MINUTES

Santa Barbara Community College District
Board of Trustees
Study Session
Wednesday, August 8, 2001
4:00 p.m., Room A218C

I. Review of 2001-2002 Budget and Implications for Responding to Campus Needs

The Superintendent/President distributed a recent article from the Los Angeles Times that provided an excellent overview of the funding situation for the California Community Colleges. First the budget cuts by the governor were much more extensive than anyone anticipated. Of the $555,000,000 in cuts nearly 23% was from the community colleges. Community colleges represent approximately 5% of the total state budget. None of the members of the Board of Governors or Chancellor's Staff were aware of the governor's intention to cut instructional equipment, library materials and deferred maintenance from the ongoing California Community College budget.

Such cuts from the ongoing budget are believed to be unprecedented by a governor. The reaction of community colleges throughout the state has been significant in scope and depth. Institutional meetings were held in Los Angeles and in Northern California. An attempt will be made to work with the legislature to reinstate the $98,000,000. from the on-going California Community College budget. The Department of finance and the Governor's office have indicated that it is not their intent to support such reinstatement.

The cuts hit particularly hard in areas of the budget for which very little state funding is provided. The Governor's action removes all the state funds for instructional equipment and library materials and also all of the funding that is received in the general fund to support deferred maintenance. The long term ramifications of the cuts in terms of being able to offer competitive instructional programs, particularly in the high technology areas, is a concern for all community colleges.

The President outlined the actions being taken specifically a letter written to the governor, and coordinated actions with the chancellor of Ventura District and Superintendent/Presidents from Allan Hancock and Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo. Letters signed by the four districts were sent to Assemblywoman Jackson and Senator O'Connell. There will be an attempt made to schedule a meeting next week with the legislative leaders involving the Presidents and their Board Members.

Board Members expressed concern about the situation and a readiness to be available to support discussions with the legislators and to advocate for additional dollars for the 2001-2002 budget. Vice President Brian Fahnestock presented an extensive overview of the college budget.
He emphasized the negative implications caused by a lack of a COLA for partnership for excellence and when a cost of living adjustment is now received it is not sufficient to cover the general increase in expenses. The status of all funds were reviewed and it was noted that the district is in very good financial condition in regard to equipment replacement, construction and other funds.

The one time increases in state revenue and savings and budget categories resulted in larger than expected end of year balances. This will enable the district to absorb expenses for the reductions in the equipment and deferred maintenance.

II. **Housing Needs**

The text of the presentation made by Vice President Fahnestock is available upon request. A rather full discussion was held in regard to whether and how Santa Barbara City College should respond to issues related to housing.

The Superintendent/President stated that based upon a number of previous Board discussions and meetings it was his assumption that the policy directive he was pursuing was directed toward obtaining housing options for students and faculty and staff. It was acknowledged that the college did not want to have the management responsibilities for student housing operations.

There was Board support for pursuing options on faculty and staff housing however, board members did not develop a clear consensus in regard to student housing. However, a majority of the Board appears supportive of the college exploring options in that area. Doing so, is considered appropriate.

Vice President Fahnestock and Superintendent/President along with Board President Livingston and Facilities Chair Eli Luria will be involved in a meeting with county and city officials on August 9, 2001 to discuss available options. It was agreed that there is a need to establish a clear Board policy direction in regard to student housing.

III. **Construction Projects**

Vice President Fahnestock distributed a list of projects that are under way this summer, he stated that it has been a hectic summer and productive in regard to what has been accomplished. He reviewed specific projects, noted that the LSG project is approximately 40% completed and the work with Emma Construction Company has been satisfactory. Also mentioned was the near completion of the Louise Lowry Davis Friendship Plaza, the work underway at the studio theatre and the renovation of the cosmetology facilities in the Magnolia Shopping Center.
The President stated that he was very pleased at how effectively a wide range of projects were being managed and appreciated the excellent work of the staff in carrying out these activities. The projects are important to the campus overall, and the instructional programs specifically.

IV. Miscellaneous Issues

a. Fall opening
   Everything appears to be in order for the opening of school. There are no major issues blocking the preparation for school. We should have a good opening in the fall.

b. Campus issues
   No particular campus issues were highlighted.

c. Trustee Area Report
   Copies of the report developed by trustee Desmond O'Neill was distributed. The report does an excellent job of identifying and responding to issues raised in discussions with the Santa Barbara County Committee on school district reorganization. Board Members were asked to review the proposal, make suggested changes to Mr. O'Neill or to the President's office. A copy of the report will be provided to an individual who has requested what the trustees have done in this area.

d. Use of Campus Facilities for Special Events
   The use of campus facilities for special events specifically the possibility of using college facilities for weddings was discussed. A policy will be developed to consider having college facilities used. The activity will have to be fully self-supporting. That proposal will be provided to one of the subcommittees prior to presentation to the Full Board.

e. Artificial Turf in La Playa Stadium
   The Superintendent-President indicated that this matter is still under review. The Board Educational Policies Committee will be given an overview of the report format that will be used to develop a recommendation.

f. Isla Vista Accountability Off Campus Behavior
   Vice President Friedlander presented an overview of how this matter is being approached and Dean Ron Baker has been gathering information on it. This policy matter will first be presented to the education policy committee. The concern is to obtain the college's ability to respond to unsatisfactory, off campus behavior not connected with a college event or activity. At present the college is unable to hold students accountable for such behavior.
   Board Members supported the matter being pursued.
V. Closed session

The Superintendent/President was provided with general direction based on the discussion in the closed session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

9/17/01
Date

Peter R. MacDougall
Superintendent/President
Secretary/Clerk to the Board of Trustees