

Board meeting of July 2, 2012

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees approved or reviewed:

- Board priorities for 2012-13
- Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee appointments
- Construction management contracts
- Progress of a joint labor-management committee
- Retirements, training stipends, new hires, promotions

FOUNDATION REPORT

Trustee **Pearl Cheng** reported on the June 27 meeting of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation Board of Directors. She noted that outgoing president **Dianne McKenna** has been succeeded by venture capitalist **Ben Dubin**, and that **Holly Wong Agbayani** is serving as vice president, **Martin Neiman** as treasurer and **Kathy Torgersen** as secretary. Six accomplished community members have joined the board, she said, and the foundation's strategic plan is coming together in pursuit of some ambitious goals. (To learn about the new board members, see the story at: <http://cupertino.patch.com/articles/foothill-de-anza-foundation-welcomes-six-new-board-members>)

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Surplus computers: Trustees authorized donation to De Anza's Occupational Training Institute of 107 district-owned computers that have been replaced with new equipment. The computers will be refurbished as part of an employment-training program and donated as part of a scholarship program to financially needy students.

Board priorities: The board discussed priorities for 2012-13. Among previously identified priorities are keeping the focus on student access and success; ensuring that district facilities are modern and effective learning and working spaces; maintaining fiscal stability and seeking alternative revenue sources; and ensuring that planning is integrated and progressing. Other ongoing priorities include community relations and outreach; legislative advocacy; institutional research; pedagogical excellence; technology resources; and representation in trustee organizations.

Board members suggested several additions. Trustees **Bruce Swenson** requested additions related to priorities for budgeting and negotiations, including having a structurally balanced budget. Trustee **Betsy Bechtel** urged the inclusion of ways to operate more efficiently. President **Joan Barram** requested adding the board's support for Student Success Task Force recommendations if state funding is available and

adding something related to encouraging use of instructional technology and online learning. Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** suggested inclusion of student support services.

Learn more about the board's priorities and strategies for implementing them by visiting http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/ArchivedAgendas. Click on the link for July 2, 2012 to download the board packet, then look for Item 7, Board Priorities.

Board self-evaluation: Trustees reviewed the results of the annual board self-evaluation, produced by compiling trustees' responses to a questionnaire. Board President Barram called it "not particularly edifying." She and the chancellor said that next year, the questionnaire will be sent to a broader group for feedback on the board, including the Chancellor's Advisory Council.

Bond oversight appointments: The board appointed three members of the Measure C Citizens Bond Oversight Committee whose terms were expiring to second terms of two years. The reappointed members are **Robert Lancefield**, taxpayer's association representative; **David Bergman**, business organization representative; and **Dudley Andersen**, at-large member.

Reduction in classified service: Trustees authorized the elimination of three vacant positions at De Anza: an instructional support technician, a real-time captioner, and a sign language interpreter.

Biodiesel tanks: Trustees approved a contract award to Balch Petroleum Contractors and Builders for purchase and installation of two biodiesel fuel tanks, one each at Foothill and De Anza plant services, to be used for fueling of district vehicles. This vegetable oil- or animal fat-based diesel fuel is made from renewable sources and burns cleaner than petroleum-based fuel

Construction management contracts: The board approved a one-year extension, through June 30, 2012, with Gilbane Building Co. for Measure E program and construction management, at the same hourly rate as in the past three contract years. Trustees also approved a one-year contract extension through June 20, 2013, with Gilbane-MAAS Companies for design, construction and project management support for the Measure C bond program.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Administrator & faculty retirements: Trustees approved the retirements of **Fred Sherman**, vice chancellor of technology, effective Aug. 30; **Marilyn Williams**, manager of custodial operations, effective Dec. 28; and **Kurt Gravenhorst**, Language Arts instructor at Foothill College, effective June 28, under Article 19 of the Faculty Association agreement.

Faculty training and retraining: The board approved training/retraining stipends for the following faculty members as provided under the Faculty Association agreement – at Foothill, **Jordana Finnegan** and **Natalia Menendez** in Language Arts, **Fatimah Jinnah** in Counseling, **LaDawn Langman Meade** in PSME, **Allison Lenkeit Meezan** in Geography, **Voltaire Villanueva** in Counseling and **William Ziegenhorn** in History; at De Anza, **Alex Giardino**, **Steve Howland** and **Julie Pesano** in Language Arts, **Cecilia Hui** in Learning Resources/Library and **Cynthia Lee-Klawender** in CIS.

Faculty employment: The board approved employment at De Anza for Creative Arts instructor **Rocky Lewycky**, effective Sept. 20.

Promotions: The board ratified a promotion for **Cathleen Monsell** to division administrative assistant in PSME at De Anza.

Classified employment & new positions: Trustees ratified the employment of **Jean McCarron** as academic services technician in Instruction at Foothill, effective July 2

New positions: Trustees approved creation of a new position, counseling services specialist at Foothill.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comments: Foothill dental hygiene instructor **Ken Horowitz**, speaking as a member of the public, commented on Foothill-De Anza faculty salaries posted on the Public Employees Salary Database maintained by the Contra Costa Times and San Jose Mercury News. He questioned changes in load factors over the year that have resulted in at least 50 faculty members earning \$48,000 or more in "other pay" beyond their base salaries during a budget crisis, primarily from teaching overload classes.

Staff comments: Foothill Classified Senate President **Erin Clifford Ortiz** commented on the statewide involvement of Foothill Classified Senate members. She noted that **Maureen Chenoweth**, Foothill's Transfer Center coordinator, co-chaired the 20th annual Classified Leadership Institute in June as president-elect of the California Community Colleges Classified Senate, and **Karen Smith**, Foothill senior library technician who is the statewide senate's vice president for Northern California, served as master of ceremonies for the institute's 20th anniversary banquet. She also announced the officers who are serving with her on the Foothill Classified Senate this year: **Roberto Sias**, president-elect; Karen Smith, secretary; and **Sherri Mines**, treasurer.

Presidents' comments: Foothill College Vice President **John Mummert**, sitting in for the president, commented on end-of-the-year celebrations and the amazing stories one hears about how students meet their goals. He also took note of the many construction fences dotting the campus, signaling the start of several summer improvement projects.

De Anza President **Brian Murphy** expressed his appreciation to Fremont Union High School District and its staff for welcoming De Anza to Homestead High School for the college's commencement exercises while the stadium is being renovated. He reported that De Anza completed its preliminary budgeting process last week and that the proposed reductions will be reviewed over the summer. He said the "worst case" cuts being proposed would mean "a terrifying decimation of our colleges." Fortunately, he said, De Anza students are planning a strong fall organizing campaign regarding the governor's tax initiative. Fortunately, he said, De Anza students are planning a strong fall organizing campaign to protect higher education from additional cuts.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor **Linda Thor** reported that the joint labor-management committee she convened, the Budget Rebalancing Options Committee (BROC), met twice for half a day and would meet again on July 10 for an all-day session.

The group has identified dozens of options in three areas – cost reduction, efficiency measures and revenue enhancement – and prioritized the top 20, which are being evaluated for their fiscal impact. On July 10, participants will review the data and rate, weigh and evaluate the recommended priorities. Input from the committee will be presented to the board along with preliminary recommendations for budget cuts from the colleges and Central Services at an Aug. 27 budget study session.

Participating on the committee are representatives of collective bargaining groups, confidential and management association employees as well as college vice presidents and chancellor's cabinet members. Chancellor Thor said she is pleased with the progress BROOC has made in such a short period and thanked employee group representatives who have committed their time to help the district find solutions to its fiscal challenges.

Trustee comments: De Anza Student Trustee **Vince Mendoza** reported on the progress being made in the state Legislature on the Middle Class Scholarship Act, which he said would close a corporate tax loophole to lighten the load for middle-class families of students pursuing a four-year degree. Foothill Student Trustee **Antonia Zavala** reported on a new summer bridge math program to help 90 Foothill-bound students who struggled with math in high school brush up on their math skills. The program begins July 9 and includes math tutoring and a counseling class, Introduction to College. She said she is helping coordinate the annual Bay Area Gardeners Foundation fundraising dinner July 28 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City, featuring guest speaker Dolores Huerta. The non-profit Gardeners Foundation (<http://www.bagf.org>) provides financial support to economically disadvantaged students and promotes higher educational attainment.

Trustee Bechtel reported on meeting with De Anza Student Trustee Mendoza, who she is mentoring, and said they plan to meet on a regular basis. She expressed her admiration for the students who were celebrated at various year-end events, including the colleges' commencement ceremonies. She encouraged fellow board members to look at the Bay Area Public Employees Salary Database web site if they had not done so already.

Trustee Casas Frier said the inspirational stories shared by students at year-end events are testimony to the help and support they receive from Foothill-De Anza faculty and staff. Board President Barram commented on the enthusiasm of parents and families who attended the commencements ceremonies. When De Anza's keynote speaker U.S. Rep. Mike Honda asked how many in the Class of 2012 were first in their family to graduate from college, she said that many hands shot up. "This is why we're here," she said. "This is what it's all about."

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, **Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. in the district Board Room**. Agendas generally are posted 72 hours in advance at: http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/agenda/. Please check the agenda to verify time and location of the meeting.

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. This publication is not the official minutes. The official minutes are available at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes after their approval at a subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at bartindalebecky@fhda.edu or (650) 949-6107 with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.