



FOOTHILL-DE ANZA  
Community College District

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Trustees Betsy Bechtel • Pearl Cheng • Laura Casas Frier • Joan Barram • Bruce Swenson • Emily Kinner • Stephanie McGee

### Board meeting of Oct. 3, 2011

#### THE HEADLINES

##### The Board of Trustees approved or ratified:

- An agreement to acquire land for the Onizuka education center
- Design services for Flint and Stelling parking structure renovations
- New hires and a professional growth award

##### Trustees learned about:

- Recommendations of the statewide Task Force on Student Success
- Faculty, staff and student accomplishments
- Award of a \$2 million federal grant

#### INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

**Onizuka education center:** Trustees approved a memorandum of agreement with Sunnyvale to acquire property at the decommissioned Onizuka Air Force Station to house a state-of-the-art education center. The agreement spells out the terms and conditions for the district to acquire nine acres of land at Onizuka through a public benefit conveyance (PBC) process. A PBC sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education would allow the district to acquire the land at no cost. Measure C funds would be used to demolish existing facilities and build a new center on the site. The district currently pays close to \$1 million a year to lease education center space in Palo Alto. The education center would relocate to Onizuka, relieving the district of lease payments. After 30 years of operating a center at Onizuka rent-free, the district would gain full title to the land.

Sunnyvale is the local redevelopment authority for Onizuka. The Sunnyvale City Council, sitting as the redevelopment authority, reviewed the proposed memorandum of agreement this week and is expected to approve an amended reuse plan shortly, following completion of a required environmental review.

Trustees authorized the district to move forward with hiring an environmental consultant to prepare California Environmental Quality Act documents for the new center.

**Parking garage renovations:** Trustees approved agreements with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger for design services for restoration of the Stelling and Flint Center parking structures at De Anza. The consultant will determine what work needs to be done and how best to do it for the Flint Center garage and will recommend preventive maintenance on the Stelling garage. Proceeds from Measures E and C bonds will fund the work.

## HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

**New hires:** Trustees ratified the hiring of instructor **Debra Dobosz** and interim division dean **Anita Muthyala-Kandula**, both in the Biological Health & Environmental Sciences Division at De Anza.

**Professional growth awards:** Trustees approved a professional growth award for HVAC journeyman **Leo Contreras** in Central Services.

## REPORTS & HEARING OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

**Student comments:** Returning Foothill and De Anza student **William Walker** suggested that the colleges create a streamlined process to help students find work, perhaps by developing a centralized web site to match students with jobs. Currently, he said, students must contact individual departments to apply for on-campus employment. Foothill student **Siobhan Rhea-Surraco** spoke about the growing need for gerontology education and said she would like to work with the board to reinstate Foothill's gerontology program.

**Staff comments:** Foothill Academic Senate President **Dolores Davison** reported on faculty activities. She said that Foothill political science instructor **Meredith Heiser** had taken part in a summer institute through the Asian Studies Development Program at the University of Hawaii and would offer an honors course in Asian studies in political science this spring. She reported that instructor **Sam Connell's** work in forensic anthropology has been recognized in a new edition of a physical anthropology textbook, and that he is currently conducting training at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command's Forensic Science Academy in Hawaii on how to identify the remains of military service members who are missing as a result of the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen** reported on the work of the California Community Colleges' Task Force on Student Success, on which he served. He said it is important for the task force to receive feedback on the draft recommendations before they are finalized and presented to the Legislature next year, and urged attendance at some of the meetings being held around the state at which the recommendations will be discussed. Read the recommendations at:

<http://www.cccco.edu/ChancellorsOffice/TaskForceonStudentSuccess/tabid/1894/Default.aspx>

**Trustees' comments:** Foothill Student Trustee **Stephanie McGee** reported on Welcome Week activities and noted that the upcoming College Hour would focus on political awareness, including voter registration. She said student government leaders are participating in a leadership retreat on Oct. 11. De Anza Student Trustee **Emily Kinner** reported that more some 3,500 students had received EcoPass stickers by the end of last week and that all 10 campus bicycles have been rented. She reported on her attendance at various meetings and noted that she will conduct a workshop Oct. 16 on achieving social justice through sustainability at UC Berkeley and is serving as liaison to the committee on strategic planning for the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

Trustee **Laura Casas Frier** reported on attending the scholarship awards luncheon of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Santa Clara County. Two Foothill-De Anza students were among those honored — Foothill's **Rachel Reese**, a mother of four who

has returned to school, and De Anza's **Yasmin Rios**. She also presented a summary of issues discussed at the most recent meeting of the board of California Community Colleges Trustees. These included linking eligibility for BOG waivers to the number of units a student takes, use of common assessment, and transfer model curriculum. Trustee Casas Frier commented on litigation against several community college districts over the California Voting Rights Act and suggested a discussion on the topic at an upcoming board meeting.

**Presidents' comments:** President **Brian Murphy** invited the board to an opening reception at 7 p.m. Oct. 6 at De Anza's California History Center for a new traveling exhibit, "Wherever There's a Fight", on the history of civil liberties and the meaning of democracy in California. The reception is free and open to the public and the exhibit runs through Dec. 2. President Murphy reported on plans for the Nov. 4 launch in New York of the Democracy Commitment, at a reception hosted by The New York Times. The Democracy Commitment now has 60 signatory colleges and a \$40,000 grant from the Rappaport Foundation to help fund a national coordinator position. He also shared the good news that De Anza has received a five-year, \$2 million federal grant for its work with Asian American and Native Pacific Islander students based on the success of a two-year program funded with an inaugural federal grant awarded in 2008. He congratulated project director **Mae Lee**, staff development coordinator **Jim Nguyen**, Associate Vice President of Instruction **Rowena Tomaneng** and English instructor **Karen Chow** for their good work and expressed appreciation for the support of U.S. Rep. **Mike Honda**.

**Chancellor's comments:** Chancellor Linda Thor thanked board members **Pearl Cheng**, **Bruce Swenson** and De Anza Student Trustee Kinner for attending the district's Opening Day presentation. She reported that as of Monday, Oct. 3, fall enrollment as measured by weekly student contact hours was up 1 percent at De Anza and was holding even with last year at Foothill, which is what the district needs to meet its budget targets. She expressed appreciation for the work of De Anza art instructor **Bill Geisinger** who for 20 years has judged Foothill-De Anza entries in the national League for Innovation Student Art Competition. She reported that Foothill-De Anza would host the League's board meeting in the spring of 2013.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, Nov. 7, 2011, 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/](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. For more comprehensive information, you may consult the official minutes, which are available at [http://www.fhda.edu/about\\_us/board/minutes](http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes) after their approval at a subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at [bartindalebecky@fhda.edu](mailto:bartindalebecky@fhda.edu) or (650) 949-6107 with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.