

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT
Wednesday, September 7, 2016
Public Session 6:30 pm
Los Angeles Mission College
Campus Center Main

Board President Svonkin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm; all trustees were present by 7:09 pm. Los Angeles Mission College President Monte Perez welcomed the Board and members of the public, and then introduced several LAMC administrators, faculty, and staff leaders. After approving the minutes of the August 10 and 17, 2016 meetings, the trustees approved a resolution honoring classified retirees (BT1) and supporting the passage of Los Angeles Bond Measure HHH to provide housing for the homeless (BT3).

Svonkin then announced that he would use his prerogative as chair (“according to Robert’s Rules”), to take several agenda items out of order. No specific reason was given for the change, but this maneuver (over Trustee Nancy Pearlman’s vocal objections), effectively resulted in delaying all oral comments from the public as well as reports from employee organizations, until *after* the Board had voted on all of the action items on the agenda. It is important to note that a large number of members of the public were present, many of whom had signed up to address the Board.

The Board then proceeded to discuss the **Consent Calendar**, which included resolutions approving or authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds totaling \$175,000,000 (BF1), various business service actions (BSD1 & BSD2), a Facilities Planning and Development Report (FPD1), a Master Procurement Agreement for audio-visual equipment (FPD2), an agreement with LAUSD to repave Hatteras Street at Valley College (FPD3), routine and disciplinary personnel actions (HRD1 & HRD2), new educational courses and programs (ISD1), community services offerings (ISD2), and an amendment to Board Rule Chapter VII Article II on Graduation Requirements (ISD4). The Board Rule amendment to the graduation requirements specifies that for local associate degrees, students must complete a minimum of six units in the major at the college awarding the degree. However, for Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs), no major unit minimum would be required to be completed at the college awarding the degree.

There was a lengthy discussion on the practice of using of hotels to provide food services and facilities for District events. Pearlman asked why the District was spending money outside instead of bringing speakers to our facilities and saving thousands of dollars. Moreno added the District spent over \$6 billion refurbishing its facilities and should use them. Svonkin replied he would work with Chancellor Rodriguez to create a policy to determine whether it would be advantageous to hold events at District facilities. Pearlman also addressed her concerns about constantly hiring outside individuals for services such as consulting and the production of

videos. She advocated using District staff, resources and knowledge for many of these services. After a lengthy discussion, the consent calendar was approved.

The Board then considered several recommendations from Chancellor Rodriguez. Svonkin opened and then immediately closed the public hearing for the adoption of the 2016-2017 Final Budget (BF2) (no speakers had signed up for this agenda item). The trustees then voted to approve adoption of the 2016-2017 budget, as well as the use of Harbor College's name and logo on the tombstone of Steven Hirsch, a counselor at Harbor for 30 years (CH1), a special report by West L.A. College on the Baccalaureate degree (CH2), and a five-year agreement for College and Career Access Pathway Partnerships (Dual Enrollment) between LAUSD and LACCD (CH3). A resolution to rename a science building at Southwest College (CH4) was tabled due to a concern about the term "School of Science" raised by Trustee Pearlman. The Board also approved an emergency item, Construction Contract to Replace Air Handling Units at City College (FPD4).

After all agenda items had been voted on, President Svonkin left the meeting and handed the gavel to Vice President Kamlager-Dove, who presided for the remainder of the proceedings.

Reports from Representatives at the Resource Table

- **AFT 1521 Faculty Guild President Joanne Waddell** stated she was intrigued by the early start of contract negotiations and the broad scope of the items being reopened. She also expressed concern about the Board's silence in response to the unions' benefits proposal concerning the **Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)** and adjunct faculty benefits that were sunshined in May 2016.
- **AFT Staff Guild President Velma Butler** echoed Waddell's comments about the HRA, adding the Board had not talked to the unions about it. She also inquired and expressed concern about the contract for an organization called Phoenix, which gives out tickets at City. She stated she had been asking to see the contract for five months and would like to know who is negotiating evergreen clauses, with no RFP (Request for Proposals) or bids in the District. Finally, she announced that the Guild had prepared a Trustees Online Newsletter.
- **SEIU Local 721 Representative Galen Bullock** echoed the comments about the HRA, adding he was eager to learn about the early reopeners.

Announcements from the College Presidents

- **City:** President Renee Martinez announced that City's student newspaper **The Collegian Times** was a finalist for the Pacemaker Award from the Associated Collegiate Press; winners will be announced at the national convention in Washington D.C. in October."
- **East:** President Marvin Martinez announced that East recently opened a new two-building, 100,000 square foot Math and Science Complex, which will house several disciplines including Math, Life Sciences, Health Information Technology, Respiratory Therapy, and Chemistry. On September 13 the College will hold a

press event at Roosevelt High School for the **Go East LA Program** to welcome several new high schools into the partnership with Garfield High School and California State University, Los Angeles.

- **Southwest:** Interim President Denise Noldon (formerly from Laney College) thanked the Board for her warm welcome. She reported that Southwest would receive the 2016 Entrepreneurial College Award by the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship at a reception on Friday, September 23.
- **Mission:** President Perez introduced a group of student ambassadors from the **METAS** (Mission's Excellence Towards the Advancement of Students) **Program** who provide outreach to high school students. Perez distributed a booklet titled "Los Angeles Mission College on the Move!" and announced that the College had hired a public information officer, Alejandro Guzman, who was coordinating a lot of outreach to the community.
- **West:** Interim President Bob Sprague announced that West had completed a transition from a Title III federal grant and created a Black Scholars program as part of its LEARN program to sponsor fundraising and Study Abroad. The College is starting over with its foundation, which recently received \$20,000 from Culver City leader Sydney Kronenthal.

Oral Presentations

Vice President Kamlager-Dove announced that even though there were more than seven speakers, she would allot each speaker three minutes since they had waited so long to address the Board .

Arandeli Posadas, Franklin Andrea and Delia Bravo spoke against the elimination of the **Trade's Puente Program**. They complained that students' rights had been violated by the administration and asked why the College couldn't offer both the Pathways and Puente programs. Kamlager recounted the comments of a large number of students from Trade at the previous Board meeting. She stated that the District was committed to Puente and asked for a report on the status of the program. Student Trustee Victoriano expressed her solidarity with the Trade students, stating she had worked closely with them to try to resolve their concerns and asserting her belief that both programs could coexist. Chancellor Rodriguez replied that President Frank had submitted a report on the program's status and promised he would follow up with the Board.

Eugene Hernandez stated that Mission's new Media Arts Building was coming to fruition without citizens' participation. He complained about being removed from Mission's Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) for speaking out during this year's accreditation visit and asked for an investigation. Pearlman asked to be informed of when the College and District Citizens' Oversight Committees met. Chancellor Rodriguez replied the District COC meets every two months. Moreno noted the District is required to have a COC and asked whether all District colleges had their own COCs, to which Chancellor Rodriguez replied affirmatively.

Robert Payne thanked Trustees Eng, Pearlman, and Moreno for questioning several of the District's video contracts earlier on the consent agenda. He stated that the Mission's Multimedia Program exceeded the quality of programs at CSUN and UCLA and spoke in favor of adding classes to allow students to graduate from the program with a four-year degree.

AFT Chapter Chair at Mission, Louise Barbato talked about recent accomplishments at Mission and the importance of collaboration, respect for process, and shared governance. Luis Lopez, a representative for Assemblywoman Patty Lopez, spoke in favor of establishing a satellite campus for Mission in Sunland Tujunga (BSD2) and thanked President Perez and the Board for listening to the community. Bobby Arias, President of Communities and Schools, stated that Mission had become a safe haven for ideas and bringing the community together. Raul Claros, Executive Director of the American Red Cross Valley Chapter, announced that September was National Preparedness Month, adding that he looked forward to future partnerships with Mission College.

Report of Board Committees

Legislative and Public Affairs Committee: Chair Mike Fong reported the committee had met on September 7 and heard federal legislative updates from Holland and Knight (LACCD Washington lobbyists) and state legislative updates from the McCallum Group, Mercury, and Strategic Education Services. They also discussed AB 2155 (to reduce the instructional hour service requirement for Adult Education instructors) AB 288 (College and Career Pathways), AB 2822 (Emergency Student Financial Aid), AB 1397 (Community College Fair Accreditation Act to ensure having academics on teams), the Los Angeles College Promise, and LACCD Bond Measure CC. They will meet next on October 12 to discuss 2016-17 legislative priority planning.

Student Affairs Committee: Student Trustee Victoriano reported that on August 5 students from Trade's Puente and Umoja programs voiced their concerns about how the administration was not allowing them to be part of the decision-making process in determining the future of their programs.

College Presentation

Health Science: Allied Health Pathway and Student Success

President Perez introduced Director of the Allied Health Programs and Life Sciences faculty member Dr. Par Mohammadian. She started her presentation with a brief overview of Mission's Associate degree in Health Sciences, which has graduated an average 45 students annually over the last 10 years. In 2013 the Department of Labor awarded the LACCD the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant. Mission used this grant to develop a series of stackable certificate programs leading to associate and bachelor's degrees, including programs in Health Occupation Fundamentals, Certified Nurse Assistant & Home Health Aide, Medical Billing and Coding, and Gerontology. Other programs in development include Pharmacy Technician and BioTech Lab Assistant, both leading

to associate degrees. The Allied Health Program has also developed partnerships with several local high schools including Sylmar Biotech, San Fernando, Sun Valley Magnet, Reseda, Arleta, and Van Nuys and Kennedy Magnets. She listed several advantages of the programs, which included improving the academic preparedness of pre-health majors, helping them make informed decisions when choosing a major, and training them for employment in health care fields. The college will be tracking several program outcomes including completion time, retention, and success rates.

After the presentation, Trustee Pearlman praised the program and asked if the certificates could be duplicated at other colleges. Velma Butler also commended the program, but objected to the lack of diversity (specifically African American faces) in Mission's "Los Angeles Mission College on the Move!" booklet and suggested the College improve its outreach efforts to that population.

Trustee Kamlager adjourned the meeting in honor of Ms. Juanita Portlock, who passed away in August at the age of 84. Kamlager stated that Ms. Portlock was a great wedding coordinator and a former student at Trade, who worked at West and Pierce.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Report submitted by DAS 1st Secretary Angela Echeverri