



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

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

### Board meeting of March 12, 2009

#### REPORTS AND HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

De Anza College President **Brian Murphy** reported on the successful grand opening March 6 of the new **Visual and Performing Arts Center**, which was attended by several hundred employees and community members, including district trustees **Betsy Bechtel**, **Pearl Cheng** and **Bruce Swenson**. "The building is open, it's gorgeous and it's functioning well," he said.

Murphy also expressed pride in the hundreds of De Anza students who signed up for the **March in March** rally for community colleges March 16 in Sacramento. De Anza Student Trustee **Patrick Ahrens** said the De Anza Associated Student Body is working closely with campus clubs to get students to the march.

Foothill College President **Judy Miner** expressed appreciation for the work of **Denise Swett**, dean of the Middlefield campus and non-credit programs, and **Alexandra Duran**, outreach specialist, for organizing a college preparatory program with the **Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula**. Foothill hosted a career night recently at the East Palo Alto club that attracted seven area community colleges and about 100 students and their parents. Starting in April, college-bound seniors from three Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula will take a Counseling 50 (Introduction to College) course at the Middlefield campus, and Middlefield will go to the East Palo Alto club once a week to offer a free non-credit parenting class. Miner also thanked Career Center Director **Laureen Balducci** for organizing the second annual **Careers Consortium** on March 5, which brought together representatives from about 20 Bay Area community colleges to discuss such topics as green careers, best practices and the current labor market.

Miner reported that Foothill is hosting a **Focus the Nation** sustainability summit April 18 with Los Altos Hills, and will invite local legislators and officials from area cities to participate. Students, faculty and staff also are invited to take part in the town hall-style event.

Chancellor **Martha Kanter** reported that the **Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources** would meet at Foothill College this month. The consortium has grown to 89 colleges in 10 states and Ontario, Canada, since its founding in July 2007. Kanter also said she would speak at Mills College during a March 28 leadership conference of EOPS and CARE students, many of them single parents. Foothill EOPS Director **Matais Pouncil**, president of the EOPS Region IV Consortium of 12 Bay Area colleges, helped organize the conference.

**Rich Hansen**, president of the Faculty Association (FA), read a statement raising concerns about the agreement between the district and the FA on the process for implementing the new 67 percent limit for part-time faculty. Beginning spring quarter, eligible part-time faculty will have re-employment rights up to a 55 percent load, and deans will have discretion on any additional assignment up to 67 percent. (AB 591, signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger last year, raised the percentage a part-time faculty member can work from 60 percent to 67 percent of a full-time faculty load.) Hansen said in these budget times, the FA is concerned about an agreement that allows the hiring of new part-time faculty in place of veteran part-time faculty. He said that to protect as many part-time teaching positions as possible, the FA has refused to renew an expired memorandum of understanding giving administrators the right to teach.

Trustee **Hal Plotkin** remarked that he has experienced approximately 480 downloads of material about open education resources (OER) posted on his web site ([www.plotkin.com](http://www.plotkin.com)), including many from colleges and universities around the country.

## **ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Auto tech renovations:** The board awarded a \$2.68 million contract to San Carlos-based **Zolman Construction & Development**, the lowest of nine bidders, for renovating the Automotive Technology building at De Anza College, including adding new classrooms and upgrading electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems, and accessibility.

**Administrator contracts:** Due to fiscal constraints, the board accepted the chancellor's recommendation to limit renewal of all administrative contracts to an end date of June 30, 2010, until further notice. That decision affects 56 administrators and two executive administrators employed by the district. Three executive administrator employment contracts previously extended

beyond June 30, 2010, will not be extended further at this time. Any new administrator contracts are not to extend beyond June 30, 2010.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES/PERSONNEL**

Trustees approved a professional development leave for **Charles Lee**, ESL instructor at De Anza.

The board approved the suspension of positions due to lack of funding, and the subsequent transfer, reassignment and layoff of employees. The actions included suspending a geology faculty position at Foothill, effective June 30, 2009, and transferring **Christopher**

**Di Leonardo** to the geology faculty at De Anza; suspending the position of dean computer technology and information systems at Foothill, effective June 30, 2009, and reassigning Foothill administrator **Tim Woods** to duties funded by a grant to the college (non-Fund 14 dollars); and suspending the full-time faculty position in the Foothill travel careers program, effective June 30, 2010, resulting in the non-renewal of employment for **Sharon Hack**, a tenured faculty member. Current students will have the opportunity to complete the travel careers program by the effective date.

President Miner acknowledged the work of the affected faculty members and the difficulty in making such decisions.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, April 6, in the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board Room.

Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance at:

[http://www.fhda.edu/about\\_us/board/agenda](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. If you would like more comprehensive information, you may visit [http://www.fhda.edu/about\\_us/board/minutes](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*.