The following is a summary of the highlights of the SMC Board of Trustees meeting of July 5, 2011. The Board summaries are posted at http://www.smc.edu/apps/docs.asp?Q=586.

In addition, the meeting minutes, which provide all the official actions of the Board, are posted at http://www.smc.edu/apps/Pub.asp?Q=544.

Podcasts of the meeting are available at http://www.smc.edu/itunes.

STATE BUDGET: Vice President of Business and Administration Bob Isomoto reported that the 2011-12 state budget passed June 30 and signed by Gov. Jerry Brown maintains, for community colleges, the funding cuts that were in Brown's revised May budget - $400 million reduction in apportionment, enrollment fee increase of $10 per unit to $36, $129 million in cash deferrals, and a two-year extension of categorical funding flexibility. That means, for SMC, a cut of $6.1 million with an estimated loss of full-time equivalent students (FTES) of 1,358. However, further funding cuts could occur mid-fiscal year if actual state revenues do not meet the anticipated $4 billion level, Isomoto said. In the worst-case scenario, SMC would lose an additional $1.5 million and 300 FTES.

AB 515: Senior Director of Government Relations & Institutional Communications Don Girard reported that AB 515, a bill that would allow community colleges to establish and maintain a fee-based extension program, has hit a roadblock in the State Senate but will be revived early next year. The legislation, by State Assemblymember Julia Brownley of Santa Monica, had earlier passed the State Assembly, but after a two-hour hearing in the Senate Higher Education Committee, proposed amendments to the bill were not acceptable to SMC or Brownley, he said. SMC and College of the Canyons had sought the bill to provide a "bridge solution" to the severe budget crisis that is drastically reducing class offerings at community colleges statewide. Under SMC's tentative 2011-12 budget, the winter 2012 session is eliminated and replaced with an offering of 300 self-funded courses. But with the bill's suspension, college officials say they will reconsider plans for the winter session.

2010-11 GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS: The Board received a written report and heard verbally from Director of Grants Laurie McQuay-Peninger that in 2010-11 SMC managed approximately $6.2 million through 23 grant projects funded by local, state and federal agencies. The total included 11 new awards, valued at nearly $11 million in total additional revenue over the next three to five years. The full, detailed report is in Appendix A (pages 61-66) of the Board Agenda at http://www.smc.edu/Projects/32/Trustees_Meeting_Information/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2011/7-5-2011_Agenda.pdf.

CURRICULUM: The Board received the 2010-11 Curriculum Committee Annual Report and heard verbally from committee Chair Guido L. Davis Del Piccolo and Vice Chair Georgia Lorenz on the committee's work for the last year. Among the committee's accomplishments were implementing the new state Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (Senate Bill 140); developing and launching new career technical programs, including recycling and resource management; making significant revisions in the degree and certificate programs in entertainment technology to keep up with technological changes; and developing new programs, including an Associate of Arts and certificate of achievement in public policy (currently being reviewed for state approval). The full report is

in Appendix A (pages 67-72) of the Board Agenda at
http://www.smc.edu/Projects/32/Trustees_Meeting_Information/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2011/7-5-2011_Agenda.pdf.

BOARD ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: The Board acknowledged Christine Schultz, chair of the Social Science Department, for her work to implement a new statewide process that addresses course student learning outcomes and core competency assessment. Her work resulted in SMC winning the Promising Outcomes Work and Exemplary Research Award for Outstanding General Education Assessment. A committee of student learning outcome experts and researchers from the Research and Planning Group and the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges judges this statewide competition.

LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM: The Board voted unanimously to approve an agreement with TransAmerica Service Group to offer long-term care insurance to all full- and part-time employees who work a minimum of 20 hours a week.

CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: The Board voted unanimously to appoint Barry Snell and reappoint Clarence Chapman and Bruce Sultan to fill vacancies on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

GRADUATION & "CELEBRATE AMERICA:" Senior Director of Government Relations & Institutional Communications Don Girard reported that graduation ceremonies in June were "a time of true emotion," captured in a special video produced for SMC and uploaded on the SMC Alumni Association website (http://alumni.smc.edu). "Celebrate America," SMC's Independence Day festival held June 25, was a big success with attendance of an estimated 7,000 people, he said.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: Outgoing Management Association President Al Vasquez reported that Al DeSalles, media and reprographics manager, was named 2011 Manager of the Year. He also reported that the 2011-12 association board members are Judy Neveau, president; Lisa Rose, secretary; Letty Kilian, treasurer; and Roberto Gonzalez, member at large, a newly created position. Board Chair Andrew Walzer presented Vasquez with a certificate of commendation for his one year of service as association president.

GENERAL FUND BALANCE: Vice President of Business and Administration Bob Isomoto gave a presentation on a newly established classification system for the budget's general fund balance.

CLOSED SESSION: The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept a recommendation from the Superintendent/President to suspend without pay for a period of two days (16 hours) one classified employee. This suspension was implemented beginning Wednesday (July 6, 2011).

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