

The following is a summary of the highlights of the SMC Board of Trustees meeting of July 17, 2012. Board minutes, which provide all official actions of the Board, and these Board summaries are posted at <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Pages/Trustees-Meeting-Information.aspx>.

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

SUMMER/FALL ENROLLMENT: The Board of Trustees heard a report that though classes filled quickly in summer and are doing so for fall, changes in state regulations and in SMC's wait pool policy are causing lower-than-anticipated enrollment levels when the state calculates funding for the college on a full-time equivalent student (FTEs) basis. Vice President of Enrollment Services Teresita Rodriguez said that the college believes it is running short of summer enrollment projections by 100 to 200 FTEs for two reasons. The first is that new state regulations have pushed up the deadline for student withdrawals so that more students are dropping out of classes earlier before the student enrollment "census" – on which the state bases its funding apportionment – is taken. The second reason is that a new "wait pool" policy at SMC has discouraged students from trying to crash classes, even when space becomes available. Rodriguez said the college will revisit the new "wait pool" policy to see if it needs to be adjusted.

BUDGET: Vice President of Business and Administration Bob Isomoto reported that it is estimated SMC will end the 2011-12 fiscal year with around \$14 million in reserves, down from approximately \$23 million the previous year. Under the 2012-13 state budget adopted in June, the college is receiving about the same amount of state funding as last year, but could face a mid-year cut of \$7.4 million if Gov. Jerry Brown's tax initiative on the November ballot does not pass. If California voters approve the measure, the college could receive an additional \$1.5 million in 2012-13, Isomoto reported. Regardless of whether the initiatives pass, it is anticipated that the winter session will likely have to be eliminated because of the budget cuts. He said that the Budget Committee is reviewing possible savings and revenue ideas, which will be forwarded to the District Planning & Advisory Council, and will begin looking at budget assumptions in the next month in preparation for the Board's adoption in September of a 2012-13 SMC budget. (Isomoto also noted that a preliminary calculation of SMC's percentage of salary and benefit expenditures to total expenditures is estimated at 89.9 percent – not as high as City College of San Francisco, which is facing possible closure, but well above the state average of 85 percent.)

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS: The Board voted unanimously to accept two U.S. Department of Education grants, which together total approximately \$4.5 million. The five-year, \$3.24 million Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Grant will be used to bolster support of underprepared career-technical students so they can achieve their academic and career goals. At the heart of this project will be SMC's new Teaching and Learning Center, which will offer an annual Summer Institute; quarterly seminars for all faculty; departmental workshops that target career-specific improvements in math, English and content-specific courses; and customized individual and small group support. The five-year, \$1.25 million Upward Bound grant will provide funds to assist students at Crenshaw and Venice high schools. Through the Upward Bound program, SMC will serve 60 low-income and/or first-generation college students who have demonstrated an academic need but who are motivated to complete high school and enroll in college.

CURRICULUM: The Board received the 2011-12 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. The report focused on a wide range of new courses, certificates and degrees that have been approved in 2011-12, including new certificates and Associate in Arts degrees in global studies, public policy and recycling and resource management. Mindful of rapid changes in technology, the committee also approved new courses in this area, including Introduction of Social Media Marketing, Mobile App Development, Advanced Digital Compositing and Mobile Design I. The full report is in Appendix B (pages 62-65) of the Board Agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Mtg%207-17-2012%20Agenda.pdf.

2011-12 GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS: The Board received a written report and heard verbally from Director of Grants Laurie McQuay-Peninger that in 2011-12 SMC managed approximately \$5.5 million through 21 grant projects funded by local, state and federal agencies. The total included five new awards, valued at about \$6.8 million in total additional revenue over the next few years. The full report is in Appendix A (pages 56-61) of the Board Agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Mtg%207-17-2012%20Agenda.pdf

CSEA SUCCESSOR CONTRACT: The Board voted unanimously to extend the current contract with the California School Employees Association Chapter 36, which expired July 1, for another year, through June 30, 2013. However, college officials will meet with CSEA representatives to review implementation of certain provisions of the contract.

BICYCLE CENTER: The Board heard a report that the City of Santa Monica is planning to construct a bicycle center – with bike storage, rentals and more – at the Expo light-rail station that will be built on Colorado Avenue at 17th Street. Officials say the bicycle center will help commuting SMC students get from the station to campus half a mile away. The Expo line currently runs from downtown Los Angeles to Culver City but will be extended to Santa Monica in 2015.

SEMINAR IN BEIJING: Vice President of Enrollment Services Teresita Rodriguez reported that 17 SMC employees and two trustees – Louise Jaffe and Andrew Walzer – recently spent two weeks at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing on a lecture/cultural tour of China and Inner Mongolia. The trip, arranged under the auspices of SMC's global citizenship initiative, offered the college delegation a wide range of lectures on China, as well as opportunities to explore Beijing and rural areas in Inner Mongolia.

CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: The Board voted unanimously to reappoint Todd Flora and Corin Kahn and appoint new members Katherine Reuter and Samuel Zivi to two-year terms on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

REVISION TO BOARD POLICY ON FACILITIES: The Board voted unanimously to conduct a first reading of revisions to Board Policy Sections 6335 and 6320 that put responsibility on the vice president who heads up facilities to "oversee, coordinate and

approve all facility modifications and new construction to ensure compliance with district standards, architectural specifications and code compliance.” The revisions were proposed and approved by the District Planning & Advisory Council. A second reading and final approval is expected in August.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang announced that Dean of Counseling and Retention Brenda Benson is the new president of the Management Association for 2012-13, succeeding Community Relations Director Judy Neveau. The other officers are Director of Facilities and Planning Greg Brown, vice president; Lisa Rose, District/Board of Trustees Office executive coordinator, secretary; and Letty Kilian, administrative assistant in the President’s Office, treasurer.

CELEBRATE AMERICA: Senior Director of Government Relations and Institutional Communications Don Girard reported that the 30th anniversary of “Celebrate America” – SMC’s Independence Day festival that was held June 30 – was a big success, with a large crowd, perfect weather and a spectacular 18-minute fireworks show.

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