



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees Betsy Bechtel Paul Fong Laura Casas Frier Hal Plotkin Bruce Swenson

Board meeting of Feb. 2, 2009

REPORTS AND HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Board President **Laura Casas Frier** reported on attending the Jan. 20 inauguration of Barack Obama with her husband and three children. "It was historic, euphoric and very, very cold," Casas Frier said. She also requested, and the board approved, amendments to the draft minutes reflecting her concern about the presence of trichloroethylene (TCE) and other toxic waste at the NASA Research Park at Moffett Field.

Trustee **Pearl Cheng**, a trustee liaison who serves on the Foothill-De Anza Foundation Board of Directors, reported that the foundation has recently welcomed new board members. They include **Noona Giridharadas, Susan Levy, Martin Neiman** and **Kathy Torgersen**, who is returning to the board after an absence of several years. Cheng also noted her attendance at the Effective Trusteeship Workshop sponsored by the Community College League of California.

Palo Alto resident **Ken Horowitz**, a Foothill College faculty member, urged trustees to find new ways to increase revenue, including moving courses that don't fit into Foothill-De Anza's core mission to a fee-for-service basis. He also objected to paying a stipend to administrative personnel who temporarily assume additional duties. Although probably well-deserved, he said, the district cannot afford such stipends given the budget crisis.

Foothill College President **Judy Miner** thanked Casas Frier and Trustee **Bruce Swenson** for attending the Jan. 31 fundraising gala, "Decade of Excellence," celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Krause Center for Innovation. More than 200 people joined **Gay** and **Bill Krause** in what Miner praised as "an amazing evening."

Chancellor **Martha Kanter** congratulated **Judy Baker**, dean of Foothill Global Access, on receiving the 2008 Technology Focus Award from the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. The award went to Baker and Kanter for developing the Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources (CCCOER), which Baker directs. The consortium serves as a clearinghouse for information and training about free, high-quality “open” educational content that community college faculty can use to replace costly textbooks. Kanter also thanked team members who recently visited legislators to advocate for community colleges in Sacramento, including Casas Frier, President Miner and first-time advocate **Gigi Gallagher**, representing classified staff.

De Anza College President **Brian Murphy** reported that the De Anza student government plans to rent buses to travel to Sacramento on March 16 to rally for community colleges, and that trustees, faculty, staff and administrators are all welcome to join them at the statewide march and rally.

De Anza Student Trustee **Patrick Ahrens** noted that De Anza would send as many students as possible to the March 16 rally and urged faculty not to schedule tests that day, if possible, so students feel free to participate. He also reported that the De Anza Associated Student Body did not have enough money to fund the recent outpouring of requests for grants, which would result in critical programs having to turn students away.

Reporting on Senator **Joe Simitian’s** most recent community briefing on the budget, Trustee **Hal Plotkin** noted that after months of deadlock in the Legislature, the governor and legislative leaders from both parties are working behind closed doors to revise the 2008-09 state budget and develop a budget plan for 2009-10. Plotkin said the state’s strategy to improve its cash flow by delaying payments to public education could cause serious hardships for K-12 schools and community colleges.

Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen** reported on an open forum with Assembly member **Sandré Swanson** sponsored by Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC). He also noted that **Chris Storer**, a part-time De Anza philosophy instructor, is chairing FACCC’s policy committee.

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Non-resident tuition rates: Trustees approved an increase in the base tuition rate for non-resident students from the current \$115 to \$122 per unit for 2009-10, which is less than the statewide rate of \$126 per unit. In addition to the base rate, non-resident students pay a capital outlay fee, which will remain

steady at \$8 per unit, compared to the maximum allowable of \$20 per unit. The total cost for 2009-10 for non-resident students to attend Foothill or De Anza would rise to \$130 per unit from the current \$122 per unit.

Sale of surplus electronic equipment: Trustee Casas Frier inquired about the sale of eight pallets of computers, monitors, printers and other electronic equipment as e-waste, noting that some of the computers appear to be relatively new and still work. Vice Chancellor of Technology **Fred Sherman** said a useful computer life of three to four years was established in conjunction with the Measure C bond and is the standard most companies use. Although some of the equipment still operates, Sherman said, most is much older and even the newer computers do not have the power to run the necessary software. Plotkin noted that before computers reach the board as surplus, they must be offered to (and be rejected by) the student government and the Occupation Training Institute (OTI), which serves economically disadvantaged students. Trustees unanimously approved the sale, which is not expected to bring in more than \$5,000.

New transfer studies certificates: The board approved two new Transfer Studies Program certificates for Foothill College. The certificates recognize and reward completion of the general education requirements needed for transfer to the University of California or California State University.

Legislative goals: Trustees reviewed a draft of the district's legislative goals for 2008-09. They include keeping fees low to increase access and affordability for California residents, and seeking stable predictable funding from the state, including a permanent backfill when property-taxes revenues fall short of the state's estimate; cost-of-living increases; and full funding for enrollment growth.

Professional development leaves, 2009-10: The board approved professional development leaves for the following faculty members for the 2009-10 academic year:

At De Anza, **Diana Alves de Lima, Doli Bambhania, Marcy D. Betlach, Michael S. Chang, Mayra E. Cruz, Robert C. Dickerson, Kathy M. Flores, Gary Louis Lamit, Faith Milonas, Kimberly A. Pearce, Marrietta Reber** and **Debi A. Schafer-Braun**.

At Foothill, **Carolyn J. Brown, Phuong Lam, Londa J. Larson, Keith R. Lee, Debra L. Lew, Robbie Reid, Leticia Serna, Kim S. Wolterbeek** and **Joseph A. Woolcock**.

Open educational resources update: Dean of Foothill Global Access **Judy Baker** presented an overview of the district's progress in advancing open educational resources (OER) as an alternative to commonly used textbooks. She noted that Collaborative Statistics, by De Anza's **Barbara Illowsky** and **Susan Dean**, is now offered through the online repository Connexions and that 11 De Anza instructors teaching 33 sections had signed up to use the textbook in fall and winter quarters. Use of the open text at De Anza alone will save students an estimated \$87,000 a quarter, she said. Baker also noted that 85 colleges in 10 states and Ontario, Canada, are now members of the Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources and that CCCOER's web site now lists more than 200 open textbooks for community college use. She said CCCOER would continue to offer training on how to use open educational resources and planned to work closely with students to inform faculty about the benefits of OER. Baker's presentation may be seen at: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board_presentations

Trustee Plotkin said he never imagined the district could progress as far as it has in the past year and credited Baker's leadership. Trustees Bechtel and Casas Frier thanked Plotkin and Kanter for their contributions. Plotkin said the congressional office of U.S. Rep. **Zoe Lofgren** is gathering background about the district's OER efforts to present to the Obama administration and appropriate members of Congress.

ARCC presentation: Trustees accepted the annual Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC) presented by **Bob Barr**, executive director of institutional research. These reports, compiled by the state chancellor's office and presented to the California Legislature, are intended to encourage community colleges to improve student outcomes by showing how each college's performance compares to peer institutions with the most statistically similar attributes. Barr said both Foothill and De Anza generally show high achievement compared to their peer institutions. President Miner noted that both colleges are working hard to improve student success through the Basic Skills Initiative, but it is challenging for any college to scale up successful programs, such as Pass the Torch and Math My Way at Foothill, to a larger group. See the presentation at: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board_presentations

Annual Measure C report: Trustees accepted the annual report on the district's Measure C bond program presented by **Dexter Dawes**, chairman of the Measure C Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. Dawes said the committee had performed its duties in accordance with Proposition 39 and the California constitution and had found no discrepancies in how Measure C monies are being used. Although a high percentage of expenditures were used for overhead in

the early stages of the program, this was expected, he said, and close scrutiny of the overhead account raised no red flags. Dawes said the committee is pleased with the cooperation it has received from the chancellor and staff. The report may be viewed at: <http://www.measurec.fhda.edu/> under Citizens Bond Oversight Committee.

Budget update: In response to a question from Trustee Swenson, Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Andy Dunn** said it was too early to know whether California community colleges would benefit from the federal stimulus package. Hansen, speaking on behalf of the Faculty Association, urged the district to work aggressively to eliminate its existing \$11 million structural deficit. He urged the district to curtail all new hiring to preserve jobs and spoke against use of a \$6 million medical benefits savings fund and employee concessions in health benefits to balance the district's budget.

Sustainability update: **Charles Allen**, executive director of facilities, operations and construction management, and college sustainability leaders presented progress reports on implementing the district's new sustainability plan. Allen said the district had taken many positive steps toward sustainability between 1991 and 2006, but had reached a plateau and is now working on new efforts. The presentations may be seen at: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board_presentations

During the presentation, **Donna Jones-Dulin**, associate vice president of educational resources and college operations at De Anza, reviewed energy-savings steps the campus is taking under Measure C, including retrofitting buildings with double-paned windows and installing low-flow toilets, faucets with sensors, and a weather-responsive irrigation system. De Anza has developed its own sustainability management plan and is participating in the pilot program of STARS, the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System, which employs common standards of management. She said the campus is pursuing LEED silver certification for the new Visual and Performing Arts Center (VPAC) and plans to build the Mediated Learning Center to LEED platinum standards, the highest rating. Student Trustee Ahrens noted that the campus is still selling bottled water in the dining hall and vending machines.

Brenda Visas Davis, director of facilities and special projects at Foothill, said a newly formed committee is developing a campus sustainability management plan and reported on new campus initiatives. These include having Transition to Work students gather recycled paper to make into scratch pads, which are then distributed back to the campus; recycling coffee grounds; and using ecologically sound food containers in the dining hall. She noted that the Associated Students of Foothill College is using student funds to purchase biodegradable forks.

HUMAN RESOURCES/PERSONNEL

Trustees approved the appointment of **Letha Jeanpierre**, dean of business and computer systems, as interim vice president of educational resources and college operations at De Anza effective Feb. 3 through June 30, 2009.

The board approved professional growth awards for **Darya Gilani** in the faculty and staff division at Foothill, and **Joy Lu** in business and computer systems and **Angelita Pabros** in counseling at De Anza.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, March 2, 2009, in the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board Room. The agenda is being posted at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/agenda. In addition, a special meeting has been called for Monday, March 12 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*.