

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees

Joan Barram • Betsy Bechtel • Laura Casas • Pearl Cheng • Bruce Swenson • Anita Adams • Alex Baker

Board meeting of Aug. 5, 2013

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees reviewed or approved:

- Changes to the policy on credit by exam
- A three-year agreement with the Faculty Association
- Refinancing of certificates of participation
- New hires, promotions and retirements
- Reductions in classified service

To see background information for any of the items that appear below, go to http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/Public. Click on the meeting of Aug. 5, 2013, and then click on "View the Agenda" to access all supporting documents.

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Credit by exam: Trustees approved revisions to Board Policy 6030, Credit by Examination. Under the policy and associated administrative procedure, students can achieve a maximum of 30 credits by examination, down from 45. Discipline faculty at the colleges decide whether a particular course is eligible for credit by exam and cost to the student is the same as the usual per-unit enrollment fee.

Reduction in classified service: Because of fiscal challenges, the board approved elimination of three vacant positions – administrator of web/client server applications, part-time computer project coordinator, and program coordinator II – retroactive to July 1.

Agreement with Faculty Association: Trustees approved a three-year agreement with the Faculty Association that includes changes to a number of provisions including evaluation, load, leaves and paid benefits. A summary of the substantive changes is available by clicking here.

Vice Chancellor of Human Resources **Dorene Novotny** said the agreement is dedicated to the late **Anne Paye**, the Faculty Association's longtime chief negotiator, "in grateful appreciation for her clear and brilliant reasoning, unmatched ability to craft language, gracious humor and intelligence, and ceaseless devotion to faculty." She passed away June 20 after a battle with cancer (Read Paye's obituary by clicking here.)

Board President **Betsy Bechtel** applauded the move to limit the number of paper copies of the agreement and Trustee **Joan Barram** thanked both sides for their work at the bargaining table.

Refunding certificates of participation: Taking advantage of lower interest rates, the board approved Vice Chancellor **Kevin McElroy**'s recommendation for refunding \$8 million in outstanding certificates of participation for a savings to the district of \$790,000. The certificates originally were issued in 1998 for construction of the Flint Center parking garage and were refinanced for the first time in 2003. They will be paid off in 2020.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Administrator appointments: Trustees ratified employment for the following new administrators – at Foothill, **Dawnalynn Giradelli** as dean of the Middlefield Campus education center; at De Anza, **Kelly Swanson** as director of the De Anza Bookstore; and in Central Services, **Jorge Rodriquez** as manager of custodial operations.

Faculty employment: Trustees approved employment for the following new faculty – at Foothill, Allison Herman and Samuel White in Language Arts, and at De Anza, Emanuele Cappello and Emily Garbe in Business Computer Systems, Brandon Gainer in Language Arts/speech, Aimee Gillette in Creative Arts/film & TV, Sarah Lisha in Language Arts/English, Marco Marquez in Creative Arts/graphic & interactive design, and in Social Sciences and Humanities, James Nguyen in political science and James Suits in administration of justice.

Faculty retirement: The board approved resignations for the purpose of retirement of the following individuals under Article 19 of the agreement with the Faculty Association – at Foothill, **Bea Cashmore**, counselor and instructor in the Disability Resource Center, effective June 27, 2014, after 25 years of employment, and **Karl Knopf** in Kinesiology & Athletics, effective Aug. 31, 2013, after 36 years; and at De Anza, **Debi Schafer-Braun** in Physical Education, effective June 27, 2014, after 37 years.

Classified employment: Trustees ratified employment of **Jason Sousa** as a custodian at De Anza.

Classified retirements: The board approved the retirements of **Joanne O'Neill** in Educational Resources at Foothill, effective Oct. 8, 2013, after 34.5 years, and **Sharon Berg** in ETS at Central Services, effective June 30, 2013, after 16 years.

Classified promotions: Trustees ratified promotion of the following individuals – at Foothill, **Julie Brown** to administrative assistant II in the Disability Resource Center, and **Craig Gawlick**, to coordinator of instructional services; and at De Anza, **Rosemary Jensen** to supervisor of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services.

Professional Growth Awards: The board approved Professional Growth Awards for the following classified employees – at Foothill, **Zuohua Liang**, PSME lab instructional coordinator; **Judi McAlpin**, campus supervisor at Middlefield Campus; **Kathleen Turner**, testing services coordinator; and **Inna Witkop**, financial aid outreach coordinator; at De Anza, **William Madden**, academic advisor; **Quan Peng**, admissions & records assistant; and in Central Services, **Josefa Hernandez**, Call Center support technician; **Ron Rayas**, programmer/analyst; and **Myisha Washington**, human resources specialist/classification and compensation.

New classified positions: Trustees approved creation of a new position of, campus facilities rental coordinator in Educational Resources at Foothill; two positions at De Anza,

communications associate in the President's Office and program coordinator II for the Occupational Training Institute; and two positions in Central Services, benefits specialist in Human Resources and administrative assistant II in ETS.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comments: Mountain View resident **Terry Terman** referenced accreditation problems at City College of San Francisco and thanked Foothill-De Anza trustees "for the good work you people have done here."

Student comments: Students **Ramsey Ghamrawi** and **Yiann Chou**, participants in the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute program at De Anza, asked the board to support efforts to offer an Asian American literature course for inmates at the Santa Clara County Jail with De Anza students participating as peer learners. De Anza instructor **Christine Chai** is recruiting faculty and she and the students are working with county Chief of Corrections **John Hirokawa** on how to make it happen. The students said the rehabilitation process needs to be improved for inmates as well as society, and this would be a step in that direction.

Staff comments: Foothill instructor **Ken Horowitz** urged the board to consider a salary increase for district employees because there's been no increase for several years.

Presidents' comments: Sitting in for Foothill President **Judy Miner**, Vice President of Instruction **Kimberlee Messina** reported on Foothill's STEM summer camps for high school students, noting that about 75 percent of participants were young women. She said the college has been awarded a Community Energy Champions grant for a "One Million kWh Challenge" to reduce the district's energy use by 1 million kilowatt hours, largely through behavioral changes. Foothill physics instructor **Jamie Orr** will coordinate the effort with De Anza. She also reported on Foothill's summer business academy, a partnership with the Central County Occupational Center, and how it led to creation of a web site for a student's custom cookie business http://www.tortascape.com/.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor **Linda Thor** reported on a presentation this month to the National Science Foundation governing board's committee on education and human resources by President Miner on the institutional and cultural barriers to innovation in STEM education. The invitation was extended by committee chair **Claude Steele**, dean of the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University, as a result of a joint research partnership between the School of Education and Foothill-De Anza. She noted that the district was listed by the Silicon Valley Business Journal as the valley's 61st largest employer, up from 66th last year and the only community college district on the list.

Trustees' comments: President Bechtel expressed the board's condolences on the loss of Trustee **Pearl Cheng's** father. Trustee **Laura Casas** congratulated Chancellor Thor on her selection as one of 14 college and university chief executives for the Presidential Innovation Lab convened by the American Council on Education. The Palo Alto-based Institute for the Future is facilitating the group for ACE in an exploration of new models for higher education. Referring to the debate over immigration reform in Washington, Trustee Casas noted that **Jose Antonio Vargas** – Mountain View High School graduate, De Anza'a 2013 graduation speaker and a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist - was being introduced that night by Facebook's **Mark Zuckerberg** at the San Francisco premiere of Vargas' "Documented," a film about his journey as an undocumented immigrant in the United States. De Anza President **Brian Murphy** expressed appreciation for Vargas' efforts to get tickets for undocumented students from Foothill and De Anza to attend the opening.

Trustee **Bruce Swenson** reported on the memorable and moving memorial service for Foothill's Anne Paye at Stanford University's Memorial Church. In addition to close friends and family members, speakers at the service included Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen**, Foothill English instructor emeritus **Kurt Gravenhorst** and **Nayan McNeill**, former dean of Language Arts at Foothill and now an Episcopal priest. **Sheryl Alexander**, executive director of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation, said there's been some discussion with a friend of the Paye family about creating an endowed scholarship in the instructor's name.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is a study session at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26, in the District Board Room. A regular business meeting will follow at 6 p.m. in the same location. 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. Note: During summer roadway and parking lot construction, parking for the District Office Building is available in Lot 1-D, which also provides the only entry to Lot 1-E.

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.