



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
***District Board Room***  
**Wednesday, March 25, 2009**  
**5:00 – 6:30 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Adams, Barker, Cheng, Dubin, Giridharadas Kanter, Krause, Korol, Kung, Levy, McKenna, Manwani Bhagat, Miner, Murphy, Neiman, Smithwick, Swift, Torgersen

**Board Members Absent:** Agbayani, Berghoff, Kernan, Miner, Seeley, Swenson

**Staff:** Dirking, Fox Ellison, Woodworth

**Minutes**

**Welcome & Introductions**

- Anita welcomed the board

**Approval of Minutes**

- *Action: Board approved*

**Finance Committee Report**

- Finance Committee will meet with Commonfund representative on April 16 to discuss Foundation investments.
- Dubin reported year-to-date return at -18%.
- The Foundation is trying to hold expense reductions at \$50,000 for the year.

**Board Development Report**

- Korol reported that Foundation has recruited great new board members. There is a need to recruit a member with strong institutional investment background to augment the Finance Committee.
- Ben Dubin is finishing his second term and thus must step off the board. But, he has expressed interest in remaining on the Finance Committee.

**Chancellor and Presidents' Reports**

**Chancellor:**

- Kanter reported a \$500,000 grant from the Hewlett Foundation for the Open Textbook Project – so far the project involves 93 colleges and creating 250 open text books. As an example, she anticipates that the program would save De Anza students about \$85,000 each year in textbook costs when it is fully implemented.
- Cheng reported on the March 13 NASA Research Park event (partnering with UC, Carnegie Mellon West, Santa Clara University and San Jose State). She commented on Martha's excellent presentation, and mentioned that she was the only one who focused on the students! For more info see: <http://deliveringthefuture.org>.

- Martha highlighted the Aurora Project which has been adopted by 24 Community Colleges to send math and science students into high schools and middle schools to assist teachers. The program helps promote interest in becoming teachers, and helps the participating students transfer to UC and CSU

### **President's Report: De Anza**

- Murphy reported on the opening celebration activities for the Visual & Performing Arts Center at De Anza College. The Friday morning event was well attended, despite the gray skies. The evening reception was attended by 125 guests, followed by a piano recital by Howard Na, a former student of a De Anza music teacher. The Saturday event featured the De Anza Wind Ensemble and Sunday's activity featured an Indian dance group. Both events were excellent and well attended.
- De Anza student success story – Sabrina who escaped Bosnia for Sweden, found De Anza on the Internet, wrote a graphic novel for her Yale application and was accepted (her Bosnian grandmother asked "what's a Yale?").
- Demand for classes is very high – 1,400 were waitlisted in math alone because of insufficient numbers of rooms and faculty to meet increased demand.
- The college and the district have sufficient cash reserves for one year, but significant budget deficits are requiring that the district take action now to reduce costs. The news from the state is going from bad to worse.
- Kanter mentioned that President Obama's stimulus package has no direct allocation to Community Colleges, but we are partnering with a number of programs such as NOVA Workforce Board to augment projects.
- Murphy reported that over 3,000 students from across the state marched on Sacramento – our district was well represented by 250 De Anza and 60 Foothill students. DASB President Terrell Sterling organized meetings with Joe Simitian and Ira Ruskin.

### **President's Report: Foothill**

- Miner reported that Iris Korol alerted us to a \$15,000 grant opportunity through Palo Alto Rotary, for funding book vouchers for our most needy students. The grant was augmented with funds from the Palo Alto Weekly bringing the total up to \$22,000. Our gratitude to Iris for identifying the grant, and kudos to Laura for working with the EOPS office and for developing the grant proposal.

### **Commission Reports**

#### **De Anza Commission:**

- Barker reported that the Night of Magic will be scaled back event this year because of the economic downturn. A committee is being formed to make sure that it will be just as fun

#### **Foothill Commission:**

- Adams reported the FH Commission is also adopting a streamlined plan for the Summer Gala, with appetizers and wine instead of expensive sit-down dinner. The commission is attempting to be more strategic and more inclusive.
- FH Commissioner (and Latvian refugee) Gisela Zebroski will present her novel, "The Baroness" as part of the Foothill Author Series.
- Commissioners will distribute book vouchers, using funds raised at last year's Gala.

### **Fundraising/Chancellor's Circle Report**

- Kathy Torgersen distributed sample Chancellor's Circle packets designed to assist board members with solicitations. She will meet with board members one-on-one to hand out the real packets as well as to discuss and practice asking for the Chancellor's Circle.
- **Action:** Torgersen to coordinate prospect names and solicitation efforts. Dubin suggested sending these materials to everyone via email and also posting them online.

### **Fundraising Report:**

- Fox Ellison reported on efforts to develop the Corporate Partners program, A recent meeting with Ned Barnholt sparked the idea of surveying local corporations to arrive a numbers of employees who have been impacted by Foothill and De Anza colleges.
  - Initial efforts will target Adobe, Applied Materials, HP, Cisco, and Lockheed to survey their employees.
  - Lourdes Parent is a district researcher who can create and manage the survey.

### **Alumni Report:**

- Giridharadas reported work on the new online newsletter that will go out to 4000 alumni contacts to create engagement. We will not ask for support in the early stages.
- Since we don't have staff to dedicate to alumni initiatives, we will try to use existing campus events to bring alumni back to the colleges.
- Fox-Ellison reported we're working with Facebook as well, through a contact of Anita's, to develop alumni contact.
- Kanter suggested that we could get help working on alumni projects from Phi Theta Kappa students on each campus.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:  
BOARD RETREAT MAY 20, 2009 2:00 – 6:00 PM  
LOCATION: HIDDEN VILLA ~ DANA Center**

### **Upcoming Events / Save the Date:**

May 20, 2009 – Board Retreat  
June 26, 2009 – Foothill College Graduation  
June 27, 2009 – De Anza College Graduation  
July 26, 2009 – Foothill Summer Gala