

Board meeting of Oct. 1, 2012

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees approved or reviewed:

- Accreditation follow-up reports
- New agreements for the education center at Onizuka
- New administrator appointments
- Purchase of a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer

To see the background information on any of the items that appear below, go to http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/ArchivedAgendas and click on the link for Aug. 27. That will download a file containing the agenda and supporting documents.

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Accreditation follow-up reports: The board approved final drafts of college accreditation follow-up reports presented by Foothill President **Judy Miner** and De Anza Vice President of Finance and Educational Resources **Letha Jeanpierre**. The reports provide information, evidence and analysis in response to recommendations made by visiting evaluation teams last year. The follow-up reports are due to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges on Oct. 15, with commission action expected in January.

The final follow-up reports will be posted on the college web sites at:
Foothill <http://www.foothill.edu/president/2011.php>
De Anza <http://www.deanza.edu/accreditation>

President Miner and Vice President Jeanpierre commended the leadership of several individuals in preparing the reports and for ongoing contributions to a successful accreditation process. President Miner recognized Associate Vice President **Kurt Huel**, the college's accreditation liaison officer, and Academic Services Coordinator **Darya Gilani**. Vice President Jeanpierre recognized Director of Marketing, Communications & Development **Marisa Spatafore**, the college's accreditation liaison officer, and College Researcher **Mallory Newell**. She noted that the follow-up report is pending review by the College Council on Oct. 11.

Responding to a question from Trustee **Bruce Swenson**, President Miner said both follow-up reports show substantive compliance with new accreditation standards.

Education center at Onizuka: The board approved two agreements with the Lionakis architectural firm. One is for services related to demolition of buildings and site improvements at the former Onizuka Air Force Station to prepare the land for

construction of an education center. The other is for services related to master planning the 9.2-acre site, including conceptual designs for the initial phase of construction and developing future plans for unused portions of the site. Lionakis began working with the district in January on earlier planning phases of the project.

Responding to comments from Trustee **Betsy Bechtel**, Executive Director of Facilities, Operations and Construction Management **Charles Allen** confirmed that considerations in the center's design will include minimizing maintenance costs and accommodating bicycles.

The board also approved the selection of Vista Environmental Consulting for work associated with environmental mitigation and monitoring of the Onizuka property. Vista will analyze existing hazardous materials documentation and further investigate the site for the presence of asbestos and lead-based paints that may be encountered during demolition. Vista has previous experience with military base closure projects.

Director Allen said the district hopes to begin demolition before next spring and estimated demolition would take between six months and one year.

Nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer: The board authorized purchase of a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer for the Foothill College Chemistry Department using Measure C bond funds. Hands-on experience with this powerful tool is typically required of sophomore students in organic chemistry at four-year universities. Having one at the college will ensure that transfer students from Foothill are well prepared and can compete effectively with other students. Trustee Swenson, a former dean of Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering at Foothill, expressed pleasure about the purchase and said the discussion about acquiring this equipment dates back at least 25 years.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Administrator appointments: Trustees ratified the appointment of **Bret Watson** as director of budget and personnel at De Anza College, and the assignment of **Gina Bailey** as the district's interim director of purchasing through March 31.

Faculty retirements: The board approved the resignation for the purpose of retirement of **Corinne Cleaveland**, an instructor in the Child Development Center at De Anza, effective June 29, 2013, under Article 20.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Special adjournment: President **Joan Barram** announced that the board would adjourn in memory and honor of Carmen Redmond. She thanked Gina Bailey for serving as interim purchasing director.

Public comments: Palo Alto resident **Terry Terman**, speaking on behalf of the League of Women Voters, thanked incumbent board members Barram, Bechel and **Laura Casas Frier** for attending a League-sponsored candidates' forum at the Los Altos Public Library. Challenger **Geby Espinosa** also participated in the forum.

Staff comments: Foothill Classified Senate President **Erin Clifford Ortiz** reported on welcome week activities at Foothill and acknowledged individuals who contributed to the success of Foothill's Opening Day events. She thanked **Maureen Chenoweth**, president-elect of the California Community Colleges Classified Senate, and ACE President **Blanche Monary** for presenting a District Opening Day workshop for classified employees, and reported on a recent Classified Senate retreat.

De Anza Academic Senate President **Karen Chow** reported on the college's Opening Day activities and thanked President Murphy and instructors **Nicky Gonzalez Yuen** and **Cynthia Kaufman** for conducting a well-attended workshop on political mobilization at the District Opening Day. She commended De Anza Student Trustee **Vince Mendoza** for organizing volunteers to assist new students during the first week of school, as well the marketing and college operations staffs for their contributions to a successful first week.

Foothill Academic Senate President **Dolores Davison** noted that despite the extensive construction that's under way, the campus was accessible for the first week of classes and construction workers have been considerate about not disrupting instruction. She complimented those involved and predicted the new landscaping, once installed, will be worth the temporary inconvenience.

Presidents' comments: Foothill President Miner, sitting in for Chancellor **Linda Thor**, reported that the chancellor was in Washington D.C. attending an invitation-only event organized by the Department of Education and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The focus was on how technology innovation can increase productivity in higher education. She also reported that kudos are due to Foothill mathematics instructors **Lori Silverman** and **Ion Georgiou**, who have received a \$900,000, five-year grant National Science Foundation grant. The grant is for STEMWay, a comprehensive outside-the-classroom academic support program to increase the graduation rate among by improving retention among STEM students.

She noted that this would be the last working board meeting for **Donna Toyohara**, assistant to the chancellor and liaison to the board, who is retiring from the district. "She does so many things so expertly, quietly and humbly" and has done so much for the chancellor's office and the board, President Miner said. An official goodbye is planned for the Nov. 5 board meeting.

De Anza Vice President Jeanpierre, sitting in for President Murphy, commented on the extensive campuswide effort by student, faculty and staff volunteers to welcome students and assist them during the first week of classes. She reported that De Anza's enrollment was down about 1 percent. Among highlights of the new academic year, she said, is the opening of the Media and Learning Center at De Anza. She thanked Associate Vice President **Donna Jones-Dulin**, Executive Assistant **Pippa Gibson**, Production Operations Supervisor **Marty Kahn** and TV Systems Engineer **Ed Breault** for meeting the faculty's training needs in the new building. She said that De Anza's Opening Day focused on the upcoming election and invited trustees to campus for an Oct. 3 talk by California Secretary of State **Debra Bowen** on the importance of voting and civic engagement.

Trustee comments: De Anza Student Trustee Mendoza reported that students registered hundreds of new voters during the first week of school and passed out literature on ballot propositions. He expressed appreciation for the faculty's support throughout the week.

Foothill Student Trustee **Antonia Zavala** reported on welcome week activities, including an orientation sponsored by the student government for 500 new students. She noted that Assembly Rich Gordon was coming to campus the following day to speak with students. She distributed samples of an events calendar and a student planner made available to all students by the Associated Students of Foothill College.

Trustee Casas Frier expressed appreciation for the League of Women Voters hosting a recent candidates' forum in Los Altos for Foothill-De Anza board candidates and for the efforts of Foothill-De Anza student trustees in registering new voters. Trustees Bechtel and Barram commended District Opening Day speakers. Barram said she also enjoyed the Foothill Opening Day address by **Jay Banfield**, executive director of Year Up, and the hustle and bustle of the first day of classes at De Anza. Trustee **Pearl Cheng** congratulated board President Barram for skillfully representing higher education during a recent panel discussion of Propositions 30 and 38 sponsored by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the Silicon Valley Education Foundation, and United Way Silicon Valley.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5 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*.