

Board meeting of July 12, 2010

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Changes to non-smoking policy: Trustees approved revisions to the board policy on non-smoking areas, B.P. 3216, in response to concerns by faculty, staff and students about on-campus violations of the policy. Smoking is now prohibited in all indoor and outdoor campus locations, with the exception of designated smoking areas. New signs will be posted to clearly identify the approved smoking areas.

Legislative goals and board priorities: Trustees approved legislative goals for 2010-11 for use in advocating to the state Legislature, Congress and the public. They also approved priorities for the board for 2010-11. The legislative goals and board priorities may be viewed at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us under the heading Goals and Priorities.

Fixed-price electricity rates: Trustees authorized the locking in of electricity rates with Constellation Energy through July 2013. The fixed rates were negotiated through the Community College League of California's Electricity Consortium. The 2010-11 rate, which was approved earlier this year, is 25 percent lower than the previous year, and is expected to save the district \$250,000. The rates for the subsequent two years include small annual increases, but they still will be the lowest rates since 2003.

Charles Allen, executive director of facilities, operations and construction management, said the agreement is a good deal and stabilizes the district's electricity rates, making the budget more predictable.

Redesign of East Cottage: The board authorized an agreement with Architectural Resources Group for the redesign of the East Cottage at De Anza, which collapsed June 2 while under renovation. The new design will follow the exact same physical layout and make use of the undamaged foundation and some of the under-floor framing. The hope is that construction can resume promptly after expedited review by the Division of State Architect. Executive Director Allen said the building collapsed when an inadequately supported chimney fell, bringing down the roof and walls. He said the district would seek compensation.

Solar at De Anza: The board authorized a consulting contract with Newcomb Anderson McCormick to assist with steps leading to the construction of a 1-megawatt photovoltaic solar energy array at De Anza College, likely in parking lots A & B, and a combination of small systems next to the Kirsch Center for Environmental Studies that will be used for student education. The consultant will assist with conceptual design,

preparation of a request for proposals and evaluation of responses of potential design-build contractors. The combined cost of the solar projects is estimated at approximately \$10 million. In response to questions from trustees, Executive Director Allen said the approach would allow both for technical and price competition.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL

The board approved employment of the following personnel: At Central Services **Kevin McElroy**, vice chancellor of business services, and **Roseanne Sciacchitano**, project manager for operations; and at Foothill, **Danielle M. Altman**, physical education instructor, and **Mary L. Holland**, chemistry instructor.

Trustees approved contract extensions in Central Services for **Andy Dunn**, vice chancellor of business services, through Aug. 15, and at Foothill, for **Phyllis Spragge**, interim dean of biological and health sciences, through Aug. 31.

The board approved promotions for **Alerie Flandez** and **Phong Lam** to academic advisors at De Anza, and professional growth awards for broadcast coordinator **Tamara Ehle** and senior secretary **Norma Johnstone** at De Anza.

REPORTS AND HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT THE AGENDA

Foothill faculty member **Ken Horowitz** advised the board to relocate the Middlefield Campus program out of the Cubberley Community Center, and urged trustees to move forward with a parcel tax to preserve affordable, quality education at Foothill-De Anza.

De Anza faculty member **Anne Argyriou**, past president of the De Anza Academic Senate, introduced the new president, **Gregory Anderson**. Later, Anderson and ACE President **Blanche Monary** expressed appreciation for successful efforts to secure employment for employees displaced by budget cuts. Monary noted that only one employee from ACE had not been placed permanently, and had a temporary work assignment. She added that the eliminated positions, and the work they accomplished, are missed.

Foothill's Interim Vice President for Instruction **Eloise Orrell**, sitting in for President **Judy Miner**, reported that Foothill-De Anza had received a \$1.25 million grant from the California Employment Development Department to work in partnership with the NOVA Workforce Board of Silicon Valley. The colleges will work with the solar industry to develop curriculum for solar jobs training.

De Anza President **Brian Murphy** thanked trustees for attending commencement with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. He noted that De Anza students are hosting a coalition of students from Northern California on July 17 to begin organizing to support California's higher education budget in the coming year. He called the work of the student mobilizers "really heartening."

Chancellor **Linda Thor** introduced **Kevin McElroy**, the district's next vice chancellor of business services, and his wife Gail. McElroy, vice president of administrative services at Coastline College, told the board that he had been warmly welcomed by district and college staff during his visit, and that they are helping him quickly get up to speed. He said he is looking forward to working for Foothill-De Anza.

Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** complimented staff on two summer programs at Foothill – the Math Acceleration Program, or MAP, for middle school students, coordinated by Dean of Student Affairs **Pat Hyland**, and the summer programs offering technology training for teachers at the Krause Center for Innovation, directed by **Gay Krause**.

Trustee **Joan Barram** reported on a recent Foothill-De Anza Foundation board meeting at which she represented the board. She said that although temporarily without a permanent executive director, it is healthy with almost \$4 million in contributions in 2009-10. She noted that she and Chancellor Thor recently met with state Senator **Joe Simitian** and that he supports the district pursuing a parcel tax because of the continuing state budget deficit.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 2. A study session is scheduled at 1 p.m., followed by a regular session at 6 p.m. in the District Board Room. Please check the agenda to verify time and location. Agendas generally 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*.