



From the District Public Information Office

Budget savings benefit district

The governing board voted 4-0 (**Rick Alexander** absent) to earmark funds in the 2009-2010 budget from budget savings throughout the district. Vice Chancellor-Business Services **Sue Rearic** explained that the savings were achieved from operational cuts in 2008-2009 that included reductions in travel, hiring, tutoring services and supply purchases. The savings are specifically earmarked and go into special accounts to be spent only as designated: \$1 million to help fund employee benefits; \$1.1 million to help fund step/column and longevity pay increases; and \$383,969 to cover student receivables until the payments are actually received.



Trustee **Greg Barr** said the Districtwide Strategic Planning and Budget Council expressed concerns about transparency regarding this spending, and wanted to bring these three items specifically before the board and the public to show exactly where the accrued savings from the previous budget year would be spent. **Barr** said funds are being spent in the proper place for the district's employees. He pledged that the board would continue to provide transparency on budget items.

Grossmont College Parking Structure Opens

The dedication of the much anticipated parking structure at Grossmont College took place August 17. Governing board members commended everyone involved in staging the well attended event. Board President **Bill Garrett** noted the presence of elected officials from El Cajon, Santee, and San Diego. Student trustees **Chuck Taylor**, Cuyamaca College, and **Christopher Enders**, Grossmont College, were touched to find their names on the dedication plaque.



Cristina Chiriboga given warm sendoff

Interim Cuyamaca College President **Cristina Chiriboga** received the sincere thanks and well wishes of the governing board, faculty and staff members present at the last board meeting before her retirement from the district. Board President **Bill Garrett** said he has always appreciated the positive way **Chiriboga** looked at all issues, and said the district appreciates her outstanding leadership and service.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Michael Wangler** said he has respected and valued all that **Chiriboga** has done for the college in 14 years, and noted that in many ways she has shaped what the college is today.



*Bill Garrett and
Cristina Chiriboga*

District Technology report

Henry Eimstad, Interim Senior Director, Information Systems, provided an update to the governing board on district technology initiatives many of which are funded through Prop. R bond funds.

Among recent accomplishments: upgrading the Blackboard course management system to support online learning; implementing a SARS alert system and selection of a new emergency notification system using text, phone and e-mail; and adding an online tuition payment plan. **Eimstad** reported 800 students have already signed up for this new service.

Grossmont Convocation spirited

Board members and staff representatives commented on the positive, upbeat spirit of this year's Grossmont College convocation. Despite significant challenges ahead, attendees were in good spirits. Trustee **Deanna Weeks** noted the enthusiasm and called the event "inspirational" and that she was looking forward to Cuyamaca's convocation the next day.

Reports from the Board

Trustee **Deanna Weeks** and Trustee **Greg Barr** joined the celebration at the General Motors ASEP program graduation at Cuyamaca College.

Trustee **Mary Kay Rosinski** commended everyone involved in the many district events during the past month.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Christopher Enders** reported on the statewide student trustee workshop in San Francisco, noting that he learned a lot.

Governing Board President **Bill Garrett** noted the importance of the meeting with the Classified Senate and the need to support each other during difficult challenges ahead.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor **Cindy L. Miles** commended coordination efforts between the two colleges in many areas, including collaboration on a marketing ad campaign in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*; online tutorials; the Classified Senate retreat; and a series of workshops and meetings between the two college foundations.

Chancellor **Miles** highlighted activities at Cuyamaca College including the recent General Motors ASEP graduation; Pacific Coast Conference Championship wins by both the men's and women's soccer teams; success providing training to current or potential faculty members through the CTE Teacher Preparation Pipeline Grant Program; and hosting the visit of gubernatorial candidate **Meg Whitman**.

Chancellor **Miles** reported achievements at Grossmont College. The nursing program won national accreditation through 2013; the first Youth Basketball Camp was a success; and the Grossmont College Foundation received \$13,500 from the Grossmont Healthcare District for scholarships.

Trustee **Rick Alexander** and Chancellor **Miles** attended the Grossmont EOPS summer institute graduation. **Miles** said the program for students overcoming many life challenges truly touches lives.

The Budget Task Force has completed its work. The final report verified the accuracy of the district's numbers. The GCCCD adoption budget will be discussed in detail at the September governing board meeting. "We're working through these hard challenges," said Chancellor **Miles**.



Staff Reports

Mary Rider, representing American Federation of Teachers, said through communication with the Academic Senates, Administrators Association and classified group, all can work together and embrace new opportunities.

Jan Recktenwald, CSEA Chapter 707 president, discussed the recent annual statewide conference. The district sent four CSEA delegates. Members passed a balanced budget, gave direction on future legislative efforts and held a successful rally at the State Capitol.

Michael Wangler, Cuyamaca College Academic Senate president, thanked the Classified Senate for its luncheon program, saying the faculty appreciates all that members do. A joint Academic Senate meeting discussed state and local concerns. An equal employment opportunity plan will be presented at the next board meeting.

Chris Hill, Grossmont College Academic Senate president, said there was high attendance at a recent emergency preparedness session.

Debi Miller, Classified Senate president, thanked everyone for their compliments on the Classified Senate retreat.

Staff Notes

Welcome to new academic employees **Shawn Hicks**, Mathematics; and **Scott Therkalsen**, Geography, both at Grossmont College.

Calendar of Events



- *Wednesday, September 9, 11 a.m.* Career Transition Management Workshop, Grossmont College Career Center
- *Saturday, September 12, 9:30 a.m.* Grossmont College Scholarship Breakfast, Grossmont College Student Center

Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at the Student Center, Cuyamaca College.

- Adoption Budget Workshop at 3:30 p.m.
- Regular meeting Closed Session at 5 p.m.
- Regular meeting Open Session 6:30 p.m.

Public Comment

Eagle Scout **Daniel Palma** presented a thank you gift to **Tim Flood**, Director of Campus Facilities and Operations, recognizing him for his assistance with **Palma's** Eagle Scout project.



Crystal Bernier-Sudano, Grossmont College graduate and SDSU student, told governing board members she now, more than ever, appreciates the personal attention she received from staff during her time as a student at Grossmont.