



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees Betsy Bechtel • Paul Fong • Laura Casas Frier • Hal Plotkin • Bruce Swenson • Patrick Ahrens • Constance Dukunde

Board meeting of Aug. 25, 2008

REPORTS AND HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Presidents' comments: De Anza College President **Brian Murphy** acknowledged **Christina Espinosa-Pieb**, whose recommended appointment as interim vice president of instruction will come to the board for approval at its next meeting. He also noted that two former De Anza students, **Christina Jones** and **Andrea Nott**, had finished fifth in the technical portion of the synchronized swimming duet competition at the Beijing Olympics; that the U.S. synchronized swimming team had finished fifth in team competition; and that De Anza was ranked fifth among Bay Area higher education institutions in the tally of Olympic athletes. Murphy said the college would like to celebrate the pair's accomplishments if Jones and Nott return to De Anza.

Shirley Treanor Barker, sitting in for Foothill College President **Judy Miner**, reported that work had begun on the campus' first Measure C project, renovation of the Forum 5000 building.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor **Martha Kanter** and Trustee **Hal Plotkin** reported on attending the closing program of the Summer Bridge program for foster youth at De Anza College. The students' stories about the hardships they have endured were incredible and deeply moving, they said. Plotkin commented on the strong bond that had developed between the students and De Anza staff, creating a sense of belonging for the students. Kanter said she looked forward to working with **Bob Nunes**, the superintendent of the East Side Union High School District who came to the event, on addressing needs of the 700 foster youth in his district.

Kanter also noted that Foothill-De Anza's work to advance open educational resources is profiled in two recent reports, one by the California state auditor on textbook affordability and what colleges and universities can do to help, and the other by the Make Textbooks Affordable campaign, a project of the Student Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs), on how digital textbooks can live up to their promise. The reports are available at:

<http://www.cccoer.wordpress.com/2008/08/15/auditors-report-on-textbook-affordability/>

<http://www.maketextbooksaffordable.org/newsroom.asp?id2=44596>

Trustees' comments: Plotkin said he and President Miner had discussed the possibility of campus radio station KFJC serving as a training facility, or news bureau, for National Public Radio. Plotkin said he would work with the appropriate college staff to make the connection to NPR, where he was a founding editor of Marketplace. Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** noted that two De Anza students, **Kenia Vega** and **Caneisha Howell**, were recipients of scholarships from the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley's Latina Scholarship Fund. Foothill College Student Trustee **Confiance Dukunde** reported on his experience as a tutor to middle school students from the Mountain View Whisman School District during the Math Acceleration Program this summer on the Foothill campus. He said he and some of the other Foothill tutors plan to continue working with the students during the school year, helping them with homework. De Anza Student Trustee **Patrick Ahrens** thanked both the board and **Jon O'Bergh** for enabling his attendance at a California community college student trustee workshop. Ahrens said he learned a lot and appreciated the opportunity to meet other student trustees.

PRESENTATIONS

2008-09 budget and multi-year budgeting: Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Andy Dunn** and Director of Budget Operations **Bernata Slater** gave a detailed presentation on the district's 2008-09 proposed budget and the multi-year budgeting process that is under way. The district's 2008-09 budget has a \$7.9 million gap between expenditures and revenues, which the district plans to fill by using one-time funds from the 2007-08 ending balance. The deficit is the result of several factors, including the anticipation of no cost-of-living increase from the state and sharply reduced state funding for enrollment growth. Multi-year budget planning involves building budgets using three scenarios reflecting various assumptions about state funding levels. Multi-year projections show the district's structural deficit continuing in 2009-10 at between \$3.3 million and \$10.5 million, depending on what assumptions are made. The presentation can be viewed at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board_presentations

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2008-09 budget: The board held a public hearing on the 2008-09 proposed budget, scheduled for adoption at the Sept. 8 meeting. Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen** asked what would happen to approximately \$2

million the district would receive if the Legislature passes a bill to backfill a property-tax shortfall that affected all California community colleges. Slater said the plan is to use backfill money to help close the projected \$7.9 million budget deficit. President Murphy expressed frustration at the budget situation and the colleges' inability to hire more full- and part-time faculty in response to growing enrollment. Trustee Casas Frier expressed concern about whether the colleges would be able to offer enough classes for all the new students, and said she already is receiving complaints. Plotkin stressed the importance of using funds for educational purposes to benefit students. Trustee **Betsy Bechtel** urged great caution in spending, and Dunn pointed to the district's strong ending balance as an indicator of how the district has slowed its spending rate.

Opening of negotiations: No speakers addressed the request by SEIU, Local 521, Unit 1 to open negotiations on all articles of the current agreement for a 2008-11 contract.

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

VTA bus stop: The board approved a resolution regarding placement of a VTA bus stop on the north side of the De Anza campus to serve VTA Route 23, which carries a large number of students to campus. The VTA will pay all costs of developing the bus stop.

Project study: Trustees certified a final initial study/mitigated negative declaration for a project that had been known as the District and Community Center Building. The study addresses the environmental impacts of constructing a smaller administration building, called the ETS Building, east of the Griffin House. **Charles Allen**, the district's executive director of facilities, operations and construction management, said the revised project would not involve any physical alteration or demolition of the Griffin House, and would not adversely affect its historical significance. **Jonathan Baer**, representing Friends of the Griffin House, thanked trustees for deciding not to tear the Griffin House down. He and community member **Steve Aced** encouraged the district to develop a vision for restoring Griffin House and said their group would work with the district to raise money. Chancellor Kanter said the district remains open to renovating the Griffin House if outside funding can be found to bridge the gap between the cost of new construction and renovation, but noted that past efforts had not yielded funds for this purpose.

HUMAN RESOURCES/PERSONNEL

Trustees approved the following employment-related items:

Shawna Aced was hired as Foothill College registrar and **Mark J. Larson** as applied technologies instructor at De Anza College. **Don Dorsey** at Foothill and **Jeanine Hawk** at De Anza will receive temporary additional compensation for taking on additional duties.

Marcia Sivek was hired as administrative assistant in biological and health sciences and **Suzanne Yamada** as administrative assistant in counseling and student services at Foothill. **Sukhchandan Chahal** is the new executive assistant in human resources and equal opportunity for Central Services.

Phuong Tran, who had worked at Middlefield campus, was promoted to program coordinator in HR and equal opportunity in Central Services.

The board approved professional growth awards for the following employees: at De Anza, **Mary Browning** in language arts, **Lawrence Ching** and **Jennifer Nguyen** in finance/college services, **Cynthia Lister** in counseling, **Blanche Monary** in biological health and environmental sciences; and at Foothill, **Diana Cohn** in educational resources and instruction and **Joyce Henderson McLeod** in adaptive learning and disability services.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. in the district Board Room.

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. This publication is not the official minutes. If you would like more comprehensive information, you may visit http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes to read the minutes, generally available after approval at the subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at the above e-mail address or at extension 6107 with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.