



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

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

Board meeting of May 7, 2012

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees approved or reviewed:

- Lower interest costs from bond refunding
- Collaborative planning with the West Valley-Mission district
- New hires, promotions and retirements
- Foothill College site improvements

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Bond refunding: **John Sheldon** from bond underwriter Morgan Stanley reported on the refunding \$78 million in Measure E bonds. Refinancing of the bonds at favorable rates will lower the collective interest payments of district property owners by an average of \$689,312 a year. Mr. Sheldon complimented Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Kevin McElroy**, Budget Director **Bernata Slater** and Controller **Hector Quinonez** for making the transaction a success. Their presentation to bond rating agencies helped the district achieve the highest Aaa rating from Moody's Investors Service and AA from Standard & Poor's.

De Anza Associated Student Body budget: Students **Arvind Ravichandran**, DASB president; **Pablo Zamorano**, finance chair; and **Andrew Zhao**, vice president and finance committee member, presented an overview of the DASB's \$1.2 million budget for 2012-13. The students said they had cut the student government's budget to minimize reductions to other programs and had visited every program whose budget was being cut. The student government funds an array of campus programs that directly benefit students, including scholarships and book grants; textbook rentals; a veterans program; the honors program; Math Performance Success; and student success and retention efforts, among others. The bulk of DASB income comes from DASB card sales and student events and activities, such as the flea market and discount movie ticket sales.

Trustees praised the students for an excellent presentation and their thoughtful approach to setting priorities. Representatives of the Associated Students of Foothill College will make their budget presentation June 4.

Student health fee increase: The board approved a \$1 increase in the student health fee effective for the 2012 summer session. This brings the fee to \$16 per quarter. Without the adjustment to cover inflation, health services would have to be reduced.

Public safety consortium: The board approved Foothill College's membership in the South Bay Regional Public Safety Consortium, which provides cost-effective training to public safety professionals. Other community college consortium members include De Anza, Evergreen Valley, Gavilan, Hartnell, Ohlone, San Mateo, San Jose City and Monterey Peninsula. Participation is expected to result in the registration of 36 full-time-

equivalent students for Foothill, with state reimbursement to be shared by the consortium and the college.

Classified staff appreciation: Trustees approved a resolution recognizing the valuable service of classified staff for Classified Employee Appreciation Week. Speaking on behalf of the board, President **Joan Barram** expressed appreciation for individual classified employees and their organizations for working in cooperation with the district administration to address the district's budget deficit.

Position eliminations and service discontinuation: The board approved elimination of two vacant classified program coordinator positions for the Occupational Training Institute at De Anza due to lack of funding, effective June 30. The positions were intended to accommodate laid-off staff but ended up not being needed, said **Blanche Monary**, president of the Association of Classified Employees. The board also acted to discontinue the service of a faculty member effective June 30.

MOU with West Valley-Mission district: Trustees approved a memorandum of understanding with the West Valley-Mission Community College District that formalizes the process for planning for a regional collaboration at the district's proposed education center at the former Onizuka Air Force Station in Sunnyvale. The West Valley-Mission board has since approved the MOU.

Foothill College site improvements: Foothill Vice President **Shirley Treanor** and **Art Heinrich**, bond program director, presented an update on work planned for the summer and fall 2012 on the college's extensive site improvement plan. Elements of the plan include new lighting, signs, replacing aging trees, renovating the central courtyard, improving drainage, constructing a new stairway and widening the access road to PE.

To view the presentation, cut and paste this url into your browser:

<http://fhdafiles.fhda.edu/downloads/aboutfhda/FHSiteImprovements05.07.12.pdf>

Onizuka environmental review: Trustees approved a mitigated negative declaration and monitoring program for construction of the proposed education center at the former Onizuka Air Force Station. The associated documents can be found at:

[http://facilities.fhda.edu/stories/storyREADER\\$144](http://facilities.fhda.edu/stories/storyREADER$144)

Project stabilization agreement: **Charles Allen**, executive director of facilities, operations and construction management, reported on performance of the project stabilization agreement with the Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council that was established in 2008. Halfway through the Measure C construction program, the parties say the agreement is working as intended and has contributed to labor harmony, student and local resident participation in the Construction Careers Program and compliance with prevailing wage laws. **Neil Struthers**, executive director of the building trades council, said the district has created one of the most efficient bond programs he has seen, which he credited to the district's talented staff.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

New hires: Trustees approved the administrative employment of **Joseph Moreau** as the district's vice chancellor of technology and ratified the employment of **Abel-Moaty Fayek** as dean of the Business and Computer Systems Division at De Anza College.

The board approved full-time faculty employment at Foothill College for **Michaela Agyare**, librarian; **Nicole Kerbey**, Business & Social Sciences instructor; and **Richard Mills**, Language Arts instructor, all effective Sept. 20, and ratified the employment of **Michael Johnson** as a special education instructor with the High Tech Center Training Unit at De Anza; and **Steven McGriff** as teacher-in-residence at Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College.

Trustees ratified the following new classified hires: At De Anza, **Ana Maria Ferreira** as custodian, **Gregory Missman** as grounds gardener, and **Nila Nine** as food service operations coordinator; and at Central Services, **Jesse Asher** as pool maintenance worker and **Eric Olague** as buyer.

Promotions: The board approved the promotion of **Hieu Nguyen** to senior accountant in Central Services.

Retirements: Trustees approved the retirement under Article 19 of Language Arts Instructor **Rosemary Arca** effective June 9.

Professional Growth Awards: The board ratified PGAs for the following classified employees: at Foothill, **Mazier Almasi**, **Sherri Mines**, and **Nhung Tran**; at De Anza, **Susan Edman**, **Andrea Migliaccio**, **Dawna O'Malley**, **Irene Niazov**, and **May Thai**; and in Central Services, **Monica Sain**, **Richard Gaca** and **Hieu Nguyen**.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Recognition of student trustees: On behalf of the board, President Barram acknowledged the outgoing student trustees, **Stephanie McGee**, representing Foothill College, and **Emily Kinner**, representing De Anza College. Besides their direct contributions as members of the board, she said, the student trustees were helpful to their colleges and served as effective statewide advocates. Chancellor **Linda Thor** presented them with mementos of their board service and called them "student trustees extraordinaire" for their inspiring performance over the past year.

Staff comments: Foothill Academic Senate President **Dolores Davison** reported that physics instructor **David Marasco** has been re-elected president and assumed program chair duties of the Northern California-Nevada section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

De Anza Academic Senate President **Karen Chow** reported on the following honors and accomplishments of De Anza faculty. De Anza's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa won an award for the Pulse peer-mentoring program developed by math instructor **Mehrdad Khosravi**, a Phi Theta Kappa faculty advisor, to improve student retention. Anthropology instructor **Isaiah Nengo** has been named a Fulbright scholar for 2012-13 and will study ape fossils in Kenya. ESL faculty member **Kai Leung's** translation of a poem by **Ya Hsien** was

published in the Contemporary Taiwanese Literature and Art Series. **Gary Lamit**, an instructor in the Computer Aided Design Program, presented the tenth and eleventh scholarships from Scholarships for Veterans, a non-profit that he established to assist recently returning military veterans, to students **Jose Alberto Cruz** from Foothill and **Paul Hanson** from De Anza. **Nick Mattis** was named NorCal Coach of the Year for Cross

Country and Athletic Director **Kulwant Singh** was inducted into the California Community College Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame. PE instructor and head women's tennis coach **Coleen Lee-Wheat** received the California Community College Physical Education Physiology Instructor of the Year award.

ACE President Monary reported that **C.J. Jones**, wellness assistant at De Anza, was honored with a statewide award for developing CalFIT, a program that supports CalWORKs parents in leading healthier lives through increased knowledge of nutrition, fitness, wellness and parenting.

Presidents' comments: Foothill College President **Judy Miner** reported that more than 2,000 people attended Foothill's Day on the Hill for parents and students and more than 1,000 attendees completed registration. The May 5 event was moved to a Saturday from a weekday, resulting in a larger turnout. **Rich Larsen**, mayor of Los Altos, welcomed the guests wearing a Foothill T-shirt over his suit. President Miner also noted that Academic Senate President Davison will represent Area B, one of two Northern California geographic areas, on the statewide Academic Senate.

De Anza Vice President of Instruction **Christina Espinosa-Pieb**, representing President **Brian Murphy**, invited board members to upcoming events including the annual De Anza student art show, now on view at the Euphrat Museum through June 14; the New Parent and Student Open House on Saturday, May 12; activities associated with AB 540 Awareness Week, May 7-14; and a May 10 film about representations of Asian and Asian American women in film.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor Thor announced that Vice Chancellor of Technology Moreau would begin work June 11 to have some transition time with outgoing Vice Chancellor **Fred Sherman**. Prior to his post as chief technology officer for the State University of New York at Oswego, Mr. Moreau's community college experience in California included Mira Costa, West Hills and Pasadena City colleges. Chancellor Thor thanked Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Kevin McElroy** and the search committee he chaired for their good work. She noted that a farewell retirement dinner is planned for Vice Chancellor Sherman on June 13 at Chef Chu's. She also thanked Trustees Barram, **Betsy Bechtel** and **Pearl Cheng**, along with the district's executive staff, for attending the Silicon Valley Women of Influence event at which she was recently honored.

Trustee comments: Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** reported on discussions about doing more with less from a recent conference sponsored by the Community College League of California and her nomination to serve on the CCLC Board of Directors. Trustee **Bruce Swenson** congratulated De Anza on its April 19 Funding Our Future event, a dialogue between students from community colleges throughout the region and five California state Assembly members. **Marisa Spatafore**, De Anza's marketing, communications, and development director, organized the program in conjunction with staff from the office of Assembly member **Jim Beall** and De Anza students, including Student Trustee Kinner and DASB President Ravichandran. The impressive event attracted several hundred students, community members and staff. Trustee Swenson complimented students for asking "very insightful and thoughtful questions to our elected representatives."

De Anza Student Trustee Kinner expressed appreciation for her experience as a trustee and the opportunity to work with a board that honors and advocates for students. Foothill

Student Trustee McGee thanked everyone for supporting her and expressed appreciation for the students with whom she has worked. Serving as student trustee, she said, was an opportunity “to branch out and spread my wings and find out what I am good at.”

Board President Barram reported on a May 2 visit to the Foothill campus by U.S. Rep. **Anna Eshoo** to speak out against legislation that would double student loan interest rates. She said Congresswoman Eshoo and her staff were impressed with Foothill students and the campus.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, June 4 at 6 p.m. in the district Board Room. 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. The official minutes 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*.