

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Report
 Wednesday, 11/4/2015
 East Los Angeles College Recital Hall
 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park CA 91754**

Board President Svonkin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The Board promptly went into closed session and the public session reconvened at 6:00 pm. Svonkin announced the Board took no actions that needed to be reported under the Brown Act, adding that the trustees would meet again in closed session after the public meeting. Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez then introduced and administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Student Trustee Milo Anderson.

President Marvin Martinez welcomed members of the Board and the public to East Los Angeles College. He noted the 70th anniversary of East Los Angeles College, which opened its doors in 1945 on the campus of Garfield High School and announced that a number of celebrations were planned to commemorate the event. He acknowledged faculty, staff, and students from East and reported they had a great meeting with the Institutional Effectiveness and Student Success (IESS) Committee to present their accreditation report.

	
<p>Student Trustee Milo Anderson taking Oath of Office with Chancellor Rodriguez</p>	<p>Signing of the 2014-2017 Agreement Between the Los Angeles Community College District and the AFT College Staff Guild, Local 1521A</p>

AFT College Staff Guild Signing Ceremony

President Svonkin asked to move agenda item (HRD3) out of order, **the Approval of Agreement Between Los Angeles Community College District and the AFT College Staff Guild, Local 1521A**. The 2014-2017 contract for classified employees includes increases in reassigned time for the processing of grievances, professional development and retraining funds, and classified employee salaries (4.04% effective July 1, 2014 and 4.22% effective July 1, 2015). The Board voted to approve the AFT College Staff Guild 2014-2017 Contract unanimously. Vice Chancellor of Human Resources Albert Roman and AFT Staff Guild President Velma Butler introduced the administrative and classified negotiating team members, which was then followed by a contract signing ceremony.

Committee of The Whole

Board of Trustees Elections Alignment with City of Los Angeles Elections

Chancellor Rodriguez introduced Dr. Fernando Guerra, Professor of Political Science and Chicano Studies at Loyola Marymount University and Director of the Center for the Study of Los Angeles, who was recently involved in modifying the election cycle for the City of Los Angeles. Committee Chair Eng announced that due to the changes in the City's election timeline, the District was forced to confront whether to keep its current election dates, align with state and federal elections, or find an alternative date. Eng stated that the Board might take future action on based on this discussion.

Dr. Guerra gave a presentation titled ***Turnout in LACCD Elections***. Guerra explained that turnout in the Los Angeles mayoral elections has been declining since the late 1960s. He reported that the 2013 Los Angeles mayoral election, in which Eric Garcetti was elected, had one of the lowest turnouts (~23%) in recent history. After the election, the Los Angeles City Council enlisted Dr. Guerra to chair a commission to explore how to increase voter turnout. The commission met for several months and submitted a report with several recommendations. Their first recommendation was to move the city elections from March and May of odd years, to June and November of even years, to coincide with national and state races. He stressed that research overwhelmingly indicates that the number one factor to increase voter turnout is to move the election, adding this would also reduce costs.

Guerra reported that over the last three decades, voter turnout in most elections in Los Angeles has been decreasing; however, one exception has been the November presidential general election, in which turnout has ranged between 65-80%. He added that voter turnout for LACCD districtwide elections is much lower when the mayor and other officials are not running. Based on past history, Guerra predicted that if elections were held for LACDD positions only, voter turnout would be about six percent. Guerra argued that moving the Board elections to November of even years would ensure the highest turnout of voters. He predicted that another change that would increase turnout (and reduce costs) would be to end staggered terms, so that all seven trustees are elected at the same time.

However, this would require a change in state legislation since all local jurisdictions in California have staggered terms. He explained that the LACCD paid the City of Los Angeles \$2.4 million to run its Board elections. Guerra predicted that if the LACCD ran a standalone election by itself, it would cost between \$14-25 million. Another option would be to have the LACCD elections run by Los Angeles County, which would reduce the cost to about \$2 million. Svonkin mentioned that the LACCD saved about \$7 Million by eliminating the trustee runoff elections a few years ago. Guerra added that the County would pilot a touch screen voting system in 2018, which would allow for ballot consolidation, multiple languages, and the use of voting centers. He added that the County's new touch screen voting system would be fully implemented by 2020.

Dr. Guerra stated his conclusion that the Board had no choice but to move its 2019 election to 2020, and also recommended it consider moving the 2017 election to 2018. Outside Legal Counsel Michael Toy stated his legal opinion that based on Education Code and electoral regulations, the Board could pass a resolution (without having to go to the voters), to extend the terms of the trustees that ran in 2013 and 2015 until the November elections in 2018 and 2020. Hoffman asked whether it would be useful to have a citizen's committee make a recommendation to the Board in order to have more transparency. Dr. Guerra replied he doubted a committee would provide additional useful information on this issue. After several additional questions from the trustees, Chair Eng thanked Dr. Guerra for his presentation and adjourned the Committee of the Whole.

Reports from Representatives at the Resource Table

Staff Guild President Velma Butler expressed concern and confusion about the selection process for the Personnel Commissioner, asking why an ad hoc committee was not formed to make the recommendation this time. President Svonkin replied the Chancellor would follow up on Ms. Butler's concerns. East's Student Body President Roman Lopez announced upcoming food giveaways and efforts to get universal TAP cards for students. Director of Facilities Planning Tom Hall announced that the District received an award for three of its buildings last week.

The Board then unanimously approved the minutes of its October 7th meeting.

Requests to Address the Board of Trustees (Public Speakers)

Svonkin announced there were a large number of public speakers, adding that if items were not on the agenda, the Board members could not reply or address the speakers. Trustees Anderson and Pearlman moved to extend the 20-minute public address time limit, so that all speakers could have three minutes.

- James Mackey, adjunct counselor at West, complained about the treatment of adjunct counselors and their exclusion from professional development activities.
- Joe Cox, a student from West, complained about the treatment and grade he received from one of his instructors.
- East's Academic Senate Vice President Jeff Hernandez expressed concerns about the budget process and the Board's delay in approving the use of \$57 million in one-time funds, several months after the District Budget Committee and Chancellor made their recommendations. He stated the delay almost sends the signal that the money is not needed. Hernandez expressed concern there is some confusion regarding the Board's role, acknowledging its role in forming broad policy and final approval of the budget, but advising it against micromanaging. He concluded his remarks by stating that District would be more successful if all groups worked together within their respective roles.

- Faculty Guild President Joanne Wadell addressed the Board about the delay in approving the spending plan for \$57 million in one-time state mandated claim reimbursement funds, stating the plan had been on the Board's agenda four times. She added that students would have benefited in the fall semester had the plan been approved in July or August and lamented that due to the delay (in spite of rhetoric about access) students would not benefit until the winter, spring, and summer. She also talked about the importance of early planning and the negative impact of the \$2 million offset for the Sheriff's budget that campuses recently found out about. Waddell stated that being thoughtful about budget was commendable, but that delays had a negative impact on planning and access because class schedules are tied to academic calendars.
- Harbor's AFT Chapter President Mona Dallas Reddick urged the Board to approve the \$57 million allocation to the colleges, stating that student success, access, accreditation and outreach would suffer because of the delay.
- Faculty Guild Emeritus Chapter Chair Don Misumi stated colleges could not plan and offer more classes or support without funding and urged the Board to get the money to the campuses. He also spoke in support of the Chancellor's recommendation to pay for the cost of the Sheriff's contract.
- Ryan Navarrete, a student from Trade, stated he filed complaints about the student trustee election. He also announced that he had collected the necessary signatures under Board Rule 21006 for a recall election of the student trustee.
- Tierra Gibson, a student at Trade, East, and City, protested the decision by a dean to cancel all ASO meetings at Trade until the body approved its bylaws.
- Nine students (mostly from East), including Evelyn Rodriguez, Luz Flores, Javier Lopez, Cecilia Martinez, Ismael Bernal, Luis Batista, and Daniel Ortiz, eloquently and passionately protested the Board's delay in allocating much-needed funds to the colleges. They argued that the Board's inaction had a negative impact on class offerings, student success, degree completion, library hours, and transfer opportunities. Students talked about how the lack of these funds impacted them personally, by reducing the availability of winter classes, limiting library hours, and hurting their chances of transferring. One student asked the Board members to remember what it was like to struggle as a student and to show that they cared about students by giving them the tools they need to succeed.

Approval of the 2015-16 Spending Plan of One Time State Mandated Claim Reimbursement

After the public speakers addressed the Board, President Svonkin asked for a motion to consider this agenda item out of order (BF2). The plan to allocate \$57.6 million in state mandate reimbursement funds was approved unanimously to support LACCD strategic goals as follows:

- Goal 1 (Access for Preparation for Success): \$24,150,000
- Goal 2 (Teaching and Learning for Success): \$5,300,000
- Goal 3 (Organizational Effectiveness): \$27,615,000
- Goal 4 (Resources and Collaboration): \$604,000

These one-time funds include \$8.5 million to increase high demand class offerings and growth, \$2 million for the Basic Skills Initiative, \$2.5 million to expand student services (tutoring, library), \$3.9 million for SIS Project Completion, \$22 million for retiree benefits (STRS and PERS) future obligation, and \$2 million for faculty and staff professional development and training.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board

Reports of Standing and Special Committees

- **Legislative and Public Affairs Committee:** Committee Chair Andra Hoffman reported that the committee met on 10/21/15. They received an update on AB 288 (College and Career Access Pathways), which was signed today at Pasadena City College. They also heard from Lisette Navarrete, a legislative advocate with the Community College League of California, about all the bills signed by Governor Brown and current legislative priorities. Finally, they discussed how to make do until the District hires a new state lobbyist to replace Patrick McCallum, whose contract expired this fall and was not renewed by the District.
- **Facilities Master Planning and Oversight Committee:** Chair Ernie Moreno reported that the committee addressed 94 questions about building program managed by AECOM. They wanted to know how much bond money has been allocated and spent, and how to make sure funds were spent appropriately. He added that further questions would be addressed at the next meeting.
- **Budget and Finance Committee:** Chair Sydney Kamlager reported that the committee approved the spending plan for the \$57 million in one-time state funds. She added that they had a discussion about the need to have additional meetings in order to approve the budget in a timely manner.
- **Institutional Effectiveness and Student Success Committee:** Committee Chair Mike Fong stated the committee had been very busy visiting and reviewing accreditation reports from Mission, Valley, Pierce, and East so far. He added that they look forward to visiting the other five campuses.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board

The Board then proceeded to approve several of its recommendations including resolutions honoring retiring classified employees (BT1), travel authorization for Trustees Eng and Fong (BT2), one in support of the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 (BT3), Veterans Day and National Veterans Awareness Week (BT4), and one reappointing Personnel Commissioner David Iwata (BT6).

President Svonkin stated the LACCD has about 6,000 student veterans and noted that many of them have been taken advantage of by for profit colleges. Moreno added the LACCD was the number one institution educating veterans in the US.

Reports from the Chancellor and College Presidents

President Marvin Martinez gave a brief presentation about current events at East Los Angeles College.

Chancellor Rodriguez announced that on 10/30/15 the LACCD held a Disability Summit at East Los Angeles College. He discussed a seven-minute video highlighting the voices of students with disabilities.

Consent Calendar Items

The Board then proceeded to approve items on the consent calendar. One item regarding disciplinary action against a classified employee was pulled from the agenda (HRD2). Pearlman unsuccessfully sought to pull another resolution from the agenda (FPD4), citing concerns about wasting millions of dollars on energy consultants and programs. Svonkin replied that this item would not result in any up front costs and would allow the District to retain a consultant to help it get a percentage of federal tax credits. He added they were only approving the process, and would later approve each deal separately. President Marvin Martinez entertained several questions about expenditures for East's Corporate Center repairs (FPD1). He replied that the first two floors of the building were being repaired; the other three floors are not currently being used. Student Trustee Milo Anderson unsuccessfully sought to pull the approval of an agreement with HigherOne to provide ATM Services for Students Receiving Financial Aid (BSD2 item B).

Recommendations from the Chancellor

The Board then approved recommendations from the Chancellor to adopt the spending plan of the Education Protection Act of 2012 (BF3) and to approve Los Angeles Trade-Technical College's Strategic Educational Master Plan (2014-2017). Approval of a resolution to Authorize Amendment to Agreement with Ciber Inc. (CH2) was held for discussion during closed session. The Board recessed to closed session at 9:25 pm. After the Board returned from closed session, they announced the approval of the amended agreement with Ciber Inc. to implement the new Oracle People Soft Student Information System.

Report respectfully submitted by DAS 1st Vice President Angela Echeverri