Paula Silva, Robert Stockwell, Li-Wei Sun, Nellie Vargas and Pauline Wethington.


Los Altos School District parcel tax: Trustees adopted a resolution in support of the Los Altos School District’s $193, six-year parcel tax on the May 3 ballot. Speaking on behalf of the measure, campaign co-chairman Jay Gill said the local funding measure would help the district retain core academic programs and highly qualified teachers in the face of state budget cuts.

Campus police dispatching: The board approved a three-year agreement with the San Jose State University Police Department to handle dispatching services for Foothill-De Anza campus police, including answering 9-1-1 calls. In response to questions from Trustee Laura Casas Frier, Vice Chancellor Kevin McElroy said the San Jose State Police Department has capacity to provide the service at the most favorable rate.

Administrative leave: The board approved a summer administrative leave requested by Peter Murray, dean of physical sciences, mathematics and engineering at Foothill College, to examine current trends in sustainable energy programs at community colleges.

Employee of the Year nomination: The board approved the nomination of Lois Jenkins, marketing/communications coordinator at De Anza College, as California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year. In remarks supporting the nomination, Marketing Director Marisa Spatafore called Jenkins a “linchpin of the college” who could not be commended highly enough. Nominations for the honor alternate between Foothill and De Anza. Read the nomination by going to the March 7 agenda and clicking on Item 17: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/stories/storyReader$266

Constitutional amendment: Trustees approved a resolution in support of SCA 5 by state Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), which proposes lowering from two-thirds to 55 percent the vote requirement for local residents to pass school parcel taxes.

Budget update: Vice Chancellor McElroy reported that the district’s Stability Fund is projected to reach $14.2 million by the end of the fiscal year. Among the trends he cited as affecting Foothill-De Anza’s fiscal position are decreased spending on instruction resulting from a drop in enrollment, and increased revenue from non-resident students. He said the projected net ending fund balance of $33.7 million includes the stability fund, $9.9 million in the district’s 5 percent reserve, and $9.5 million in restricted campus and district office carryover. These represent one-time funds that cannot be used to sustain operations over the long-term.

District Data Center: After reviewing the preliminary design of the Data Center, trustees authorized Cody Anderson Wasney Architects to proceed with construction documents. The 19,000 square-foot, two-story building will be constructed in Parking Lot 1-E next to the Griffin House and District Office Building. The Data Center will provide improved earthquake resistance to protect data center functions, backup power and mechanical
systems, and office space for district Educational Technology Services staff who currently are housed at multiple locations. Construction will be jointly funded by Measure E and Measure C. The building is being designed to LEED-Silver specifications. See a presentation on the Data Center by going to the March 7 agenda and clicking on Item 25: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/stories/storyReader$266

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL

Re-employment of faculty: The board approved re-employment for a second year the following individuals as tenure-track faculty: at Foothill, Rachelle Campbell, Milissa Carey, Lisa Drake, Amelia Edwards, LeeAnn Emanuel, John Fox, Mary Holland, Tiffany Rush, Jennifer Sinclair, Benjamin Stefonik and Angela Su; and at De Anza, Jason Bram, Randy Claros, Alicia DeToro, Russell Hong, Nick Mattis, Michael McCart, Roseanne Quinn, Jeff Staudinger, Jue Thao and Danielle Von Matt.

Trustees approved third-year re-employment of the following tenure-track faculty: at Foothill, Kathy DePaolo and Brenda Hanning, and at De Anza, Robert Alexander, Ronald Francis, Cleve Freeman, Shagundep Kaur, Kevin Mello and Jeff Schinske.

Administrator contracts: Trustees approved renewal of administrator and executive-administrator contracts, limiting them to one year because of the current fiscal situation. The list of contract renewals can be seen by going to the March 7 agenda and clicking on Item 14: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/stories/storyReader$266

Interim assignments: Trustees ratified the assignment of John Mummert as interim vice president of workforce development at Foothill College, through June 30, and approved extension of the interim assignment, also through June 30, of Robin Latta-Lyssenko as associate director of development for the Foothill-De Anza Foundation.

New hires: The board approved the hiring of Ravjeet Singh as an instructor in social sciences and economics at De Anza College, and ratified the hiring of Neil Chang as a mobility assistant and van driver at Foothill College and Derrick Diazoni as secretary in the High Tech Center Training Unit at De Anza College.

Professional growth awards: Trustees approved PGAs for the following employees: At Foothill, Akemi Ishikawa and Corrine Nunez; at De Anza, Jeffrey Dickard, Henry Nguyen, Stephanie Pham and Atousa Pojhan; and in Central Services, Tonette Torres.

HEARING OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comments: Chris Bui, who described himself as social entrepreneur, spoke about the work of mobilize.org, a non-profit organization dedicated to engaging Millennials in improving the way democracy works. Among its projects is Target 2020, a California democracy summit for Northern California community college students set for April 15-17. At the summit, students will discuss challenges in completing their education and collaborate on solutions to address them. De Anza College is one of the summit sponsors.
Staff comments: President Miner acknowledged the work of Denise Swett, associate vice president of Middlefield Campus and community programs, and Alex Duran, project director of the Middlefield Campus Career and College Connections Program, for their work in creating an accelerated career pathway to train students as emergency medical technicians. She said the program will train low-income, under-represented students for jobs that pay a living wage. The program is a partnership with the Central County Occupational Center, Job Corps and the Silicon Valley Community Collaborative, with funding from a $225,000 career-technical education grant from the state. Courses begin this spring.

President Murphy reported that De Anza College had recently hosted members of the steering committee of the Community Learning Partnership for three days on the campus. The partnership is working on creating new educational pathways into youth and community organizing so a new generation of leaders is prepared to address issues facing low-income communities. De Anza is a member of the partnership and President Murphy serves on the steering committee. He also noted that the De Anza Academic Senate has endorsed a new national initiative, The Democracy Commitment, which provides a national platform for developing and expanding programs and projects that engage community college students in civic learning and the democratic process. De Anza is a leader in that effort.

Chancellor Thor thanked trustees and other district leaders, faculty and staff who took part in the recent visit of a team from the League for Innovation in the Community College. She said the visit went extremely well and that team members indicated they would enthusiastically recommend Foothill–De Anza for reaffirmation to the League board. The visit included an Innovations Showcase that featured five outstanding programs from each college. She also thanked organizers of Foothill’s Women’s History Month for dedicating the month to her.

Faculty Association President Rich Hansen noted that De Anza faculty member Bob Stockwell could not be present for his tenure award because he was in Sacramento with 14 students advocating for community colleges as part of the annual Advocacy & Policy Conference of the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges. At the conference, FACCC honored Assembly Member Paul Fong (D-Mountain View), a former Foothill–De Anza trustee, as Legislator of the Year.

Foothill Student Trustee Etienne “E.T.” Bowie noted that Foothill and De Anza students are mobilizing for the March 14 March in March in Sacramento. Foothill students are creating videos to promote the event, including one they plan to send to legislators. Student Trustee Bowie said students are focused on winning legislative support for putting tax extensions on the statewide ballot. The students’ inaugural video can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-hQsF5ouu8

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, March 14, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the District Board Room. 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 (650) 949-6107, with comments or questions about Board Highlights.