



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees

Betsy Bechtel • Pearl Cheng • Laura Casas Frier • Bruce Swenson • Erica Anderson • Isabelle Barrientos Vargas

Board meeting of Aug. 31, 2009

BOARD BUSINESS

Appointment of new trustee: Trustees interviewed four finalists and unanimously selected **Joan C. Barram** to fill the board vacancy created by **Hal Plotkin's** resignation. Board President **Betsy Bechtel** commented on the impressive credentials of all the finalists, but said Barram's 20-year relationship with the district "counts for a lot." Barram is a former president of the **Foothill-De Anza Foundation** board, on which she served for many years, and spent more than a decade on the **Cupertino Union School District** Board of Education. The other finalists were **Richard B. Bernhardt**; **Jeannie Conner**, and **Anita Manwani-Bhagat**, current foundation board president. De Anza Student Trustee **Isabelle Barrientos Vargas** cast her advisory vote for Manwani-Bhagat. Interim Chancellor **Mike Brandy** administered the oath of office to Barram, and she was seated immediately. Barram said she is honored to serve and will do her best to support the district's commitment to excellence and opportunity for all.

REPORTS AND HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT THE AGENDA

Public comment: Before the board voted on a new trustee, member of the public **Ellen Wheeler** spoke in favor of Conner. After Barram was seated, **Terry Terman**, representing the League of Women Voters, urged the board to consider whether it is appropriate to have two trustees on the chancellor search committee. Earlier this year, Barram and Manwani-Bhagat were appointed to the committee as public representatives. The board took the matter under consideration.

Board comment: President Bechtel reported that the chancellor search committee would meet in September after the application period closes on Sept. 21.

Trustee **Laura Casas Frier**, board liaison to the Foothill-De Anza Foundation, reported that the foundation is working on a variety of revenue-generating

activities in response to donations being significantly decreased. She noted that discussions are under way about creating a grants office to facilitate more grants for the colleges and the district.

Staff comment: Sitting in for De Anza President **Brian Murphy**, Vice President of Instruction **Christina Espinosa-Pieb** reported that approximately 8,000 students were on waiting lists for classes three weeks before the start of the quarter. The strong demand is distributed among physical sciences, mathematics and engineering; language arts; and social sciences and humanities. "We are getting emails from desperate students and their parents to get into courses," she said, "but we are simply sold out."

Foothill President **Judy Miner** reported that Foothill was showing a 22 percent increase in student headcount over the prior year, and a 20 increase in weekly student contact hours (WSCH). She attributed some of the record demand to enrollment restrictions and fee increases for UC and CSU. She also reported that **Eugene Block**, chancellor of **UCLA** and a graduate of Foothill, would be visiting the college Sept. 14 to discuss transfer issues. She acknowledged the work of **Peter Murray**, dean of the Division of Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering (PSME), in securing a \$500,000 grant to train nanotechnology technicians in cooperation with **Stanford University, San Jose State University** and **UC Santa Cruz** at the NASA Ames Research Park. Finally, Miner noted that the Los Altos Library had recently dedicated **The Virginia Whipple Collection**, made up of 300 courses on CD and DVD taught leading college and university faculty, part of The Learning Company's Great Courses series. The collection is named in honor of the library's leading benefactor.

Interim Chancellor Brandy reported that he had recently met with UCSC Chancellor **George Blumenthal** to discuss barriers to transfer and creation with UCSC of mentorship and internship programs for Foothill-De Anza students. In response to a question from Trustee **Bruce Swenson**, Brandy said that since UC is restricting freshman enrollment, UC Santa Cruz is taking steps to ensure that its junior and senior classes will be full.

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Budget hearing: Interim Chancellor Brandy, Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Andy Dunn** and Budget Director **Bernata Slater** presented the district's 2009-10 budget for public hearing before adoption.

The district is facing deep funding reductions. Revenue from the state was cut by more than \$14 million in 2009-10, including \$6.4 million in General Fund reductions and \$7.8 million in cuts to categorical programs. The district was

able to cut \$2.6 million in expenses by reducing course offerings for 2009-10. But that still leaves an ongoing General Fund deficit of \$3.8 million this year, which is being covered by one-time funds. Even with fewer employees, the district's cumulative deficit is expected to grow to at least \$8.1 million by 2010-11, Brandy said.

Foothill-De Anza is fortunate to have entered 2009-10 with substantial fund balances and savings. This money will be used to delay some of the cuts to categorical programs and to create two new district funds. One fund would be used to phase in rate increases in health benefit plans and the other would protect the staff from further reductions in 2010-11. Federal backfill funding will be minimal, Brandy said, because the totals for California are much lower than expected. A wild card is the possibility of mid-year budget cuts if state revenues continue to decline.

Brandy thanked Slater and Dunn for their work in preparing the budget. Slater acknowledged the **Foothill Print Shop**, which prepared the budget for publication. Trustees are expected to adopt the budget at their Sept. 14 meeting.

Consultant contracts: Responding to a question by Trustee Casas Frier, Vice President of Technology **Fred Sherman** described the proposed role of consultant **Katherine Boshkoff** in facilitating, organizing and writing the district's strategic plan. The executive director of institutional research would ordinarily handle the work, but that position was recently vacated by the retirement of the **Bob Barr**. De Anza's **Andrew LaManque** is acting as executive director, but his institutional researcher position at De Anza is vacant and he still has responsibilities there. The district's strategic plan is important to set future direction and help the colleges with the accreditation process, Sherman said. Boshkoff's position is being funded with "float" funds, which accrue when employees leave the district. Boshkoff, who prepared De Anza's strategic plan, is very knowledgeable about the district and strategic planning, Sherman said. Trustees approved a contract with her that is not to exceed \$46,500.

Trustees also approved a contract, at a maximum cost of \$92,800, with **Michael Scutero** for consulting services in relation to a grant funded by the **Economic and Workforce Development Program of the California Community Colleges**. Scutero, who is a subject matter expert, will perform functions associated with a grant for "process improvement for manufacturing" with Olympus Medical Equipment Services America and the De Anza College Center for Applied Competitive Technologies.

Fleet vehicle purchase: The board approved spending \$1.02 million in Measure C funds to buy vehicles. Some 20 percent of the district's vehicles will be powered by alternative fuels (biodiesel, hybrid, electric and compressed natural gas/liquefied petroleum gas) after the purchase, compared to 2 percent now.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL

Trustees approved employment of **Bruce Whistler** as director of the statewide Workplace Learning Initiative, which will be based at Foothill College, starting Oct. 1. Among other things, Whistler will work to secure federal grants for workforce and economic development.

The board approved the promotion of **Nicolae Muntean** from postal services assistant to printing services coordinator at Foothill College, and the reclassification of **Elvia Navarro** in Central Services from financial analyst to senior accounting technician.

Trustees approved Professional Growth Awards for the following employees:
At Foothill, **Viktoriya Kolesnikova**, program coordinator in International and Distance Learning, and **Wen Jun Xu**, accounting assistant in Educational Resources and Instruction;
At De Anza, **Karen Hunter**, financial aid assistant in the office of the vice president of student services, and **Ann Leever**, instructional associate in Academic Services; and
At Central Services, **Victor Baliguat**, **Kamal Chedid** and **Terrance Rowe**, workstation and systems support technicians in ETS; **Mahmood Hasan**, system and network programmer in ETS; **Kristine Lestini**, program coordinator in Human Resources; and **Anna Luna**, human resources technician in Human Resources.

The board approved the following new part-time faculty for Fall 2009: **Yvette D. Butterworth** in PSME, **Alison I. Dailey** and **Scott S. Goldstone** in language arts, and **Liz N. Roberts** in business and social sciences, all at Foothill, and **Ronald D. Ward** in physical education at De Anza.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. 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/.

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. This publication is not the official minutes. For more comprehensive information, you may consult the official minutes, which generally are available at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes after their approval at the subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at bartindalebecky@fhda.edu or at extension 6107, with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.